Dance Masters of America

Delegate Report

Nationals 2017 New Orleans

Submitted:

By: O.D.M President Denise Bryant

Chapter #16
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Dear ODM Member,

As your delegate this past summer, I attended all Board of Directors meetings and Grand Body Meetings at the DMA National Convention in New Orleans. As this was my second year, I felt that I had a better idea of how DMA operates at my level on the Board of Directors.

This report, for ease of reading but not leaving out any information is divided in two major parts: (1) Delegate Report which is a recap of the week, including all by-law and standing rule changes, and (2) an appendix which includes contact information for the DMA Executive Officers, the reports of all who submitted them electronically to Kathi Halbert, and the Grand Body meeting minutes.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be your Delegate to the DMA National Convention!
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

Sincerely,
Denise Bryant
President
Ohio Dance Masters Chapter 16
DELEGATE REPORT: DENISE BRYANT, PRESIDENT, CHAPTER 16  
NEW ORLEANS, 2017

The DMA National Convention in New Orleans was wonderful! I personally like the location as you can walk outside the hotel and have every meal for the week in a different restaurant. Between the beignets and the gumbo the food is awesome! It was however a smaller convention than Nashville. I attended all Board of Directors’ meetings and all Grand Body Meetings.

This is a recap of the highlights of the week. If a report was submitted to Kathi Halbert, a copy of that report will be found in the Appendix of this document. If a report was not submitted electronically to Kathi, I am summarizing it below – as long as it was not just “posted”. You will also find a recap of By-Law changes, Standing Rule changes, and Competition Rule changes as were discussed in our meetings.

It was great to have Ohio Dance Masters so wonderfully represented by our members: Noreen Rhode, Butch Theisen, Diana Evans Pulliam, Joan Wine, Colleen Rhode, Kathi Halbert, Tammy Taylor, Michele Rexroad, Diane Campbell, Sandy Embry, Suzy Straub, Stephanie Pritchard, Dara Berman-Cheung, Mandy Doyle, Lacey Baker, Dawn Slemons, Kathy Meyer, Drew Burgess and Rachel White!

Several of our members served on committees, acted as chairs or directors, or helped wherever needed. We started off the convention with Noreen Rhode serving as the Jazz Intensive Chair and Kathi Halbert as a National Area Director (and she always helps where needed). As we got into the convention, Colleen Rhode was the Room 1 Classroom Director, Kathi Halbert the Open Scholarship Chair, Dawn Slemons as the evening event Seating Chair and the Jr. Member Facilitator. Several of our Ohio members assisted in classrooms either at the doors, or playing music; Tammy Taylor and I helped every night of the pageants with seating, Diana Evans Pulliam, Joan Wine, Michele Rexroad, Noreen Rhode, Dawn Slemons and Butch Theisen were judges in various areas of competitions (PAC, Titles, Open Scholarships). Drew Burgess and Rachel White were on Faculty for the convention!

Our ODM Titles represented Chapter 16 very proudly, and every time I saw them they looked like they were having a blast! Here’s how our young ladies and gentlemen did:
Petite Miss Dance, Sophia Straley, student of Dawn Slemons and Kathy Meyer won the Tap Class award, and First Runner Up!
Master Dance, Sean Detwiller, student of Colleen and Noreen Rhode represented us beautifully!
Jr. Miss Dance, Payton Nickerson, student of Mandy Doyle and Lacey Baker won the Jazz award and is now the reigning Junior Miss Dance of America!!
Jr. Mr. Dance, Jacob Sharpnack, student of Diane Campbell, won the Interview award!
Teen Miss Dance, Hannah Cabral, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman-Cheung, won the Jazz and the Modern class awards, and was First Runner Up!
Teen Mr. Dance, Trent Goble, student of Sandy Embry, was Second Runner Up!
Miss Dance, Alyssa Swank, student of Kathi Halbert, was a finalist, finishing in the top 10!
Mr. Dance, Aaron Choate, student of Diana Evans Pulliam received the Sherry Gold Memorial Scholarship Award for Judges’ Choice for best Choreography, Mr. Personality, the Modern Class Award and First Runner Up.

We had several routines in the dance-off, which is the last competition before the Banquet. We were blessed to see “Come Follow the Band”, a 12 & under Line belonging to our member Suzy
Straub, and “When the Clock Strikes Two”, a 12 & under Extended Line/Production of Diana Evans Pulliam. They both performed at the banquet on Saturday night, competing for the Grand National Championship!

Several ODM students were entered in the Open Scholarship classes. Hannah Cabral, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman-Cheung won the 4-Phase Overall! Alyssa Swank, student of Kathi Halbert, won First Place in the Ballet, Haley Gillespie, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman-Cheung placed Second in the Jazz, and Jordan Slemons, student of Dawn Slemons and Kathy Meyer won Second Place in the Three Phase Awards for the open scholarships. Anna McGary, won a college scholarship and Natalie Scolf won a scholarship to SHIP. Both are students of Diana Evans Pulliam.

I heard that members and students loved most of the workshop classes and enjoyed participating in the convention events. The Welcome Party is always a hit. We had four ODM students represent us in the dances that evening: in the 12 & Under dance were Taylor McCardle, student of Diana Evans Pulliam, and Caroline Kiefaber, student of Suzy Straub. Haley Gillespie, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman-Cheung as well as Natalie Scolf, student of Diana Evans Pulliam participated in the 13 & Over performance. In speaking with our members and their students at the convention, though, I got the feeling that they weren’t crazy about the location. They felt that the convention was not in a “family friendly” location.

Special awards that were given during the convention were:
Member of the Year: Jackie Olson
Zee Brown Ahern Award: Duanne Cazalot
Chapter of the Year: Chapter 6 – Lousiana Association of Dance Masters
The DMA President’s Award: Lynn Formato
The DMA Annual Award: Terrence Mann and Charlotte d’Amboise
The Lifetime Achievement Award: Robert Mann

By-Law and Rule Changes:
Eligibility to run for a position as a National Area Director has changed from 2 years on the Board of Directors to at least 3 years experience combined of serving as a Delegate, and chairing a committee.
PAC Rules: Collaboration will be added as a Division and can be students from different studios or more than one teacher of record. Those in this division will NOT be eligible for Grand Nationals, and if the students are from more than one studio, they MUST be in the Collaboration division.
Titles: Crown height is limited to 3.25 inches
   Be clear about what classes contestants are taking – no changes after the deadline
   Ballet is now mandatory for ALL title contestants.
   The Acro audition format is being reviewed.
Open Scholarship: Those who are already registered for Open Scholarships can add classes up to 24 hours before the class. Dancers must be aware of what classes they are taking.
CONTACT INFORMATION FOR DMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Laura Bostic-Work
9115 Fryland Road
Orlando, FL  32817
Phone: 734-718-9146
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First Vice President: Cindy Larsen
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Phone: 205-410-4697
E-Mail: larsencml@aol.com

Second Vice President: Dody Flynn
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Phone: 203-417-4355
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Executive Secretary: Robert Mann
214-10 41st Avenue
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Phone: 718-225-4013
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E-Mail: dmamann@aol.com

Treasurer: Charleen Locascio
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E-Mail: dmatreas@bellsouth.net

Immediate Past President: Joann Zavisa
7042 Chippewa
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Email: olson81two@gmail.com

**Jeanne Cummings is National Area Director for Ohio Dance Masters (Chapter 16)
THE GRAND BODY MEETING MINUTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

GRAND BODY MEETING
Tuesday July 11, 2017

President Laura Work called the first Grand Body meeting of the 133rd National Convention of Dance Masters of America to order at 4:59PM.

Invocation Joanne Zavisa
Presidential Welcome Laura Work
Area Welcome Patricia Oplotnik
Thought for the Day Joanne Zavisa

Memorial Service Mimi Costa White, Robert Mann

Roll Call Robert Mann, Executive Secretary; a quorum was present.

Parliamentary Procedures Mary Scout

Adoption of the 2017 Convention Standing Rules Laura Work
Dody Flynn moved the adoption of the Standing Rules for the 2017 National Convention. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Introductions:
Registered Parliamentarian Mary Scout
DMA Parliamentarian Dody Flynn
Recording Secretaries Kathi Halbert
Madeline Graves
Patricia Oplotnik

Convention Chairman Shely Pack Manning
Seating Chairperson Dawn Slemons
Banquet Chairperson Charlene Hibbs

Presidential Appointments:
Sergeant at Arms Jeanne Cummings
Timekeeper Cindy Larsen
Minutes Approval Dody Flynn, Chairperson
Kathi Halbert
Madeline Graves
Patricia Oplotnik
Mary Scout, Advisor

Announcements:
Congratulations to the Petite Miss Dance of Americas 2018 Ayla Burnham and Master Dance of America 2018 Albert Mendoza III and their teacher of record Wanda Manville Chapter #36. Thank you, director, Erin Spriggs and choreographer Melissa Hoffman

OFFICERS REPORTS:
National President Laura Work

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):
Bylaws and Standing Rules Dody Flynn

1. Amend Article XII-Nominations and Elections, Section 1 A by inserting after “attendance”, the words “from each of the seven (7) groupings of chapters.”

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<td>ARTICLE XII-NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS</td>
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Section 1.
A. Delegates shall elect one (1) National Board of Directors member from each of the groupings of chapters assigned to the seven (7) National Area Directors. They shall be elected by the National Board members in attendance.

Rationale: To clarify that the election of seven members to the Nominating Committee is done separately by the members in attendance from each of the seven areas and not by the entire Board of Directors in attendance.

Amendment to Article XII- Nominations and Elections, Section 1 A, was approved by the Grand Body.

2. Amend Article XV-National Executive Committee, Section 3 Duties by inserting a new f as follows (if it is adopted the current f will become g):

Article XV-National Executive Committee, Section 3 – Duties
f. determine if a delegate, who is seated after the start of the Affiliations Meeting, can be granted the privilege of voting when the delegate has an emergency arise;
Rationale: Provides a mechanism for determining if a delegate should be given the privilege of voting in the case of an emergency and authorizes the Executive Committee to make this decision.

Amendment to Article XV-National Executive Committee, Section 3 Duties, was approved by the Grand Body.

3. Amend Article XI, Sections 2 C and D by striking “two” and inserting “three”.

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<td>Article XI-National Officers</td>
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<td>Section 2. Eligibility</td>
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<td>C. To be nominated for the office of National Area Director, the member must have completed a minimum of two (2) years, at the time of nomination, within the last seven (7) years as a member of the National Board of Directors or as Chair of a National Standing Committee or position: Adjudication, Affiliation, Bylaws, Convention Chairperson, DMA Parliamentarian, Education-</td>
<td>C. To be nominated for the office of National Area Director, the member must have completed a minimum of three (3) years, at the time of nomination, within the last seven (7) years as a member of the National Board of Directors or as Chair of a National Standing Committee or position: Adjudication, Affiliation, Bylaws, Convention Chairperson, DMA Parliamentarian, Education-</td>
<td>C. To be nominated for the office of National Area Director, the member must have completed a minimum of three (3) years, at the time of nomination, within the last seven (7) years as a member of the National Board of Directors or as Chair of a National Standing Committee or position: Adjudication, Affiliation, Bylaws, Convention Chairperson, DMA Parliamentarian, Education-</td>
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D. A nominee for the elected office of National President, National First Vice-President or National Second Vice-President shall have completed a minimum of two (2) years at the time of nomination within the past five (5) years as a member of the Executive Committee. A nominee for the office of National Executive Secretary or National Treasurer shall have completed two (2) years on the Executive Committee at the time of nomination within the past fifteen (15) years.

Rationale: By changing the requirement from two to three years, it will provide that the nominees for positions on the Executive Committee will have had more experience especially those serving on committees

Joanne Zavisa moved to divide the amendment into three (3) parts so as to consider the question on the terms for the three groups of Executive Committee members separately.
Motion seconded, motion carried.

Cindy Larsen moved to amend the amendment to Article XI-Section 2C by substituting the following:

Section 2-Eligibility

C. To be nominated to the office of National Area Director, the member must have completed a minimum of two (2) years, at the time of nomination, within the last seven (7) years as a member of the National Board of Directors or must have completed at the time of nomination, within the past seven (7) years, a minimum of three (3) years as a National Area Director or as chair of a National Standing Committee or Position: Adjudication, Affiliation, Bylaws, Convention Chairperson, DMA Parliamentarian, Education-Strategy, Examination, Examination Certification Forum, Finance, Intensive Programs, Long Range Planning,
Membership, National Convention Workshop Directors, Open Scholarship Auditions, Performing Arts Scholarship Competitions, Rules, Solo Title Directors, Student Honors Intensive Program Texas, Student Honors Intensive Program New York, and Teachers Training School Administrators.

Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Amendment to Article XI, Sections 2 C as amended, was approved by the Grand Body.
Amendment to Article XI, Sections 2 D, was approved by the Grand Body.
Amendment to Article XI, Sections 2 E, was approved by the Grand Body.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Nominating Committee Sara Wardell #13
Banquet Charlene Hibbs

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- Grand Body Meeting today at 5PM IN MARDI GRAS L-M-N on the 4th Floor
- Junior Miss/Mr. Scholarship Competition tonight at 8PM in the Carondelet Ballroom
- Be sure to thank Director Grace Holmquist and Choreographer Ashley Canterna Hardy
- Executive Committee Meeting July 12th at 9:00AM in Mardi Gras F
- Board of Directors Meeting tomorrow morning at 10:30AM in I-J-K
- Remember to exchange Banquet Tickets
- Give all news to Valerie Hamilton and Lisa Gillespie, DMA Times.
- All members are asked to attend the classes by the honorees on Saturday July 15th.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM

GRAND BODY MEETING
WEDNESDAY JULY 12, 2017

National President Laura Work called the 2nd grand body meeting of the 133rd National Convention of Dance Masters of America to order at 5:05PM

Thought for the Day Joanne Zavisa
Roll Call Robert Mann, Executive Secretary
A quorum was present.
Minutes Approval Laura Work
The minutes of Tuesday, July 11, 2017, Grand Body meeting will be approved July 13th.

Announcements:
Congratulations to the Junior Miss Dance of America 2018 Payton Nickerson #16 and her teacher of record Mandy Doyle and her teacher of recognition Lacy Booth.
Congratulations to the Junior Mr. Dance of America 2018 Joshua Taber and his teacher of record, April Nelson. Thank you to Director Grace Holmquist and Choreographer Ashley Canterna Hardy.
OFFICER REPORTS:

National Executive Secretary  Robert Mann
National Treasurer           Charleen Locascio
National 1st Vice-President  Cindy Larsen
National 2nd Vice-President  Dody Flynn (posted)
National Area Director       Keri Cooper (posted)
National Area Director       Jason Coosner (posted)
National Area Director       Jeanne Cummings (posted)
National Area Director       Kathi Halbert (posted)
National Area Director       Penny Koza Lemansky (posted)
National Area Director       Jackie Olson (posted)
National Area Director       Patricia Oplotnik (posted)

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):

Nominating Committee  Sara Wardell
Office Name & Chapter Number
President  Laura Bostic Work  #6
1st Vice President  Cindy Larsen  #33
2nd Vice President  Dody Flynn  #18
National Executive Secretary  Robert Mann  #26
National Treasurer           Charleen Locascio  #6
National Area Directors      Rita Ogden  #25
                            Jackie Olson  #15
                            Jeanne Cummings #21
                            Patricia Oplotnik #27
                            Penny Koza Lemansky #10
                            Kathi Halbert  #16
                            Mike Smolko    #3
                            Jason Coosner  #1
                            Shawn Terenzi  #5
                            Brenna Worsham #44

Membership  Duane Cazalot (posted)
TTS Charlene Hibbs/Phyllis Guy/Joanne Zavisa
(posted)
SHIP New York  Laura Work/Annette DuBose (posted)
SHIP Texas    Cindy Larsen (posted)
Historian     Paul Janusz (posted)
Finance Committee  Amy Deloughy/Jackie Olson (posted)
Social Media   Rebecca Brettingham Filice/ April Spisak Nelson
Past Presidents Council  Joanne Zavisa (posted)

NEW BUSINESS:

Shely Pack-Manning asked to consider an apprenticeship position for the National Board.
Submitted to Advisory.
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Teen Miss and Teen Mr. Scholarship Competition tonight at 8:00PM in the Carondelet Ballroom
- Please be sure to thank Director April Spisak Nelson and Choreographer Terri Newman
- Elections will be tomorrow 8:00AM –1:00PM, Thursday July 13, 2017 in the Bonaparte room on the 4th floor.
- Give all news to Valerie Hamilton and Lisa Gillespie, DMA Times.
- All Board members are asked to attend the classes by the honorees on Saturday July 15th.
- Lynn Formato will be teaching the acting class on Saturday 9:30AM-10:30AM

Reading of Motions Passed

Recording Secretary

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM

GRAND MEETING
THURSDAY JULY 13, 2017

First Vice-President Cindy Larsen called the third board meeting of the 133rd National Convention of Dance Masters of America to order at 5:01AM.

Thought for the Day
Joanne Zavisa

Roll Call
Robert Mann, Executive Secretary
A quorum was present

Minutes Approval
Cindy Larsen

The minutes of Tuesday July 11, 2017 and Wednesday July 12, 2017 Grand Body meeting were approved.

ANNOUCEMENTS:
Congratulations to the Teen Miss Dance of America 2018 Catte Tallant #6 and her teacher of record Rhonda Edmundson. Congratulations to the Teen Mr. Dance of America 2018 Adrian Jones #15 and his teacher of record Lynn Raley. Thank you to Director April Spisak Nelson and Choreographer Terri Newman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (continued)
Executive Committee
Robert Mann (posted)

Education Strategies
Tom Ralabate (posted)

Education Liaison
Cindy Larsen (posted)

Ballet
Mimi Costa-White (posted)

Jazz
Larraine Susa (posted)

Tap
Barb Denny (posted)

Pre-School
Bernardine Van Epps (posted)

Modern
Christine Zimmerman (posted)

Acrobatics
Annette DuBose (posted) (posted)

Examinations
Jill Chase/Glenda Moss (posted)

Scholarship Fundraising
Marlene Merritt (posted)

Junior Membership
Dawn Slemons (posted)

Elections
Madeline Graves

Number of votes cast
125
Office ___________________ Name & Chapter Number

National Area Director - Plurality  Kathi Halbert #16
Penny Koza-Lemansky #10
Jackie Olson #15
Jason Coosner #1
Patricia Oplotnik #27
Jeannie Cummings #21
Shawn Terenzi #5

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• Miss and Mr. Scholarship Competition tonight at 8PM in the Carondelet Ballroom
• Please be sure to thank Director Penny Koza Lemansky and Choreographer Jacqueline Moschetta Warren
• Executive Committee Meeting tomorrow July 14th at 9AM in Mardi Gras F.
• Board of Directors Meeting tomorrow morning at 10:30AM in L-J-K
• Grand National Championship PAC tomorrow in the Carondelet Ballroom
• Be sure to thank PAC Directors Dee Buchanan, Jean Benicasa, PJ Catalano, Leslie Ingram, and Deborah Sanford
• Contract signing tomorrow morning for new title holders, their parents and Teacher of Record in Mardi Gras F at 8:15AM.
• Give all news to Valerie Hamilton and Lisa Gillespie, DMA Times.
• Open scholarship awards will be given at the grand championship announcement at 4:15PM.
• PAC announcements for Grand Championships well be held at 3:30PM for the 12 and under and 4:15PM for the 13 and over.
• Grand Championships start at 6:30PM
• Donner has asked to entrants into the Grand Championship finals need to have their pictures taken before the banquet

133rd DMA ANNIVERSARY AWARDS BANQUET:
Photo Session on Saturday evening prior to the banquet: 7:00PM-7:15PM
• The 2016-2017 National Board of Directors
• The 2016-2017 National Executive Committee (elected 2016)
• The 2017-2018 National Executive Committee (elected 2017)
• Past National Presidents
• All 50 year members in attendance
• All 50 year members being honored at this convention
• Honored Guests
Reception 6:30-7:30pm. Please welcome our Awardees
The 2017 DMA AWARD; Charlotte D’Amboise and Terrence Mann
The 2017 DMA Presidents Award Lynn Formato
The 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award – Robert Mann
DMA 50 Year Members

Reading of Motions Passed  Kathi Halbert

Meeting was adjourned at 5:19PM
OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
(As Submitted Electronically to Kathi Halbert)

Dance Masters of America, Inc.
New Orleans, LA
President Report 2017

Board of Directors, Members and friends:

It has been my honor and privilege to serve this year as Dance Masters of America as National President. Thank you for electing me to this esteemed position. I truly hope I have fulfilled the responsibilities that have set before me.

As I sat down to write this report I thought what do I have to say? This year went by so fast I am not sure I have anything to write about...as I started writing I realized how much I did have to say, how much we accomplished this year as a team, and most importantly this report cannot be 20 pages long!!

I began the year with my letter to the Area Vice Presidents thanking them for all of their hard work at the 2016 National Convention in Nashville, and a review of their duties for the upcoming year. I want to thank them they truly went above and beyond this year. My personal goal was to have every chapter visited by a National Officer and I am happy to say we met this goal! This was only possible by the help of "The Dream Team" Our National Officers went above and beyond. If someone couldn't attend one of their chapters events, we sent another in their place. Although all the officers gladly stepped up, a special thank you to Kathi Halbert and Penny Koza, who rearranged their schedules several times to help me achieve this goal (I think they were on speed dial)! I personally was gone for 8 weekends in a row in addition to attending other chapters throughout the year. The goal turned into so much more than I could have ever imagined. I was able to spend time meeting members, getting to know how each chapter runs and found some hidden gems as I call them. It made me realize and remember when I was a new member how I wanted to be involved and be included. I ask that you all look for those hidden gems in your chapters and if someone volunteers to help, please find them a job or a task no matter how small...sometimes it appears we have no members willing to help so we take on all the responsibilities ourself and the burden becomes heavy when we truly have hidden gems right in front of us who are wanted even begging to help.

Another goal was our new website I am proud to say it up and running. Just like dance it is an ever evolving art and we will continue to make changes and updates. Some new features this next year will be a job search section for networking, a DMA STARS page where you can see what all of our wonderful DMA kids are doing, a parent information page, and I am hoping after this summer I will have enough pictures to have each section of the website have their own pictures. I do know we had some problems...the member login page (we will discuss in the boardroom some possible solutions), the where is this now?? I know I saw it but where did it go...it was there yesterday??? And my personal favorite the 20 page registration to convention. For those that do not know what we are talking about it all seemed great on the website page...it was neat, it was pretty...until you went to print your registration and you went through a ream of paper!! Lets just say I learned that webmasters speak another language and you need to be VERY SPECIFIC on what say in your directions!!!!

Dance Comp Genie...big sigh!!! Yes we are up and running!! It has been a few years in the making but this year we went live with not only registration but also implementing it in the PAC room with not only the schedule but tabulation too!! A big thank you to Jean Benecasa, PJ Catalano, and Dee Buchanan whom setup the schedule, tabulation and worked their magic on making this happen. As for registration, Charleen and all of us were a bit hesitant...when you push that live button it’s always a bit scary...but after about week she said and I quote “this is fun, oh this is making my life much easier!”
Our Social Media department took us to another level this year with Facebook and Twitter. A big thank you to Rebecca Brittingham, April Spisak Nelson and Chasta Hamilton. Please make sure you go to Facebook and like our page and share our photos and videos. Not sure if you saw our welcome party was live on Facebook last night and have already had people calling me who are not here this year saying "It's like we are there!!"

In closing we still have many exciting changes coming in this next year. I want to thank all the Area Directors for volunteering their time and efforts throughout the year. It is an enormous responsibility and so essential to the growth of each Chapter and Dance Masters of America.

Thank you again to our National Area Directors for going above and beyond this year. National Executive Secretary, Robert Mann, National Treasurer, Charleen Locascio, Immediate Past President, Joanne Zavisa, National 1st Vice President Cindy Larsen, National Second Vice President, Dody Flynn, and Past President Mimi Cost White, a big thank you for guiding me and keeping me informed of the day to day workings of such a prestigious organization. I truly appreciate all your help and applaud all your efforts and dedication to Dance Masters of America. I look forward to this wonderful week in New Orleans and pledge to work with all the National Area Directors in building an even stronger organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Y. Work
National President
Dance Masters of America

Dance Masters of America, Inc.
New Orleans, LA 2017
First Vice President Report

Dear Madame President, Board of Directors and Members,

This past year has truly been an honor to serve as National First Vice President of Dance Masters of America, Inc. Your confidence in my abilities has and remains the reason I will continue to do my best.

To say this year has been a bit of a roller coaster is an understatement. However roller coasters are my favorite rides at amusement parks so I guess that is why I had so much fun.

I started out as Second VP in charge of the Delegates and received all but two Delegate reports. This year we will be implementing a new format for all delegate reports to be written. Just as I was getting my feet wet, things changed and I was moved to First VP. With little to go on since all history of this position was lost, I have been in a rebuilding year with so much help, support and guidance from everyone on the board. They could not have been more encouraging.

My new duties included the responsibilities of the National Area Directors and they were all such a pleasure to work with. I am beyond excited that together we met our goal of visiting every chapter this past year. If the National Area Director could not make it to their assigned chapter, someone else from the Board stepped up and made the trip. After going through this position for a year I have a few suggestions that will help make everyone's job a little easier and more efficient. With the change of the Delegates not being required to bring in an Officers List or Activities Report, these will be items needed to be given to the New Area Director for their first report due in September, in efforts to eliminate duplicate reporting.
My other duty was the hiring of all judges, which I found to be much easier than expected. All bios of the judges were collected prior to my arrival and will be posted outside the rooms while they are judging. No Bios will be read this year during competitions. They will be introduced and announced that a full bio is located outside for everyone’s convenience.

I stand here today in total amazement at the knowledge and dedication by all members in this boardroom and especially that of Laura, Bob, Charleen and Joanne. I feel like such a newbie in their presence and one day I’ll grow up and be like them. I thank you for your love, support and guidance. All though we agree to disagree it always comes out in the best interest of our members. Thank you all for your patience and loyalty to Dance Masters of America. What other dance education organization has been in business for 133 years.

