



August- September
2011

President's Message

Dear TDEA Membership,

I hope you had a great summer and are excited about getting back into another year of dance education! Over the summer, it is my wish that you were able to get some much needed rest and some motivation to come back reinvigorated for the year ahead. During the summer break, TDEA was at work to help you exceed in your dance programs, and I hope you will take a small break to read through the exciting information we have for you in this newsletter.

On behalf of the TDEA Board and myself, we would like to welcome our new administrative assistant – Mrs. Meredith Watassek. Meredith's primary role is to serve our organization by focusing on the everyday administrative duties. This will allow the Executive Board members to service TDEA in a more forward-thinking manner, allowing us to place dance education as a priority in our state. Meredith is a Past President of TDEA. She currently works in Fort Bend ISD at Austin HS as a business teacher and DECA sponsor. We also welcome Ms. Shannon Harty from Highland Park High School in Dallas. She will be serving as our Parliamentarian this year. We are thrilled to have both of these ladies as a part of our TDEA team!

The board held a meeting this past summer and began planning another great convention. We will be celebrating "TDEA 2012.....Our Finest Hour!" at our annual convention on January 4-7, 2012 at the Marriott Westchase Hotel in Houston. The Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons are diligently working to implement as many of your ideas and suggestions as possible to make this year's convention an exciting time for everyone. If you have a workshop idea, please send them to Jennifer Dawson, 2nd Vice President responsible for convention curriculum.

The TDEA website has been under construction over the past year and we are currently taking the appropriate measures to have it fully operational by the opening of registration, October 1st. After undergoing a facelift last summer, the board has worked diligently to make sure that we fix all of the minor glitches that you may encounter. Please go to www.tdea.org for all of your TDEA needs. However, we are still in the process of adding to our website to make it a resource that you can use throughout the year. The final version will have resources available in .pdf format, a bulletin board for you to share ideas, and a place to post job openings. All of these links will be available for members only. You will need to use your user name and password from last year to log on the website and for registration. If you have forgotten your information, please feel free to create a new account or contact Meredith Watassek at mlwatassek@yahoo.com. Remember that hotel reservations and payments must be made directly with the Marriott. At the end of September there will be a link on our website for your convenience.

Thank you for your involvement in TDEA and, as always, I welcome and appreciate your input. Please feel free to contact me or your executive board anytime, especially if you would like to volunteer a few hours to continue the success of our organization. Along those same lines, if you or someone you know would be a good person to serve as an executive board member, please complete the enclosed nomination form and send it back to me at srenfrow@kleinisd.net. We will be taking nominations for all board positions through November 2011.

Take care of yourself and know that we are here for you. As you embark on another school year, remember to take the "time" to not only inspire your students, but to inspire yourself through movement!!! Dance out loud both in the classroom and in your performances...and have a GREAT remainder of 2011.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Lively Renfrow

TDEA President 2011-2012



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TDEA Convention

2012

January 4-7, 2012

Houston Marriott Westchase Hotel/Conference Center

Got Ideas?

For workshop suggestions
for the
2012 convention, please
email

Jennifer Dawson @
jdawson@austinisd.org

Summer dance workshops were sponsored by TDEA in Austin, Dallas, and Houston during the month of July. The curriculum included "how to" teach dance II, III, IV; modern for beginners; improvisation techniques; resources for dance educators; pilates; getting students to commit to your dance program; jazz for beginners; and ballet for dance I. What a successful summer series to help our membership plan for the upcoming school year! We would like to thank Human Kinetics for sponsoring resources that were distributed at each of the workshops. In addition, thank you to Doreen Laurie, Marla Valk, Becky Kohn, Melinda Manley, and Megan Woolery for coordinating these regional workshops. We are very pleased to have been able to offer professional development around our state!

Scholarship Essay

Shelby Carter

Throughout my life, I have grown up with drill team. I have been to every football game, and I have watched every half time performance. Now, I am apart of the drill team. I am a senior, but I will cry the day I must leave my team. In addition to dance, my drill team has left an impact on me that will be forever engrained into my soul because they have taught me how to live and love and reach for my dreams.

For the past four years, I have been crossing the field wearing our school colors in shiny sequins, gorgeous hats, white leather boots, and bright red lipstick. I have felt the rush of adrenaline surge through my body when the lights of the field touch my skin, and the band starts to play. With every football game, I have created a bond. A bond of sisterhood with 70 other girls that are no kin to me knowing that this bond is a lifetime love. A love of working together, sharing together, and learning together for 5 days a week and countless hours which has created a family of numerous personalities.

