

National Art Honor Society!

Creating Student Leaders
through NAHS

Presented by

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Forsyth Country Day School

Lewisville, NC



The purposes of the National Art Honor Society at Forsyth Country Day School are to:

- Recognize those students who have shown outstanding ability in the field of art.
- Serve as an inspiration for students to strive for higher goals in their work.
- Foster excellence and a dedicated spirit in the pursuit of art.
- Encourage the creative abilities and talents of the individual student.
- Assist students in working toward the attainment of their highest potential in the field of art.
- Bring art to the attention of the school and community.
- Increase the awareness of art as a viable area within the total school curriculum.
- Advance aesthetic awareness in all aspects of the total education program.

Volunteerism

- The NAHS is an organization of visual art students committed to promoting volunteerism through the visual arts, developing the potential of students involved in the arts, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained students.

Membership

- The criteria for membership in the National Art Honor Society emphasize outstanding artistic scholarship and service to the school and community through development of artistic endeavors together with a strong moral character. By exemplifying these standards, the individual student members of the society promote an awareness of art and become active participants in the education process at their school and their community.

At Forsyth Country Day School

- To maintain membership in NAHS, students are required to serve 10 hours of service in the visual arts per year, pay \$15.00 in dues, maintain a B+ or better in an honors or AP class or A- in a regular class, have and maintain a B- cumulative average in all other subjects, and attend bi-weekly meeting. One semester of a visual arts class must be completed before a student may be eligible for inductions.

By-Laws adopted for FCDS

- Section 1. A chapter may wish to include bylaws to amplify sections of its constitution. Bylaws do not need to be approved by the national Council if they are consistent with regulations outlined in the constitution. A current copy of the local chapter bylaws must be filed with the national headquarters of NAEA.
Section 2. To remain a member in good standing when an art class is not elected or when it is, a member must complete the requirements as per the bylaws.
Section 3. The Forsyth Country Day School Chapter will collect \$15.00 per year in annual dues from each member.
- Section 4. Attendance is required at the majority of the bi-weekly meetings to maintain membership and privileges. Failure to attend the majority of meetings will cause a loss in good standing of membership.

Officer Elections and Nominations

- New candidates are nominated and elected each year at the end of March. To self-nominate or to nominate another student for a elected position, please send an e-mail with your name, the name of the student recommended to serve as an officer, what office you are nominating for, and a statement describing why the student is qualified for the office. In 2009, all nominations must be received by a date to be announced. After this time, a ballot will be distributed in art classes and the officers will be elected.

Meeting Schedule

- All NAHS meetings will be held on Tuesday's during the activity/lunch period in the Upper School Visual Arts Studio. Students are encouraged to bring their lunch to all meetings. The fall/winter schedule for general membership meetings in 2009-2010 will be....

Amending ByLaws

MOTION FOR AMENDING NAHS CONSITITUTION:

Article VIII: Bylaws

Section 1. A chapter may wish to include bylaws to amplify sections of its constitution. Bylaws do not need to be approved by the national Council if they are consistent with regulations outlined in the constitution. A current copy of the local chapter bylaws must be filed with the national headquarters of NAEA.

A. Membership Selection

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon art scholarship, service, and character.

Section 2. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period equivalent to one semester in art in this school.

Section 3. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be upper school students (sophomore, junior, and senior students only) and have a minimum art grade point average of B+ in an honors or AP class or A- in a regular class. This level of achievement shall remain fixed.

Section 4. Candidates for induction must have and maintain a B- cumulative average or better in all other subjects.

Section 5. Members may remain active during such time when there is no art on their class schedule.

To remain a member in good standing when an art class is not elected or when it is, a member must complete the following requirements:

1. Complete 10 service hours in the visual arts each year (five per semester).
2. The Forsyth Country Day School Chapter will collect \$15.00 per year in annual dues from each member.
3. Attendance is required at the majority of the bi-weekly meetings to maintain membership and privileges. Failure to attend the majority of meetings will cause a loss in good standing of membership.
4. For the NAHS officers, attendance is also required at any executive meetings called outside of the regularly scheduled meetings. Failure to attend the majority of meetings will cause a loss in good standing of membership and possible revocation of the elected office as determined by a quorum vote of the NAHS council.
5. To graduate with a NAHS cord at graduation, a member must remain in good standing up until the graduation date.