Thank you and God bless you all,

Cindy Larsen
National First Vice President

July, 2017

Dear Madame President, Board of Directors, and Members,

It is a true honor to serve Dance Masters of America as National Second Vice-President.

I attended the Advisory meeting in Anaheim, California March 28-April 3, 2017. I always knew the amount of work done at advisory meetings, but to be in the thick of it was a true experience. Even though there was a lot of work to do, it was very enjoyable, working with the team and together we accomplished everything on the agenda.

For the number of years I have been in this board room I was comfortable knowing what my jobs as National Second Vice-President were to be, or so I thought.

A big THANK YOU to Laura, Bob, Charleen, Joanne and Cindy who all have provided direction and answered the millions of questions I had and continue to ask.

I arrived in New Orleans Sunday, July 2 to help unpack the convention materials, and do whatever I could. Unpacking and setting things up was alone an eye opener to the work no one sees before everyone arrives, but again it was also fun, and we shared some good laughs.

This convention is off to a great start, and I look forward to working with everyone this week.

Dody Flynn
National Second Vice-President

DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA, INC.
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE REPORT 2017
The Advisory Committee met three times this fiscal year.
Our Fall Meeting was held October 9th – 16th in Kissimmee, Florida in conjunction with our Outreach for Chapter 2. Present where President Laura Work, Immediate Past-President Joanne Zavisa, 1st Vice-President Terrie Legein, and Second Vice-President Cindy Larsen. I was not able to attend due to a family, medical emergency.
Our Winter Meeting was held in New Orleans with some changes in our Advisory Committee. Cindy Larsen move to the 1st Vice-Presidents position and Dody Flynn was appointed Second Vice-President. Our Spring Meetings was held in Anaheim, CA, so that we may see first-hand the renovations made to the facility.

At each of the Advisory Meetings, the National Area Reports were read and discussed. I cannot stress the importance of having a designated officer or knowledgeable member who will be responsible for communicating with the National Area Director assigned to your Chapter. It is embarrassing for the Area Vice-President to report and it is embarrassing for the Chapter to have it go on record that there were “NO COMMUNICATION” between the National Area Director and his assigned Chapter.

All Examinations were reviewed, corrections were made.

In an effort not to duplicate reports, all reports with the exception of the Memorial Service Report will be sent to the National Area Directors upon their request. All notifications of deaths throughout the year will be reported to Mimi Costa White our Condolence Chair Person. Your National Convention Delegate will be responsible for giving a written report of all deaths that happened throughout the fiscal year, to the National Executive Secretary at the National Convention Affiliation Meeting.

The National Area Directors will be responsible for the collection, and review of their Chapters’ Bylaws, Standing Rules and Competition Rules. The National Area Directors are to report their findings directly to the Chapter and the Advisory Committee.

The

DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA INC
NATIONAL TREASURER’S REPORT

As of May 31st, 2017 Dance Masters of America has a balance of three million, seven hundred ninety one thousand, five hundred eighty eight dollars.

This represents Long Term Investments of two million, eight hundred ten thousand, nine hundred sixty- seven dollars and Short Term Investments of two hundred sixty six thousand, eight hundred ninety-one dollars.

When all the bills are paid at fiscal year-end we should have a good balance of approx. three million, five hundred sixteen thousand, five hundred eighty eight dollars.

This will reflect a loss of around two hundred seventy five thousand dollars for this year.

Charleen Locascio

Explanation for Loss:
Convention Registration is down approx. 75,000.00
PAC entries are down 100,000.00
Banquet could be down 20,000.00
TTS is down approx. 40,000.00 (we are only having 1 class of grade level 1)
SHIP is down 25,000.00 (we are only having 2 levels instead of 3)
Interest on CD and Investments is projected to be down 20,000

Past Presidents met on July 7, 2017 at 7:00p.m. In President Work’s suite.

There were 10 past presidents in attendance. Everyone shared pleasantries and we got right down to work. The details from the rest of the meeting will remain a secret until next year, when the Member of the year is announced! Everyone enjoyed a little refreshment before departing.

Joanne Zavisa
The year has certainly been a challenge with many of my chapters struggling to move forward and maintain membership. I have visited the following chapters this year.

#17 ~ Mid Atlantic ~ January 13-15
#21 ~ St. Louis Dance Teachers Ass. ~ January 8, Membership brunch and meeting
#28 ~ Heart of America (Kansas City) ~ November 11-13
#38 ~ Canadian Dance Masters of America ~ March 3-5
#08 ~ Western New York ~ April 8-9

I did not visit:
#45 ~ Dance Teachers Ass. of Virginia
#46 ~ Great Lakes Regional Dance Masters

CHAPTER #17: Mid Atlantic Chapter

Aletha Whieldon is their new president and she is doing a fabulous job. They are an active, vibrant chapter with many seasoned members who continue to work hard but also are there to guide and nurture their younger membership so they can continue to lead them strongly into the future.

They offer their membership many wonderful opportunities including, diverse classes, prestigious faculty, scholarships and competitions. They have a strong commitment to dance education and truly support and care for each other. This sense of caring and support is what propels this chapter to success. They had large support from teachers and students throughout the year with record numbers in attendance.

Their March Title Pageant and PAC weekend had a Mardi Gras theme in preparation for Nationals. There is always a sense of appreciation for each other and a positive atmosphere throughout their events.

They have developed a social media campaign with stories, photos, upcoming events, fun facts [https://www.facebook.com/pg/MADM-Chapter-17-187769252812/photos/?ref=page_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/MADM-Chapter-17-187769252812/photos/?ref=page_internal)

They ended their season with a functional movement class for dancers providing great insights into essential movement patterns and core muscle strengthening and use.

Their calendar for next season is posted @dmachapter17.com and they are looking forward to another great season.

**Chapter Administrative Topics:**
- They would like to inquire about the transfer requests that are still pending.
- They are refining their 501C3 paperwork to ensure everything has been captured in the documentation
- They have concerns with DMA ethics and would like to see more guidance and coaching of members in both their ethical and professional conduct whether an employer or an employee.

CHAPTER #21: St. Louis Dancing Teachers Association

Jenny Haberberger is trying hard to put this chapter back in working order, however, it has not been
an easy task. The chapter is in a phase of transition and redefining themselves. Most of their past board had resigned from office leaving many new faces in charge. They are working hard and can't thank Jeanne Cummings enough for her amazing guidance and continued support. They truly appreciate all she has done.

Their active members agree that education must be the forefront of their focus and that the classroom education is more valuable to their students than any competitive events. They are trying hard to develop genuine camaraderie and support among studio owners and fellow teachers and friendships that are fostered between dancers from studio to studio.

I attended a brunch in January where there was much discussion about future events and trying to generate more support for their workshops. They held scholarship audition classes in February.

They have scheduled a planning meeting in July and are currently researching grant writing for their chapter exploring hosting a Festival of Dance. The next season is also planning their January Brunch, winter workshop and scholarship auditions.

**CHAPTER #28: Heart of America #28, DMA, Inc.**

This certainly has been a building year for this chapter. It has gone through tremendous change starting out with talk of dissolving the chapter, creating a new Board, updating bylaws and standing rules and creating events for their calendar year. They have a wonderful membership that is willing to work hard and truly want to do fabulous things for their students. All their active members have taken on jobs and offices to help move their chapter forward. Three events were hosted this year, Scholarships, Solo Title Competition and Convention. I attended the scholarship weekend which included workshop classes and the participation was tremendous.

In talking to their members, I feel they are on an uphill climb and seem excited about their future. They have some young members that seem ready to jump in! Rachel Drummond-Jancek has done a great job and seems to be able to get along with all types of personalities. Their focus for next season is to grow their membership and host a syllabus review for current and hopefully perspective members. They are also planning to start a Junior Membership program next season.

I'm extremely proud of them and their hard work to pull their chapter back together.

**CHAPTER #45: Dance Teacher's Association of Virginia**

This chapter has not been active this year and some of their members have asked for transfers. However, currently there are members interested in keeping the chapter and rebuilding so we are hoping that there is still a future for Chapter #45.

**CHAPTER #46: Great Lakes Regional Dance Masters**

I personally did not attend this chapter this year because I was at another chapter the weekend of their event but other National officers were able to attend.

**CHAPTER #8: Western New York**

I had the pleasure of visiting them in April and seeing their PAC competition. I was not their Area Director for the year so I'm limited as to their entire year's activities. I do know they are a hard-working chapter and their PAC had some great numbers and showed some wonderful talent. They would like to build their titles so they invited girls to participate in their Miss Dance this year who
knew they would not be able to attend Nationals. I talked to girls afterwards and they really enjoyed the experience, felt they gained a lot from it and were glad that they participated.

Michael Lambert has done an amazing job with their Junior Membership. I was there when he worked so hard to get them to develop the program and it was nice to see the participation.

CHAPTER #38: Dance Masters of Canada
It was great to revisit my Canadian friends in Chapter #38. They were also not my assigned chapter but my weekend there certainly was action-packed with all titles and PAC completion. The talent there is amazing but like so many chapters they are trying to get more participation.

SUMMARY:
Many of the chapters I visited are rebuilding at this time. I think for many of them it's important to have VP's within their officers and elections with these officers moving up in the chairs. If you can establish this precedence with having limited terms for your officers it might generate more interest within your younger membership and help feed into your growth. Certainly, the seasoned members are still there to help, serve on committees and guide the newer members but new ideas and younger members are so vital to the growth and vitality of a chapter.

Growth in membership is a recurring theme and necessary so you can provide the functions important to your membership. Many of us talk about the need for new members but I'm not sure we are always as welcoming as we think. We must accept diversity in our membership and agree to disagree.

This organization has offered me a home my entire dance career. It's educated me, guided me, befriended me and has introduced me to a world of dance that I would never been able to achieve without them. If we could all truly care about each other as colleagues and embrace each other as our dance family I believe we could solve a lot of the issues we see within so many chapters. We have so many wonderful and amazing things to offer our members and our students and we must all work together to keep it happening.

National Area Director
Summary Report 2016-2017
Jeanne Cummings
My Chapters include; CH# 4 Dance Masters of Michigan, CH#16 Ohio Dance Masters, CH#34 Dance Masters of Mid America, and Lone Star CH#35. I was able to visit and work at Chapters 16, 34 and 35 two times each, and attend CH#4 one time. I also visited and worked at chapters #3 and #47.

At the 2016 Nashville convention, I gathered contact information from each of my assigned chapters, including the Chapter delegate, chapter President, Secretary and Treasurer. In September I reaffirmed all the contact information (there were many changes) then sent them to Advisory. I also requested each chapter to send me a list of all their events including Meetings, competitions, their updated bylaws, plus a list of their examiners, both chapter and National faculty suggestions, and concerns, plus a copy of their Delegate’s report.

In my 1st Quarter report to my chapters, I included contact information of the Executive Committee members, a reminder of dues deadlines, and proper processing of a new member to the National Secretary, and the dates and info on the 2017 National Convention.

October 1st and 2nd, I attended the National Exam forum in Oklahoma, mainly to meet the certification requirements on the Modern examination. But I also participated in all of the other genres too.
October 7-9, I drove to Des Moines, IA. To visit Ch#34. They were conducting their Scholarship auditions. Due to poor attendance, all ages were combined. We felt that pre-registration would have to be implemented to remedy that situation.

November 4-6 I attended Chapter #35 all in one weekend extravaganza. Since the correspondence hasn’t been too good with the National Office due to the Secretary having a heavy load of responsibilities with her job, I proposed dividing the secretary position to Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary thus making her job easier. It was well receptive to the board and grand body. A helper was appointed. Things are better as far as correspondence with the chapter as I do get answers faster.

November 18-22nd I flew to Ohio Ch#16 for their Grand Body meeting and Solo Title competition. I was treated royally by everyone. Their correspondence has been over and above my other chapters. The folder I keep on their chapter is three times larger than the other chapter folders.

March 17-19th, I attended Michigan CH#4 for their Board meeting and the chapter’s PAC. The contest ran smoothly as there was enough help and the tabulations were done on the computer by their treasurer David Smith.

March 23-26, I flew back to Chapter #16, for their Grand Body meeting and the chapter’s PAC. This chapter appears to be “a well oiled machine.” Perhaps more chapters could operate more smoothly with all the available members who are willing to help in their respective chapter.

April 11th I drove back to Ch#34 to attend their Board meeting. The Chapter Board is committed to helping each other with their assigned duties.

April 28-30, I went back to Chapter#35, this time in Amarillo, TX. To help with a manual study and examinations. Although the Board and membership all approved the study, only one attended the manual study and no one showed for exams. They did have high winds and tornado warnings close by, so that may have been a factor.

The two chapters not assigned to me that I attended were; Feb. 17-19th South Texas CH#3. I attended their grand Body meeting and practice my door monitor skills at their solo titled competition, a warm-up for our National Convention. The second chapter was Great Lakes Region Chapter #46. I did judging there and was unable to attend their grand Body meeting.

