Summer Camps

American Dance

It is our philosophy to offer dancers a camp experience with a non-competitive atmosphere, where *Learning is a Priority*, and where the awards system is a positive reinforcement for hard work and good attitudes. We feel that teams will benefit most if the awards system is explained to them prior to camp.

Team Camp Award Recognition

We have revised our Camp Evaluation to better fit the needs of every dancer and director at all of our Summer Camps.

- If you choose the ***Sapphire*** level evaluation, your officers will be evaluated on *one* routine during camp, and be eligible to earn a Sapphire Sweepstakes.
- If you choose the ***Ruby*** level evaluation, your officers will be evaluated on *two* routines during camp, and be eligible to earn a Ruby Sweepstakes.
- If you choose the ***Diamond*** level evaluation, your officers will be evaluated on *three* routines during camp, and be eligible to earn a Diamond Super Sweepstakes.

Directors will need to indicate which level of evaluation they choose prior to Home Routine Night on the first evening of camp. At Team Camp, you can choose from Camp Dance, and one or two learned routines for evaluation. Home Routine will be totally optional this summer. At SMU, marching can count as one of your routines for evaluation purposes. Each team will receive a beautiful award for their Diamond, Ruby, or Sapphire Sweepstakes to display in your dance studio or trophy case.

Home Routine Evaluation is usually held the first night of camp and is a time to show off a routine from home. It does not need to be creative or novel, but something the team feels they do best. Instructors will select top teams for the ***Home Routine Award*** and the team will receive a large trophy along with an individual ribbon for each team member.

Dance Evaluation will be held on the final afternoon of camp and will be a chance for your dancers to perform as a team, one or two of the routines they have learned at camp (including camp dance) for final evaluation. Teams will be judged on a Standard of Excellence (not competing against other teams) for a Divisional rating.

Camp Dance can be performed as a team on the last afternoon of camp to serve as one of their three performances. Teams are not required to perform three routines but have a chance to perform for extra awards.

Marching Evaluation will be offered at SMU Camp as a class to learn the marching drill and to perform as one of the team events on the last afternoon. There will also be a Drill Down where the blue ribbon winners can participate for Drill Down Finalists and Outstanding Marcher.

Special Awards- ***Most Admired Team of the Day*** will be recognized each evening as each line will vote for their choice daily. Each member of the team selected will receive a ribbon to wear proudly the remainder of the week. On Evaluation Day, teams will vote for their ***Most Admired Team of the Week***, which will receive an award and a ribbon for each member. Other awards include *"Best Overall Technique," "Best Overall Precision," "Most Improved," "Spirit of ADTS."* The staff may select an ***All American Team of the Day*** for their excellent discipline, performance and personal enthusiasm. Teams may also be considered for ***Grand Champion Team of the Week*** and ***All American Team of the Week***. Each member will receive a ribbon and the team of the week will receive an award for this special recognition.

The staff may select a ***Gussie Nell Davis Team of the Day/Week*** for their improvement, unity and hard work. Each member will receive a ribbon, and the team of the week will receive an award for this special recognition.

Directors will each receive a special *American Directors University* certificate, documenting the classroom and activity hours spent at the camp that can count towards teacher in-service hours for many school districts.

Team Camp Individual Recognition

- In each of our line camp dance classes, instructors will award a **RED *Outstanding Achievement in Dance*** ribbon to students displaying outstanding dance technique, as well as quick learning skills. They may receive only one.
- A **TEAL *Outstanding Achievement*** ribbon may be awarded in some classes when the staff has taken special notice of attitude, enthusiasm or extra effort. They may receive more than one.

- A **PINK *Exceptional Achievement in Dance*** ribbon may be awarded to students who have already received a red ribbon. They may receive more than one.
- Directors will be issued three ribbons to award to present a ***Special Award*** to a student who has given that extra effort at camp.
- At the final awards ceremony, instructors will award an elite number of students a **GOLD *All American Dance Company*®** ribbon and acrylic award for exceptionally talented dancers displaying outstanding technique. Dancers receiving Gold Ribbons will be invited to perform at special events, including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade™.
- In each of our Marching classes (SMU Only), instructors will award **BLUE** (marching) ***Outstanding Achievement*** ribbons to students for outstanding efforts in marching skills, attitude and learning ability.

Each student will receive a ***Certificate of Achievement*** for their efforts at camp along with individual ribbons for any team awards earned. Team award ribbons include: ***Most Admired Team of the Day /Week, All American Team of the Day /Week®, Gussie Nell Davis Team of the Day /Week, Sweepstakes/Divisional Ratings, Home Routine Award.*** Students that have earned a RED ribbon in dance are eligible to audition for ***Jr. All American, All American Dance/Drill Team®*** and ***All American Honorable Mention®***. Students will audition in front of the instructors by performing the Camp Dance. Students who receive this honor will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on the last afternoon of camp and receive a ribbon, certificate and information for special performances to acknowledge the group they were chosen for. Recipients of ***Jr. All American, All American Dance/Drill Team®*** and ***All American Honorable Mention®*** will also receive a Special Events Information Packet explaining the many performing opportunities available including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.™

Outstanding Performers will be announced on Evaluation Day and given a beautiful and unique acrylic award. These recipients are judged on dance technique, attitude, leadership and overall excellence.