

DRAMA TROUPE



STAR SEARCH STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Star Search Talent Display has been designed to:

- Encourage the development of soloists and groups in music and dramatic arts.
- Provide a goal that will help motivate soloists and groups to work towards becoming their best in their chosen artistic fields.
- Provide opportunity for performance, giving additional motivation for development of skills through participation on both local corps and divisional levels.
- Help soloists, groups and leaders to focus on doing their best to glorify God by developing the talents He has given them and then using their skills to bring a message and a blessing to those who listen.

It is hoped that corps officers and leaders will help the young people in their endeavors to develop their skills by providing them opportunities to share their talents throughout the year at the corps. The Star Search program is not meant to relate to one or two special weekends. Rather, it is meant to help in the development of the quality of the arts for worship at the corps on a regular basis.

It is further hoped that officers, leaders, parents and other adults involved with young people in Star Search will keep the goals of the program in proper perspective. Children love to excel and show that they are good at something. Because of this, a climate of friendly competition can motivate them to work towards a goal. It can also provide them with a safe arena in which to learn how to support one another, regardless of the outcome of a contest. Whether a child receives a high score or a lower score, they should still see and feel the positive support of those around him or her and receive encouragement from them to continue to work hard to develop their talents and gifts. Disappointment that is enveloped by sincere love, support and encouragement soon disappears. It is mostly when disappointment is surrounded by anger, bitterness and disparaging words, especially by the important adults in the child's life, that the child will want to focus on failure, place blame or stop trying. Of course, it is realized that a few children will be at a stage in their lives where the pressure of standing up and performing is too stressful for them. It is recommended that those children be allowed to avoid participation in Star Search until they get through that stage naturally or can be assisted through it by caring adults and peers.

It should also be noted that Star Search provides opportunities for other life lessons. Even if a child does not go into an artistic performance profession where they would be required to perform a solo, he or she will almost definitely have to stand before a group and present a paper or make a speech or give a presentation. Star Search can help in the development of self-assurance and confidence. It can help a child to understand the importance of proper preparation and of presenting themselves in a positive way. Those in groups can learn the importance of working together with others toward a common goal – that each part of a group can make a contribution to the overall presentation of the whole group. We are taking part in the development of our future leaders. These lessons can help to enhance their gifts and talents and give them extra possibilities for success. Too many of our children have too few opportunities to learn these lessons and receive positive reinforcement as they learn.

Whether it is against ourselves or another, competition is a part of our lives. Even in Salvation Army groups, not everyone can sit first chair in a section of the band or sing the solo in the songsters or win the Bible Bowl or earn a place in the Divisional Youth Band or Timbrelists. Not everyone can win a trophy at Men's Camp or become a General's Guard or be in the Century Club. Although our children cannot escape it, they can learn that their own worth does not ride upon their score in any contest. Rather, the contest allows them the opportunity to strive to do something well, to work at doing the best they can do and to see those around them showing an interest in their progress. Each person has something that they can develop and give as an offering to the Lord. Let's encourage participation in every opportunity that provides a way to find and develop the talents the Lord has given. Let's help our children to learn how to be gracious and supportive of each other, learning at an early age the proper response to the use of their own gifts and the gifts of others as taught by the Apostle Paul in Philippians 2:3 & 4:

*"Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast; but be humble toward each other, never thinking you are better than others. And look out for each other's interests, not just for your own."
(Today's English Version)*

If our children can practice this teaching within the context of Star Search and other Salvation Army programming and then start to apply it to every area of their lives – at school, at home and when playing with their friends then their lives will be able to touch and make a positive impact on those around them. When Star Search results are given and score sheets are returned, the children will take their cues from the adults around them. May we not let them down as they try to learn from us.

DRAMA TROUPE PARTICIPANT RULES

In the hope that the Star Search program will help corps growth, prospective Junior & Soldiers are both allowed and encouraged to participate. However, it should be understood that these young people are not to be brought in just for this event. They should be attending the corps on a regular basis and tracked towards becoming a Junior and Senior Soldier.

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS – GROUP & AGE RESTRICTIONS

There are 2 levels of participation for Drama Troupes. Drama Troupes must consist of at least 4 members. Level A troupes are restricted to ages 6 to 14. Level B troupes are restricted to ages 6 to 21. If any member of the troupe is age 15 and up, that troupe may participate in Level B only.

As with all Star Search categories, a group that receives a 1st place rating for two consecutive years must take a year off from participating.

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS – UNIFORM

Standard Junior Soldier uniform is required for all Junior Soldier participants. Senior soldiers may wear senior soldier uniform. They may substitute epaulet shirts with epaulets instead of tunics if they prefer. Official Army hats/caps are not required for any participants.

Prospective Junior and Senior Soldiers may wear the standard Junior Soldier uniform with the exception of the official "S" which is not permitted until enrollment.

Drama participants should wear uniform if it is appropriate for the monologue or scene. If they choose to wear a costume to perform, it is expected that they will be in uniform when they are not performing or waiting to perform. If the troupe chooses to costume their piece, it is expected that they will do so with appropriate choices. The adjudicators will be looking for good judgment in this area.

Participants will be required to return to proper uniform following their performance and will be in uniform for the Awards Ceremony

REFER TO THE FOLLOWING PAGE OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE JUNIOR SOLDIER UNIFORM STANDARD.

