



From the Desk of:
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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 Anaheim.

A brief recap of Chapter 16 at the DMA National Convention follows this letter of introduction. If you would like more information, I have the minutes from all of the meetings as well as all of the officer and committee reports that were submitted electronically for our use. I will be happy to share all of this information with you!

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be your Delegate to the DMA National Convention! I have thoroughly enjoyed representing Chapter 16 with Nationals these past three years!

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 ANAHEIM, CA - 2018

The DMA National Convention in Anaheim was great! Though it was a smaller convention than Nationals had hoped for, it was definitely better than our last National convention in Anaheim! I attended all Board of Directors' meetings and all Grand Body Meetings.

It was great to have Ohio Dance Masters so wonderfully represented by our members: Butch Theisen, Diana Evans Pulliam, Joan Wine, Colleen Rhode, Kathi Halbert, Tammy Taylor, Michele Rexroad, Mandy Doyle, Lacey Booth, Suzy Straub, Stephanie Pritchard, Dara Berman-Cheung, Susan Barr, Amanda Recko! We really missed Noreen Rhode, as she was in rehab from surgery!

Several of our members served on committees, acted as chairs or directors, or helped wherever needed. We started off the convention with Joan Wine stepping in for Noreen Rhode for the Ballet Intensive and Kathi Halbert serving 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 and Kathi Halbert the Open Scholarship Chair. 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, and Butch Theisen were judges in various areas of competitions (PAC, Titles, Open Scholarships).

Our ODM Titles represented Chapter 16 very proudly, and every time I saw them they looked like they were having a blast! I am so proud of our titles and the way they present themselves. Here's how our young ladies and gentleman did:

Petite Miss Dance, Kristiana Recko, student of Amanda Recko and Susan Barr won the Jazz Class award, the Interview award and was crowned Petite Miss Dance of America 2019!

Jr. Miss Dance, Peyton Florence, student of Mandy Doyle and Lacey Baker placed 4th Runner Up!

Jr. Mr. Dance, Dylan Maddox, student of Susan Barr and Amanda Recko, represented Ohio proudly!

Teen Miss Dance, Audrey Elvers, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman-Cheung, finished in the Top 10 actually placing 8th Runner Up!

Miss Dance, Natalie Scolf, student of Diana Evans Pulliam received the Miss Congeniality Award and placed 4th Runner Up!

We had several routines in the dance-off, which is the last competition before the Banquet. We were blessed to see "Vampires", a 12 & under Duo belonging to our members Mandy Doyle and Lacey Booth. They performed at the banquet on Saturday night, competing for the Grand National Championship!

Several ODM students were entered in the Open Scholarship classes. Victoria Antinou, student of Diana Evans Pulliam placed 3rd in the 3-Phase Overall! Hailey Gillespie, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman Cheung won the 4 Phase Scholarship! (There weren't enough in the Acro for a 5-Phase winner) and Natalie Scolf won a college scholarship!

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 three ODM students represent us in the dances that evening: in the 12 & Under dance we had Caroline Kiefaber, student of Suzy Straub. Haley Gillespie, student of Stephanie Pritchard and Dara Berman-Cheung as well as Victoria Antinou, student of Diana Evans Pulliam participated in the 13 & Over performance. The Anaheim location was much more family friendly than New Orleans.

Special awards that were given during the convention were:

Member of the Year: Our very own Colleen Rhode!! (Noreen watched via Facetime)

Zee Brown Ahern Award: Debra Huffman – Chapter 15

Chapter of the Year: Chapter 15

The DMA Annual Award: Evan Ruggiero

The Lifetime Achievement Award: Keith Clifton

By-Law and Rule Changes:

By-Laws:

Honorary Membership: Must be submitted to the National Executive Secretary and approved by the National Executive Board. This does not include privileges of Active Membership.

Chapter Affiliation: The word “fine” was added to Section X.3.A regarding disciplinary actions taken against a DMA affiliated chapter. It read that Nationals could suspend or terminate chapters who are not in compliance, now it reads that they can Fine chapters.

Standing Rules:

There were several Standing Rule changes. Most are regarding the duties of Chapter Delegates. One – WHOO-HOO!! That a Delegate’s Report is no longer required!

There was a standing rule put in place noting the deadline for National Title Winners to turn in their vouchers for their winnings. They need to be submitted by August 31 of the year they win and by August 31 of the year they relinquish their title.

Notes From Nationals:

1 - For all title competitions PLEASE read the rules carefully and completely! There seems to be an issue every year with the dresses worn by the contestants for the awards portion of the competition. The rules are very specific!

2 - DMA had to pay attrition for the Anaheim convention because the DMA block of rooms at the host hotel was not sufficiently filled. We were asked as delegates to ask our membership to be sure to book your rooms for the National Convention in the DMA block. If you use your reward points, the room does not count in our block. If you book your room with a discount rate such as AAA or AARP or an on-line special rate, the rooms will not count in the DMA block. The attrition was \$380,000.00 this past year.

Rules:

The Most Talented Non-Finalist has been removed from the Title Scholarship Competitions

My recommendations to Nationals:

1 - The National Convention is too long. Can it not be arranged so that families do not have to stay the entire week+? (The expense is a hardship for many.) The reply was that students in competition must not want to take all the classes if they do not want to stay for the entire week. However, later in the week we were told that PAC would try to get the schedule out sooner so that families could plan their trip more efficiently.

2 - There should be something in writing letting the newly awarded titles know what is expected of them the remainder of the convention in which they are awarded. There were several surprises for them as the week went on. It was suggested that they be given this information at their contract signing. Dody Flynn, the DMA Title Liaison will work on this.

