

## **DRAMAdministry**

### ***Commitment for Participation:***

The following list is a synopsis of what is expected of DRAMA team members. These ***commitments, standards*** and ***requirements*** should be read over in full and kept for future reference. Since you will be held to them, it is your responsibility to know them.

### **Commitments:**

- **Attendance to:**

- **Session Training Camp**

-- Training camp is a three day and two night event. Any member who cannot attend all three days in their entirety must get special permission to participate in the following session. Participation in training camp is essential to teamwork during the session.

- **Weekly Practices**

-- Every year is broken into two to three sessions. Each member is expected to commit to attendance of all weekly practices for the duration of the current session. If a member cannot commit to attendance of weekly practices, then they should not join that session.

- **1-3 Monthly Outreaches\* \*\***

-- Each month of the session, we seek to have no less than one scheduled outreach and no more than three. Outreaches scheduled two weeks in advance will be required for attendance. Outreaches are scheduled in two ways. Before the session has started they are simply booked and announced up until the said limits are reached. After the session dates have been submitted to applicant families, outreaches are booked by establishing general availability from the teams at a weekly practice. It is important that members maintain communication and calendars with their families. Failure to communicate on the part of the child and family is not DRAMA's responsibility. Once we have scheduled an outreach, it must be attended. Other conflicts that may arise after this point must be considered second priority.

\*DRAMA does seek to avoid Sunday morning outreaches so that members can maintain commitment to their home church. Occasionally, we will have a Sunday morning engagement, but such an outreach takes second priority to any church obligations members may have (please communicate these obligations on the session application form).

\*\*DRAMA may occasionally have more than three outreach opportunities in a month. These extras will be identified and are outside of the member's commitment. Identified, extra opportunities are by no means compulsory.

*Grace can and will be exercised in each of these areas, however, it is solely at the discretion of the director. Past demonstration of commitment will be the chief consideration when exceptions are requested. Continual and persistent neglect of the above commitments can result in denial from future membership.*

- **Responsibilities to perform:**

- **Duties and Positions**

- Each member is assigned specific duties to perform. These duties range from weekly tasks such as cleaning the practice area to organizational jobs like setting up and running the team phone chain. Each member should expect to have two to three assigned jobs for the duration of the session. These may require some preparation work on their part during the week and occasionally a meeting to attend.

- **Accountability**

- DRAMA uses accountability as a method to develop godly character in its members. In order for honest assessments and effective improvements to be made one-on-one interaction is pivotal. Therefore, DRAMA assigns all members into accountability partnerships for the duration of a session. This will require weekly contact between partners preferably in person, but acceptably by phone throughout the entire fifteen weeks.

- **Leaders and Assistant Directors**

- Beyond duties and jobs, some members are asked to join our Leadership Team as either leaders or assistant directors. This is a commitment to model all afore-stated commitments and to take on additional responsibilities as follows:

- Leaders:** attend *bi-monthly* leadership meetings during the session and voluntarily take on various tasks involved in the operation of the team (like follow-up work for outreaches or acquiring needed props). Leaders are not committed to attend meetings over the summer and winter breaks; however, they may take on tasks that require summer/winter involvement.

- Those recognized as leaders are additionally given authority to enforce DRAMA standards (see p.3-4) by confrontations and recommendations for dismissal. Instruction is given to leaders on how to tactfully perform this duty, the goal always being reconciliation.

- Leaders may be given general charge of some DRAMA activities in the stead of the director or assistant directors as need requires, but not without some level of supervision from the director or assistant directors.

- Assistant Directors:** attend *monthly* leadership meetings with the director and bi-monthly with the leaders and voluntarily take on various tasks involved in the operation of the teams (such as assigning member jobs for the sessions, coordinating booked outreaches or determining minor operational policies).

- Assistant directors commit to involvement for the duration of a session and the following break period leading up to the next session. This means monthly meetings through the summer and winter (with much grace) and responsibilities to perform year-round.

- Assistant directors do not regularly mime on the session teams. However, they are responsible to form and maintain a short-notice response team of two to five mimes able to present a small repertoire of gospel material on call.

- Assistant directors enforce standards like the leaders. They have precedence over the leaders should there be a conflict.

