

PENNSYLVANIA DeMOLAY

DeMolay Degree Performance (Issued in 2000, revised 9/28/11)

There was an old practice in some Chapters that the candle-lighter part, as called for by the DeMolay Degree ritual, be portrayed as a hunchback, or as a foot-dragging, groaning character with other physical or mental disabilities. This practice must cease. We must take care not to inadvertently offend any person with disabilities, especially a young man who is about to become a brother. Our precept of Courtesy, and our lessons of fidelity and toleration demand nothing less. All performers will walk as they are able. This does not prohibit the depiction of an older character with a cane, or other help, as long as the portrayal of all characters is presented with dignity and decorum.

Any action, movement or performance, which causes laughter or snickering (whether in candidates or members) or is designed only to unnerve or create fear among the candidates, fails to properly convey the message of the Degrees of DeMolay. No cast member should be handled in such a way as to cause injury. No "racking" noises or "moaning" of any actors is allowed "off-stage." Attention must not be distracted from the serious portion of the degree occurring inside the chapter room.