I would like to thank Delegates Christine Sickle, Denise Bryant, Courtney Greteman, and Madeline Graves for their continual support and quick response to my emails and phone calls. I made many friends and will continue to help whenever they ask.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Cummings

Dance Masters of America, Inc. Jackie Olson, National Area Director
olson81two@gmail.com 828-322-7285

2017 Vice President Year-End Report for Nationals

First let me say “thank you” to the members for allowing me to be one of the DMA National Area
Director this past year. My job is to keep contact with each assigned chapter throughout the year and visit for any one on one discussions. The guidelines from Advisory helps to divide the requests of information for each quarter.

Chapter # 1 – I would like to say “Wow” to this chapter. They are a small chapter but when visiting it seemed that there were busy bees everywhere. It was a jam packed weekend but they still had time to make me feel welcome. They have a new group of nine (9) Junior Members who dove right in to help as well and upon speaking to the Grand body had big plans of their own. I was very impressed with the tenacity of this group to make sure their chapter continues for years to come.

Chapter #10 – Although one of the larger chapters that I visited this year, they too were very organized. Everyone had a job and I found they were prepared throughout the weekend. There were some questions concerning logging into the new website but all was addressed and fixed.

Chapter #25 – Again, a smaller chapter in the number of consistent members attending events and also helping to work the events. But the members that were in attendance all had jobs and kudos to Jaime Dain and Rita Odgden.

Chapter #44 – This chapter was originally part of the NC chapter and has been their own chapter for many years so it nice to see people who I have known for a long time but only see at Nationals. I enjoyed being a part of the their board meeting and grand body meeting where I was excited to explain SHIP and TTS to their members. They really want more members to take advantage of what DMA has to offer.

Suggestions for all Chapters to consider in the future...

Communicate! Add the Area VP to your membership email list

We would like to visit some in the fall due to the trying to visit 5 chapters in 6 weeks during the spring.

Answer emails and return information when asked as soon as possible. We are all trying to do a good job and still have our own studios to run and home life to squeeze in as well.

Realize that DMA is a “volunteer” organization and needs us all.

On Facebook pages, missing contact information that could be important for recruiting new members.
Reminder that if you purchased music license or during PAC that until you actually send a check it will stay on the Treasurer’s desk until your check arrives.

By-law reviews were challenging. I will send notes to each chapter before August 31\textsuperscript{st} for your board to review before you send your new by-laws by December 1\textsuperscript{st}. Suggestions for Nationals to consider...

- Communication...

- New website was a positive topic of communication. However, most were aware that there will always be updating especially this first year to get all forms and information completely updated. Log in was a problem for some but not for many others.

- Loved being able to do PAC registration online, loved uploading music to Dropbox.

Jackie Olson

**Jason Coosner: Summary Report**

**National Area Director 2016/2017**

This year as National Area Director has been quite wonderful. Visiting my chapters was incredibly eye opening in the best way possible. Sharing stories and exchanging ideas all in the name of dance education and the betterment of our craft is a real gift.

I loved visiting Chapter 27. They are vital hard working and committed to the mission of DMA. I was in attendance during their title weekend. It was well attended with lots of talented dancers being put up to represent this chapter. The titles weekend was beautifully organized. It was great to judge with the full Dance Comp Genie set up. In talking with members it was encouraging to hear them speak about each other so highly. It was stated by one member that it hasn’t been this way for a while and they are loving the direction the chapter is going. Lots of great camaraderie and support for one another.

I attend the Chapter 36 PAC/Title weekend. This was their 40th convention weekend with chapter taking up its charter in 1977. It was a fantastic weekend Chapter 36 really has it together. April Nelson does an incredible job of managing the PAC and coordinating the activities of the weekend. The membership are fully engaged in participating and doing their “fair” share. I was made to feel very welcome and the hospitality was fantastic. The work presented over the course of the weekend was a wonderful testament to the high standard of education being perpetuated by the members of the chapter. Everyone seemed happy, supportive and encouraging of one another. 3 new members were tested.
Visiting chapter 39 was a big surprise for me as I had very little knowledge about the chapter. I was picked up from my hotel by Sandra St. John, who is currently the chapter president. We had wonderful conversation learning about one another. We shared our philosophies on dance education and what an important part DMA plays in the supporting of those philosophies. At the last of their 3 in-house conventions hosted by a member studio I reconnected with Sue Warter and met 2 other members. According to the members I spoke with the chapter is plagued with good old politics precipitated by older members who are very uninvolved but have a lot to say. I encouraged the board to focus on the new membership and the ones that are involved. Get excited about that, as they are the future. I also pushed the Anaheim convention next year. They were very receptive to my enthusiasm. We also talked about doing a full PAC so that their members could pre-qualify for nationals and logistical ideas for holding a title competition without major cost implications. They seemed very exited about the new season.

My biggest suggestion is that the National Area Directors, when visiting during an event weekend such as PAC/Titles/Convention, come armed with 2 student scholarships to the national convention that they give to 2 stand out dancers.

Jason Coosner National Area Director

July 6, 2017

It was with great pleasure that I was able to serve as a National Area Director. I absolutely love connecting with all my Chapters and being a liaison between Nationals and each individual Chapter. This year was a challenging year personally but DMA helped me battle through. I was able to visit several Chapters and hopefully I was able to help them improve and grow their Chapter. My Chapters this year include Chapter 8, 33, 38, and 47.

In January, I traveled to Iowa to help out with PAC and Title weekend. I was very surprised with their turnout for titles. They only had 15 contestants across the board. I challenged this chapter to find ways to get those numbers up. The PAC competition was small but not too small. It held its own. I was able to help the tabulator create a spreadsheet to better calculate the routine totals and adjudication. This chapter's event ran pretty smoothly, but was a bit disorganized and scattered. It seemed everyone did their specific jobs but needed to come together a bit more to make it a successful not stressful weekend. I understand that individually several members were going through a lot personally. I commend them for how well they ran the event. I think better planning and communication will help here. Chapter 47 was excellent in communicating with me over the year. They met every deadline with reports and made sure to include me on all chapter communication.

In February, I had the pleasure of traveling to Alabama to judge for Chapter 33. Wow! This chapter has it going on. They had each and every tiny detailed nailed. Not one thing was overlooked. I tend to ask a lot of questions and not one time did I hear “I don’t know, that's not my job!”. I applaud their members for going above and definitely beyond the scope of their job. Each and every judge was well taken care of. I will say they were not without error.... The only thing I can fault over the weekend was their start times. They tended to run about 30 minutes late in the morning putting the day behind schedule. Chapter 33 was pretty good at communicating with me throughout the year.
I was unable to visit Chapter 8 because their events coincided with my chapter’s events. Chapter 8 was almost always my first chapter to respond to any email request. Thank you for being on top of things.

Chapter 38, I’m so sorry I was unable to visit for your big event. My passport expired and I had no clue. Chapter 38 is super detailed in their reporting and always met every deadline. Thank you for excellent communication.

I was also invited twice this year to Chapter 3 in Texas. They have been working to add in Dance Comp Genie to their competition weekends. We were able to get everything up and running and had wonderful success with it.

It is with regret that I will not be able to attend Nationals this summer. I take my responsibilities with DMA quite seriously and hope I’ve not let any down. I hope you have a wonderful convention and I look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Keri Cooper
National Area Director

Final National Area Director Report 2017
Prepared by Patricia Oplotnik
National Area Director for Chapters 3, 6, 13, and 37

I must thank the Executive Board for giving me the chance to meet the incredible teachers from Chapters 3, 6, 13, and 37! They were wonderful to work with and for. All were responsive to my requests for information and all kept the communication with the National Office timely, fulfilling all duties of an Affiliated Chapter. My year with these chapters was rewarding in every way!

Chapter 3
Visited Feb. 17 – 19
Judged PAC and Teen/Miss Title competition. This chapter also has gone to a big one weekend event. PACs, Title Competition, and Convention classes with double sets of judges. They use 5 judges for all to drop a high and low. They also have a fund raising dance off at the end of the last day where dancers pay $5 to enter and winner splits the money with the chapter charity or can donate winnings. It is a great way to end the weekend and makes the dancers feel their training goes to a good cause!
Chapter 3 has always been and continues to be a very strong chapter with many committees and volunteers to make sure things run smoothly. Hospitality is wonderful and events run smoothly. They are now using Dance Comp Genie and the National President, Laura Work, was in attendance to observe how it works. Keri Cooper was brought in as a consultant to make sure chapter members understood how to effectively use this tool. Chapter 27 has been using Dance Comp Genie for a couple of years now.
The chapter reports that Title involvement is down in numbers as was PAC. Conflicts with school activities seemed to be the most prominent reason for the change. Their treasury is strong and can sustain an off year and I continue to be impressed by the comradery and organizational practices utilized by this chapter.

Chapter 6:
Visited November 17 – 20
Titles and PAC Judge
This chapter is filled with DMA VIPs! The treasury is as strong as the friendships. Elections were done by secret ballot during PAC competition on Sunday and results were announced at the end of the day. I really like this method because it prevents dissent that can arise during elections. The results are verifiable and totals were not announced so those teachers running for office are not embarrassed by a lack of support from the membership. The schedule was perfectly adhered to and that makes parents and members happy. (Thanks Miss Charleen!) I witnessed many volunteer members working together in a very positive way for the students which explains the strength of this chapter.

To date I have received all requested information from the Chapter Delegate, Charlene Hibbs and officers, etc were included in my last report. I did not, however, receive the results of the elections conducted while I was there. They were announced but I could not write fast enough for accuracy and was unfamiliar with many of the names so spelling was a problem.

The 2017 Delegate will be Charlene Hibbs who is a wonderful Board Member for this chapter. They have reported two 25 year members: Laura Work and Theresa Fontenot. Laura Work was presented with a beautiful commemorative statue while I was there.

I have never been as well fed or felt any more important as I did at their event!

This chapter does one big event in the calendar year with educational workshops also offered. I have a copy of the By Laws and a copy of competition rules, both of which are excellent and clear. They have not started using Comp Genie yet for their tabulation and registration vehicle. Titles and scholarship auditions were conducted together to save time and, with their organizational efforts well laid out, combined auditions worked well.

Chapter 13
Visited March 3 - 5 Titles and Open PAC Judge
This hard-working chapter also holds Title, Scholarship, and Open PACs in one weekend. It is no small feat and takes a well-organized Board and members. It is not the only event they host throughout the year and they offer many educational opportunities for both students and teachers. The new President is Ryan Justus but I have not been apprised of other officers. Sara Wardell will again be the Delegate for the chapter.

I repeated the admonishment about no lace or mesh on audition leotards as almost all competitors were wearing leotards with these embellishments. Their methods of conducting audition classes for Title are very different from Nationals because of time constraints and scoring was 1 – 100 for not only talent but also audition elements. Interview totals were like Nationals. I repeated to new Title Holder teachers to read and re-read the National Rules to their students and to have their students talk to last year’s title holders for practical advice. The caliber of their contestants is always very high and continues to be the case.

This chapter has no 50 year members and one 25 year member, Ann Robinson Peters. There were 30 total Title participants: 5 Petite, 7 Junior, 13 Teen, and 5 Miss/Mr. Scholarship participants numbered 92. $1325 was awarded in scholarship monies and 12 workshop scholarships were awarded, Like many of our chapters they are experiencing low turnout for the Title Pageant. Suggestions for improving numbers participating would be welcome.

Sara Wardell and her Secretary, Kathy Wittmers, copied me on all communications and were always the first to respond to my requests! There are many well established friendships in the membership and it was a great weekend!

Chapter 37
I visited this chapter Feb. 3 – 5, 2017 and served as a Titles Judge. It was also their PAC and Convention. Densil Adams, Jeremy Arnold, Brent Oplotnik, MaQue Hollins, Stephanie Kammer, and Joy Spears were the faculty. The event was held at the New Orleans Airport Hilton Hotel.
They obligated one new member: NeKia Carter who is very excited to start her journey as a DMA member. The members spoke very highly of TTS and I promoted SHIP South as a very affordable alternative if SHIP North seems too far away. Their business meeting was held at an annual luncheon associated with their big weekend. The food was delicious (I even got to taste a King Cake!) and the members were filled with enthusiasm for upcoming events. Jobs are pre-assigned to members, including each member in some way. This delegation of responsibilities helps keep all members involved and excited.

There were 5 studios participating in Title competition with 26 competitors. 7 studios participated in PACs with 82 total entries. New ideas passed by the membership for improvements for 2018 included:

- “Save the Date” postcards to be sent out the last week of July
- “Step and Repeat” for pictures to post on social media and class retractable signs designed
- Dixie T Shirts to sell on a pre-order basis
- DMA backdrop for competitions (will check with Nationals on legalities involved)
- Title entrants and teachers will pre-submit all National Entry Forms and pictures to enter Dixie’s Title Competitions

I issued reminders about no embellishments on leotard for National auditions of any kind – Title or Scholarship. I also reminded them to use the link to make reservations at the New Orleans Marriott. I forwarded the link again to all of their officers. I reminded them to be more proactive about Continuing Education reports and suggested even more active roles for their current Title Holders when giving up the Title including a dancer to dancer talk on things to expect at Nationals.