- Assistant directors lead DRAMA events independent of the director.

## Standards:

- **Authority:**

- **General Conduct and Respect**

- DRAMA's leadership team is held responsible for ensuring the ministry and its members behave beyond reproach. This means that they must make judgments that are sometimes situation specific and often beyond any stated standard in addition to confronting members in violation of set DRAMA standards. In both cases, members must respect and obey the leadership team as God ordained officers over them for their betterment. Disagreements should not be aired publicly. They operate with the blessing and approval of DRAMA's director and, indirectly, DRAMA's board.

- **Leaders, Assistant Directors and the Director**

- Should a conflict arise in regards to standards and their observance that cannot first be resolved in private between the two parties involved, DRAMA has a chain of command by which appeal can be made. Leaders are the base of the chain; two leaders may be able to counsel through an issue without further need of involvement. If the issue cannot be resolved at the leadership level it should be taken to the assistant directors, then the director and lastly the board.

- **Proper Dress**

- Standard dress for DRAMA activities, except when otherwise noted, is loose fitting pants or shorts no less than knee length. Additionally, students are expected to wear loose T-shirts that are long enough to be tucked in and can stay tucked even when fully bent over. These shirts are not to be sleeveless or tank-tops. If you are in doubt, please err to the longer side. Assistant directors and leaders have full discretion over the appropriateness of any particular clothing item.

- **Music**

- DRAMA uses a wide variety of music to accompany our mime routines. Songs ranging from orchestral to country to contemporary or even rap have been used. The music selected has been carefully evaluated by the leadership team on the basis of content and clarity. However, DRAMA seeks to honor parents and their authority over their youth. Therefore, should a specific DRAMA song be found objectionable to a member family, DRAMA will hear out their objection and at least remove the song from our repertoire for the duration of that member's involvement.

- **Guys and Girls**

- DRAMA Ministry is more than a mime team. Our goals regarding member personal development are overwhelming and comprehensive. This requires a level of dedication on the part of all involved that is exceptional and a high level of accountability to accomplish. Therefore, DRAMA asks its members to abstain from attracting unnecessary guy/girl attention while involved in any DRAMA activities. Additionally, in the interest of minimizing distraction and fostering trust in a family atmosphere while honoring the parental authority over each child, youth desiring to pursue a guy/girl relationship while still members of DRAMA must commit to using our CourtStEP methodology. CourtStEP is not a rigid mold

so much as it is a series of standards that will ensure communication with DRAMA leadership and team members toward a positive support from the ministry of the relationship while still leaving the mechanics and boundary setting in the hands of the parents. A copy of CourtStEP can be mailed to families upon request and is available online at [www.dramateam.org/courtship.htm](http://www.dramateam.org/courtship.htm) and [www.dramateam.org/pdf/courtship-drama revision.pdf](http://www.dramateam.org/pdf/courtship-drama%20revision.pdf).

**Requirements:**

- **Parent Participation:**

- **Transportation**

- Part of the commitment to be at weekly practices and training camp is a commitment from the parents to facilitate their children in accomplishing this. Whether the child can drive or not, the parent is still responsible to ensure they can fulfill this part of the commitment.

- **Food**

- To minimize our expenses and continue to offer our ministry at no cost to those who would partner with us in the gospel work, DRAMA asks its member families to help with food for training camp and a few other extended outreaches.

- **Support what we are doing**

- As DRAMA seeks to build a team, cultivate growth and present the gospel, it is imperative that we and the parents work together and not against each other.

DRAMA realizes that the commitment to the ministry will take a toll beyond the member to the whole member family. We also realize that our standards may not match that of each individual home. We know that we are asking a lot of your youth. It is important that the parents be aware of the commitment their child is making and be mutually committed to seeing it through.

Please be familiar with this document so that you can support and encourage your youth as they carry out the commitment they are making. Your help in each area makes a huge difference to the youth's success.

Please detach and return the bottom stub to Tim King *by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of training camp* if you intend to participate in DRAMA functions.

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**We have fully read and agree to follow DRAMA Ministry's commitment statement. We accept the statement as terms of our covenant with the ministry and its leadership.**

→ Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

→ Youth's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

→ Youth's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

→ Youth's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_