



Dance Masters of America, Inc



2022-2023 Advisory Committee Report

The Advisory Committee has worked tirelessly throughout this season. We began our year with Friday morning Zoom meetings which enabled us to trim one week from our hectic schedule. We traveled here in October to review the visual concepts necessary for this year's convention. If you have been involved in event planning at your chapter level, you know this can be a daunting task. Our second visit was to Ball State University in Indiana to do a site inspection for a possible new location for SHIP and TTS. It was a nice surprise when DMA member, Christie Zimmerman stopped in to say hello. As the Associate Professor of Dance Arts and Communication at the university, she gave us a quick tour of the beautiful campus and even let us peek in on a dance class. It made us quickly realize we are no longer as young as we feel, I mean look.....well, you know what we mean.

In the fall, we began updating documents and creating some additional forms such as: Confidentiality Agreements for Executive Committee, Return of Property Forms, Scholarship Sponsor forms and continued making everything fillable and user friendly. We are pleased to announce that all of these forms are available on our website for easy access. Every two years, the Advisory Committee spends many hours updating Job Descriptions and handbooks. This year we also created a PASC Handbook and appointed a Banquet Performance Chairperson. This position includes all aspects to assure the banquet runs smoothly. A full review of the Bylaws and Standing Rules for each chapter was conducted and completed by the National Area Directors. In addition, we met via Zoom sessions with Chapter Officers and will continue throughout next year.

The announcement that the DMA manuals could be purchased online was a big hit with our membership. Pursuant to recommendations, the manuals were reformatted into single PDF files and are now available through the National Office. Video manuals for Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Acro, and Modern have been started. The Ballet video is almost complete and will soon be ready for review by Advisory Committee. The chapters can use these videos as study guides for membership exams. The videos will also replace the Examiners Forum allowing everyone to benefit without the additional cost of traveling. Another great form of dance education comes from Acrobatic Arts. We are happy to announce our partnership allowing DMA members in good standing a 10% discount.

Jot Forms were created for on-line use including registration for the National Convention, Open Scholarship, TTS and SHIP. All files are now stored in a newly created Drop Box Account. This system has already proven to aide in organization keeping us all connected with up-to-date files. This provides a permanent place to store records and files that can be shared.

The Teen Solo Title Competition has been upgraded to include eight new additional scholarships for a total of \$1,200.00. These scholarships are patterned after the Miss & Mr. Dance Scholarship competition and include:

- Lyrical - Charlotte Klein Memorial Award sponsored by Dance Masters of New England, Chapter 5
- Musical Theater - Georgia Deane Young Memorial Award for Musical Theatre sponsored by Dance Masters of New England, Chapter 5
- Acro - Marjorie Barth Memorial Award sponsored by Dance Masters of Pennsylvania, Chapter 10
- Tap, Teen Miss - Dotty McGill Memorial Award sponsored by Dance Masters of Pennsylvania, Chapter 10
- Tap, Teen Mr. - Ohio Dance Masters Past President Award sponsored by Ohio Dance Masters, Chapter 16
- Ballet - Helena Hosh Memorial Award sponsored by Louisiana Association of Dance Masters, Chapter 6
- Contemporary - Charleen Locascio Award sponsored by Louisiana Association of Dance Masters, Chapter 6
- Jazz - DMA National Past Presidents Award sponsored by DMA's Past Presidents Council

Since we are now closer to signing new contracts, a committee has been re-established to develop a shortened convention schedule. The schedule must include the requirements DMA has to offer in order to keep our non-profit status. There has to be a higher percentage of educational classes' vs competition venues. The Bylaws require a set number of Board and Grand Body meetings as we still want to be able to offer scholarship auditions for all ages between 10 & 23. The committee will be submitting their preliminary schedule before July 28 for review at TTS.

It seems as though many of these projects were achieved by the end of January. The coming months had Penny completing contracts and booking flights for faculty, Erin reaching out to delegates and judges, Shawn connecting with Solo Title Directors and

developing our program books, Charleen organizing and balancing all competition and convention registrations while I finally got to take a break as Past President and just relax. I wish! I continue to work as the DMA web master by updating information on a regular basis. Although these are just a small portion of the duties assigned to each of us, we continue to cross train to learn other tasks in addition to our primary responsibilities. We call ourselves a team, but more importantly, we are friends that enjoy working together. When you add the National Area Directors: Jamie, Diane, Jeanne, Michele, Grace, Maria and Courtney, we stand strong as the elected Executive Committee. We are ready to help all twenty-eight chapters to the best of our ability.

To expand on what Dody has referenced, we are more than just a team. We are individuals that have different ideas and opinions which means...we don't always agree. We have to work together to reach a conclusion that will benefit our organization and you, the members. You have elected the five of us to represent DMA, hear your voice and work as one. We thank you for your continued support of Dance Masters of America and everything you do for your chapter to educate others in the field of dance.

Submitted by the Advisory Committee
Penny, Charleen, Erin, Shawn and Dody