A Motion is made to add:

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Election of Officers

- An NAHS chapter is only as active as its leadership, so careful consideration must be given to the selection of candidates for office.
- The Forsyth Country Day School Chapter of the National Art Honor Society is a service organization. The officers must have a deep commitment to carry out the duties of their respective offices and must not be selected on the basis of popularity alone. A nominating committee is charged with the responsibility of preparing a slate of officers with the sponsor participating in the nomination process in order to provide additional insights in the candidate's character and performance. Some of the qualities to look for are:

President

- The art student considered for the office of NAHS President must exhibit leadership qualities and the ability to engender enthusiasm for chapter activities and to follow through to a successful completion.
 - Presides at all chapter meetings.
 - Prepares agendas and discusses these with the sponsor before meetings.
 - Represents the NAHS Chapter in any school club organizational meetings.
 - Conducts the duties of the Office of President in a business-like manner.
 - Works closely with the sponsor in planning chapter activities – social, educational, and service to the school and community – as well as fundraising projects.
 - Maintains productive ongoing committees that will ensure a smoothly operating chapter.
 - Follows through, carrying all chapter endeavors to completion.

Vice-President

- The candidate for the office of NAHS Vice-President must possess the same qualities as those required for the President and be able to take over the duties of the office in the absence of the President. The Vice-President must be capable of planning and executing a program of activities for the chapter.
 - Plans and conducts the chapter programs.
 - Becomes involved in as many chapter committees as possible.
 - Assumes the duties of the President in his/her absence.
 - Assists the President in the duties of the office as needed.
 - Keeps track of all service hours for the organization.

Treasurer

- The candidate for the office of NAHS Treasurer must be capable of careful handling of chapter funds and keep accurate records of income and expenditures.
 - Receives funds and deposits in chapter account.
 - Maintains and keeps accurate records of income and expenditures.
 - Prepares financial reports and reports to the group quarterly.
 - Seeks the assistance of the school bookkeeper in establishing and maintaining an in-school account
 - Follows school procedure in making deposits, writing vouchers for payments, and so forth.
 - When activities or meetings involve the purchase of supplies and/or food, the treasurer will be responsible for completing and/or delegating this task.
 - Coordinates all fundraising activities.

Secretary

- The candidate for the office of NAHS Secretary must be able to pay strict attention to detail in writing minutes and press releases as well as maintaining chapter correspondence.
 - Records proceedings of each meeting by writing minutes that are filed for future reference.
 - Keeps records of members' attendance at chapter meetings.
 - Maintains written evidence of members' participation in all chapter activities including fundraisers.
 - Initiates articles for the local newspapers and the *NAHS News*.
 - Create and send press releases for professional art shows to be held at FCDS.
 - Write thank you notes for faculty and community assistance in chapter projects. These may include guest speakers, artist/demonstrators, parents, or business groups who prepare refreshments, decorations, and favors for special event chapters.
 - Write or delegate someone else to write art critiques of the current art shows at FCDS to be sent to the school newspaper or the local professional paper for publication.

Historian

- The candidate for NAHS Historian must be able to create and maintain a comprehensive record of the chapter's activities.
 - Creates and maintains an attractive scrapbook as a comprehensive record of the chapter's activities. This should include photographs, newspaper clippings, and samples of invitations and programs. **This year, we started a Facebook page – just to try it.
 - Arrange for filming videotapes, slides, and tapes of special programs as a means of recording events. These records are invaluable tools to familiarize new officers with the scope of the chapter's activities and to enable a new sponsor to learn what has transpired before his/her term of office as sponsor.

Coordinator for Awards and Ceremonies/Art Display and Exhibits

- Assist in the development of the Fine Arts Festival as a celebration of the Visual Arts.
- Coordinate receptions for all art shows.
- Assist in the coordination of all professional art shows to be held at FCDS.
- Assist in the planning and display of all student shows at FCDS.

Program and Arrangements

- Coordinate with the council speakers, food, and activities for the NAHS general meetings twice a month.

