

**BECK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
PRESENTS**



**2009-2010 Membership Packet  
Mid-Year Enrollment**

***Discover the Possibilities!***

Dear Students and Parents,

Beck Backstage is entering into its 14<sup>th</sup> year of theatrical excellence, and we want you to be a part of this legacy. We have so much to tell you about Beck Junior High's most exciting organization. I hope this will answer all of questions.

**“What is Beck Backstage?”**

Beck Backstage is BJH's after-school drama club. Don't let the name fool you...it is not just for people who want to work backstage. It's for anyone who wants to be involved after-school with theatre...onstage, backstage or both.

Beck Backstage is a student driven and parent supported organization. Throughout the productive history of Beck Backstage, our parents and business community have been essential supporters. (Please see the attached information about Parent Volunteerism in Beck Backstage.)

**“Why should I join? What does Beck Backstage do?”**

- We have a ton of fun!
- We produce two full-scale theatrical productions a year. This year we plan to present a play in the fall and a musical in the spring.
- We also have Beck Backstage General Assemblies (BBGA) about once a month in which all Beck Backstage members are invited to socialize, play theatre games, and perform.
- Occasionally we have guest speakers or guest performers at the general meetings.

**“If I join Beck Backstage, am I automatically in the cast or crew of the plays?”**

No. Each play auditions will be held for acting roles and technical positions. There are lots of jobs to go around, so don't worry about not having anything to do.

**“Who is eligible to be in Beck Backstage?”**

Please read the attached by-laws Article II. A.

**“Who is the sponsor/director of Beck Backstage?”**

Mr. Sisk! This is his 1<sup>st</sup> year teaching at BJH but Mr. Sisk has been the Artistic Director at the Egyptian Arena theatre in Los Angeles for the last 10 years directing productions and holding private acting classes. Mr. Sisk has also worked with the Los Angeles Unified School District for several years teaching a Shakespeare workshop. He has numerous credits in New York theatres, television shows, independent films and national commercials.

**“If I take a theatre arts class, do I have to join Beck Backstage?”**

No, but it sure would be a shame if you didn't. You can only do so much in class. In Beck Backstage you can do and learn even more. Plus, it's loads of fun.

**“What sorts of costs are involved in joining Beck Backstage?”**

There are some costs involved when joining Beck Backstage, depending on your level involvement. We always try to keep costs to a minimum.

- **\$10.00 fee to join Beck Backstage.** This helps pay for guest speakers, refreshments etc.
- **Optional costs:** If you choose to go on a field trip, there will be costs involved for tickets. If you are in a production, you may be asked to pay for meals before the show and the cost of cleaning your costume. You may choose to buy a show or club t-shirt.

**“How do I join?”**

Any eligible student who wishes to join must read the Beck Backstage bylaws and agree to abide by them by signing the attached form. A student must also have a parent or guardian sign the attached permission form.

**“I'm a parent and I want to learn more!”**

We have so much to tell you about how Beck Backstage is organized and how parents are involved.

## **BECK BACKSTAGE 2009-2010 BYLAWS**

- I. Beck Backstage** is Beck Junior High's theatre arts club, whose educational mission is to involve students in personally rewarding theatre experiences, evoke in students an excitement and appreciation for both creating and attending theatre, and develop a sense of confidence within each student for the rest of their lives. It accomplishes this by:
- A. producing live theatrical productions
  - B. providing students with a forum to express themselves socially and creatively
  - C. when possible, exposing students to other outside theatre practitioners and performers.

### **II. Conditions of membership**

- A. To be eligible to join Beck Backstage a student must be one or more of the following:
  - 1. Currently enrolled in a BJH theatre arts class (including Exploratory Wheel)
  - 2. Currently enrolled in Choir and intending on auditioning for the spring musical.
  - 3. A former member of Beck Backstage currently enrolled at BJH
  - 4. A current BJH student who has transferred from another school whose transcript shows he/she has completed junior high theatre arts class.
  - 5. A student who has received sponsor approval. To gain sponsor approval the student must have recent documented theatrical experience which aligns with the goals, curriculum, and commitment level of the Beck Theatre program. The student must complete a recommendation form (page 7) and request a special Sponsor approval before membership is granted. (This type of eligibility is at the discretion of the Sponsor and may be dependent on other factors including enrollment numbers)
- B. To join Beck Backstage a student must:
  - 1. Be eligible to join (as defined by Article II, A)
  - 2. Sign the Beck Backstage contract and pay membership dues
  - 3. Has a permission slip signed by his/her parents.

