

**Showcase
America
Unlimited**
INTERNATIONAL



DECEMBER 31, 2009

Happy Holidays Everyone FROM SHOWCASE AMERICA UNLIMITED! I hope that this holiday season finds you and your family with many blessings and gifts. We are all so very fortunate to work day after day with remarkable young dancers, coaches, parents, and judges. In this time of gift giving, let us all remember the blessings that working with young people brings us (and try to forget about the drama, too!)

As we head into 2010, I hope that you will find the information in this newsletter informative and helpful.

WEBSITE:

We are excited for a new and more interactive website and hope to have it up and running by the first of the year. But, in case technology throws us another crazy pitch, please rely for the next month on the information and forms in the newsletter.

We are redesigning our website for the new year and we need your photos and videos! We want to make sure that everyone is included, so here's what you can do:

**Email your photos to paula@pcpaula.com

**Email your videos to paula@pcpaula.com (or if they are on YouTube, send her an email with how to find it)

**You can "snail mail" them (burned on a CD) also. For the address or to answer any questions about format, please contact Paula Reed ...

Paula Reed :o)
Cell 937.414.7603
Home 937.898.5372
paula@pcpaula.co

CONTEST DATES AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Below you will find the contact information and email addresses for all of the contests for whom we have received sanction fees and monies. Below that list is the information we have from last year:

DATE	SPONSOR	ADDRESS	
1-16-10	PT. HURON HS LaNeisha Murphy	3311 Electric Avenue Pt. Huron, MI 48060	lmurphy@phasd.us 810-841-2224
1-23-10	OWOSSO HS Geoff and Laura Washburn	1381 Jackson Drive Owosso, MI 48867	gwashburn@ memorialhealthcare. org 989-494-9264
2-6-10	HPAC Laurie Charron	1006 Military Drive Pt. Huron, MI 48060	jcharron@comcast. net 810-984-5861
2-7-10	EAST CENTRAL HS Jeannie Herman	10706 West Rd; Harrison, OH 45030	jherman@ sunmandearborn. k12.in.us 513-324-3976
2-20-10	OAK HILL HS Donna Holtman	3200 Ebenezer Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45248	donna@hscustom homes.com 513-678-4241
2-21-10	GROVEPORT HS COLUMBUS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Julie Elk	7413 Bentley Station Place; Reynoldsburg, OH 43068	rainbow1997@ hotmail.com 614-570-3811
2-27-10	WHITEHALL HS Staci Sherman	3093 Sun Valley Dr. Pickerington, OH 43147	htfletchers@ whitehall.k12.oh.us 614-496-3864
2-28-10	MISS BRIDGITTE'S TURNING POINTE Bridgitte Hatfield	8014 McEwen Rd. Centerville, OH 45458	bridgittef@aol.com 937-432-6699
3-6-10	CENTERVILLE HS Carolyn Zangri	1038 Fernshire Drive; Centerville, OH 45459	caro43@aol.com 937-434-6420 937-287-5619
3-7-10	EAST CENTRAL HS INDIANA STATE CONTEST Jeannie Herman	10706 West Rd; Harrison, OH 45030	jherman@ sunmandearborn. k12.in.us 513-324-3976
3-7-10	HAZEL PARK HS MICHIGAN STATE CONTEST Flo Crachiola	23702 Vance; Hazel Park, MI 48030	seemrsc@aol.com 248-547-1468

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DATE	SPONSOR	ADDRESS	
3-13-10	TIPP CITY HS Denise Moore	615 E. Kessler- Cowlerville Rd. Tipp City, OH 45371	dmoore@tippcity. k12.oh.us
3-14-10	HARRISON HS Cheryl Gorenflo	4144 Saint Martins Pl Cincinnati, OH 45211	lackeyca@email.uc. edu 513-305-5387
3-14-10	NEW TRADITIONS Tiffany Robinson	1652 Wolford Rd. Mansfield, OH 44903	tiffer103@hotmail. com 419-589-4425
3-20-10	BUTLER HS DAYTON REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Pam Drewry	720 Bay Brooke Ct.; Vandalia, OH 45377	DrewryPE@aol.com 937-344-1515
3-27-10	OAK HILLS JUNIORS CINCINNATI REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Linda Backer	3200 Ebenezer Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45248	backerls@pg.com 513-598-1658 Website: www.oakhills.k12.oh.us/OHHS/student_life/oakettes/jrs/index
4-9, 10, 11	OHIO STATE AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Linda Hall	Forms will be distributed as teams qualify in Jan-March	linda@scau.org

