

The recently formed NSAL High School Pilot Program will bring together students who are interested in the visual and performing arts, and literature. It will give them an opportunity to work cooperatively on projects within the program and for the sponsoring chapter. It will also provide firsthand information about available competitive scholarships and annual competition opportunities.

Proposed guidelines for establishing a student component within a Chapter of The National Society of Arts and Letters:

1. Students from ages 14 to 18 years of age may be admitted as members of a Chapter.
2. Students may seek membership regardless of school affiliation, race, gender or religion.
3. A Chapter will determine the dues for student members. Florida East Coast Chapter HSPP dues are \$10.00 per year.
4. A Student Activities Coordinator would be appointed by the Chapter Board as an advisor to the student group, helping them to plan programs, activities, trips etc., and encouraging their participation in Chapter events.
5. The Student Activities Coordinator (SAC) would be a Board position.
6. The liability insurance of a Chapter should be verified to cover all activities of the student members whether involved in a NSAL student group or Chapter event. Florida East Coast Insurance already covers the High School student's activities.
7. If a Chapter elects to establish an NSAL student organization within a high school, then all standards and rules of the particular school system governing such student organizations are to be presented in writing to the Chapter Board for approval. The President of the Chapter or person directing the HSPP should sign this document before the student organization can function as a recognized NSAL student group. This is very easy; Florida East Coast HSPP has a High School Photography Department Head and

Teacher, Mr. Rob Sweeten and professional photographer as their mentors. The program was set up as an honors program and students receive community service hours for working with the local Chapter.

8. The liability of the student high school group will be the sole responsibility of the Chapter mentoring the program, and the National organization will not assume any responsibility for the actions of the Chapter or the student group.

9. Student members shall be eligible to make application for Winston Scholarships in Visual Arts and Classical Voice and, when age appropriate, enter NSAL annual competitions.

10. Florida East Coast High School students were given a choice of NSAL disciplines in the performing and visual arts, and literature for their project; they chose Photography.

The following is how the first program was conceived:

On February 27, 2016 a Photography Exhibition and Master Class was held in the Theatre Lab at Florida Atlantic University. This event included a Portfolio of twenty-five photographs, three framed photos from each student; a Master Class followed the exhibition. We were honored to have Mr. Stephen Crowley, *New York Times* Pulitzer Prize recipient for Photography to conduct the master class. We also had extensive PR coverage that created interest in The National Society of Arts and Letters.

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Kirsten Stephenson

Chairs of the High School Pilot Project