

# ODM NEWSLETTER

*Winter Edition*



*January 2022*



*Miss Dance of Ohio 2021 & America 2022*

*~Braylan Enscoe~*

*Student of Kathy Meyer & Dawn Slemons*

*Mr. Dance of Ohio 2021 & America 2022*

*~Joey Vice~*

*Student of Angie Haver*



*Teen Miss Dance of Ohio 2021*

*~Ava Cassidy~*

*Student of Dawn Slemons & Kathy Meyer*

*Junior Miss Dance of Ohio 2021*

*~Haydyn Jackson~*

*Student of Dawn Slemons & Kathy Meyer*



*Junior Mr. Dance of Ohio 2021 & America 2022*

*~Easton Gliche~*

*Student of Dawn Slemons & Kathy Meyer*

*Petite Miss Dance of Ohio 2021*

*~Olivia Corbett~*

*Student of Susan Barr & Ashley Barr*



*~ Farewell to our 2021 ODM Title Holders and your Teachers!! We are so proud of you!! You have been amazing representatives for ODM!! ~*

# ~ Member News ~

## ~ President's Greeting ~

Dear Members,

I hope this letter finds you all well. I am so honored to serve as your next President of Ohio Dance Masters. I look forward to representing this chapter to the best of my ability and hope to follow in the footsteps of all the past presidents. Welcome to the newly elected members to the board: 1st Vice President- Stephanie Pritchard, 2nd Vice President- Dara Berman-Cheung and directors Sandy Embry and Heidi Rogels. Looking forward to 2022 with the dancers back in the classroom and all events scheduled to take place!!

Best,

Colleen Rhode

## ~ Best Wishes & Congratulations to the Following ~

- ~ At our last convention in Newark we obligated three New Members to the Ohio Dance Masters family!! Natalie Billeck, Mara Embry, and Kristen Harlow all examined in Ballet and Tap and did a wonderful job!! We are so excited to welcome you to Ohio Dance Masters!! ~
- ~ Brooke Boynar, student of Susan Barr and an ODM 2021 College Scholarship Winner, was named a top winner by Ohio University's College of Fine Arts School of Dance in their inaugural High School Choreography Competition. Brooke was recognized for her submission of "Shine on You", a performance expressing unity and the everyday struggles people face. We're all so proud of you Brooke!! ~
- ~ Haley Fish, student of Diana Evans-Pulliam and former Miss Dance of Ohio and America, is joining the cast of "The Music Man" on Broadway!! Congratulations Haley!! ~
- ~ Kristen Harlow, student of Megan Dragoo, is making her dreams come true with the upcoming opening of her new bakery "Kristen's Kreations"!! Congratulations Kristen!! We can't wait to try your sweet treats!!

## ~ Condolences & Well Wishes to the Following ~

- ~ Kathy Megert had surgery on her shoulder. We're praying for you Miss Kathy!! ~
- ~ Dawn Dembrosky has had multiple surgeries on her legs recently. Praying for a speedy recovery Dawn!! ~
- ~ Kathi Halbert was hospitalized with post Covid symptoms. Praying that she stays healthy!! ~
- ~ Noreen Rhode fell breaking several bones and is recovering in California. Please keep Miss Noreen in your prayers for a speedy recovery and safe return to Ohio!! ~
- ~ Our dear friend Dave Rasmussen passed away in November. Please keep Patti and his family in your prayers as they navigate through this difficult time. ~



# ~ 2022 Member of the Year ~



*Susan Michael grew up in Western Pennsylvania where she was involved in Dance from childhood through college. In her teen years she danced competitively and started teaching and choreographing. Susan attended Grove City College where she continued to choreograph and perform in multiple productions every school year. She majored in accounting and also continued to teach at her childhood studio.*

*After graduation Susan and her college sweetheart Jim Barr were married and moved to Cleveland. Jim started a career in IT and Susan worked as an Accountant and Project Manager for Key Bank. In 1999 daughter number 3 was born and Susan left her career to be a fulltime mom. Susan invested the next 3 years raising her girls and running Wednesday evening children's ministry at her church. In 2002 a conversation with Genie Thome led to the opening of Above the Barre in 2003 where Susan was able to re-ignite her passion for teaching dance.*

*Susan is a member of Dance Masters of America and board member of Dance Masters of Ohio. She is a graduate of DMA's Teacher Training School and holds certification in Tap, Ballet, Jazz and Acrobatic Arts. Susan is an active member of the Cecchetti Council of America and is certified to teach through Professional Grade 5. Susan also is a professional member of the USA Gymnastics and is Safety Certified. Above the Barre hosts two USAG-sanctioned gymnastics meets annually: Masquerade Extravaganza and a Boys A&A meet. Every year Susan attends numerous conventions and workshops across the country where she enjoys learning the latest styles of dance teaching techniques and gymnastics instruction.*

*"Dance has been a part of my life since I was 8 years old, and I still get really inspired watching the kids grow up and attain goals they never thought possible. I love to see when things come together for the kids, that precious moment when they perform a skill on their own for the first time. When I started Above the Barre, I did it with the mission that I was going to impact children's lives, and I was going to use Dance (and later Gymnastics!) as the medium to do that."*

*Susan and Jim have been married for over 26 years and their 3 daughters Jessica, Christina and Ashley are all ATB alumnae and teachers.*



# ~ 2022 Newark PAC ~





# ~ 2022 Newark PAC ~





# ~ 2022 Newark PAC ~





# ~Newark Shining Star Class Award Winners~

## ~Faculty~

~ Ballet-Melody Rose ~

~ Jazz & Hip Hop-Natalie Lomonte ~ ~ Tap & Musical Theater-Diane Gudat ~



## ~ Ballet ~

7-9 Evan Bunch Student of Tammy Taylor

10-12 Addie Sparrow Student of Sandy Embry

13-15 Kyler McDonald Student of Diana Evans-Pulliam

## ~ Tap ~

7-9 Emily Hochstetler Student of Tammy Taylor

10-12 Greta Galea Student of Dawn Slemons & Kathy Meyer

13-15 Tate White Student of Diana Evans-Pulliam

## ~ Jazz ~

7-9 Reagan Mullett Student of Tammy Taylor

10-12 Kendall Bunch Student of Diana Evans-Pulliam

13-15 Bailey Tolios Student of Mary Lee Sutton

## ~ Hip Hop ~

Olivia Orlandini Student of Stephanie Pritchard

## ~ Musical Theater ~

Heidi Busch Student of Jasmine Pieper





# ~ 2022 Newark Scrapbook ~





# ~ Ohio Dance Masters 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, Anita 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, and Colleen Rhode). 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.





# ~ ODM Officers ~

<i>Colleen Rhode</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Stephanie Pritchard</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</i>
<i>Dara Berman-Cheung</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</i>
<i>Noreen L. Rhode</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Butch Theisen</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Susan Barr</i>	<i>Financial Advisor</i>
<i>Kathi Halbert</i>	<i>Principal</i>
<i>Dawn Dembrosky</i>	<i>Rules Chairperson</i>
<i>Sandy Embry</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Diana Horuath</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Heidi Roguls</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Megan Schenck-Dragoo</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Evalyn Tirikos-Brooks</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Michele Rexroad</i>	<i>Past President</i>
<i>Tammy Taylor</i>	<i>Parliamentarian</i>



Please mail any and all news, pictures, and reminders to: [evalyn.odm16@gmail.com](mailto:evalyn.odm16@gmail.com)

Follow Us On



Ohio Dance Masters



@odmchapter16



[dma-chap16.com](http://dma-chap16.com)