

Hey, Dexter Drama Club!

I am Joey Hill and I will be a senior for the 2021-22 school year. I've been involved with the club since I was in 7th grade when I was a ballroom guest in *Cinderella*. From there, I participated in 12 other productions (13 in total) with some of my most notable performances as The Wicked Warlock in *The Wizard of Oz*, Michael Darling in *Peter Pan*, and more recently Professor Porter in *Tarzan*. Although the majority of my time has been spent on stage, I have also dabbled in some technical crews as well, such as props, publicity, puppet crew, hair, costumes, and flying crew. I was also granted the opportunity to co-run the Improv Club, a club that I have been part of since my freshman year. This year had marked a couple firsts for me as well: I joined the Thespian Society at the beginning of the year, and I was also a dance captain during *Tarzan*. I've done a lot within this club; it has been a major part of my life for the past four years, and I've loved every single second that I've been a part of it. I love this club. It means so much to me, more than I can really explain. This club is where I grew up, containing a multitude of memories that'll stick with me throughout the rest of my life. DDC is my home, it's my family, and I feel like it's time that I play a bigger role within this club.

There are many things that I'd like to do as President. First, I'd like to get back to our old traditions, one of which is the DDC Tutoring sessions. We'd take about half an hour twice a week before the rehearsals for students to do their homework in the choir room where they can receive help from other students on subjects they might be struggling in. School work comes before everything else in the Drama Club, so this would be an effective way to make sure people are staying caught up with their work. Another thing I'd like to bring back is the Film Festival. After seeing the results of this year's Film Festival, I wholeheartedly believe that it should be a bigger part of our club, becoming an annual event to display the creative filmmaking skills of our club members. With all of this in mind, the plate of the President seems quite full, but I know that I am willing to step up to the challenge.

Running Improv this year was not an easy task, especially during the time of Covid. The experiences that I have learned this year would undoubtedly help with transitioning the Drama Club back into a state of normalcy for next year. This year, Improv transformed from a virtual platform to an outdoor club and later to having in-door meetings. Being able to calmly move Improv from one state to another while also having to deal with multiple cancellations of shows and rescheduling an entire workshop most certainly proves that I contain the ability to effectively and efficiently adapt a club back to its status of normality despite all of the hardships along the way. Being an Improv Captain has taught me an abundance of lessons, lessons of which I will not soon forget. It taught me how to work well with others and how to be an effective, personable, amiable leader. Sure, there were mistakes that I made along the way, but those mistakes were the most powerful teacher I could have had. Being President is not a job to take lightly. It's one that requires immense organization and the ability to work well with others, both of which are traits I believe I possess.

This past year was quite unique, filled with unexpected quarantines and statewide lockdowns with the inclusion of full-time masks regulations and weekly Covid testing. We don't know for sure how next year will look, but I know that I want to lead this club into whatever crazy, whacky year is in store for us.

Thank you so much for time and consideration,
Joey Hill