All Board meeting dates and locations were announced as well as the date of 2018 Convention. The meeting was very efficiently conducted and the members enjoyed a Buffet luncheon while attending. King Cake was even served which was a special treat for me!

The chapter members are very dedicated to DMA and are trying to grow their membership. Cobi Turner is slated to be their Delegate at this time.

That was my most exciting, productive year and I will always remember the incredible hospitality I received from all of my chapters. It is no wonder that DMA is the premiere dance education organization in the world!

Respectfully;
Patricia Oplotnik

**DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA**
**National Area Director Quarterly Report Summary**
**July 2, 2017**
**Presented by: Penny Koza-Lemansky**

What an honor it has been being elected to the National Executive Committee as a National Area Director. Thank you, Dance Masters of America, for an amazing year! What a rewarding experience in so many ways. After visiting each appointed chapter, I find their responses come quicker now that we have developed a working relationship. I found the By Law review the most challenging of the year. I know DMA is striving for a united, structured guideline for all chapters to follow. Having this in place for the future will be most beneficial. I also appreciated the quarterly report outline given at start of the dance season. It was nice to have some knowledge as to what was needed for each quarterly report prior to submission.

My visit to Dance Masters of New England, Chapter #5, was so rewarding! The events held that weekend were the Solo Title Competition and Performing Arts Competition at Worcester State
University, March 17-19, 2017. I adjudicated their Performing Arts Competition which was blessed with 398 entries! Shawn Terenzi did an excellent job at organizing a schedule that ran on time and suited the needs of the dancers also competing in the Solo Title Competition. The Chapter was well prepared from flights, car service, hotel accommodations, lunch/dinner breaks, schedule of events, awards preparation and making their members and students feel welcome and appreciated. DMNE seems to be a powerful chapter with a friendly environment. Without a Board or Grand Body meeting during my visit, it was difficult to find out the needs of this chapter. Most time spent was judging, however I really enjoyed having dinner with many members of the Board and exchanging conversation individually. My connection with delegate, Shawn Terenzi, made me feel as though I have been working with this chapter for quite some time. He is always quick and thorough with information sent to me for my reports, making my job much easier.

Traveling to Carolina Dance Masters, Chapter #15, was a great experience! I started out my journey as National Area Director by attending the Winter Workshop on February 11, 2017. A Board meeting was held the night before, conducted by President Michelle Rogers. The chapter showed great concern on two subjects. The acro class audition in the Titles Scholarship Competition, and the replacement of a title holder if unable to attend DMA due to a professional job. These were two main concerns from CDM that I shared in depth in my 3rd quarterly report. This chapter is very prepared as the enter the meeting. Reports given were thorough and hard copies were distributed to all, including myself. Mary Scout was also a guest in the Board and Grand Body meetings. Aside from many important topics discussed, Mary spoke of how concluding a report with “Respectively Submitted” has become dated. On that note, I will follow her words and only end with my name and title/position. On January 30, 2017, their website got compromised. They contacted their host to make it secure again with 72 hour process to fix. Chasta Calhoun will be helping with boosting their website and President Michelle Rogers is pushing for the social media to continue updating every day. They will be adding a 3rd Grand Body meeting (next year) during their Work Weekend event held in October. The meeting was very informative and I loved speaking with the members of the board. After the meeting was adjourned, they invited me to dinner. It is so nice to be able to put a name with a face and speak one on one.

Saturday, February 11, was set aside for the Grand Body meeting. I gave the Oath of Obligation to new member, Jana Lanier. The rest of the day consisted of classes, scholarship auditions and a teacher social. I had a fantastic time as the jazz teacher for their event and felt so comfortable in this warm environment.

On Friday, March 3, 2017, I began my travel to Dance Teachers’ Club of Connecticut, Ch. #18. I was an adjudicator for their Solo Title & Performing Arts Competition held March 3-5, 2017. The days were filled with much talent, including 409 Performing Arts entries including their Title Competition! What a huge success! The title contestants were incorporated into the PAC line up. Talent was the only score given, however we had a brief interview/round table with the contestants the night prior to their competition. They were all very well prepared for the interview and did an excellent job! Along with scoring and critiques, the judges were asked to give out friendship pins to recognize any dancer we wanted to reward for being special in some way that made us remember them. What a fun ending to each awards session! The kids love being acknowledged. Amy Deloughy spoke of the Wingman for Dance Program that inspires dancers to go above and beyond for each other, to be empathetic leaders and create a strong, caring communities inside and outside your studio. She touched on this during a Town Hall this past summer at DMA Nationals. The weekend moved by quickly, and with no Board or Grand Body meetings during my stay, I didn’t get to socialize with the members as much as I would have liked. I’m anxious to see the inner workings of this chapter. They were well prepared and the schedule of events was very organized and ran smoothly. And did I mention, boy can these kids tap!!! I had a wonderful time!
My visit to the Bluegrass, Chapter #40, was just as rewarding. From talking to some members, it sounds like this chapter has grown stronger in the last few years. I was an adjudicator for their Title Scholarship Competition, and their preparation for the event aided in their success! A Grand Body meeting on Friday, February 17, kicked off the weekend, followed by the Title Scholarship Competition. The meeting was conducted by President Laura Manning with 19 members in attendance. Committee Reports were given by Ashley Rickman (Title Competition), Maria Whaley & Yvonne Sinnott (Spring faculty and facility) and Katelyn (PAC Competition). The Title Competition included: 11 Petite, 27 Jr. Miss, 11 Teen Miss, 11 Miss and 1 Mr. 2017 Jr. Miss Dance of America, Ying Lei Pham, was the guest performer for the weekend. Their numbers for their Spring event has greatly increased. The chapter is allowing college students (alumni of the Bluegrass) to come back to volunteer to help at their Spring event in exchange for free classes that weekend. The meeting ran smoothly and everyone seemed focused with a friendly atmosphere. Saturday began with talent previews, followed by audition classes. Sunday consisted of interviews and the talent competition. The talent at the Bluegrass was impressive, and it was great to enjoy the company of the faculty and the members of DMB. I look forward to watching the growth of this chapter in the coming years.

Looking back at the calendar, the year sneaks by so quickly. That first meet and greet with the delegate at the closing of the DMA convention is important. The delegate should have their calendar of events in place so the National Area Director can plan a visit to some chapters earlier in the dance season. I also loved judging, however I wish I would have been able to sit it on meetings for all of my appointed chapters. I know competition weekend is extremely long, but having a meeting with an event where the NAD could teach or judge is rewarding both in knowledge of the chapter and compensation for the National Area Director’s travel. I was fortunate to attend 1 Board meeting, two Grand Body meetings, teach convention classes, teach an audition class and adjudicate a Title Competition and two Performing Arts Competitions. What an adventure! It has opened the door to new friendships and definitely makes communication even stronger. Thank you once again for a most enjoyable year.

Penny Koza-Lemansky

Penny Koza-Lemansky

National Area Director

Dance Masters of America, Inc.
New Orleans, LA
2017 Affiliations Report

Madame President, Board of Directors, and Members:

It is an honor to serve Dance Masters of America as Affiliations Chair. The Affiliations meeting was held earlier this morning. Each Delegate was polled for any Chapter recommendations.

We had recommendations brought forward from three (3) Chapters, and 1 question to look into. They were:

Chapter 2 and Chapter 26 were name changes for their chapters to be changed in the National Standing Rules. They were both referred to the Bylaws Committee.

Chapter 13 had 2 recommendations. They were: (See attached) They were referred to Rules Committee.
Chapter 38 had a question regarding guidelines for chapters to follow to make the contestant tiaras more uniform. Executive will investigate with the rules committee.

Thank you.

Dody Flynn
National Second Vice-President

**Dance Masters of America One Hundred and Thirty Third Annual Convention**

The 2017 Dance Masters of America annual banquet will be held on Saturday, July 15th at 7:30pm.

Banquet Ticket exchange will be held near the registration desk:

Monday, July 10th 10:00am – 11:30am and 1:30-3:00pm
Tuesday, July 11th 10:00am -11:30am and 1:30-3:00pm
Wednesday, July 12th 10:00am -12:00am

If these times are inconvenient, text me at 504-810-0956.

All white ticket reservation cards MUST be exchanged to receive your ticket for the banquet.

The white reservation card is NOT a ticket.

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL WEDNESDAY UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY! If delegates can collect as many reservation cards from their chapters as possible and give them to me in the board room I will get the tickets back to them at the next meeting.

Also, please note that this year delegates will be responsible for picking up tickets at the banquet from their chapter attendees and turning them in to the National Treasurer.

Thank you in advance to everyone for helping me get our banquet numbers finalized in a timely manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve DMA. Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Hibbs

Chapter 6

Louisiana Association of Dance Masters
EDUCATION: Acrobatics Report 2017

Since the writing of my last report I was able to travel to the one exam forum that DMA held with Charleen Locascio. My job was to help facilitate and certify members to be nationally certified examiners. I enjoyed meeting with the members and found it a great learning experience for all that attended. In addition to reviewing the material with the members, I found the feedback was also a valuable tool in helping to reorganize and update the Acrobatics manual.

The Acrobatics committee meet this year, we had a “Acro Lock Down” with Charleen Locascio, Glenda Moss and myself to finalize all the updates to the manual, exams, and the scholarship class guidelines. I am looking forward to the new Acrobatics Manual to be printed and out in 2018 with the new exams September of 2018. The updated scholarship guidelines are currently being used, the only change was to switch out skill level numbers and replace them with beg, intermediate, intermediate/advanced, and advanced skills. I feel this is a good improvement in helping to better understand the guideline.

In addition to updating the manual, DMA will hold two acrobatics intensives that I will be attending and teaching. The first at the National convention in New Orleans. The second will be held in Buffalo the day before TTS begins.

Thank you to the DMA Advisory Board

Annette DuBose
Acrobatics Chair

Dance Masters of America

EDUCATION: Pre-School Report 2017

This is a new position to me this year. I am in the process of preparing a guideline to submit to Advisory in the fall for review and approval for the restructure of the Pre-School Manual. I will be working with Heather Hagar and we hope to have a good portion of the manual completed by this time next year.

Thank you DMA Advisory for your trust in me, it has been an honor to serve DMA.

Bernardine VanEpps
Pre-School Chair

Education Liason
Cindy Larsen
2017

Please read all attached reports. All were turned in with the exception of the Modern Report from Christie Zimmerman.

The one item of particular interested is the New Acro Manual that is being produced. This manual will be available in 2018. The new exam will be available in September of 2018. You may continue to test with either the old or the new exams until September of 2019. At that time the only acceptable acro exam will be the new one.
Thank You,
Cindy Larsen

Dance Masters of America, Inc.
2017 Report - Chairperson Education Strategy
activities during 2016
Submitted by Tom Ralabate
June 18, 2017

Dear Madam President:

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve my 11th term as Chairperson for Education Strategy (ES) for Dance Masters of America, Inc. (DMA). My responsibilities are to introduce and implement initiatives to advance educational standards and promote institutional integrity by advocating DMA’s mission to include high standards of ethics within our prestigious organization and the dance profession.

2015-2016 Initiatives Included:
• Continued TTS Education Enhancement
• Continued SHIP Education and Artistic Enhancement
• College Fest Outreach: Presentation/Auditions

TTS Education Enhancement
The University at Buffalo entered its 20th year of hosting TTS. There were 129 attendees in levels one through four. 55 registrants in Level One, 27 registrants in Level Two, 19 registrants in Level Three, 28 registrants in Level Four, In addition there were approximately 40 registrants in the the post-graduate/advanced classes. Close to 78 exams were administered. Mandy Odom was the recipient of the Bachna Scholarship and Philip Baraoidan was the recipient of the Dotty McGill Scholarship.

New Program: Tier Program 5 Title: Post Graduate Master's Program: Dance Practicum) In 2016, at TTS I met with the TTS administrators and core faculty to place the criteria for the new Tier 5 Program (an extension of years one – four). Eligibility, yearly focus, testing, and sequential calendar of course offerings were defined. Ballet 1 will begin summer 2017, followed by Jazz in 2018. A chronological order of years, subjects, and criteria, are outlined in the 2017 TTS Brochure.

SHIP Education and Artistic Enhancement
SHIP South will move in summer 2017, from Southern Methodist University in Dallas TX., to The Preston Dance Center Inc. in Dallas Texas. We celebrated the 14th anniversary of SHIP North, with 66 attendees. Scholarships were awarded to: Thomas Ralabate Scholarship, Tyler Shrout, Teacher of Record Lauren Lenter, Chapter 4; Pegge Lee Scholarship, Victoria Endicott, Teacher of Record Dee Buchanan, Chapter 17; and Beverly Fletcher Scholarship, Lauren Tate, Teacher of Record Lurten Lenter, Chapter 4. The addition of foundation training in Aerial Work presented by Kathleen Goldie, UB Adjunct faculty and certified aerial artist, was a huge success. A special thank you to the faculty/choreographers for the pieces presented at the banquet showcase. The banquet showcases for both SHIP and TTS are highlights for the attendees. For their leadership in working with SHIP, I extend a special thank you to Cindy Larsen, SHIP Administrator SMU, and Laura Bostic Work, SHIP Administrator UB. In 2017, Annette DuBose will assume the position of SHIP Administrator for SHIP North at SUNY UB.