While growing up with dance and drill team the entirety of my life, it has led me on a soul search for what I would do with my life when this chapter has ended. Through my journey, I have realized that my drill team does not have to be ended in a form of an unwillingness choice which is why I have decided that I want to pursue becoming a drill team director. My experience on my high school drill team has not only taught me of love, but it has taught me to never give up on my dreams. This dream has made me realize that by becoming a drill team director I can continue to give to other girls what I have been given by my team, a family of strangers.

The ranks of my drill team have molded me into who I am now, and the reason for my dream of becoming a director. I have had the pleasure of being the line member, the social officer, the lieutenant, and the captain. By being given this opportunity to grow through knowing every distinct office, I have been able to see that my dream of bonding my own team is reachable. Therefore, I have put into motion the elements of grasping my dream toward becoming a drill team director, and, who knows, my journey might lead me back to my hometown and my high school drill team.

TREASURER REPORT

5/16/2011 through 8/07/11

Prepared by: Alison Lowrey, TDEA Treasurer

INCOME

CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP

<i>Convention Registration (Wells Fargo)</i>	\$	790.00
<i>Convention Registration (Wells Fargo)</i>	\$	205.00
<i>Convention Registration (Pay Pal)</i>	\$	2,465.22
<i>Convention Registration (Wells Fargo)</i>	\$	25.00
<i>Convention Registration (Wells Fargo)</i>	\$	-
	\$	-

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 3,485.22**

EXPENSES

<i>US Postal Service (PO BOX)</i>	\$	56.00
<i>KP Designs</i>	\$	332.00
<i>Reimbursement(Lyle,Johnson)</i>	\$	73.83
<i>Houston Marriott</i>	\$	137.77
<i>DEAL(Searles, Valk, Dawson, Kepper, Cochran, Visel)</i>	\$	600.00
<i>DEAL Reimbursement(Cochran)</i>	\$	180.29
<i>Summer Wksp Presenters (Curry, Noble)</i>	\$	500.00
<i>CPA Tax Prep</i>	\$	1,130.00

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 3,009.89**

Balance brought forward on May 16, 2011 **\$ 75,832.09**

Balance on hand as of August 7, 2011 **\$ 76,307.42**

What's Happening?

Member Updates

Shannon Harty - Director, Highland Park High School Highland Belles

Emily Ferris Sanchez, Assistant Director

Jennifer Mudd is the new Walsh Middle School Dance Director

Abby Goertz is the new Stony Point Head Director

Brittanie Campos is the new Stony Point Asst. Director

Laurie Snyder is the new Cedar Ridge Asst. Director

If you would like your new school or position posted in upcoming newsletters please email:

Traci Mills

tmills@dickinsonisd.org

CONGRATULATIONS!

Amie Sweatt of Bastrop High School. was married to Nathan Harris on June 25th, 2011. Now name changed to Amie Harris.

Megan Winslow is engaged and planning a wedding Majestics Drill Team & Dance Director

Becky Kohn became Becky Garcia



New Arrivals!

Amanda Bodine- Baby Boy Brady

Jennifer Dawson- baby girl, Grace Parker Dawson

Kelley Kosh- baby girl Kamryn Kosh

Brittany Blair- baby girl Raelyn Blair

Jennifer Mudd- baby boy Mitchell

Michelle Powers- baby boy Maverick

Katie Smith- baby boy Carter

Expecting Babies:



3rd Vice President- All State Update
by Cyndi Vaughn

With convention registration approaching, please keep in mind our TDEA All-State Dance Team and who will represent your school. As per our By-Laws:

ALL - STATE DANCERS. One current member of a secondary high school, dance studio, private drill team, or college Dance / Drill Team may participate as a member of the All-State Dance Team provided the director is an active member or associate level 1 member, in good standing. The director/instructor must be in attendance at the TDEA Convention-Clinic. The representative must be eligible according to UIL policies during the Convention-Clinic and must be currently enrolled in grades 9-12. The director has the sole authority of the selection of the representative.

With convention starting on Wednesday, All-State workshops will begin that evening. You may still elect to check on Thursday morning. During registration you will be able to download the All State Medical Release form from the TDEA website which should then be mailed to:

TDEA
PO Box 420637
Houston, TX 77242-0637

Please also be in touch with any previous dancers who may be interested in serving as a College Assistant during our convention. Applications will be on the website during registration and will be due early November.