JUNIOR SOLDIER UNIFORMS

BOYS

JUNIOR SOLDIER PIN AS A
TIE TACK, ON OR
ABOVE LEFT POCKET

BLUE "S" ON COLLAR

NAVY BLUE TIE

TAILORED WHITE SHIRT

NAVY BLUE DRESS PANTS

NAVY BLUE SOCKS

BLACK SHOES



GIRLS

BLUE "S" ON COLLAR

JUNIOR SOLDIER PIN AT NECK AS
A BROOCH OR ON LEFT SIDE
OF BLOUSE

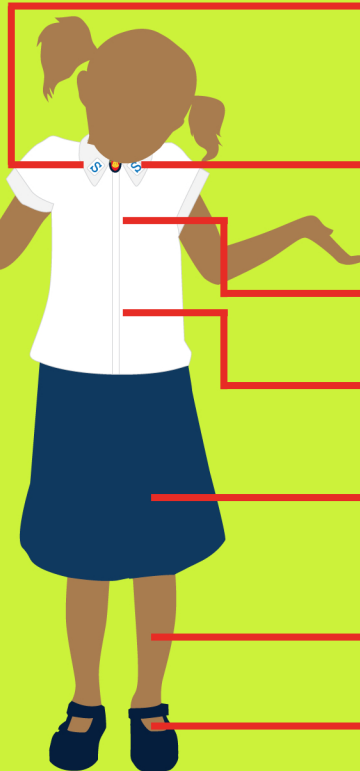
NO TIE

TAILORED WHITE BLOUSE

NAVY BLUE SCHOOL-TYPE
SKIRT OR JUMPER

NAVY BLUE SOCKS OR TIGHTS

BLACK SHOES



PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS – TEST PIECES & PROPS

The listing of test pieces for all participants will be provided from the Territorial Music Department on the Star Search page of the website at <http://www.music.use-salvationarmy.org/starsearch/index.html>. Participants will be required to purchase the materials required for their test piece through the Trade Department. If the materials for a particular category are not available from Trade, it will be placed on the Star Search website and will be available to download.

Participants are expected to provide their own props, if needed, for their pieces.

TAM CONSERVATORY SCHOLARSHIPS

One participant who is 14 years of age or older in a group who receives the highest score in the Drama Troupe Level B category will receive a scholarship to the current year's TAM Conservatory. This individual will be chosen by their corps officer and group leader to represent their group at the TAM Conservatory.

ADJUDICATION

Every effort should be made to make sure that adjudicators are not related to, or instructors of, any of the young people participating in their performance category. It is recommended that Salvationists from neighboring divisions, other Divisional Music Directors, Territorial Music Department Staff, local school band directors and teachers, etc. be used whenever possible. We recommend that the DYS or spouse not be used and that corps officers be avoided, particularly when they have groups participating.

Adjudicators are asked to give helpful critique. Hopefully, this will provide some useful tips for improving performance and developing technique. Adjudication will be based upon the specific points listed for each category.

Star Search – Drama Troupe Adjudication Sheet

CORPS | _____ LEVEL | _____ TITLE | _____ DIVISION | _____

	POOR 1-5 points	FAIR 6-10 points	GOOD 6-10 points	Excellent 11-15 points	TALLY
VOICE /15	Most spoken lines were muffled, mumbled, slurred or inaudible. Motivation was unclear.	Some spoken lines were hard to decipher. More work on diction, projection and motivation is needed.	Most spoken lines were motivated and easy to understand.	All spoken lines were clearly motivated and articulate. The actors commanded the room with their vocal performance.	
PHYSICALITY & BLOCKING /15	Physicality/blocking was limited, gestural, distracting, unmotivated or hesitant. The actors rocked/paced, or the full stage space was not utilized.	Physicality/blocking is progressing. The actors had moments of rocking or pacing. Some use of stage space, levels and stage pictures.	Physicality was motivated and grounded, enhancing the message of the piece. The stage space was used. Levels and spacing engaged the audience.	Physicality/blocking was always motivated and grounded. The stage space was used to its fullest potential. Many creative directorial choices brought the piece to life.	
CREATING THE CHARACTER & SCENE /15	It is unclear who the characters are, where they are, why they're speaking or who they're speaking to.	Character-work beginning to develop. More exploration of who will go a long way.	The actors were mostly grounded in who they were portraying. It was clear where they were, who they were speaking to and why.	Extremely clear and believable character choices. Great attention was paid to the details of the performance. It is clear who the characters are, where they are, who they're talking to and why.	
PREPARATION /15	Lines/blocking unmemorized. More time in rehearsal is necessary to achieve the natural/motivated flow of the piece. Team is incohesive.	Lines/blocking were somewhat memorized with moments of hesitation. Satisfactory flow and timing. Teamwork is present.	Lines/blocking were mostly memorized with confidence. The actors are engaging in the flow and timing of the piece. Well rehearsed.	Memorized to perfection. The actors understood the flow and timing of the piece was well rehearsed and motivated. Stellar team-work throughout!	
JOURNEY /15	The actors seemed to play one note throughout the piece without being impacted by the lines/discoveries throughout.	The actors are beginning to find the arch of the piece. More rehearsal is needed to explore the character's journey from beginning to end.	The characters seemed to go on a journey, allowing the lines and discoveries to impact them as they grew throughout the piece.	The character had a clear 'moment before' and held their final moment until applause began. The character was clearly changed by discoveries throughout the piece.	

ADJUDICATOR INSTRUCTIONS AND COMMENTS ON BACK

Feedback for Participants:

Tips for Adjudicators:

- Read every block of the rubric before highlighting/circling the category that best describes the performance you are witnessing.
- Select a score for each row and write it in the final column.
- Tally all the scores in the final column to get a final score.
- Use the Feedback for participants area above to encourage and give as many helpful tips as possible.
ex. What did they do really well? What needs more rehearsal? Etc.