*****PLEASE REMEMBER THAT MANY OF THESE CONTESTS FILL UP AND THEN HAVE TO BE CLOSED OUT DUE TO SPACE AND TIME LIMITATIONS. GET YOUR REGISTRATION IN EARLY (A GENERIC FORM IS ATTACHED) AND/OR EMAIL THE CONTEST DIRECTOR AND LET HER KNOW YOU INTEND TO ATTEND.**

PLEASE be considerate of your fellow coaches and meet the deadlines so that they can properly prepare and not have to change the schedule time and again for late entries. We all know how busy this time of year is---try to be considerate of those coaches who are sponsoring contests and carrying an even heavier load.

BRAND NEW CONTESTS:

Please think about patronizing our two brand new contests this year! Both facilities are AMAZING . We are so excited about welcoming East Central High School (for TWO contests---February 7 and March 7) and Harrison High School (March 14---the old Beaver creek date). These schools have beautiful arenas, lots of seating and parent groups who are so excited about our coming to their school. See additional flyers and information attached.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

You will notice that we do not have an SCAU scholarship contest this year. Tipp City has been so gracious for the past decade sponsoring this contest, but this year, the school just wasn't available and we haven't had any other teams volunteer to help us put this on.

The Scholarship Committee will be meeting soon to plan some fundraisers to help us be able to give out scholarship monies this April.

We do have an open weekend on February 13 and 14 that could be used to have a get-together with all of the dancers for just a sleepover with fun, non-competitive activities. One of the ideas that has come up is to have a get-together in the four major areas: Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, and Michigan where girls could come and have a good time with each other in a good, old-fashioned sleepover. If you have a facility we could use for free (church basement, school gym or multi-purpose room, etc.) that weekend, please notify me as soon as possible, and we will find a scholarship committee person or Board member who will run the function. All you have to do is find a place! We thought we might ask some of our college SCAU alumni to donate a few hours to come and teach a master class with some new moves and combinations. We would charge the girls a flat fee for attending, allow them to bring snacks, provide pizza, and try to get as much donated as possible. So.....if you know of a place we could use for a fun event, please email me at mindy@scau.org as soon as possible.

COMPETITION ETIQUETTE

As we head into competition season, there are a few items of propriety that need to be reinforced as we visit each other's schools. Please remember, that since SCAU is not a profit organization,

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the profit that is made at each contest actually goes to the host team. So, please keep in mind that every penny counts to that team. Here's how you can help.

1. When the contest director sends out the time schedule, please do not mass copy the schedule for your parents and fans. They rely on program sales to make a profit. It's OK to give them your performance times, but let them purchase a program to see the whole schedule.
2. Please do not bring outside food into the competition. Again, concession sales are vital in the profit margin for host contests.
3. Remember, that usually, you are dressing in school classrooms and facilities. Please leave the dressing room looking the same as it did when you arrived, including moving desks, tables, etc. back into their original positions.
4. Get your registration in on time! Sending in late registration and/or payment really holds everyone up. It keeps the schedule from being completed, keeps the finances handcuffed, keeps us from assigning the correct number of judges---you name it! Imagine if everyone failed to meet the deadline! Contests would be canceled!
5. Encourage your dancers to meet dancers from other teams and to be in the performance area to cheer them on. It boosts your own dancers' confidence to be concerned with how other people perform.
6. At awards---Warn your dancers that everyone can see everything they do. The audience knows who is text messaging, who looks disgusted, who looks bored. Judges and parents tell me all the time about the girls who were rolling their eyes at the Star Spangled Banner or looking disgustedly at the announcer. What image do they want the rest of the audience to have about them? Here's a rule I used to have with my team. Before we went to awards, I always said, "No matter what." and made them repeat, "No matter what." back to me. That simply meant---No matter what happens, we will act like it is the greatest award in the world. If we are angry, upset, indignant, confused---those reactions are saved for our dressing room only. When we are in public, we are gracious and happy for our competition.
7. The most successful parent groups I've ever seen are ALWAYS WITHOUT EXCEPTION a reflection of the team's director. How the director reacts to the results is how the team reacts;

