



**The Constitution and Bylaws
of the
Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica
Jackson High School
*José Luis Girao Chapter***

Article I. Name and Classification

Section 1. The name of this organization is the *Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica*, also known as the Spanish National Honor Society, and shall be referred to in this document as "the Society."

Section 2. The purpose of the Society is to recognize high achievement in Spanish by students of Jackson High School and to promote continuity of interest in Hispanic studies.

Article II. Qualifications for Membership

Section 1. To be eligible for the Society, students must meet all of the following criteria.

- Students must be enrolled in a Spanish IV or AP Spanish class.
- Students must have a 3.3 overall average in Spanish classes. **NOTE: Beginning in 2010-2011, the required grade point will be 3.6.**
- No student is eligible until the 10th grade (National By-Laws).
- Students must be of good character and not have had recorded incidents of cheating, plagiarism, misconduct, insubordination or intentional dishonesty.
- Honorary memberships may be granted to exchange students from Spanish-speaking countries, non-traditional heritage speakers, and faculty members.

Section 2. Eligible students will be determined as those in Spanish IV or AP Spanish with an overall grade point average in Spanish of 3.3 for the 2008-09 and 2009-2010 school years. **Beginning in 2010-2011, the required grade point will be 3.6.**

Señora Draggett will solicit grade point averages from guidance counselors in September of each new school year. Those eligible will then complete the necessary application materials by the due date established by the chapter sponsor. Students are expected to follow the guidelines and due date requirements.

Article III. Application and Induction

Section 1. Eligible students will apply for membership during the first nine weeks of the new school year. The timetable will be established by the chapter sponsor.

Section 2. Potential members must fill out an application for acceptance and complete accompanying

information. These items are to be presented to the Acceptance Committee by the date determined by the sponsor.

Section 3. The Acceptance Committee will be comprised of a combination of Spanish teachers and the current Society officers, as well as one or two administrators, and a member of the Student Services Department.

Section 4. Spanish teachers will receive a list of all candidates and will have the opportunity to comment on each student's character and academic work ethic.

Section 5. The application packet is to be made up of the following elements:

- A personal statement to include interest in Spanish communication, personal qualifications, and the student's commitment to the betterment of the Jackson High School community and the world community.
- A recommendation endorsement from a Spanish teacher from a previous level of Spanish prior to the current academic year.
- A recommendation endorsement from a teacher of another academic subject area.

Section 6. Notification of acceptance for Induction

- Acceptance letters will be mailed home at least one week prior to Induction.
- Students will be "tapped" at school with recognition from current officers and members of the Society.

Section 7. Members and Inductees must take part in the Induction Ceremony or must present (in writing) very special or extenuating reasons for their absences.

Article IV. Qualifications for Continued Membership.

Section 1. Each year members must engage in one activity from each of the following three categories: Academic Commitment, Jackson High School Community Commitment, and Global Commitment.

Section 2. Academic commitment may be defined in part as the following: current enrollment in a Spanish class, publication in *¡Albricias!*, the Society's national publication; and maintenance of an overall GPA of 3.3 or better in Spanish. **NOTE: The GPA requirement in Spanish will change to 3.6 beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.**

Section 3. Jackson High School Community Commitment may be defined in part as participation in the following: Leading a National Hispanic Heritage Month or Foreign Language Week activity, tutoring a JHS student in Spanish, serving as bilingual guide for JHS students or their parents, becoming a bilingual buddy for a bilingual elementary student, and volunteering as a tutor for a JMMS (grade 8) Spanish student, presence and participation at 8th Grade Information Night, bulletin boards to share Spanish cultures with others, display case projects, and PowerPoints for teaching others.

Section 4. Global Commitment may be defined in part as participation in the following: Researching and sharing the value of Spanish for a career, volunteering as an interpreter/translator at a nearby hospital or other greater community location, volunteering at the Hartville Migrant Farms, posting news from around the Spanish-speaking world to provide global awareness for the greater school community, participating in an exchange program, seeking opportunities to interact with heritage speakers of Spanish from outside the U.S.

Section 5. Students must continue to show academic integrity and character as noted by no recorded incidents of cheating, plagiarism, misconduct, insubordination or intentional dishonesty.

Article V. Dues and Fees

Section 1. One time dues of fifteen dollars (\$15) at initiation: \$5 national dues, \$10 chapter dues.

Article VI. Elections and Duties of Officers

Section 1. There are five officers of the Society: President, Vice-President, Membership Secretary,

Publicity/Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

As with all members, the officers must be enrolled in a Spanish class in order to hold office. Officers will be seniors studying AP Spanish.

Section 2. Officers are elected by simple majority of active members present during the final meeting of the year.

Section 3. The duties of the officers are as follows: attendance at all meetings, serve as exemplars for other members of the Society and the JHS community, choose a poem for the initiation ritual, direction of Society activities and programs.

Section 4. The role of the President is to preside at meetings and serve as student spokesperson for the Spanish Faculty.

Section 5. The role of the Membership Secretary is to keep the ledger of initiates, keep the ledger of active members and their membership qualifications and attendance, and keep the ledger of current officers.

Section 6. The role of Publicity/Recording Secretary is to keep record of all meetings, service projects and correspondence of the Society, and maintain the Society Web page on the school Web site.

Section 7. The role of the Treasurer is to collect dues and keep the financial records of the Society.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 1. Each member must attend at least three meetings during each school year.

Section 2. Meetings are to be regularly scheduled by the sponsor, and officers. There shall be no less than one meeting per quarter.

Section 3. The last meeting of the year will take place to elect new officers and to set direction for the coming year.

Article VIII. Awards and Recognition

Section 1. Upon induction, new members will be awarded a certificate of membership for the *Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica*. Pins will be available for purchase by members, but will not be provided as part of their dues.

Section 2. Graduating members will also receive red and gold honor cords to be worn at graduation.

Section 3. Sponsors of Active Chapters may award the *Certificado de Excelencia* to inducted members, winners in the National Spanish Examinations, or to the inducted member who has achieved the highest grade point average in Spanish for that school year. Duplicate certificates are awarded in case of ties. The number of awards is limited to ten percent of current inductees.

Section 4. Sponsors of Active Chapters may award the *Certificado por Servicios* to recognize inducted members who have rendered meritorious service to their Chapter. The number awarded is limited to ten percent of current inductees.

Section 5. Sponsors of Active Chapters may award the *Premio de Honor* to the best graduating senior of the Chapter. The certificate may be obtained from the National Director of the Society at no cost, and will be sent upon receipt of the student's name. The names of both the student and the Chapter sponsor will be printed in *¡Albricias!* if sent by the deadline. Each Chapter may receive only one certificate each year.

Article IX. Insignia

Section 1. The insignia of the Society is the official one of the **American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP)**, as represented on the medals which may be awarded for excellence in Spanish and Portuguese.

Section 2. The seal of the AATSP is the official seal of the Society, and it may be used in conjunction with any other seal upon approval of the National Council.

Section 3. The motto of the Society is: *Todos a una.*

Section 4. The colors of the Society are red and gold.

Section 5. The flower of the Society is the carnation.

Article X. Emergency Bylaws

Section 1. Additional regulations for facilitating the government of the Society and the activities of the Chapter may be prepared by the National Council whenever the exigencies for such regulations may arise.

Section 2. Dues may be initiated at the beginning of each year to be determined by the Sponsor and officers.