

National Honor Society for Dance Arts

Spotlight Dance Works

Junior (Grades 6-8) & Secondary (9-12)

We are very excited to continue to build our chapter of National Honor Society for Dance Arts! Having established a Junior and Secondary NHSDA chapter, we are helping to advance the field of dance education while celebrating the artistic and academic achievements of our exceptional dance students. These students deserve the honor and prestige that comes from their achievement in dance. Many are working hard on academics and leadership while perfecting their dance craft not only at school but also outside of school. The personal gratification that students receive from being inducted into the NHSDA is a boost to their self-esteem. It is a win-win for all; the student, the studio, and the field. Ms. Shelby Bensinger will be the chapter sponsor for both Junior and Secondary chapters, and all inquiries and matters relating to NHSDA should be directed to her at shelby.bensinger@gmail.com. A meeting will be held on Thursday, September 30th at 9:00 PM for **ALL CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS**. We will be reviewing this information and more. If you are interested, please plan to attend with your child! This program is open to dancers in grades 6-12, but even families of younger dancers are welcome at this meeting to get an idea of what this program is about. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Student benefits include:

1. Recognition of their artistic merit, academic achievement, and leadership throughout their educational experience (Junior High - Collegiate)
2. Certificates at each level of induction, opportunity to wear the gold Honor Pin and blue and white Honor Cord
3. Mentorship from Chapter Sponsor and networking with peers
4. Leadership and development opportunities within their NHSDA Chapter, as they can assist the Chapter Sponsor with Chapter administration, record keeping, fundraising, and event planning.
5. National and State-level **scholarship and award opportunities**
6. Exclusive student discounts and benefits offered by **NHSDA Preferred Vendors**
7. All student inductees will receive an official certificate of induction. Inducted students are eligible to wear the NHSDA honor cord and gold pin during graduation ceremonies; however, separate approval from the principal or other school administrators may be necessary.
8. Students are encouraged to cite their NHSDA induction in scholarship applications and/or resumes for college or dance employment.
9. NHSDA Award Program: Students who are in 11th or 12th grade and who have been inducted into their school's NHSDA chapter can apply for the annual **NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership and Academic Achievement Award**, the highest student dance award in the nation.
10. Possibility to graduate with honors, see Ms. Shelby if interested.

Student Induction:

Junior (Grades 6-8): Induction into NHSDA Junior Program is earned through the accumulation of 15 points awarded for meritorious work in dance that meets the honor society's general guidelines (see **National Induction Point System on the studio website under NHSDA**). In addition, students must meet a minimum GPA requirement (3.5, students turn in report card to Ms. Shelby) and demonstration of character, manifested through collaborative teamwork, motivation, and leadership in the many aspects of dance that may include choreography, performance, teaching, and production.

Secondary (Grades 9-12): Secondary Program induction is earned through the accumulation of 30 points awarded for meritorious work in dance that meets the honor society's general guidelines (see **National Induction Point System on the studio website under NHSDA**). In addition, students must meet a minimum GPA requirement, (3.5, students will turn in copy of report card to Ms. Shelby prior to induction), and demonstration of character, manifested through collaborative teamwork, motivation, and leadership in the many aspects of dance that may include choreography, performance, teaching, and production.

When students are inducted into NHSDA students they will receive official certificates of Induction printed and mailed to the school from the NDEO Home Office (this is included in the \$8/student induction fee billed through the studio). There is an additional fee for the optional gold honor pins for Student Induction (\$8.50 plus shipping) and blue/white Honor Cords for graduating seniors (\$17.50 plus shipping).

**In cases where an inducted student is a member of an NHSDA chapter at dance studio or other program outside of a K-12 school, please be aware that some K-12 schools will not allow the graduating senior to wear the NHSDA honor cords at graduation since the honor was earned in a program outside of that K-12 school. In this case, parents and chapter sponsor of the inducted student can petition the (K12) school principal or administration for approval to wear the cords. This should be done well in advance of the graduation date.*

Our First Induction: SDW Company Showcase Date TBD and End of Year Recital in June

* NHSDA Inductions are conducted on a rolling basis. There is no national deadline for Induction. Chapters may hold Inductions as many times as is necessary throughout the year. Ms. Shelby should have all proof of points at least 3 weeks before induction date (a reminder will be sent out closer to the date). This gives us enough time to verify induction, collect fees, submit payment and order pins or honor cords for the induction. documents for approval Ms. Shelby will send directions for students to apply for induction.