

*The Constitution and Bylaws  
of  
La Plaza Mayor Chapter  
of  
La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica  
Walkkill Senior High School*

**Article I.     Name and Classification**

- Section 1:**     The name of this organization is La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH), also known as Spanish 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 Walkkill Senior High School and to promote continuity of interest in Hispanic Studies

**Article II.     Qualifications for Active Membership**

- Section 1:**     To be eligible for the Society, students must meet ALL the following criteria:
- A) Must have completed Spanish 4 with a 90 or better.
  - B) Must have received a 90 or better in Spanish 3
  - C) Student must have never received a grade below a 65% in any Spanish class.
  - D) Must be in Spanish 5.
  - E) Any student who drops Spanish 5 will be removed from the society.
  - F) Students must be of good character and not have had recorded incidents of cheating, plagiarism, misconduct, insubordination, or dishonesty in any course.
- Section 2:**     If the above criteria was not met, students will have a second opportunity to be eligible for the Society by meeting ALL the following criteria:
- A) Must have completed Spanish 5 with a 90 or better.
  - B) Student must have never received a grade below a 65% in any Spanish class.
  - C) Must be in Spanish 6.
  - D) Students must be of good character and not have had recorded incidents of cheating, plagiarism, misconduct, insubordination, or dishonesty in any course.
  - E) Students will begin membership after the first 5 weeks of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter although inductions will not take place until March.
- Section 3:**     Eligible students will complete the necessary application materials by the due date established by the advisors. Students are expected to follow the guidelines and the due date requirements.

### **Article III. Ambassador Membership**

- Section 1:** Students may be eligible for the Society as an Ambassador Member. To qualify for Ambassador membership students must:
- A). Be heritage learner students and/or enrolled in dual-language program prior to high school prove proficiency in Spanish without meeting the traditional language course requirement.
  - B) Demonstrate a continuing interest in promoting the Spanish language and their culture.
  - C) are in the 10th grade or higher
  - D) Ambassador members receive all the benefits of regular membership
  - E) Membership may begin at the start of the school year with inductions in March

### **Article IV. Application and Initiation**

- Section 1:** Eligible students will apply for membership during the application period. The timetable will be established by the advisor.
- Section 2:** Potential members must fill out an application for admission and complete the accompanying information. These items are to be submitted to the Spanish Honor Society Advisor on or before the specified due date.
- Section 3:** Spanish teachers will receive a list of all candidates and will have the opportunity to comment on each student's character and academic worth ethic.
- Section 4:** The application packet is 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 Wallkill High School Community and the world. (See application)
  - Application document
- Section 5:** Students will be notified of acceptance prior to the induction ceremony.
- Section 6:** Students must attend at least **TWO meetings prior to induction ceremony** or must present (in writing, Schoology message, with response from advisor) special or extenuating circumstances for absence. These meetings will include:
- Spanish Honor Society general information meeting
  - SHS induction ceremony **rehearsal** (typically held one day before Induction Ceremony)
- Section 7:** Students must take part in the Induction Ceremony or must present (in writing) very special or extenuating reasons for absence.
- Section 8:** The Induction ceremony will be held for new members and their families in the Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium.

### **Article V: Qualifications for Continued Membership**

- Section 1:** To maintain active membership, members of the Society must attend a **minimum of TWO meetings per quarter**.

- Section 2:** Each year members must engage in **at least TWO activities hosted by SHH per semester**; one of the two are permitted to be during school hours.
- Section 3:** Students must continue to show academic integrity and character as noted by no recorded incident of cheating, plagiarism, or intentional dishonesty.
- Section 4:** Students must continue to show personal integrity and character as notes by no recorded incidents of classroom misconduct, school-sponsored off campus misbehavior or illegal activities. Advisors reserve the right to review and deny admission.
- Section 5:** Students must maintain passing grades at the end of each quarter in all classes. Any student who fails a quarter may be placed on probation.
- Section 6:** Students will be placed on probation for one quarter for academic purposes only. Any disciplinary referral or any incident of cheating, plagiarism, or intentional dishonesty in any course will result in the removal from the Society.

#### **Article VI: Dues and Fees**

- Section 1:** New members will be asked to purchase a SHH t-shirt which is to be worn to meetings and at any SHH sponsored event.
- Section 2:** New member induction fees will be paid for by the Society fundraising events i.e: bake sales.

#### **Article VII: Elections and Duties of Officers**

- Section 1:** There are 5 officers of the Society: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian.
- Section 2:** The role of the President is to preside at ALL meetings and to lead the Plaza Mayor chapter by organizing meetings and events, representing the society in school and community activities, and working with other officers and members to uphold the values of the Society. The President must confer with the Chapter Advisor on a weekly to biweekly basis.
- Section 3:** The role of the Vice-President resides in the absence of the President. This officer confers with the president and Chapter Advisor often and should be kept informed and involved in the activities.
- Section 4:** The role of the Secretary is to record minutes from meetings and member attendance at meetings as well to post informational signs for meetings and events on our bulletin board.
- Section 5:** The role of the Treasurer is to keep the financial records for the Society.
- Section 6:** The role of the Historian is to record chapter events, taking pictures and coordinating with Yearbook Club Advisor for the Yearbook picture. The Historian will also work with the SHH Sponsor to submit chapter news to the national organization, AATSP website.

#### **Article VIII: Meetings**

- Section 1:** Each member must attend the meetings.
- Section 2:** Meetings are to be regularly scheduled by the Advisor and officers with some delay time due to months with extended holiday breaks.
- Section 3:** Members must attend a minimum of TWO meetings per quarter.

- Section 4:** 24-hour written notice is required, through the Remind App or via Schoology message, if a member is unable to attend a meeting.
- Section 5:** The last meeting of the year will take place to elect officers for the following year and to set goals for the upcoming year.

## **Article IX: Awards**

- Section 1:** Upon induction, new members will be awarded a Certificate of Membership for the Society.
- Section 2:** The SHH Chapter Sponsor may award the *Certificado de Excelencia* to initiated members, winners in the National Spanish Examinations, or to the initiated member who has achieved the highest-grade point average in Spanish. Duplicate certificates are awarded in case of ties. The number of awards is limited to 10% of current initiates.
- Section 3:** The SHH Chapter Sponsor may award the *Certificado por Servicios* to recognize initiated members who have rendered meritorious service to the Chapter. The number awarded is limited to 10% of current initiates.
- Section 4:** The SHH Chapter Sponsor 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 published nationally if sent by the deadline. Each Chapter may receive only one certificate each year.
- Section 5:** Student members of the SHH chapter may apply for the national Bertie Green Junior Travel Award and Joseph A. Adams Senior Scholarship. Only one person from the chapter may apply for each award. Therefore, a committee of Spanish teachers may determine the best applicant based on the essay and list of activities required for the application.
- Section 6:** All active SHH members are encouraged to submit original written work in Spanish or artwork related to Spanish to *¡Albricias!*, the student journal of the SHH.

## **Article X: 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.
- 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 XI Emergency By laws**

- 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 Advisors and the Officers.