



## S. T. A. G.

**Front Row:** J. Spugnardi\*, A. Baker\*, V. Armstrong\*, M. Shuler\*, J. Brigner, N. Margolis\*, K. Singh\*, S. McDonald\*, L. Hopp\*, J. Meeker\*. **2nd Row:** M. Graler, C. Bella\*, L. Fibbe\*, S. Parrish\*, A. McLennan\*, C. Juneja\*, A. Cornell, D. Veys, J. Femg\*, G. Etesse\*, L. Howe\*. **3rd Row:** M. Woolfe\*, K. Kothrade, S. Rennaker, S. Solomon\*, J. Spugnardi\*, R. Mayes\*, R. Reiner\*, H. Yang\*, L. Vedder, S. Mather. **4th Row:** S. Wasserman\*, L. Ottenheimer, K. Queen, A. Wert\*, M. Tobin\*, J. Staadekor\*, P. Kidwell, U. Haq, S. Goldhagen, A. Mason, C. Kuess\*, S. Parikh\*. **5th Row:** K. Fredrick\*, D. Schmid\*, B. Wofford\*, G. Kurens\*, I. Bannen\*, K. Robinson, S. Baker\*, R. Cronin, W. Toraason\*, J. Wacksman\*, J. Scheer\*, K. Lindgren, A. LaRue. **Back Row:** D. Young\*, E. Martin\*, L. Neuman\*, G. Singh\*, S. Schmid, S. Ebacher\*, M. Graler, C. Seta, A. Rothman\*, D. DeMania, S. Lennon\*.

\* denotes International Thespian Society member

## Honor For Theatre Students

If you asked the average high school student exactly what the International Thespian Society was, you would not get much of a response. But if you asked a theatre student, it might be hard to get them to stop talking. It is the equivalent of the National Honor Society for academics. Sophomore Janet Spugnardi said, "International Thespian Society is an organization that is filled with hard working theatre lovers. Their dedication is what makes being a member of ITS such an honor." Sycamore Theatre Arts Groupe (STAG) is lucky to have its own chapter.

To become a member of the International Thespian Society, students had to work many hours on at least two theatre productions. This could be backstage work such as set construction or publicity, or the actual acting on stage. Once this was completed, the students were delegated as initiates and had to perform tasks for current Thespians. This was the infamous Initiate Week.

When all of this was completed the initiates were inducted into the International Thespian Society. STAG held a formal candlelit ceremony in January.

Once a student joins ITS, the possibilities of work and fun had just begun. STAG's chapter held an area conference in January and seven members represented STAG at the Ohio State Thespian Conference in early April. Every year some students attend the International Conference in late June in Muncie, Indiana. At conferences students attend workshops, present clippings of their shows, and enjoy watching clippings from other schools. It also lets students enjoy meeting other theatre enthusiasts in the area.

In February, the Thespians planned an outing to see *Chess* presented by CCM. Many members saw several other shows on their own. "All of the experiences, people, and new friends that you meet make all the work that one puts into it to become a Thespian worth while," sophomore Charu Juneja explained.

With conferences, theatre shows, and, of course, their own productions, it is obvious that members of the International Thespian Society should be honored as they contribute more and more. Members are recognized with stars as their contributions increase. However, stars can only be gained by the well rounded theatre student. To earn a star, a student must have 50 performance hours, 40 technical hours, 30 management hours, 20 educational hours, and 10 organizational hours.

Being honored with at least one star is nice, but the status of Honor Thespian is truly special and unique. To be an honor Thespian, one must have at least four stars and complete an honor project. Honor Thespians are rare, but STAG had one for the first time in years, senior Matt Shuler. In fact, Shuler will go down in STAG history as its most ambitious member, earning a total of ten stars and the Honor Thespian title.

Sophomore Jennifer Spugnardi summed up things by saying, "It makes you feel good to know that you are part of a world-wide organization of people who have the same interests as you." Sycamore Theatre Arts Groupe's chapter of the prestigious International Thespian Society gave students a chance to expand their horizons while doing one of the things they love most—theater.

by Carly Bella