### **III. Conditions of removal and reinstatement:**

- A. A student will be removed from Beck Backstage if he/she receives a grade of below 70 in any course on the previous six-weeks report card. (The student may be reinstated after three weeks when the following progress report demonstrates adequate improvement per UIL rules.)
- B. A student will be removed from Beck Backstage if he/she receives two Ns or one U on the previous six-weeks report card. The student may be reinstated if progress report shows adequate improvement.
- C. A student will be removed temporarily from the club on any days he/she is assigned ISS and may not participate in any Beck Backstage activities during the day of the ISS assignment. The student will be reinstated on the day following his/her last day of ISS.

- D. A student may be removed for behavior during club activities that is continually distracting or disturbing to others. The student will be warned of impending removal, prior to it being finalized, and given the opportunity to self-correct. If distractions persist, removal will occur. The sponsors reserve the right to decide whether or not the student will be allowed to be reinstated and under what conditions.
- E. A student may be removed without warning if he/she commits a Level III Offense or higher. The Sponsor reserve the right to decide whether or not the student will be allowed to be reinstated and under what conditions.
- F. A student will be removed from Beck Backstage if he/she misses 2 or more meetings unexcused. The student will be eligible to re-join the following school year if criteria in Article II. A. is met.

#### **IV. Beck Backstage Productions**

- A. A member of Beck Backstage is not automatically a participant in Beck Backstage productions.
- B. In order to participate in a Beck Backstage production, a member must:
  - 1. audition for the cast and/or interview for the crew
  - 2. attend after-school rehearsals as required by the director
  - 3. have permission slip signed by his/her parent or guardian
- C. A student may be removed from a Beck Backstage production if he/she:
  - 1. is removed from the club for a reason listed in Article III. If a student is removed from the production because he/she is removed from the club, the director of the production is not obligated to reinstate the student into the production, even if the student is reinstated into the club. (**Note: the current director's policy is that once a student is out of a production, he/she remains out.**)
  - 2. has TWO UNEXCUSED absences from rehearsal or three tardies.
  - 3. fails to abide by the play production contract. Each production will have a rehearsal schedule and guidelines for attendance that each participant will sign acknowledging that they will comply.
  - 4. has excused absences that have accumulated to an excessive amount (to be determined by the director based on: reason for absences, the size/demand of the role, the student's preparation for the role, and amount of rehearsal time left.

**\*\*\*PLEASE KEEP THIS COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS\*\*\***

# BECK BACKSTAGE 2009- 2010 MID-YEAR MEMBERSHIP FORM

PLEASE PRINT FIRST AND LAST NAMES SO THEY ARE EASILY READ.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

I am eligible for membership because:

- a student in Exploratory Wheel
- a student in Theatre One – Class Period \_\_\_\_\_
- a student in Theatre Two
- a student in Choir intending on auditioning for the spring musical
- a former member of Beck Backstage
- previous experience and Sponsor approval (page 7 must be completed and approved before membership will be granted)

Advisory Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Room Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*As a student, I understand and agree to abide by the Beck Backstage Bylaws.*

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

*As a parent, I understand and acknowledge the Beck Backstage Bylaws as valid and applicable to my son/daughter. In addition, my son/daughter has permission to attend after school meetings and auditions.*

Parents/Guardians Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP FEE

Enclosed in an envelope, marked with my child's name, is **exactly** \$10.00 (cash or check to BJH) to help with some of the costs of Beck Backstage which may include paper food service items, food and drinks for meetings, guest speakers or guest performers, and costumes/sets if needed.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ I've enclosed and attached \$10.00.

**\*\*\*Please Return This Form to Mr. Sisk by January 15<sup>th</sup>\*\*\***

# Beck Backstage Recommendation Form

**\*\*\*\*\*Only complete this page if necessary.**

**Read Article II. A. of the Beck Backstage by-laws.\*\*\*\*\***

To become a member of Beck Junior High's theatre club *Beck Backstage* a student must qualify for membership. According to *Beck Backstage* Bylaws, a student must meet one of the following eligibility criteria to join:

1. Currently enrolled in a BJH theatre arts class (including Exploratory Wheel)
2. Currently enrolled in Choir and intending on auditioning for the spring musical.
3. A former member of Beck Backstage currently enrolled at BJH
4. A current BJH student who has transferred from another school whose transcript shows he/she has completed junior high theatre arts class.
5. A student who has received sponsor approval. To gain sponsor approval the student must have recent documented theatrical experience which aligns with the goals, curriculum, and commitment level of the Beck Theatre program. The student must complete this recommendation form and request a special Sponsor approval before membership is granted. (This type of eligibility is at the discretion of the Sponsor and may be dependent on other factors including enrollment numbers)

If a student does not qualify through numbers 1-4 but may qualify through number 5, please fill out the recommendation below. All recommendations are subject to approval (please note: by filling out this form does not automatically allow the student membership)

I recommend \_\_\_\_\_ to become a member of Beck Backstage.

He/She has had performance experience in \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\*  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parents may not recommend their own child.