

OHIO DANCE MASTERS 2023 TITLE HOLDERS



Introducing...

In January our new title holders competed with a group of insanely talented dancers in Interview, Audition Classes, and Talent.

Their hard work and dedication earned them positions on the prestigious ODM Royal Court!!

Ohio Dance Masters is thrilled to introduce our 2023 Title Holders!! We cannot wait to watch you all shine on the Nationals stage!!

Pictured Above from Left to Right...
Junior Mister Dance of Ohio 2023: Harvey Goodman
Junior Miss Dance of Ohio: Greta Galea
Teen Miss Dance of Ohio 2023: Haydyn Jackson
Miss Dance of Ohio 2023: Payton Nickerson
Petite Miss Dance of Ohio 2023: Sadie Daniels
Master Dance of Ohio 2023: Gus Goodman

Congratulations...

- Colton Ryan & Haley Fish, past students of Diana Evans-Pulliam, will be performing in the new Broadway Show, New York New York!! Colton as lead and Haley as a swing.
- Jessica Barr, former Miss Dance of Ohio, member, and daughter of Susan Barr is engaged!!
- Aaron Choate, past student of Diana Evans-Pulliam, is a company member with Hubbard Street Dance Company Chicago!!
- Kiesha Lalama, our favorite scholarship judge from Point Park University is engaged!!

Condolences...

- Diane Campbell's father passed away. Our Love and Prayers are with you in your time of need.

New Members...

Cathy Nesbitt-Stein
Tiffany Booher

ODM welcomes you both to our dance family with open arms!!

Cathy took her Ballet & Jazz exams and Tiffany took her Tap exam. Both were obligated at our 2023 January Convention.



DMA Member of the Year

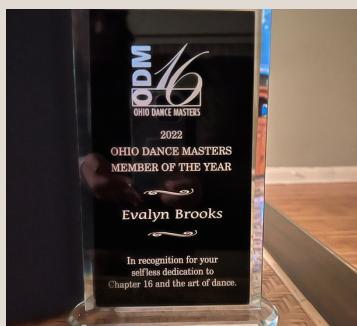
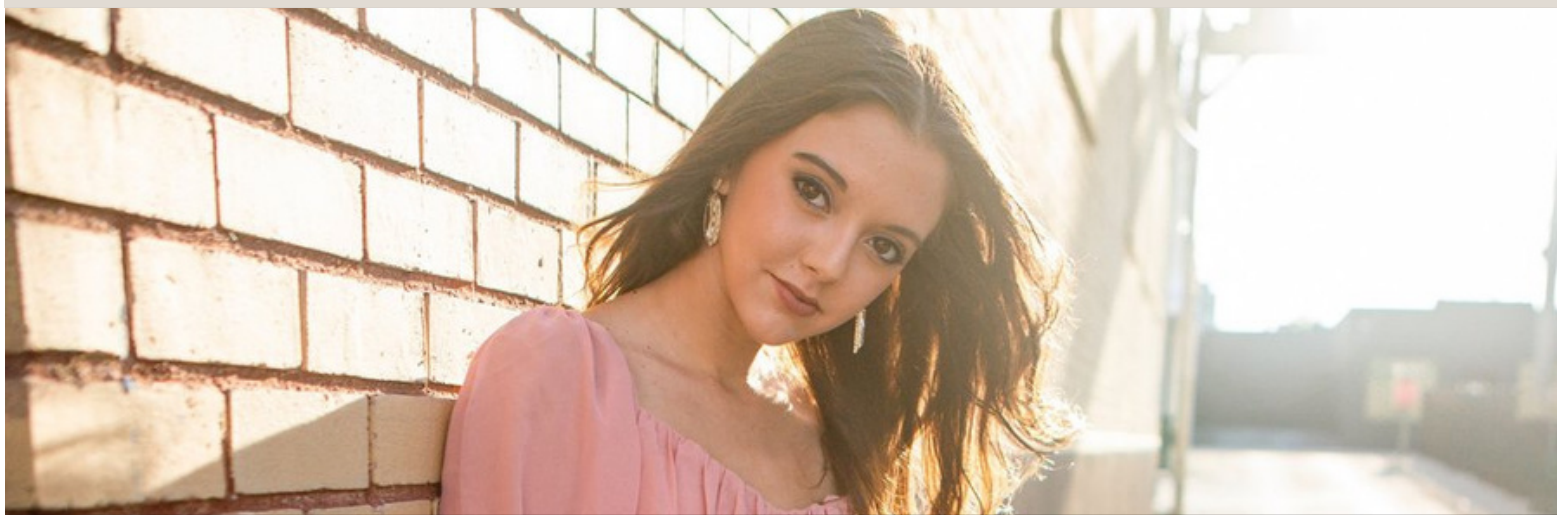
Dawn Slemons
 Member for 23 years

