



A letter of thanks and appreciation from the President.....

Greetings to all teachers and students,

SADM's Fall Convention was a dance packed weekend enjoyed by all who were there. Though that weekend is gone forever, today is a great day for me to stop and express my sincere thanks to each of you. SADM is a wonderful dance organization, consisting of teachers from many different states, who come together to be inspired and motivated and hone their dancing technique. I hope you were filled with new inspiration to continue doing what you love.

The unique thing about Southern Association of Dance Masters is that it relies on all of its' members to work the many jobs involved with holding their wonderful conventions.

Thank you to Rosemary Turner, our Chief Examiner, who oversees the administration of testing for membership and also added her expertise to tabulating for the Competition.

Many thanks and appreciation to our Secretary, Abby Damm, who is required to manage the registrations and all preparations for the convention, badges, wristbands certificates etc, mans the SADM desk and documents all of our meetings and many other jobs as they arise.

Susannah Baxter is SADM's Treasurer and manages the finances for SADM. Thank you Suzie for also working the SADM registration desk, answering questions and solving problems.

I want to thank Jan Burghart, SADM's Principal for working to provide qualified and talented faculty for this fall. Your efforts, I'm sure are appreciated by all who attended the convention.

Sheila Beene serves as Sergeant at Arms for SADM and I want to thank you for making sure all our dance rooms are secured, have music and are supervised.

Thank you Tevita Williams-Dumas for supervising the senior scholarship program, helping host the faculty dinner after the competition and also being MC at the competition on Saturday evening.

Thank you to our new Competition chairperson Amanda O'Rourke for all your efforts to make the Southern Stars Competition a success. I offer you my sincere appreciation. Along with heading up the competition Amanda was in charge of the design of our Fall T-Shirt and sales.

Thank you to Jill Morris for being in charge of the vendors we had at the fall convention. I personally shopped at them and appreciate all you do to get them scheduled for our events.

Also a big thank you to Jessica Wilson for leading the Jam Session to kick off the convention. Jessica is a chairperson of the certified student members (CSM's) and they assisted Jessica with the Jam Session and I thank them so much for a great job. Jessica also held a meeting with the CSMs to discuss the summer convention. The CSM chairpersons, Anna Washko & Jessica Wilson, also choreograph a routine for the Certified Student Members to perform at the summer banquet.

Thank you to Cheyenne Johnson, our SADM chairperson for the Junior Ambassadors. She holds a meeting for all of the Junior Ambassadors, from the different dance studios so they can get acquainted with each other. In the summer the Junior Ambassadors come together for a two-hour session to learn choreography, prepared by Cheyenne, that they will perform at the SADM summer banquet. You work so well with these girls Cheyenne and I thank you so much for your time and efforts.

Thank you to Beth Hickman for taking over the management of the volunteer program. You are doing a wonderful job. Liza Coccia managed it for numerous years and I want to thank Liza also for her service to SADM. Liza also manages the Ballet Forum which is one of our wonderful events during the summer convention. Thank you Liza for all of your work with SADM's Ballet Forum program.

Thank you to Ginny Mount, who has stepped in to fill a vacant Board Member position. Your service to SADM is greatly appreciated.

I also want to thank all of the former Presidents of SADM, they gave their time and talent serving as President and they are the backbone of the organization. I appreciate the support I receive from these wonderful ladies. Shelia Vaught, Carol Robertson, Bonnie Cagle, Jerri Leatherwood, Lori Baker, Joy McDaniel, Sally Alfonso, and Janice McAfee.

Most of all, I want to thank each and every teacher and student that attended this Fall's Convention, because you are what it is all about. I would love for each of you to share your thoughts about our fall convention, as it takes all of us together to make SADM successful and each of your opinions matter.

SADM is a volunteer organization and I thank all of the member teachers that volunteered their time.

Our next big event is our summer convention at Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, July 11 - 14, 2019 I'm asking each of you to make it an event at your studio and start your plans now to attend.

If you have faculty that you would like to see at one of our conventions, email your thoughts to Jan Burghart (jburg34@comcast.net). Let's make this summer's convention an event to remember.

If you were unable to attend the fall convention, we missed you and look forward to seeing you this summer in Franklin, TN.

Kathy Kinner
SADM President
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