College Fest Outreach: Presentation/Auditions
The 3rd DMA College Fest Outreach was directed and organized by Michael Lambert. On Day One, Tom Ralabate led a forum on the Dos and Don’ts for prospective Dance majors and their parents, with a focus on college selection and how to make four years of college add up to success. On Day Two,
students auditioned for the participating programs, informational tables were provided, and dancers met with the evaluators to discuss the audition process and participate in questions and answers. I extend a special thank you to Kurtis Sprung, National Mr. Dance 2015, and Jason Coosner, representing Relativity Education for their contributions to the *Dos and Don’ts Forum* and evaluation process. In addition, a special thank you to Jordan DuMars and Michael Lambert for presenting at the audition and Michael for organizing this important educational opportunity. The DMA College Fest Scholarships were awarded to Jordan Betcher, teacher Cathy Meyer, Chapter 16; Monika Benson, teacher Erika Frank, Chapter 5; and receiving the University at Buffalo Scholarship was Nicholas Wawrzaszek, teacher Marilyn Schneider Cacamise, Chapter 8.

**Conclusion:**
I would like to thank our Immediate Past National President, Joanne Zavisa; National President and SHIP Administrator UB, Laura Bostic Work; National Executive Secretary Robert Mann; National Treasurer Charlene Locascio; National First Vice-President Cindy Larsen; National Second Vice-President Dody Flyn; the SHIP Administrators: Annette DuBose and Cindy Larsen; the TTS Administrators: Charlene Hibbs, Phyllis Guy, and Joanne Zavisa; the TTS and SHIP faculty; the UB dance faculty; the UB Center for the Arts staff, and Southern Methodist University staff. I thank you for this opportunity to serve, and your genuine support of DMA’s professional educational programs.

Thank you, Madam President.
Respectfully submitted,

Tom Ralabate
DMA Chairperson Education Strategy
Professor and Past Chair Department of Theatre & Dance
University at Buffalo
ralabate@buffalo.edu
716.645.0586 Office
716.523.8681 Cell
716.568.0280 Home

**EXAMINATION FORUM**
**2017**

The exam forum took place this year in Oklahoma City OK on October of 2016. The forum was well attended with 13 members representing 8 chapters who were certified or re-certified in Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Acro and Modern.

There are three chapters who have not meet the requirements of their Affiliation Agreement and will be meeting with the Executive Committee to determine the continuation of their affiliation.

Certifications in specific subjects are effective as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballet</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acro</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tap</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazz</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Acro Committee has completed the new Acro Workbook and will have it available after September of 2017. We will continue to offer the current exam during 2017 and an option for the old or new exam starting Sept. 2018. Effective Sept. 2019 only the new acro exam will be accepted and a recertification program will be established.

The Jazz Workbook has been re- formatted and an additional section has been added but will not require new exams or recertification at this time.

Respectfully submitted
Charleen Locascio

DMA Historian Report 2017

Last year I attended the National Convention in Nashville, and the SHIP and TTS programs in Buffalo. Between Shevawn and myself, we took approximately 6000 pictures. The first batch of pictures from these events were edited and submitted for the Fall brochure. I then received a subsequent request for additional pictures. Upon previewing a draft of the Fall Brochure, I provided a second set of pictures to help fill in the gaps. Since that time, all the pictures have been edited and cataloged, or deleted.

In the springtime I helped out in updating the DMA website. I provided images that could be used for each of the sections, some just as placeholders until we could provide a more appropriate image. I also took a look at our Facebook page. Social media presents a challenge in that the images are of different proportions and formats; a Facebook banner is more of a long, panoramic format while Instagram images are typically square. As such, this year I created a shot list and will be shooting specifically to provide these images.

This past year I continued the process of making backup copies and transferring our images to new hard drives. I successfully backed up images from the Hall of Legends slideshows and 14 of 16 years of pictures I’ve taken as DMA Historian. I also started the process of also backing up the images to an cloud based storage service. This process has to be revised; my initial attempt said it would take approximately 532 days to upload the images based on my internet connection speed, the number of images, and the size of the files. Instead, my new approach is to create a full size JPEG equivalent of the Photoshop files and upload those over time.

I think what would really help is if DMA had its own online server or cloud based service (such as Drop Box). This way when I'm done editing the pictures, I could upload them to DMA's server and they would be available for the fall brochure, social media, or any other need. It would also provide another level of backup.

This year I was not able to recreate the slideshows as I had hoped for. The software I was using to create the slideshows and DVDs is no longer supported. However, I am investigating 2 or 3 other programs that could be used to create the slideshows in a much more efficient process.

Last but not least, I will look into creating hard copy prints and books similar to what Beth Gaynes had done in the past. Digital files are fine, but prints still serve a needed function.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Janusz
National Junior Membership Report
7-8-17

On Saturday, July 8 at 5:30 a junior members’ meeting was scheduled. Unfortunately only one junior member from Chapter 16 was in attendance. The slated time was not conducive for those arriving for the convention or those about to go into the welcome party rehearsal. Although it was one of my suggestions last year, it still did not work with the busy dancers’ schedules at the DMA National Convention. My only other time would be before or after the orientation on Sunday (before the classes begin). Looking at the schedule of each day, if this does not work, then perhaps we will not be able to have a junior member meeting at the National Level as their schedules each day are filled with PAC, classes, scholarship, and title competition.

For the one junior member that we did have, we discussed her chapter and the activities that they do throughout the year. Chapter 16 has 40 members with 3 meetings during the year. Before each meeting they have a special class just for the junior members focusing on the subject of the year (ballet, tap, jazz, or modern). They also volunteer to work at each convention helping at the PAC and title events. They hold a fundraising event each March that raises money for their special classes and for an area charity. They also perform a self-choreographed piece in at the March PAC that they work on at the previous conventions and in their own studios. The best part of being a junior member was learning new styles of dance from amazing teachers, volunteering for the organization and meeting new people from across Ohio, Kentucky and Pennsylvania.

If anyone is interested in starting a junior member program in your chapter, feel free to contact me. (513-252-6620 or dmsdjob@gmail.com)

Our junior members are our future and are one of the ways to keep our organization growing. By having a junior members’ program it nurtures the strong educational values that DMA upholds, it teaches volunteering at a young age, and it develops friendships that will last a lifetime. It is an important part of our organization that needs to continue to grow and be developed.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Meyer Slemons

2017 Nominating Committee Report

The following delegates were selected from each area to serve on the Nominating Committee during the 2017 National Convention:
   Sara Wardell, Chapter 13-Chairperson
   Marilyn Caccamise, Chapter 8
   Jamie Lee Dain, Chapter 25
   Courtney Greteman, Chapter 34
   Kandie Melendez, Chapter 18
   Jessica Roesner, Chapter 39
   Althea Whieldon, Chapter 17

The Executive Committee also appointed to the Nominating Committee:
   Ann Freeman, Chapter 15
   Phyllis Guy, Chapter 6
An informational meeting was held for those interested in running for a position on Monday, July 10th. Responsibilities of each position were discussed.

The Nominating Committee met to discuss our responsibilities, and nomination forms that were turned in, on: Monday, July 10th and Tuesday, July 11th after the Board of Directors meetings. We also kept in constant contact through group text message.

Slate:

President - Laura Bostic –Work Chapter 6
1st Vice President - Cindy Larsen Chapter 33
2nd Vice-President - Dody Flynn Chapter 18
Executive Secretary - Robert Mann Chapter 26
Treasurer - Charleen Locascio Chapter 6

Area Directors (selecting 7):
Jason Coosner, Chapter 1
Jeanne Cummings, Chapter 21
Kathi Halbert, Chapter 16
Penny Koza-Lemansky, Chapter 10
Rita Ogden, Chapter 25
Jackie Olson, Chapter 15
Patricia Oplotnik, Chapter 27
Mike Smolko, Chapter 3
Shawn Terenzi, Chapter 5
Brenna Worsham, Chapter 44

There were no nominations from the floor during the Grand Body meeting held on Wednesday, July 12th, 2017.

No Recommendations at this time.

Sara Wardell
Nominating Committee Chair

DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA, INC. 131ST NATIONAL CONVENTION
July 9,2017 – July 15,2017
The Marriott Hotel
555 Canal St. New Orleans, LA

Protocol Report:

• Delegates need to place their cards prior to the banquet
• Pictures 7:00 salon D
  o Board of Directors
  o Executive Committee newly elected
  o Past Presidents
• Parade In
  o New Winners
  o Past Presidents
Dance Masters of America

Rules Report

New Orleans, LA 2017

To clarify, the "Rules" committee does not concern itself with By-laws, Standing Rules, motions or other committee guidelines, but is in place to record and publish the following:

Solo Title Scholarship Competition

Performing Arts Preliminary & Finals Competition

Open Scholarship Auditions

Convention Guidelines for Nationals

Ballet/Jazz Intensive Guidelines for Nationals  The purpose of the rules committee was to review the rules for the above Dance Masters of America events in each of the places of publication and to get to a point where the rules are stated the same in any area of publication whether through print, website or other media. This past year the rules were updated into a format that could be easily linked to our new website but could also have changes made quickly if and when necessary. The new layout of the website should facilitate getting all DMA materials online for prospective members to be able to find the information quickly and efficiently and for DMA members to have updated material through their own link. Motions that were made and passed through voting during Board of Director meetings at the 2017 DMA National Convention are as follows: Concerning PAC: A motion from Dance Masters of California, Chapter #13:

1) In the PASC rules under Section 2-Rules and General Information, #14 -Age Division to ADD a Division 9: Collaboration
To further define this division, again, under Section 2-Rules and General Information #14- Age Division, add a new “B”, that states:

Collaboration will be defined as:

- Students from different studios may compete in the same routine.
- More than one Teacher of Record may be listed.
- Routines in this division are not eligible for Grand National Championships, but are eligible for awards if there are 3 or more routines entered in the division.

In the PASC rules under Section 1-Eligibility, to insert a new number “10” to say: “A routine can only contain students from one studio, except for in the Collaboration Division.”

Beginning, September 1, 2017 the PAC rules will state at the top of the Rules page that those entering PAC will be required to enter PAC through Dance Comp Genie as online entries and paper forms will no longer be accepted.

2) 3)

**Concerning Solo Titles:**

1) It was discussed that Chapter Solo Crowns not be higher than 3.25 inches. However, due to some chapters who may have ordered more than 1 year in advance it will be stated in forthcoming rules that this new "height" guideline for crowns will be fully in effect by September 1, 2018, so that Title holders attending the 2019 DMA Convention will be in compliance.

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2) It was also discussed as to why Solo Title classes can be dropped once arriving at Nationals but not added. The Executive Board decided that placing a “special” note on the entry form for all Solo Title Contestants stating once the entry deadline has passed no one will be allowed to add an audition class. The Advisory Board will review the form and choose the wording that will be used. We hope this will help with the confusion but please make sure that the title teacher, title contestant and the contestant’s parent is absolutely clear on which classes

3) Jason Coosner made a motion that all Solo Title Contestants be required to take the "ballet" audition class with the understanding that the contestant’s top 2 scores could still come from any of the 4 to 5 subjects offered.

4) Although not listed in the rules, a reminder that Advisory will be reviewing the acro audition format as suggested by Rebecca Brettingham-Filice.
Concerning Open Scholarships:

1) Concerning the adding or dropping of Open Scholarship classes, entrants should be sure of their choices when turning in their entry forms, however they will be allowed to add to their list of classes up until 24 hours before the open scholarship that they intend to add with a $10 late fee added. T

Please understand that as I update the rules for the first advisory meeting to be held in September that any motion that was passed in this board-room during the 2017 DMA National Convention will be in affect as of September 1, 2017.

Any of the above that were suggestions, thoughts or issues referred to Advisory will be sent to all chapters once wording and decisions are made. Please make sure that your Secretary and you as Delegate let all of your members in your chapter know of any immediate changes and of any issues that will be decided on by Advisory.

Jackie Olson Rules, Chair

DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA, INC. 131ST NATIONAL CONVENTION
July 9, 2017 – July 15, 2017
The Marriott Hotel
555 Canal St. New Orleans, LA

Madame President, Board of Directors and Members:

It has been a pleasure serving as Scholarship Chairman for the 133rd National Convention. This group of students has exemplified the standards, work ethics and talent that we all hope to instill in all of our applicants. It was an honor to be a small part of their journey.

We had classes in modern, acrobatics, ballet, jazz and tap. The following is a breakdown of numbers, no shows and teachers of each genre.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>No shows</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Valerie Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acrobatics</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kathi Halbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballet</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>April Wexelman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazz</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Jason Coosner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tap</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Butch Theisen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There was a total of 62 students registered for the scholarships.

I want to thank the judges and teachers who were wonderful to work with. They were prompt, kind and caring to all of the students.

The judging panel was:
Annmarie Milohnic
Tori Melby
Awards will be given in the following:
3 overall places in 3 phase
3 places in each genre except acro which has 2 awards
These will be awarded Friday 4:15PM at the Grand Championship award announcements.

4 phase overall winner will be announced at the banquet.

