

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

for

DANCE ARTS

**A National Honor Society for Middle and High School Age
Students in Dance**

**Sponsored by State Affiliate Student Chapters
Arizona Dance Education Organization (AzDEO)**

**In cooperation with the
National Dance Education Organization**

MISSION STATEMENT . . .

The primary mission of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts (NHSDA) is to promote and honor outstanding dance achievement in middle and high school level students (11-18 years of age). Further, NHSDA hopes to encourage well-rounded dance artists to become leaders in their communities after high school graduation.

The National Honor Society for Dance Arts (NHSDA) serves to identify those honor students of junior and senior high school age for nomination to the National Dance Education Organization's (NDEO) Artistic Merit, Leadership and Academic Achievement Award, the highest dance award in the nation.

ELIGIBILITY

Student membership in the NHSDA is awarded on the basis of points earned for meritorious work in dance that meet the honor society's general guidelines and, when appropriate, on the basis of dance class grade point average. In addition, the prospective member's demonstration of collaborative teamwork, motivation, and participation in the many aspects of dance (choreography, performance, teaching, production, etc.) is a factor in the determination of eligibility for membership.

The sponsors of each NHSDA Student Chapter will be responsible for determining when each student has met the criteria for becoming an official member of the local chapter. These criteria may be determined by the needs of each individual situation as they relate to the NHSDA guidelines.

All junior and senior high school age students inducted into a NHSDA Student Chapter are eligible for nomination, by the Chapter Sponsor, to receive the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Upon induction, all members will receive a certificate of membership. Members in participating high schools can wear the NHSDA honor cord and honor gold pin during graduation ceremonies. In addition, members may participate in special events or receive mailings generated by the state chapters.

Inducted students are encouraged to include their membership in scholarship packets and/or resumes for college or dance employment.

GETTING STARTED

A Student Chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts (NHSDA) may be set up in any private or public middle or high school, dance academy, performing arts center, or community center with an active dance program serving students 11-18 years of age. Specifically, dance programs in middle or high schools do not have to be set up as an in-school, for-credit class; after school dance class or clubs are eligible for membership as well.

To begin a chapter:

1. Identify a Chapter Sponsor (all sponsors must maintain a current Institutional Membership in NDEO and the State Affiliate (AzDEO)).
2. Chapter Sponsors should contact the State Affiliate to apply for a chapter. Upon verification of Institutional Membership, the State Affiliate will issue a Certificate of Charter to the Student Chapter.
3. Once a chapter is granted, the Chapter Sponsor will begin maintaining records of potential inductees.
4. Whenever students have met the induction requirements, the Chapter Sponsor will send a completed student induction form and a \$5.00 per student induction fee to the State Affiliate. The State Affiliate will respond by sending induction certificates to the Chapter Sponsor. (Deadline for induction into the student chapter is March 1st of the academic year. Points can be included that will be earned by the end of the academic year for graduating seniors.)
5. The school or Chapter Sponsor will order the honor cords and honor gold pins for graduating high school honor students directly from NDEO via mail or web. There is a separate charge for ordering the cords and pins. Please see the application for fees.
6. When high school students apply for the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award (see: Addendum A), the Chapter Sponsor will send the completed application package to the State Affiliate for prescreening.
7. The State Affiliate will forward all selected final applications (for the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award) to the NDEO office accompanied by a \$15 per student adjudication fee. The applications will be adjudicated by a national awards panel (by April 1st of the academic year) and the NDEO will notify State Affiliate of final awardees (by May 1st of the academic year).

The opportunity for membership in NHSDA can be used as an incentive for involvement in dance activities as soon as a student enters the sixth grade. While earning points to qualify for membership, students may attend NHSDA meetings and events; however, prospective members are not afforded the full benefits of membership until induction, e.g. voting in elections, etc.

New members may be inducted as many times as is necessary during the school year. Names and membership fees for new inductees must be sent to the State Affiliate home office at least four weeks prior to the induction ceremony so that membership certificates can be provided. The induction ceremony may take the form of an informal event conducted at a NHSDA meeting, or it may be set up

as a formal affair to which parents and members of the school community are invited. The format of the induction ceremony is to be determined by the sponsor.

