



## DELTA ETA PI (ΔΗΠ)

### General Information

**PURPOSE:** To provide an organization dedicated to the advancement of dance and dance education in secondary schools, studios, colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning that offer programs in dance instruction in one or more genres; and to recognize and encourage academic excellence, dance technique, choreography, scholarship, and service to the school and community.

**RATIONALE:** Creative thinking is the core of 21st century learning; and, as a dance educator, you are a primary creative officer in your school. Sponsoring a chapter of the National Dance Society dance honor society magnifies the innovation, skills, and scholarship that your dance program brings to your school and community. Having a dance honor society at your school or studio raises the profile and stature of your dance program, making both your institution and community aware of the activities and success of your students, and increases the visibility of dance as a creative, academic subject.

Opportunities for national recognition, scholarships, publication, and connectivity to other outstanding dance students, as well as dance teachers and professionals, are available to your students as members of **Delta Eta Pi**.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Membership in **Delta Eta Pi (ΔΗΠ)** is open to students who are active in secondary school (6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades), studios, collegiate dance programs - dance majors & minors as well as serious dance students who have participated in an accredited dance or arts-related class at the host institution for at least one semester, graduate students, and to faculty in the discipline.

Potential members must be considered by the faculty advisor or committee of the chapter to be outstanding in scholarly achievement and dance studies and must have maintained a GPA of 3.2 or higher, or equivalent. A graduate student must have no less than two thirds of his/her graduate credit hours as A, or the equivalent, when letter grades are nonexistent. Six credits in dance classes, or the equivalent, must be completed before a student may be eligible for induction.

The National Dance Society will waive the registration fee for any chapter choosing to transfer membership from another dance national honor society.

**MAJOR ACTIVITIES:** National conferences, publication of *ΔΗΤ Journal*, student leadership workshops, student dance days

**BENEFITS OF ΔΗΤ MEMBERSHIP:**

- Recognize those students who have shown outstanding ability in the field of dance.
- Serve as an inspiration for students to strive for higher goals in their work.
- Foster excellence and dedication in the pursuit of dance.
- Encourage the creative abilities and talents of the individual student.
- Provide leadership & community service opportunities.
- Assist students in working toward the attainment of their highest potential in the field of dance.
- Bring dance to the attention of the school and community.
- Increase the awareness of dance as a viable area within the total school curriculum.
- Advance aesthetic awareness in all aspects of the total education program.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership in the Honor Society is based on a student's fulfillment of four requirements - **scholarship, leadership, service, and character.**

To be eligible for selection to membership in a chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester in dance in the school/institution, must have participated in 5 hours of service project(s), preferably dance-related, and must have a 3.2 GPA.

To remain a member in good standing, members must be actively involved in dance classes, production, and service projects. To maintain membership, students are required to serve 5 hours of service in a dance-related activity per year, pay annual dues, maintain a 3.2 cumulative average, and attend chapter meetings.

Officers are responsible for keeping track of members who attend meetings (secretary), collecting dues (treasurer), and creating a spreadsheet that tracks membership involvement in classes, performances, service hours, and other activities for which points are awarded. Members should start a new points sheet each year and at every meeting update their sheet, including volunteerism in dance-related activities. Points will be cumulative from year to year at an institution/school. Members can submit service hours in external organizations for approval to complete the 5 service hours per year.

The character of a member means s/he

- takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
- upholds principles of morality and ethics
- volunteers to assist, when needed, and follows through efficiently
- complies with school/community regulations
- demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability
- shows courtesy, concern and respect for others
- observes instructions and rules

- exhibits concentration and sustained attention by perseverance and application to studies
- is truthful and trustworthy
- actively helps discourage/eliminate bad influences or behavior

Points can be earned through activities such as:

- manager of a dance club, dance company, or similar dance organization
- officer of Delta Eta Pi or other dance organization
- member of cast or crew in musical theatre or dance production
- choreographer for dance concert, dance team, or musical theatre production
- lighting or costume design for a dance production
- writing/publication of dance-related paper or article
- organizer or participant in a dance-related service project or fundraising event
- teaching dance classes for fellow students or at a camp or local dance studio
- attendant/participant at a dance festival, convention, conference, master class, dance concert (with written summary, review, or critique submitted to honor society advisor)
- other activity(s) deemed appropriate by chapter advisor

**ΔΗΠ OFFICIAL CONTACT:**

**Exec. Director: Fran Meyer**

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