Kathi Halbert
Scholarship Chairperson

Judges for Open Scholarship Classes:
Lee Garrard
2084 Palo Alto Ave.
The Villages, FL 32159
Mimi Costa White
336 Granite Circle
Antioch, CA 94509
Butch Theisen
Noreen Rhode
1543 Laclede Rd.
South Euclid, OH 44121
Mathew Brekke

Convention Seating Chairperson Report
7-10-17

This year the seating has been divided up into four sections of 10 seats in each section. The national board, the area vice presidents, parliamentarian, recording secretary, member of the year, past presidents, area vice presidents, national directors, parents and teacher of the 2017 title winner will be in the center section in the first 3 rows. The delegates will be in the four sections behind the national board. The delegate of Chapter of the Year will also receive a designated seat each night in the center section. The title directors and choreographers and the reigning title holders and parents will be on house left. On house right in the will be the 50 year members, venders, ushers, and VIP's.

Each area vice president, national director, and delegate will receive 2 reserved tickets to get into their reserved section each night for the title competitions handed out in this meeting today. The area vice president and national directors will have set seats each night. The delegate seats will be rotated each night so everyone has the opportunity to get a closer seat. If you decide to give your tickets away, the people taking your seats must have the reserved tickets to sit in your seats. (You must have a title ticket to enter the title competition. This reserved ticket will not get you in the door, only into the reserved section).

The title parents will be split up into 4 sections behind the DMA officers and committee heads. The general public will be in the next rows behind the above listed sections. The doors will be opened between 30-45 minutes before the show as soon as the national title director has finished any preparations needed on the stage prior to the title competition.
I need a total of 17 ushers each night so please contact me via text 513-252-6620 or email dmsdjjob@gmail.com if you have someone from your chapter that can volunteer so I know a head of time if I need to find more people to help. All delegates and volunteers should arrive by 7:00 pm in dress attire to review the procedures of the evening and pick up their usher/usherette buttons. (The reserved seats signs are hung up at the end of each PAC awards so anyone available then to help clean up the house and hang up the signs that would be greatly appreciated). At the end of each night, the reserved signs need to be taken off each seat and put in order for the next night and button returned.

Each evening any seats that are not filled by 7:45 will be released to the general public in the order of the rows that arrived. (The 4th row will be asked first, then the 5th, then the 6th...)

Lastly, there will be reserved seats for member teachers on the Grand National Championship night and I can reserve some this week for the PAC if there is a need by the teachers. Just let me know and I will start the teachers’ row tomorrow.

All problems, concerns, or recommendations should be brought up each evening so the next title competition can be run more efficiently.

Respectively Submitted

Dawn Slemons – Chapter 16

2017 Student Honors Intensive Program
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas
July 13-19, 2017
Administrator, Cindy Larsen

Let me begin by saying this SHIP needs to sail to a new port of call next year. We had 16 young ladies and 1 gentleman in attendance. I used the word ladies and gentleman because they truly were that at all times and just a wonderful group of students to work with at every phase of this Intensive. They were dealt many obstacles that never dampened their spirit.

We began the week with Registration from 3:00-5:00 on Wednesday afternoon. No one from the University ever showed up to greet us or participate in the check in process as they did last year. Charleen finally reached someone from the University and they said they expected the check in to happen two days prior. Well let me just say, that left us all very confused since the application Charleen completed and sent to them was very specific with our exact arrival and departure dates. After all students were checked in we discovered that the entire rooming list that Charleen spent her time to create, was completely changed by the university from the second floor to the basement that did not contain the same room formation. The students never complained they just went with the flow. Only one room changed was requested to accommodate the shyest young lady I have ever met in all of my years of teaching. We had our orientation and off to dinner we went and as last year the food was very good with a great variety for the students. We came back to our rooms and as they started taking showers we had one showerhead that fell off and one sprayer head that broke. I was able to fix one myself and the other was still broken when we left after several attempts to get someone there to repair it.

Thursday came and the students were very excited to begin classes. The incredible faculty consisted of;

Densil Adams – Ballet and Modern
Rich Ashworth – Tap and Hip Hop
Zach Hammer – Jazz and Lyrical
Christy Zimmerman – Musical Theatre, Contemporary and Lyrical

They completed their first day and were very tired after dinner. Shortly after dinner one of the students appeared with many, very inflamed bites on her legs that Benadryl crème had not helped. The bites were very swollen and red with large knots under the skin. After a few minutes of discussion we decided to take her to the campus health services which were closed and that they sent them to two other after care clinics that were also closed and after 1 hour of searching Valerie Hamilton found an acute care facility. The doctor said that they felt positive they were bed bug bites and since the student was very sensitive to insect bites she had an extreme reaction to them. The University refused to move her to another room because they did not want her taking them with her to another room, but after much question of belief, we finally got them to at least get new, clean bedding for both beds in the room. Our bug bitten student awoke the next morning with a very swollen right ankle and a larger than normal left calf, which by the next day was much better.

Now let me remind you, at this point we have still not laid eyes on our contact person who was supposed to collect the SMU release forms 24 hours after our arrival. Heather from a different department came through about lunch time and as she came to talk to Charleen, she saw Zach Hammer who graduated from SMU she quickly told Charleen that she would come back to see her after lunch, never to return. Tierany, (our contact person) emailed Charleen to find out where she was and later that afternoon she had still not found Charleen and requested her cell phone number for the second time, never to appear.

Friday morning brought a whole new set of issues with our basement living. Two students throwing up along with ants in one room, however that evening when we returned from class they were much nicer about moving the two students out of the room with ants since they were now the ants were in their beds along with an eight legged spider friend, and our two with stomach issues felt much better. After those two got settled in their new room, they discovered the toilet sprayed water every time it was flushed and the shower didn’t drain. YIKES!!!! By this point we could only laugh at the craziness.

Oh guess who finally appeared 48 hours after our students checked in……..Tierney !!!!! When she arrived she quickly pointed out that as per our signed contract we were supposed to arrive two days earlier than we did???: Charleen was very professional in making her aware that the top page of the contract she was holding was our contract from last year, as it was dated 2015 and that we were never given a contract to sign for 2016. Needless to say Tierney immediately became defensive. So as Charleen was digging to find her copy of the application to show her the dates we requested when Tierney pulled out her copy of the application quickly realizing she was only proving herself wrong. Then as I pulled out the SMU release forms that were supposed to be in their office on file within 24 hours of our arrival, Tierney was very sassy to say that she could get them whenever she wanted to. It was so funny to see how fast Tierney left our presence never to be seen again for the entire intensive.

Saturday brings a new day and the students are all really sore, tired and requesting lots of aleve and Ibuprofen, but their excitement remained high and enthusiastic. We finally had non-eventful day as far as the dorms and buildings are concerned.

Sunday arrives with us being locked out of the Meadows Arts Building and classrooms because no one bothered to inform the staff that we started at 8:30. We had to wake someone up to get things opened and going and remarkably only started classes ten minutes late which we were able to make up by cutting the between class breaks short by 5 minutes each. After lunch the same young lady with
the severe bug bites came running out of class with a terrible nose bleed, but was quick to inform us that it happened often.

Monday arrived and with the start of a new week came new challenges. We all arrived at the cafeteria to find that none of our meal cards worked anymore because of the original incorrect days on the contract from last year. The cafeteria workers were very understanding and were quick to offer a solution so that we were able to eat breakfast.

Monday around 10:30 Charleen received an email from Tierney asking if we needed to have our banquet that night catered or were we using someone else for our meal. Charleen and I both looked at each other in total disbelief, since we had already made all of the arrangements on Friday with the catering department. Needless to say Charleen’s only response was “Before we worry about a banquet dinner could you please check on making sure that our students will be able to eat lunch, since their cards stopped working”. She never heard another word from our illustrious contact person. Can’t wait to get the evaluation sheet on this one.

Meanwhile every night we had such a fun time playing games and giving the students an opportunity to get to know each other on a more personal level. New friends were made and promises were spoke of coming back next year. They all had a great time despite the many mishaps.

The banquet was very nice, with 33 in attendance. More parents and teachers arrived for the showcase, which was wonderful. The level of talent greatly improved from last year and the dances were outstanding, thanks to our incredible faculty.

I would like to thank, Charleen & Joanne for their support and attendance during our second voyage in Texas. May our next port of call be a much happier place and easier to work with.

Happy Sailing,
Cindy Larsen
SHIP SMU, Administrator

This year we had to move to Densil Adam’s studio and the students are on their own for housing. We have 13 students and we are in the process of finding another college facility to return to. Of Course with the late attempt at securing another college our posted dates were not available anywhere. A Huge Thank you to Densil for allowing us to use his studio.

**Solo Title Liaison Report 2017**

Madame President, Board of Directors,

The 2017 National Solo Title Directors were:

- Petite Miss and Master Dance: Erin Spriggs
- Junior Miss/Mr. Dance: Grace Holmquist
- Teen Miss/Mr. Dance: April Nelson
- Miss/Mr. Dance: Penny Koza Lemansky

With National First Vice-President, Cindy Larsen we began the week with the solo title orientation meeting, Thursday, July 6th, at 7:00PM. After orientation, National President, Laura Work, National First Vice-President, Cindy Larsen and I then went on to view the contestant’s award attire. There
were 1 Teen Miss Dance, and 3 Miss Dance contestants we asked to alter their dresses. The dresses were again reviewed at the parade of contestants at the welcome party and were approved.

The next 2 days were judge’s preview, judged classes, interview and opening number rehearsals. Thank you to everyone who helped make sure those days went as smooth as possible.

The remaining days were left to rehearsals for the opening numbers and classes.

Some suggestions from the directors were:

To have softer number badges for the judges classes, which we have already had some discussion on and will change for next year.

To have the ballet class for Miss / Mr. as their first class.

To make the Junior ballet class longer than 50 minutes. The ballet teacher was instructed to give an Adage, Petite Allegro and Grand Allegro Combination. In order to accomplish all of that, they ran over time.

I have asked for any suggestions they may think of later on be sent between now and our first advisory meeting in September so we can discuss them.

It was a true pleasure working with Erin, Grace, April and Penny. It was especially nice having 3 experienced directors to help guide Grace and myself (we were both new to our positions) when we needed direction.

Thank you to everyone who helped on all the title competition nights. We really appreciate everyone assisting us.

Dody Flynn
Solo Title Liaison

2018 MISS and MR. DANCE OF AMERICA – REPORT

MISS AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018 Miss Dance</th>
<th>Teacher of Record</th>
<th>Teacher of Recognition</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natalie Rogers</td>
<td>Michelle Rogers</td>
<td>Alyson Wright</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Runner-up</td>
<td>Nealey Towns Alsonso</td>
<td>Cindy Larsen</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Hendrick</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Runner-up</td>
<td>Maegan Kittrell</td>
<td>Rebecca Lee</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia Sammartino</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Runner-up</td>
<td>Ashley Canterna Hardy</td>
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<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Novak</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Runner-up</td>
<td>Jenn McKusick</td>
<td>April Spisk Nelson</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsi Prentice</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Semi-Finalists
Natalie Bolio  Karin McCarthy  5
Alyssa Swank  Kathi Halbert  16
Emily Simmons  Regina Ihns  4
Emi Dulski  Leyla Boissonnade  13
Shaffrea Hopson  Erin Spriggs  28
**Most Talented Non-Finalist**
The Gerald Cummings Award
Kaylee Carr-Taylor  Joanne Zavisa  46
**Interview Award**
Natalie Rogers  Michelle Rogers  Allyson Wright  15
**Ballet Award**
Natalie Rogers  Michelle Rogers  Allyson Wright  15
**Jazz Award**
Claire Hendrick  Nealey Towns Alsonso  Cindy Larsen  33
**Tap Award**
Natalie Rogers  Michelle Rogers  Allyson Wright  15
**Acro Award**
Natalie Rogers  Michelle Rogers  Allyson Wright  15
**Modern Award**
Natalie Rogers  Michelle Rogers  Allyson Wright  15
**Miss Congeniality**
Natalie Bolio  Karin McCarthy  5
**Emily Sachs Scholarship**
Claire Hendrick  Nealey Towns Alsonso  Cindy Larsen  33
**George Lon Memorial Scholarship**
Natalie Rogers  Michelle Rogers  Allyson Wright  15
**Bill Royal Scholarship**
Olivia Sammartino  Maegan Kittrell  Rebecca Lee  44
**Chapter 33’s Past Presidents Scholarship**
Kelsi Prentice  Jenn McKusick  April Spisk Nelson  36

**MR. AWARDS**

2018 Mr. Dance
Sam Buchanan  Dee Buchanan  17

1st Runner-up
Aaron Choate  Diana Evans Pulliam  16

2nd Runner-up
Daniel Venini  Jamie Lee Dain  25

**Interview Award**
Sam Buchanan  Dee Buchanan  17
**Ballet Award**
Sam Buchanan  Dee Buchanan  17
**Jazz Award**
Sam Buchanan  Dee Buchanan  17
**Tap Award**
Matthew Spero  Amy DeLoughy  Dody Flynn  18
**Acro Award**
Modern Award
Aaron Choate	Diana Evans Pulliam  16