In order to facilitate the start-up of a chapter, it is permitted for students who have been in the dance program and who already have met the membership criteria to be “grandfathered in” as charter members of the chapter. The Chapter Sponsor may rely on grade transcripts, playbills from past productions, and other anecdotal records in order to determine whether a student has met the criteria.

If desired, regularly scheduled chapter meetings can be held, along with any demonstrations or lectures that may be of interest to or enhance the dance knowledge of NHSDA members. Chapter Sponsors or designated members should prepare and distribute to the membership a calendar of upcoming dance activities and NHSDA meetings.

Responsibility for administering the chapter’s local funds, if any, resides with the sponsor and appropriate school or studio officials.

Chapters are encouraged to publicize their affiliation with the NHSDA in all dance programs and promotional materials and to note members’ status in playbills.

CHAPTER SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES...

- Each NHSDA Chapter Sponsor must maintain a current Institutional Membership in the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) and the State Affiliate.
- The Chapter Sponsor may submit any number of students eligible for membership each year with a \$5.00 membership fee per student. Membership fees must be received by the State Affiliate office before induction certificates will be sent. A student who has been inducted at the middle school level, will need to reapply for membership at the high school level. Membership in the NHSDA does not constitute membership in NDEO.
- The Chapter Sponsor must maintain the chapter’s membership records to include: copies of membership forms, the chapter’s original charter, a current membership roster, and any related supplies. The sponsor must also supervise the recording of points earned by prospective members as well as those earned by current members towards the awarding of stars.
- If desired, the sponsor may involve students in maintaining the membership records in order to make their roles more proactive and to reduce the amount of paperwork for which the sponsor is solely responsible. However, it is the sponsor’s responsibility to assure the accuracy of the records.
- In chapters not affiliated with a middle or high school (e.g., studios, performing arts organizations, church- and community-based programs), the sponsor should share information and documentation with the students’ schools so that their induction will be noted on school transcripts. The students and their parents can serve as liaisons between the Chapter Sponsor and the schools.

- The Chapter Sponsor also is responsible for completing and returning any surveys sent by the State Affiliate or NDEO home office.

ARIZONA STATE NHSDA POINT SYSTEM

In the point system provided, points listed represent the maximum that may be earned for a particular dance activity. Sponsors should use their discretion in awarding points – from zero to the maximum – according to the quality of the work performed in a given activity.

Prospective members should be notified that records of their activities will be kept. Point records for each prospective and active member should be made available for the student's perusal. Point records can be maintained in any way that is deemed most efficient and convenient for the sponsor, whether by database software or by keeping a simple index card file.

In cases in which the school's dance program is an in-school, for-credit course, the prospective member's grade point average in dance class will be a qualifying factor for membership. These records should be maintained by the sponsor or appropriate school personnel and should be handled in a manner that respects the privacy of the student.

In cases in which grades are not awarded or applicable, sponsors are encouraged to make individual assessments according to the mission and needs of their individual situations.

In all cases, a prospective member's consistent demonstration of teamwork, motivation, and commitment to the art of dance is always an important factor in determining eligibility for membership. Sponsors should rely on confidential anecdotal records and familiarity with the students in determining whether or not membership requirements in this area have been met.

GUIDELINES FOR AWARDING OF ELIGIBILITY POINTS

- To qualify for induction at the middle school level, a student must earn 15 points, at least 10 of which should be earned while participating in dance activities within the program of the chapter site. At the sponsor's discretion, a student may earn up to 5 points while participating in community dance activities or other activities in the performing arts outside of the chapter program.
- To qualify for membership at the high school level, a student must earn 30 points, at least 22 of which should be earned while participating in dance activities within the program of the chapter site. At the sponsor's discretion, a student may earn up to 8 points while participating in community dance activities or other activities in the performing arts outside of the chapter program. Documentation (programs, signed letters of participation, etc.) should be obtained for any activities the student submits outside of the chapter's program.
- All prospective members who have met the eligibility criteria must pay the membership fee established by the NDEO prior to induction.
- Membership in the NHSDA will be granted to all students who have met the eligibility requirements. No students will be elected into the honor society, and no student who has met the requirements will be denied membership.
- Chapter Sponsors are obligated to supply the student's documented hours to all new sponsors when the student moves up to the next grade level or changes programs. Each school or program should accept all previous documented memberships even if they come from a different type of program or dance setting.
- If a student is in two dance programs at one time (such as simultaneous enrollments in public school and dance studio chapters), the student is responsible for choosing the primary program of membership.
- If a student is in a Junior High for 9th grade, points earned for participation in a Junior High Dance Program can be transferred to the High School Chapter site program. Any points earned off-site would be included in the maximum number of points earned in an off-site program.