how the team reacts is how their parents react. Making excuses, blaming other teams, blaming judges, blaming individual team members is NOT what successful coaches do. Imagine your favorite college football coach (Jim Tressel, Urban Meyer, Lou Holtz --for us old people, The Boudins, Pete Carroll, Brian Kelly---if you're not still mad about his leaving) going into the locker room and saying, "Well, if only those officials were more fair and didn't call that holding penalty; if only we didn't have to play at the other team's field; if only their players weren't so big..... They would have no respect of either their players, their fans, or the public.

One very successful coach on our circuit has a meeting with all of the parents (it's required) before their season begins. She reviews the flash photographer/video rules, what she expects of them in the stands, how the day works...everything before the dancers ever get on the floor.

FACEBOOK

Please make sure your dancers and parents are registered on our Showcase America Unlimited Facebook Fan Page. That way, you will receive the emails from us, but the fans and dancers can stay involved with the happenings. There will be a discussion board every week where dancers can talk to other dancers (and we have complete administrative control, so we can monitor daily what kids are saying). So far, we have over 200 fans on that page. Let's get all of them on there.

NEW JUDGES!

We are so excited to welcome some new faces to our judging ranks. These young women have either completed all of the requirements for judging (judges' test and practice judging) or are in the process of doing so. We look forward to their fresh approach and thoughts to the SCAU circuit!

Sam Cobb---University of Cincinnati Bearcat Dancer/Former Center Stage Dancer
Megan Zugelder--University of Cincinnati Bearcat Dancer/Former Butler Kickline Dancer
Kelli Barton--University of Cincinnati Bearcat Dancer/Former Turpin Dancer
Trisha McCarthy--Head Coach for the The Ohio State University Dance Team
Jamie Cobb--University of Cincinnati Bearcat Dancer/Former Center Stage Dancer
Ashley Klein--Planet Dance Rehearsal Director and Soloist
Kendra Couch--JV Coach UC Dance Team
Jennifer Bernier---Former UC Dancer/Former Mt. Notre Dame Dancer

GUEST JUDGES

In addition to our new judges, we are also planning (dependent on availability) to have guest judges join us for the regional championship competitions. While these judges will not affect the team performance outcomes, we will still have the benefit of their expertise and outside perspective. They will consult with the SCAU judges, provide comments, and make final decisions on the special awards for such things as choreography, technique, show design, costumes, etc.

FIRST MR. SHOWCASE IS CROWNED!

If you recall, earlier this summer, we have decided to jump on the bandwagon with some of our "male fans" as they become increasingly involved in raising spirits and the fan base at every

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competition. We will be awarding a Mr. _____ award at every contest and then allowing those young men to compete against each other at Nationals for the title of Mr. Showcase.

At the Hazel Park competition on November we selected our first TWO Mr. Hazel Parks. We noticed from early in the day, two young men---decked out in t-shirts bragging about their girlfriends, dancing to the music, cheering for their team, and just having a great time all day long. We couldn't decide between these two guys, so we selected two of them. We handed them the special awards trophy which they treated like the Oscar! Such fun! So, tell your boyfriends (and we can think of a few dads, too) so they can start vying for the title of Mr. Showcase by winning at one of the local contests.

NATIONALS ROOM RESERVATIONS

Remember to get your reservations in to the hotel of your choice as soon as possible if you have not done so already.

For rooms 1-4, use the following link:

https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=1460393

For 5 or more rooms, call 1-877-465-9282

WANT TO COME TO NATIONALS FOR FREE??? REMEMBER, THIS YEAR, ANY CURRENT MEMBER TEAM WHO REFERS A NEW SCHOOL/TEAM FOR SCAU MEMBERSHIP, AND THAT TEAM ATTENDS STATE/NATIONALS ----YOU GET 50% OFF YOUR REGISTRATION FEE. REFER TWO NEW TEAMS, AND YOU GET IN FREE! HELP US GROW!!!

HOPE EVERYONE HAS A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!! LET'S WELCOME IN A NEW DECADE OF DANCE!