Organizing the NAHS Council

- Meet with NAHS Council twice a month on a regular schedule.
 - I take my students out to lunch before school starts. We talk vision and set goals for the year. At this time, we prepare our calendars and set deadlines for events and activities.
- The NAHS council kicks off the year with an exciting in-house community service project that gets attention from the school community and especially their peers!

- After our “kick-off” students are excited about the arts and they start talking to each other about NAHS, what the requirements are and how new members can join!
- This year, I have 10% of the total student body actively participating and enrolled in the NAHS at my school.

Second Council Meeting

- At the second council meeting, we review the NAHS constitution and by-laws. We decide if we need to make an amendment to the by-laws, we discuss Robert's Rules of Order, and we review guidelines for running a successful meeting.
- We use Outlook as a communication tool to send e-mails and events as calendar items to our NAHS distribution list. As the sponsor, I create the distribution list and add to it as new members join NAHS.

Kick-off Meeting

- During our first general membership meeting, the Council members are introduced, handouts with deadlines and events are distributed and students use the time to get new ideas for consideration as we head into the year.
- We also do a “Done in a Day” art activity during the meeting. Something simple to do is to create seasonal placemats for a local senior citizen home.

Establishing Membership

- The Council members are responsible for keeping track of members that attend meetings (secretary), collecting dues (treasurer), and creating a spreadsheet that tracks membership involvement in service hours.
- I keep a NAHS book in my classroom with service hour sheets. Students start a new one each year and at every meeting, students fill out their sheet and document student volunteerism in the arts.

- Rules of engagement for council meetings:
 - What happens in the council meetings stays in council meetings!
 - Students are taught to proactively communicate and how to proactively handle tough issues
 - Students review membership guidelines and have to self-evaluate – if members are not following through, what does the leadership need to do?
 - Dates are reviewed and goals set at each meeting
 - If council members are not showing up for meetings, the President contacts the member. If that is ineffective, the NAHS Sponsor makes contact and explains the membership guidelines.

Adding Fuel to the NAHS

- Fundraisers
 - Students need to know basic advertising skills:
 - What is the product
 - How will it be advertised
 - How will it be marketed
 - How can we create it
 - What is the timeline
 - How will we communicate
 - Who will oversee that it gets done?

Students as Advocates

- Council members are trained:
 - To make public announcements effectively at morning meetings (public speaking tips)
 - Know how to speak coherently about NAHS (the sponsor needs to consistently reinforce the purpose of NAHS)
 - Respond to set-backs
 - Respond to requests for NAHS
 - Solve problems and communicate proactively
 - Become leaders in the school that rise up and can speak coherently and effectively about the arts!

NAHS in the Community

- As students are being trained as leaders, they are trained for effective volunteerism in the community through the visual arts.
- Students can submit service hours in external organizations for council approval to complete the 10 service hours a year.

Effective Volunteers

- Show up on time
- Act professionally
- Dress appropriately
- Work hard
- Help solve problems and not create them
- Follow-through to the end
- Take pride in the final product!
- Communicate images of the final product (historian).

Annual Community Service Projects

- Placemats for the local nursing home
- FCDS Haunted Trail
- Paint picnic tables for outdoor eating area
- Paint trash cans for the school – *trash monsters*
- Murals for the school
- Empty Bowls, Bird Houses for Habitat for Humanity's *Birdfest*, Tulips for the local Race for the Cure Tulip Garden.
- And, many more!

Students as Leaders

- In order for students to be effective leaders, the sponsor must be organized.
- He/she should create a structure for students:
 - Help set the calendar for the year
 - Help with the goal setting and establish deadlines
 - Follow-up with students often
 - Create distribution lists and communicate regularly
 - Have high expectations while allowing for flexibility.
 - Learn and grow with the students – after all, your relationship with them is what will influence them for life.

At your School

- Consider starting a NAHS or NJAHS Honor Society
- Start an art club
- Sponsor community service events that engage students and the community through the visual arts.
- Consider how you can find a niche at your school and use it to train students as leaders. These students ARE your best advocates for training and educating colleagues, parents, administrators, and community members about the impact that the arts can have in the life of a student thus, furthering the notion of why art is important in schools.
- Maintain a website, blog, etc. with all pertinent dates and requirements for upcoming activities and communicate the link to your school, parents, and students often!

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