I look forward to announcing the All-State Choreographer in the next newsletter. If you have any question, please feel free to contact me, Cyndi Vaughn (Third Vice-President/All State), at Cyndi.Vaughn@humble.k12.tx.us

An Unbreakable Bond

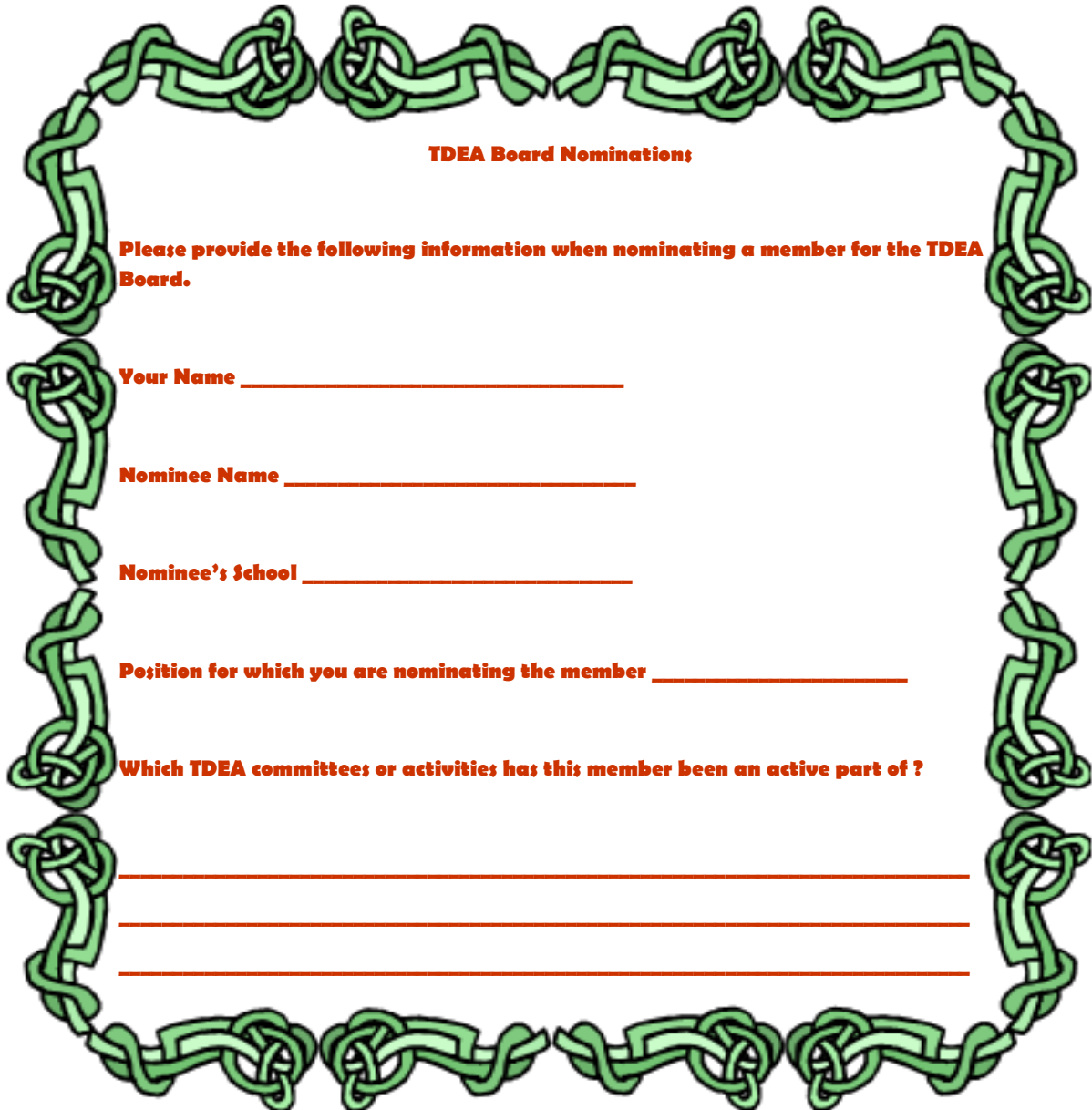
Throughout the endless phenomenon of time, people look for the friendships, the passions, the laughter, the heartaches, the triumphs, and the memories that will blossom into a lifetime. Four years ago, I would never have imagined that I would be here today having been through a continuous roller-coaster ride, the epitome of high school, chaotic and desolate at times and both thrilling and extraordinary at others. No matter how I look at it, through the ups and downs, one thing has remained constant. From day one I was a part of something entirely bigger than myself, something amounting into the person I am today. I became a part of a family, a team, and I know now more than ever that I was truly blessed because that team became my sisters, a group of my best friends, and today as their Captain, I can proudly say that they are my girls.