Dawn has been teaching in the Cincinnati area for over 20 years. She earned her BFA from Northern Kentucky University with an area of concentration in Education. She also earned an MFA from the University of Virginia where she graduated with honors. Dawn is a Member of Dance Masters of Ohio and is certified in Acro, Ballet, Tap and Jazz.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT EVENT!!

OHIO DANCE MASTERS CHARITY OUTREACH RECIPIENT-MIA VELASQUEZ



ODM Member of the Year

Evalyn Tirikos-Brooks
Member for 15 years

Evalyn has been teaching dance for 24 years. She received her training under Dance Masters own, Kathi Halbert, who instilled the love of dance and continuing education in her.

Evalyn received her certification to teach ballet, tap, and jazz through Dance Masters of Americas Teachers Training School at the University of Buffalo, New York, and is a member of Ohio Dance Masters Chapter 16 and Dance Masters of America.

Currently, Evalyn resides in Louisville, Kentucky and works with students from Gillman's Dance Academy. She also works with the non-profit youth dance company M.A.G.I.C., Making Art Grow In Children, Inc.

Mia's Story...

My name is Mia Velasquez and I have had the privilege to be a student of Jill Garlock at The Arts Center School of Music and Dance since I was 4 years old. Miss Jill has given me many amazing opportunities to grow as a dancer over my training including attending many ODM classes, conventions, and title competitions.

When I was 10 years old, I was diagnosed with Supraventricular Tachycardia and most recently Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia along with Mitral Valve Prolapse. All of these conditions include an abnormal heart rhythm and can include weakening of the heart valves and heart muscle without treatment and proper management and in my case most likely a heart valve repair or replacement at a young age. At times, as an athlete, this can make strenuous cardio activity difficult and cause physical limitations for my body, even though my mind wishes to press on like my peers. This became even more of an issue when the COVID-19 pandemic became our reality.

In March of 2020 my physicians declared my conditions as "high risk" for someone who could contract COVID-19 and advised me along with my family to stay at home for as long as possible to avoid becoming ill, and my heart needing to work harder. At first this was easy, but later became harder as more and more of my peers were returning to a "new normal" and resuming activities, I was still being advised to stay home and away from crowds and dance classes. This became more than a mental struggle for me, but also a physical struggle due to also having severe scoliosis.

I was diagnosed with scoliosis at the age of 14. My curvature is more than 42 degrees, which makes me a candidate for a spinal fusion, but because of my heart condition, and desire to continue my passion for dance and required mobility, my parent's, physician, and I ultimately decided to manage my scoliosis with PT, chiropractic care, massage therapy, brace assistance and most importantly continued training in ballet to improve and retain my muscle strength and tone. Dance and movement are a vital part of my health and I was worried when that abruptly came to a halt. I was fortunate to connect with Paige Frazer, a Broadway dancer from the Lion King, who also suffers from a curvature like mine and she offered amazing resources and online classes through the pandemic to retain mobility and strengthen my spine.

As previously mentioned, I count myself privileged to be under the training and guidance of Jill Garlock. Through the pandemic, she not only kept in touch with me, but continued to train me through zoom, provided online resources and classes for me to take, and I was even able to learn a new lyrical solo that she choreographed, which I later was able to perform when it was safe for me to do so in the late Spring/Summer of 2021.