RECOGNITION OF EXTRA WORK...

After a student has been inducted into the NHSDA, s/he may continue to accumulate points toward the awarding of stars for continued meritorious work in dance. Up to 5 stars can be awarded, 1 star for every 5 points earned. Records of star points earned should be kept by the Chapter Sponsor. A student who has earned 5 stars at the middle school level may carry over 5 points toward membership at the high school level. Otherwise, students must begin anew when accumulating points in high school. It is the responsibility of middle school level Chapter Sponsors to forward the names of student inductees and points accumulated to the sponsors of the high school level chapters.

Stars earned can be indicated by affixing adhesive gold stars on the student's membership certificate. In addition, stars earned also can be indicated after members' names in playbills and membership rosters.

ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL NHSDA POINT SYSTEM

<u>Participation in Chapter Site Program</u>	Meritorious completion of hours in on-site dance program (classes in the dance program) 12 points maximum can be earned towards membership	1 point for 45 hours
<u>Participation in Dance Productions</u>	Performance in a production (includes rehearsal time) (No more than 4 points may be earned from outside the Chapter Site program)	1 point for each production
<u>Other Category Includes the following</u>	(No more than 4 points may be earned from outside the Chapter Site program)	
Off Site Dance Classes	Studios and other venues	1 point for 45 hours
On site Performances	Participation in 3-5 pep rallies, assemblies, etc. at chapter site	.5-1/year
On-site Extracurricular Dance	Dance teams, clubs	1 point for 45 hours
Leadership	Dance team or Club officer	.5-1/year
Participation in Other Duties Related to Dance Production	Stage manager or backstage crew Lighting designer or crew Set design or construction Costume design or construction Wardrobe crew Properties manager or crew Sound technician Make-up design or crew Dance captain/rehearsal director/ballet master or mistress Business manager or crew Publicity manager or crew Box office manager or crew House manager or crew Playbill design Videographer	.5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1 /event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event
Participation in A Dance Festival Or Workshop	One day Two – three days Four or more days	.5 1 2
Participation in Formal Adjudication	Choreographer Dancer	1/event .5/event
Choreography	Projects completed outside of class for chapter site program	1/project
Scholarship	Papers or other projects completed outside of graded class assignments -- for example, critiques of live dance performances	.5-1/project
<u>Community Service</u>	Performances, Teaching, Assisting Dance related unpaid activity or chapter Sponsored Fundraiser (walk for cancer etc) <u>Must earn 1 point minimum</u>	.5/project

ARIZONA MIDDLE SCHOOL NHSDA POINT SYSTEM

<u>Participation in Chapter Site Program</u>	Meritorious completion of hours in on-site dance program (classes in the dance program) 6 points maximum can be earned towards membership	1 point for 45 hours
<u>Participation in Dance Productions</u>	Performance in a production (includes rehearsal time) (No more than 2 points may be earned from outside the Chapter Site program)	1 point for each production
<u>Other Category Includes the following</u>	(No more than 2 points may be earned from outside the Chapter Site program)	
Off Site Dance Classes	Studios and other venues	1 point for 45 hours
On site Performances	Participation in 3-5 pep rallies, assemblies, etc. at chapter site	.5-1/year
On-site Extracurricular Dance	Dance teams, clubs	1 point for 45 hours
Leadership	Dance team or Club officer	.5-1/year
Participation in Other Duties Related to Dance Production	Stage manager or backstage crew Lighting designer or crew Set design or construction Costume design or construction Wardrobe crew Properties manager or crew Sound technician Make-up design or crew Dance captain/rehearsal director/ballet master or mistress Business manager or crew Publicity manager or crew Box office manager or crew House manager or crew Playbill design Videographer	.5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1 /event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1 /event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event .5-1/event
Participation in A Dance Festival Or Workshop	One day Two – three days Four or more days	.5 1 2
Participation in Formal Adjudication	Choreographer Dancer	1/event .5/event
Choreography	Projects completed outside of class for chapter site program	1/project
Scholarship	Papers or other projects completed outside of graded class assignments -- for example, critiques of live dance performances	.5-1/project
<u>Community Service</u>	Performances, Teaching, Assisting Dance related unpaid activity or chapter Sponsored Fundraiser (walk for cancer etc) <u>Must earn .5 point minimum</u>	.5/project