On the outside an audience sees a drill team as a uniformed structure with striking kicks, flawless turns, and smiles as big as the state of Texas. However on the inside, it amounts to something far much more. Drill team has taught me that by yourself you can move bricks, but as a team you can move mountains. It's in seeing that you, yourself no longer exist, that you leave yourself behind and focus on working together, putting others before yourself and becoming one. If I have learned but one thing, it is that life isn't always easy; it is full of ups and downs and something new around every corner. Sometimes it's a thrill and other times clouds can set in and shadows can appear. It can be nailing a kick routine or stumbling together blindfolded. However life comes at you, it comes at you fast and each moment should be treasured and lived to the fullest. Life is a roller coaster. It's about taking chances, trying something new, and not being afraid to back down, for you never have to do something alone.

People search their whole lives looking for something I have already found— a love, a passion, and a trust in a group of people that will catch me every time I fall. Because of Drill Team and my family of sisters, I can face the world knowing that losing doesn't mean you fail, but rather you win having the strength and integrity to try again.

Board Nominations:

Nominations will be accepted for all board positions through the month of October. Please e-mail Stephanie Renfrow, TDEA President, with your nomination and contact information. If you think you would like to serve in an executive board position, you may nominate yourself. You may email Stephanie at srenfrow@kleinisd.net



TDEA Board Nominations:

Please provide the following information when nominating a member for the TDEA Board.

Your Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Nominee's School _____

Position for which you are nominating the member _____

Which TDEA committees or activities has this member been an active part of?

Exhibitor Information

By Holly Lyons, 2nd Vice President

I'd like to thank all of our 2011 TDEA Exhibitors for your generous donations to our organization. I know the amount of time and work that goes into preparing for a show, and we really appreciate everything that you do to help make our TDEA Convention the best!

Hopefully by now you have had the opportunity to Early Bird Register. Remember only 2011 Exhibitors have the opportunity to register at this time AND registering early will guarantee you the same booth spot. Early Bird Registration is coming to a close, and booth prices will then return to full price. A single booth will increase to \$325.00, and 2 booths will increase to \$500. Don't forget that ALL Exhibitors must be a member of TDEA in order to register & attend 2012 convention. TDEA Membership is an annual \$50 fee and will be itemized on your Registration Invoice.

Our registration process is a bit different this year in attempts to avoid double registrations and double billing. All 2011 Exhibitors should have received an Email from me in mid July outlining our current registration process. If you did not receive this Email for some reason, please contact me as soon as possible. Confirmation of registration will be Emailed by the end of August. If you haven't received your confirmation by that time, please let myself or Meredith Watassek know. Our Email addresses are below.

We are still offering the below additions to registration:

*Include your vendor link on the TDEA website - \$50

*Include your company logo in the convention notebook - \$50

*BOTH – vendor link & company logo in the convention notebook - \$75

*Exhibitors have the opportunity to contribute to the All-State Scholarship fund. Like last year, we will have a special recognition board for those companies who donate money, and these companies will also be recognized at the Recognition Dinner.

*Exhibitors can also choose to contribute to the future of TDEA by sponsoring College Students to attend the convention. Your donations can be applied to college convention & hotel fees. This was very helpful last year, and we hope these donations will continue to grow.

Many Exhibitors have already designated their "Line of Recognition" on their registration forms. If you are still considering this option OR haven't decided what type of item to donate, here are a few suggestions:

Zip/Jump Drive with company logo

Zip/Jump Drive Case with company logo

Trendy shirts for member to wear for class with company logo

Tanks with company logo

All-State Choreographer Travel

Convention Presenter Travel

If you have any questions about convention please contact me at Holly.Lyons@leanderisd.org . I look forward to working with all of you this year. If you know of any new Exhibitors that would like information about our convention, please have them Email me. We would love to welcome new Exhibitors to our convention. Early Bird Registration is coming to an end, so please make sure you have submitted your 2012 Registration Form to Meredith Watassek mlwatassek@yahoo.com . On September 15th regular registration will begin and any open spots will be free game for new and existing Exhibitors.