I'm very fortunate that my diagnoses are all treatable and manageable. Thanks to modern medicine, amazing healthcare heroes and my commitment to living a healthy lifestyle, I look forward to a full and vibrant performance future. I have many people in my life to thank for that and it's something that the last two and half years have taught me to never take for granted.

The charity I would like to name for donations this year is the Paige Frazer Foundation. This foundation has been instrumental in mine and my families journey providing answers, guidance, and support and provides the same for any dancer facing health issues and disabilities.

I am grateful and humbled that ODM has chosen me to raise awareness for dancers facing chronic health issues and disabilities while pursuing their passion.

SUPPORT MIA & HER CAUSE BY DONATING & WEARING A 'DANCE IS HEALING' BRACELET

SHINING STAR AWARDS



Faculty...

Ballet: Ashley Canterna-Hardy

Jazz: Amanda Welch

Tap: Stacy Eastman

7-9 Shining Stars...

Ballet: Sami N. Student of Dawn Slemons & Kathy Meyer

Jazz: Ella C. Student of Stephanie Pritchard & Dara Berman Cheung

Tap: Brielle M. Student of Erin Stein Rich & Cathy Nesbitt Stein

10-12 Shining Stars...

Ballet: Brooklyn W. Student of Sandy Embry

Jazz: Cassie O. Student of Stephanie Pritchard & Dara Berman Cheung

Tap: Charleigh P. Student of Angie Haver

13-15 Shining Stars...

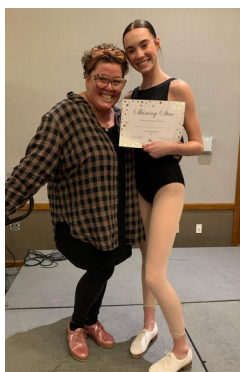
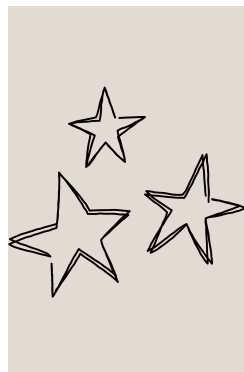
Ballet: Reece O. Student of Diana Evans-Pulliam

Jazz: Dominic F. Student of Angie Haver

Tap: Morgan H. Student of Angie Haver

12 & Under Specialty Class

Jazz Funk: Olive C. Student of Susan Barr



Congratulations to all of our Shining Star Award Winners!!

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ODM History...

The organization that began in 1936 was named Cleveland and Ohio Dance Masters. In the beginning it was connected with the Chicago National Organization of dance teachers. Clem Brown, a member of Chicago National, and several members from the Cleveland area eventually pulled out and became affiliated with Dance Masters of America.

Some of the early pioneers were Clem Brown, Bess Newton Brown (no relative), LaRue Hope, Mary Louise Megert, Eleanor Buckholzer, Bill Franklin, Betty Adelman, Marie Miller, Cecelia Corley, Charles Boyd, Muriel Kelleher, Arita Lee Blair, and Mary Pollock Graham. LaRue Hope was the stronghold of the group and was sure that we adhered to the principles of the National Organization in setting the standards for dance education. The first Secretary/Treasurer was Clem Brown, followed by Joyce Keegan Flynn and now currently, Noreen Rhode, Secretary and Rennie Davis, Treasurer.

The Ohio Chapter is proud to have had four members serve as President on the National Board. They are LaRue Hope (1950), Joan Wine (1982), Angela Freese (1988), and Butch Theisen (2009). Rennie Davis served as National Treasurer also. Our members have been awarded such awards as the Zee Brown Award (Noreen Rhode & Kathi Halbert), Members of the Year (Marjorie Sellers, Butch Theisen, Noreen Rhode, Colleen Rhode, and Dawn Slemons). The chapter affiliated name as of 2011 is Ohio Dance Masters taking us back to our original roots. You will always find an ODM member volunteering their services on the National Board. Today we have approximately 125 members from four states.



OHIO DANCE MASTERS



@ODMCHAPTER16

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