ADDENDUM: A

CRITERIA for NDEO: Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award ...

Award: National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award

Eligibility Criteria: All junior and senior age level students (16-18 years) studying dance in any private or public middle or high school, dance academy, performing arts center, or community center. The program may be in-school for credit or out-of-school recreational/professional program. The applicant must be a current member of the Student Chapter. The Student Chapter must be a current member of the State Affiliate and hold Institutional Membership in the NDEO.

- **Artistic Merit:** The Student must demonstrate artistic and technical excellence in dance.
- **Leadership:** The Student must demonstrate outstanding leadership in the field of dance at the school, community, state, and/or national level.
- **Academic Achievement:** The Student must demonstrate academic excellence with an unweighted cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

BENEFITS to Awardees:

All Awardees receive:

- The highest national dance award possible to junior and senior age students entitled: the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award.
- Recognition by the Student Chapter, Institution, State Affiliate, and National Dance Education Organization; and
- Student Membership in the National Dance Education Organization, and associated benefits;

In addition, junior awardees receive institutional recognition and support throughout their senior year. They have opportunity to partner with their Student Chapter and institution (e.g., public or private high school, performing arts organization, studio, or community center) to generate funds throughout the summer to support their attendance at national conference which is usually in October of their senior year. At national conference, the honor student receives the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award and has the opportunity to share experience and choreographies with peers and professionals, and network with other nationally recognized junior and senior awardees.

Senior awardees, on the other hand, receive institutional recognition and support through a mentoring system arranged at the time of notification. The award of a mentor is designed to help bridge the gap between the student's graduating senior year and the first year in academic or professional environments. The mentor helps the honor student prepare for conference, receive national award, and network with other national honor awardees and professionals.

Application Package Check-off List:

- The Chapter Sponsor may nominate any junior and/or senior age honor students who meet the criteria for the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award.
- The Chapter Sponsor will write a 1-page letter of recommendation that supports the student's application for the NDEO Award. The letter must address: (a) the eligibility requirements for artistic merit, leadership, and academic achievement; and, (b) reasons why the Chapter Sponsor recommends the graduating senior for the highest dance honor award in the state.
- The student must provide the sponsor with the following:
 - Vita –citing student's dance training history; performance experience; dance related activities in the school, community, state and/or national level; and artistic and academic awards, honors, or scholarships.
 - Video – (4 minutes maximum) demonstrating the student's artistic merit (evaluated on both technique and artistic performance). The student should indicate if s/he created the choreography. The label on the video must clearly identify the student chapter/institution, student's name, and Chapter Sponsor's name and contact information.
 - Student written essay – 2-page narrative (typed, single or double spaced) that addresses: (a) the impact dance has made on the student's life; and (2) the student's goals after graduation.
- The Chapter Sponsor forwards the NDEO Award completed application package with a \$15 application fee for each applicant to the State Affiliate by **March 15** for prescreening.
- The State Affiliate will select up to five (5) applicants and forward their applications with a \$15 adjudication fee per applicant to the NDEO national office (by April 1st of the current academic year).
- State Affiliates may make State Awards to honor applicants, as they deem appropriate.
- NDEO notifies the State Affiliate of final awardees (by May 1st of the academic year) and forwards NDEO national conference information to the awardees for their inclusion in honor awards' ceremonies and national recognition.