Mr. Personality
Aaron Choate	Diana Evans Pulliam  16

Gene Wright Memorial Scholarship
Shane Tomasek	Michelle Rogers	Allyson Wright  15

Sherry Gold Memorial
Aaron Choate	Diana Evans Pulliam  16

Chapter 33’s Past Presidents Scholarship
Sam Buchanan	Dee Buchanan  17

Charles Hughes Scholarship
Daniel Scofield	Lola Griffin  40

Penny Koza-Lemansky
MISS and MR. DANCE DIRECTOR

2017 Teen Miss and Teen Mr. Dance of America Report April Spisak Nelson, Director, New Orleans

25 Teen Miss Contestants 9 Teen Mr. Contestants

Miss Congeniality #20 Rachel Brooks Michelle Kovitch-Maskas Ch 46 Mr. Personality #3 Cyrus Shahbazi Daniel Tardibono Ch 27

Class Awards: Ballet Teen Miss #12 Cate Tallant Rhonda Edmundson Ch 6/Charleen Locascio Ballet Teen Mr. #6 Adrian Jones Lynn Raley Ch 15

Tap Teen Miss #12 Cate Tallant Rhonda Edmundson Ch 6/Charleen Locascio Tap Teen Mr. #6 Adrian Jones Lynn Raley Ch 15

Jazz Teen Miss #22 Hannah Cabral Stephanie Pritchard Ch 16/Dara Berman-Cheung Jazz Teen Mr. #1 Tomas Balk, open Barbara Moschetta/Jacqueline Moschetta-Warren

Acro Class #17 Sarah Parlatore Trish Thompson-Creamer Ch 38

Modern Teen Miss #22 Hannah Cabral Stephanie Pritchard Ch 16/Dara Berman-Cheung Modern Teen Mr. #1 Tomas Balk, open Barbara Moschetta/Jacqueline Moschetta-Warren

Interview: Teen Miss #12 Cate Tallant Rhonda Edmundson Ch 6/Charleen Locascio Teen Mr. #9 Brennen Ruganis Kandie Melendez Ch 18

Semi Finalists: #3 Emerson Majarucon Jenn McKusick Ch 36/April Spisak Nelson #15 Noelle Kinney Maegan Kittrell Ch 44/Rebecca Lee #5 Brigid Pugh Dee Buchanan Ch 17 #20 Rachel Brooks Michelle Kovitch-Maskas Ch 46 #11 Payton Smith Barbara Ellen Smartt Ch 33

Most Talented Non-Finalist #9 Maya Leavitt Kandie Melendez Ch 18

4th Runner up Teen #2 Lauren Tate Terri Newman Ch 4/Lauren Lenter 3rd Runner up Teen #17 Sarah Parlatore Trish Thompson-Creamer Ch 38 2nd Runner up Teen #7 Emily Atkinson Melissa
Hoffman 1st Runner up Teen  #22 Hannah Cabral Stephanie Pritchard Ch 16/Dara Berman-Cheung
Winner Teen Miss  #12 Cate Tallant Rhonda Edmundson Ch 6/Charleen Locascio

2nd Runner up Teen Mr.  #7 Trent Goble Sandy Embry Ch 16 1st Runner up Teen Mr.  #2 Daniel
Blackwood Maegan Kittrell Ch 44/Rebecca Lee Winner Teen Mr.  #6 Adrian Jones Lynn Raley Ch 15

Thanks for the opportunity to serve as Director.
April Spisak Nelson

DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA
JUNIOR MISS DANCE OF AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION
REPORT 2017

JUNIOR MISS DANCE OF AMERICA 2018: PAYTON NICKERSON
TEACHER OF RECORD: MANDY DOYLE
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: LACEY BOOTH
CHAPTER: #16
CHOREOGRAPHER: MANDY DOYLE

FIRST RUNNER UP: BRENNA GOEBEL
TEACHER OF RECORD: MICHELLE ROGERS
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: (ALYSON WRIGHT)
CHAPTER: #15
CHOREOGRAPHER: MICHELLE ROGERS

SECOND RUNNER UP: LINDSEY WEAVER
TEACHER OF RECORD: NICOLE SWOPE
CHAPTER: #10
CHOREOGRAPHER: KATE MOSS

THIRD RUNNER UP: ANNABELLE MACK
TEACHER OF RECORD: LORI RAYBURN
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: GRACE JEANFREAU AND TAYLOR SCHROEDER
CHAPTER: #6
CHOREOGRAPHER: ANDREW BRADER

FOURTH RUNNER UP: IZABELLA CENTURAMI
TEACHER OF RECORD: TRISH THOMPSON CREAMER
CHAPTER: #38
CHOREOGRAPHER: TRISH THOMPSON-CREAMER

**FINALIST IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER**

**FINALIST:** KENDALL CRABTREE
TEACHER OF RECORD: JONI SCOFIELD
CHAPTER # 33
CHOREOGRAPHER: KIM WOLFE

**FINALIST:** ASHLEY DOUGHERTY
TEACHER OF RECORD: ASHLEY CANTERNA-HARDY
CHAPTER #17
CHOREOGRAPHER: ASHLEY CANTERNA- HARDY

**FINALIST:** TEHYA LINGENFELTER
TEACHER OF RECORD: APRIL SPISAK NELSON
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: TRACY RICHIE
CHAPTER: #36
CHOREOGRAPHER: TRACY RICHIE

**FINALIST:** KAYLEE STRANGE
TEACHER OF RECORD: LINDSEY CHENEY
CHAPTER: #40
CHOREOGRAPHER: LINDSEY CHENEY

**FINALIST:** SARAH SWOOPE
TEACHER OF RECORD: MAEGAN KITTRELL
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: REBECCA LEE
CHAPTER: #44
CHOREOGRAPHER: MAEGAN KITTRELL

**MOST TALENTED NON-FINALIST:** MARLI SCOTT
TEACHER OF RECORD: PENNY CAPPS
CHAPTER: #27
CHOREOGRAPHER: BECCA NEWMAN

**HIGH SCORE BALLET AWARD:** ANNABELLE MACK
TEACHER OF RECORD: LORI RAYBURN
TEACHERS OF RECOGNITION: GRACE JEANFREAU AND TAYLOR SCHROEDER
CHAPTER: #6
HIGH SCORE JAZZ AWARD: PAYTON NICKERSON  
TEACHER OF RECORD: MANDY DOYLE  
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: LACEY BOOTH  
CHAPTER: #16

HIGH SCORE TAP AWARD: IZABELLA CENTURAMI  
TEACHER OF RECORD: TRISH THOMPSON-CREAMER  
CHAPTER: #38

HIGH SCORE ACROBATICS AWARD: SARAH SWOOPE  
TEACHER OF RECORD: MAEGAN KITTRELL  
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: REBECCA LEE  
CHAPTER #44

HIGH SCORE INTERVIEW: SYDNEY FRANKLIN  
TEACHER OF RECORD: GRACE HOLMQUIST  
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: SHELY PACK-MANNING  
CHAPTER: #1

MISS CONGENIALITY: QUINN GORDON  
TEACHER OF RECORD: LAUREN LENTER  
TEACHER OF RECOGNITION: TERRI NEWMAN- GIAMPINO  
CHAPTER: #4

DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA  
JUNIOR MISTER DANCE OF AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION REPORT 2017

JUNIOR MISTER DANCE OF AMERICA 2018: JOSHUA TABER  
TEACHER OF RECORD: APRIL SPISAK NELSON  
CHAPTER: OPEN

FIRST RUNNER UP: NATHAN LITZ  
TEACHER OF RECORD: MARILYN SCHNEIDER CACCAMISE  
CHAPTER: #8  
CHOREOGRAPHER: CHRISTINA HASKINS

SECOND RUNNER UP: JACKSON OGDEN  
TEACHER OF RECORD: JONI SCOFIELD  
CHAPTER: #33
CHOREOGRAPHER: ALLY PACKARD

HIGH SCORE BALLET AWARD: JOSHUA TABER
TEACHER OF RECORD: APRIL SPISAK NELSON
CHAPTER: OPEN

HIGH SCORE JAZZ AWARD: JOSHUA TABER
TEACHER OF RECORD: APRIL SPISAK NELSON
CHAPTER: OPEN

HIGH SCORE TAP AWARD: NATHAN LITZ
TEACHER OF RECORD: MARILYN SCHNEIDER CACCAMISE
CHAPTER: #8

HIGH SCORE INTERVIEW: JACOB SHARPNAK
TEACHER OF RECORD: DIANE CAMPBELL
CHAPTER: #16

MISTER PERSONALITY: JAYLEN EDMONDS
TEACHER OF RECORD: LINDSEY ROBERTS
CHAPTER: #40
DMA Teacher Training School Report 2016 going into 2017

Madame President and Members of the Board: Teacher’s Training School was held and will again be held this summer at the State University of Buffalo, New York. This year’s dates are: August 1-August 5, 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers in attendance:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 Grade Grade Grade Grade Adv. Total:</td>
<td>2017 –as of July 8, 2017 Grade 1 – 34 attendees Grade 2 – 44 attendees Grade 3 – 25 attendees Grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing: we are still in Granier Hall. Scheduling: Grades 1 through 3 will have class secretaries to take attendance, keep class notes, as well as overall order in the classes. We'd like to thank this year's secretaries in advance.

Faculty: This year's core faculty consist of: Ballet – Elizabeth Waddell & Kerry Ring Jazz – Larraine Susa, Tracy Navarro Tap – Barb Denny, Butch Theisen Modern – Joy Guarino, Nailh Ansari

Each core faculty member works extremely well and in-sync with one another, meeting each day to compare teaching notes and coordinate material.

Intensive: The 2016 Intensives were Hip Hop, and Musical Theater. Both were very well attended as were all of the Optional classes.

Examinations: In 2016 we administered 85 TTS exams. There were 8 Failures in individual sections. As of July 1st we will be giving approximately 41 exams in 2017.

The 2017 exam format is the same as in the past: Written, Terminology, Theory and Practice and Practical Teach-in.

Assessments: Assessments were given and will be given in grades 1-3. This valuable information is used to evaluate the program, as well as for the attendee to assess themselves. In 2016 the assessments were given on the afternoon of the 4th day, which enabled us to grade the assessments as a team in the evening and give results along with exit letters to the attendees on the last day. This worked very well. It saved time because we had a team to grade and also saved money on postage.

The Bachna/McGill Scholarships:

Each year, the Bachna Scholarship is awarded to a dedicated attendee who has successfully completed grade 4 and has taken and passed 3 core exams. The recipient is chosen by the core faculty. The 2016 recipient was Mandy Odom.
In 2012 a TTS scholarship in honor and memory of Dottie McGill began and is awarded to a dedicated attendee who has successfully completed grade 4 and has taken and passed all 4 core exams. The recipient is chosen by the core faculty. The 2016 recipient was presented to Philip Baraidan.

We want to all thank you for giving us the opportunity to be a part of such an educational process that exemplifies one of our major purposes as an organization. We are proud to contribute to the progress, growth and innovative ideas of Teachers Training School.

Respectively Submitted,

Teacher Training School Administrators:

Joann Zavisa Phyllis Guy Charlene Hibbs

Administrator I Administrator II Administrator III

REPORTS THAT WERE GIVEN DURING OUR MEETINGS BUT NOT SENT ELECTRONICALLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Convention Chair: from Shely Pak Manning
   We ended up with 37 in the Jazz Intensive, PJ and Alma are taking care of the music equipment for the classrooms. She requested a sign for her table so that it would be known that she was there and available to answer questions, etc. A revised schedule was going out for the second day and balance of the week for classes; She suggested that the signs for the classrooms be bigger and brighter, and that parents and members keep up with the updates on Remind. This was very helpful last year.

By-Laws and Standing Rules: from Dody Flynn
   My personal suggestion: Please note all changes in the meeting minutes – there were a few.

SHIP NY: From Laura Work:
   Silks were introduced two years ago, and are still popular. Students can audition for a University at Buffalo program while they are at SHIP NY. Last year there were 3 levels with 89 participants. This year around 60 participants with only 2 levels scheduled.

Membership: From Duanne Cazalot:
   We need to be intentional about following up on inquiries about membership! Also, encourage new members to become more involved and encourage member studios to have all of their teachers join DMA. We also need to put contact information on our Facebook pages. Several helped our DMA members in Louisiana when they experienced flooding last year!

Long Range Planning: Bob Mann’s report as given by Laura Work:
Continuing to update our DMA website and enhance social media. Dance Comp Genie is still a work in process.

Finance: Amy Deloughy and Jackie Olson:
There is no written report in order to keep organizational finances private. A new budget was presented and passed.

Publicity and Social Media: Rebecca Brettingham Filice:
Rebecca had a very informative Townhall Meeting regarding Facebook and Instagram. We hope to have her in Ohio to speak to our membership!

Past President Council: Shely Pack Manning
They met earlier in the convention and there were 10 in attendance.

Examinations: Jill Chase and Glenda Moss:
There were none scheduled at the National Convention this year.

Scholarship Fundraising: Marlene Merritt
Made $756.00 this year which is down. She contributed it to the fact that they were in with the distributors.