



**NATIONAL  
HONOR  
SOCIETY  
FOR DANCE  
ARTS**

PREMIER DANCE ACADEMY CHAPTER

# The Premier Dance Academy Chapter Of *National Honor Society For Dance Arts*

**Proudly Offers:**

**Our Secondary Program**

For Dance Students in Grades 9-12

And

**Our Junior Program**

For Dance Students in Grades 6-8



The National Honor Society for Dance Arts (NHSDA) is a program of the National Dance Education Organization. It is one of the most exciting benefits that NDEO offers its Institutional Members. The Secondary Program (grades 9-12) was implemented in 2005 and a formal Junior Program (grades 6-8) was separated out from the Secondary Program and officially implemented in 2016. To date, there are close to 400 chapters in the US and almost 3,000 students inducted over the past 3 years. NHSDA is based on the Thespians honor society, and NDEO acknowledges their generosity in allowing dance to follow the lead of theatre arts education through this program.

## NHSDA VISION, MISSION, AND GOALS

### Vision:

We envision a nation in which all students have equal opportunity and access to quality dance arts education and are recognized for their outstanding artistic merit, leadership and academic achievement in the field of dance.

### Mission:

1. To recognize outstanding artistic merit, leadership and academic achievement in students studying dance in public and private schools in K-12 education, dance studios, cultural/community centers, performing arts organizations, and colleges / universities.
2. To foster an appreciation for dance as a true art form and one worthy of recognition and prestige.

### NHSDA Secondary & Primary Program Goals:

1. Secondary Program - To identify honor students (grades 11 & 12) for nomination to the NDEO Artistic Merit, Leadership and Academic Achievement Award, one of the highest honor programs for dance in the United States.
2. Secondary & Junior Programs - To promote a desire for life-long learning in the field of dance.
3. Secondary & Junior Programs - To encourage an understanding of, and an appreciation for, dance as an art form and develop knowledgeable audiences for tomorrow.

# What Are The Benefits of NHSDA?

Premier's NHSDA chapter will help advance the field of dance education while celebrating the artistic and academic achievements of our exceptional dance students. Our students deserve the honor and prestige that comes from their achievement in dance. Many of our students are working hard on academics and leadership while perfecting their dance technique at the studio. The personal gratification that students receive from being inducted into the NHSDA is a boost to their self-esteem. It's a win-win for all; our students, our studio and the art of dance.

All student inductees will receive an official certification of induction. Inducted students who are seniors in high school 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. Students are encouraged to cite their NHSDA induction in scholarship applications and/or resumes for college or dance employment.

## Induction Into Our Secondary Chapter

Induction into NHSDA Secondary Program 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). In addition, students must meet a minimum GPA of 3.5 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.

## Induction Into Our Junior Chapter

Induction into NHSDA Secondary 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). In addition, students must meet a minimum GPA of 3.5 (or equivalent) 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.

## What Does It Cost?

While working towards induction, there is no fee - in other words, it's free to work hard to be inducted, so every dancer is encouraged to participate. Once a student has accumulated the points to be inducted, and earned a 3.5 GPA or higher, there is a one-time induction fee of \$8.00 per student. If a student is inducted in the Junior program, and wishes to continue in the Secondary program, will be charged the one-time induction fee for the Secondary program.

The optional gold honor pin is \$7.00 and the blue/white honor cord (for graduating students) is \$15.00. These items are ordered through the studio. All fees are paid to the dance studio and then go directly to NHSDA - in other words, the studio is not profiting from the induction of students into NHSDA.

## How Long Does It Take To Earn Points For Induction?

On average it takes about one full year to earn enough points for induction at the high school level for a serious, dedicated dance student. A student who approaches dance on a more part-time basis may take up to two years to qualify for induction. For the first year (2017-18 school year), students may count activities from this past summer towards their points.

## When Are Inductions Held?

Premier's NHSDA induction will be held at our recital. Dancers participating will be asked to have all proof of points earned turned in and their free account set up at [www.nhsda-ndeo.org](http://www.nhsda-ndeo.org) created no later than 5 weeks prior to our recital.

# NHSDA Induction Criteria

**Earned Participation Points:** This category reflects points earned for meritorious participation in a wide variety of dance activities. The NHSDA National Induction Point System provides a range of points possible for various activities. Chapter sponsors may use their discretion in awarding points - from zero to the maximum listed - according to the quality of the work performed in a given activities (a copy of the point system can be obtained from Premier Dance Academy). Students accumulate points until they have earned the number required for induction,

To qualify for induction at the Secondary level (high school) a student must earn 30 points, at least 20 of which should be earned while participating in dance activities within the program at the chapter site (Premier Dance Academy). At the sponsor's discretion, a student may earn up to 10 points while participating in community dance activities or other activities in the performing arts outside of the chapter program. Prospective inductees should submit documentation to the chapter's sponsor (e.g. Programs, signed letters of participation) for any activities outside of the chapter's program.

**Demonstration of Character:** This category reflects the student's demonstration of collaborative teamwork, motivation, and leadership. The chapter sponsor will evaluate the student's demonstration of the above qualities through observation during classes, rehearsals and other dance program activities, as well as demonstrated leadership (e.g. Serving as a dance team captain or club officer, participation in service projects). Community service activities might include unpaid performances, teaching or assisting dance classes, as well as participation in sponsored fundraisers. A minimum "above average" rating in the category is required for NHSDA induction. The student may not display any conduct or behavior that jeopardizes their own safety, the well-being of others or the integrity of the NHSDA program (these include, but are not limited to disruptive or aggressive behavior in or outside of the studio, bullying or mistreating others, and unprofessional conduct in classes or rehearsals.

**Grade Point Average (GPA):** Students must earn a GPA of at least 3.5 for NHSDA induction. Our Chapter's GPA requirement is set at 3.5 to be consistent with other honor societies at schools - this will help elevate dance within the school curriculum as a course of study worthy of recognition. Prospective inductees should turn in a copy of their report card to the chapter sponsor showing their cumulative GPA. All GPA records will be handled in a manner that respects the privacy of the students and is in compliance with FERPA regulations.

# NHSDA Induction Point System

Dancers who wish to work toward induction into NHSDA Secondary Program or Junior Program, should see Shannon for a copy of the points system.

## NDEO / NHSDA Award Program

Students in grades 11 and 12, who have been inducted into NHSDA can apply for the annual NDEO *Artistic Merit, Leadership and Academic Achievement Award*, the highest student dance award in the nation.

Dancers who are interested in applying for the NDEO *Artistic Merit, Leadership and Academic Achievement Award* should see Shannon for more information.

