

Dear Dexter Drama Club,

My name is Maddie Leach, next year I will be entering my fourth year of high school, but my sixth year involved in Dexter Drama. Since then I have done every show I could, I've mainly been on stage, but I also love spending time in the hair room. This year I got the opportunity to be head of hair twice, this brought a newfound sense of leadership and responsibility into my life. The realization that I love being someone people can turn to in a time of need was sprung upon me because of this. An officer is just that: a person to help keep things rolling even through tough times as well as someone people can turn to with questions and concerns. Thinking back to when I first joined the club, I remember feeling super welcomed, despite not knowing anyone. The positive attitude and people always willing to help made me feel at home. Throughout the years I have grown to value the position of sergeant at arms, that friendly face and the person always there to lend a helping hand.

I decided to run for the position of Sergeant At Arms because I want to emulate the acts of past Sergeants by becoming a friendly face for all DDC members, 7th through 12th grades. I want to continue the work of previous Sergeants: create a fun and exciting atmosphere, design bonding events and spirit weeks that tend to every individual's interests, and most importantly, build a safe, inviting environment in which everyone feels seen, and valued. I would strive for everyone to feel that Drama is their home away from home, just like it has been to me.

The position of Sergeant At Arms has so many different layers, such as keeping morale, inclusion, organization, creativity, kindness, commitment, and determination in a healthy balance. One of my biggest beliefs is that everyone deserves a voice within the club. This is why I am proposing a form. A form including anonymous feedback on how members feel the drama club could improve as a whole. Within this form, Member's opinions on bonding events, spirit days, warmup games, inclusion, communication, and more could be collected. My fellow officers and I could then look at the responses and assess the topics at hand, what's going well, and maybe some things that we need to change. I think this could be a good way for members to express their pleasures as well as their concerns with how the club is being run. This form could aid in creating more inclusive bonding events and other drama activities that take all Drama member's wants and needs into account. I would also like to bring back the drama club lock-in. A Drama Club lock in, also known as a Drama Club sleepover, is where we all stay overnight in the CPA and spend time together, this would be an opportunity for club members to form deeper bonds between one another. This could also be a fun way to stay connected after the Drama season ends for the year.

Once I get an idea in my head I feel a need to accomplish it. I love being creative; The idea of brainstorming new bonding events, spirit weeks, birthday shoutouts, and more intrigues me. Getting more people involved in the drama club through eye-catching posters and announcements makes me want to start on them now. I have been in the club going on six years and have done every show available to me since. I fell in love with this club, because of the environment, people, and positivity within. If I was your Sergeant At Arms for the 2024-2025 season, I would be determined to make it one to remember, I would work hard to make fun and intriguing Drama events that tend to all areas to help everyone feel included, help keep the environment safe and uplifted, in hopes that everyone has as amazing of a DDC experience as I have. I know how much of a positive impact this club can have on someone, so if elected, I will work to guide members through this adventure me and you call home.

Thank you for your consideration. ~ Maddie Leach