

Hello Drama Club,

It's been awhile since we've gotten to see each other. My name is Jackson Helmholtz, I will be a senior for the 2020-2021 school year, and I am running to be the President of the club. Next year will be my 6th year of being a part of this club and all of its hijinks, and I have done 14 shows between main stage and 3D meaning I have done every single show that I have had the opportunity to do. During my run with the drama club I have acted in 13 shows (including Wizard of Oz as the wizard, Peter Pan as John Darling, and Oliver! As Mr. Brownlow), I have also done tech several times while I acted (including Fiddler on the Roof on makeup crew, Wizard of Oz on flying and costumes crew, and 3D spring 2019 on lavs), and I co-directed a 3D show (Alice, co-directed with Allison Kelly). In the most recent show, Fiddler on the Roof, I was one of three dance captains which meant I would run dance warmups and help actors with their dances, whether it was helping learn a dance or helping them nail the technique of the dance, I was there to help.

In the past two years I have been two different officers in the club, I was one of two communications officers my sophomore year and in my junior year I was one of two Improv Captains. This has given me the experience I believe is needed to be President. Being the Improv Captain, I have learned how to lead groups of people whether it is physically or virtually as I started virtual improv once quarantine started, and being the Communications officer has taught me about the many, many activities that go on behind the scenes and in front of them. This experience of different leadership areas as an officer - as well as being a dance captain - has shown me the way people lead in different ways I have worked with two different presidents in my time as an officer which helps me realize what works well and what doesn't.

If I was President one of my main goals would be transitioning into next year, and allowing an easier flow to occur. Through my numerous years in the club and as being an officer I have realized that the leadership really only picks up and starts working well about halfway through the year causing the first half to be quite chaotic. My plan, as President, would be to teach and run through some leadership exercises and break down what each position should be focused on for the beginning of the year. I understand what leadership exercises would be needed to help the club as I have been to multiple leadership camps that have shown me what works and what doesn't work when building a foundation of leadership. My hope would be to pass this information down from president to president in order to make the club more stable year around instead of the last few shows of the year. While I understand that this does not seem like a much helpful idea I feel that it will benefit the more behind the scenes of the club allowing for everything to move more easily which could lead to less stress at the beginning of the year and more fun.

As a person I feel that I am not only responsible enough for this position but I am also mature enough for it. This club has helped me grow as a person, and I understand I have faults and everyday I try to be better than the day before. I believe that due to the mentality and my reasoning above I should be the DDC President for the 2020-2021 school year.

Sincerely,
Jackson Helmholtz