

# PERFORMING MEMBER GUIDELINES

Adopted November 6, 2000

## GENERAL

- These guidelines may be amended by a recommendation of the Board of Directors, followed by a vote of the general membership. Notification of any recommended change must be made to the general membership at least 30 days prior to said vote, which will be held at a regularly scheduled business meeting.
- In case of conflict, current JSG Bylaws shall supersede these guidelines. When applicable, any change in the Bylaws shall automatically apply to these guidelines, which must be changed to conform to the Bylaws as soon as is practicable.

## CLASSIFICATION OF PERFORMING MEMBERS

- *Active* — dues paid for the current year, in compliance with the Guild's Bylaws and Performing Member Guidelines, and available for scheduling as a teller on a regular basis.
- *Inactive by personal request* — dues paid for the current year, in compliance with the Guild's Bylaws and Performing Member Guidelines, but currently unavailable (by choice) for regular scheduling as a teller. A Performing Member in this status may choose to be available on the Substitute list for weekly venues, but may not audition for or perform in special events.
- *Inactive by Board action* — out of compliance with the Bylaws and/or Performing Member Guidelines, and placed on *Inactive* status by the Board for one to six months. Tellers so designated will receive written notification of their change of status and may not tell or audition for any Guild events or be placed on the Substitute list during the designated period of inactivity.
- *On Leave* — Any Performing Member may submit a written request for a leave of absence, for any reason, once each year for a period of up to 30 days. A Performing Member on a leave of absence loses no privileges and is relieved of being placed on the regular schedule for the specified 30-day period. After 30 days, if additional time is required the classification will be reviewed by the Board.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF PERFORMING MEMBERS

- Support JSG functions (meetings, workshops, special events) and accept committee assignments and leadership roles.
- Perform at Guild functions without pay (except in special cases when the Board may approve travel compensation).
- Conduct themselves in a polite and responsible manner at all times. Excessive consumption of alcohol or use of illegal drugs directly before or during any Guild function will be seen as immediate grounds for review and/or termination of the teller's JSG membership by the Board.
- Arrive at a performance site 15 minutes prior to show time, notify the emcee of their arrival, and remain available during the entire show. Any teller needing to leave early must notify the emcee in advance.
- Find a replacement from the current Substitute list, if unable to perform as scheduled, and notify the emcee of the change in advance.
- Sign a *Permission-to-Tell Certification* regarding copyright and public-domain materials, to be kept on file by the Guild.

## STORY CONTENT

- A *minimum of six* stories appropriate for general audiences. Unless otherwise specified, any story told in a JSG olio format should be 10–12 minutes long. A teller who wishes to perform a longer story must obtain the emcee's approval prior to telling and specify the length of the story.
- *Of tasteful content* and appropriate for children or minority groups. If you feel a teller's material is offensive or inappropriate, voice your opinion directly to the teller. If the matter cannot be resolved, inform the Board, who will either make a decision about the material or bring up the issue at a regularly scheduled JSG meeting for discussion by the membership.
- *Obtain prior permission* to tell material other than your own, and *give credit* to its author and/or publisher.

## BOOKINGS

- No individual JSG members may make formal statements or commitments, nor sign contracts or agreements, on behalf of the Guild. (See Bylaws, § 4.03 & § 5.05.) All such transactions must have prior approval by the Board.
- Personal concerts will be handled by the individual member and will not be sponsored or coordinated by JSG.
- Anyone writing a storytelling play/concert for the Guild's consideration reserves the right to choose the tellers for

their play/concert without placing a “call for tellers.”

- Inspirational tellings will be scheduled by the Inspirational Coordinator, who is empowered by the Board to do so based on availability of tellers for specific dates.

#### RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN EMCEE

- Exercise complete control over a concert; and supervise seating, lighting, tests of the sound system, etc.
- Alter the lineup of tellers as needed, either before or during a concert. This may involve dropping a teller from the lineup because of inappropriate dress, behavior, or story content.
- If unable to perform as scheduled, find a replacement emcee from the Substitute list, and notify all scheduled tellers of the change.

#### ANNUAL EVENTS & SPECIAL FUNCTIONS

- Special events may be held during the year based on membership interest and participation. The dates, number of events, and audition guidelines are established by the Special Events Committee and approved by the general membership.
- Inspirational tellings are not considered special events.

#### NONCOMPLIANCE

- Any Performing Member not in compliance with the *Bylaws* or *Performing Member Guidelines* may have his or her status reviewed by the JSG Board. After review, if the Board finds the teller to be in noncompliance, the teller will receive a written warning from the Board. If the noncompliance continues, that teller’s status may be changed from *Active* to *Inactive* by Board action for a period of not less than one month and not more than six months.
- Tellers placed in *Inactive* status by the Board may petition to have their status reviewed at a membership meeting where a quorum is present. Board recommendations may be overturned by a two-thirds vote of the membership in attendance.
- Any performing member inactive for 60 days loses the privileges of a Performing Member for the period of inactivity. This includes but is not exclusive to (a) the right to audition for any Guild functions; (b) display of photographs or materials at Guild functions; and (c) referrals from requests to the Guild for storytellers.