



Sacred Dance Guild E-Board Newsletter

THE LATEST FROM YOUR DANCING BOARD

Spring 2010

Publisher

The Executive Board

Contents:

Greening & Growing Our SDG

SDG Traveling Workshops

Introducing Virtual Management

ADD-ED Ways to Support SDG

SDG's Directory & Journal OnLine

Time for New Board Members

CultureFest Revisited

SDGO Update

2010 Festival Simply Soaring

Shake Your Spirit Fundraiser

GREENING & GROWING OUR SDG

It turns out that your SDG Board Members had a "Greening and Growing" Winter Board Meeting in Atlanta Georgia last month. We can all celebrate in this continuing recession that SDG is still here and growing again. And not just in terms of membership but in terms of programming and member services.

Here's what we're setting out to get accomplished in 2010:

- * Increasing both our membership and our donor base and reaching out globally...
- * Increasing our operating monies through additional advertising opportunities...
- * Decreasing our printing and mailing costs by riding the green waves and going electronically with our Online Membership Directory and by the end of 2010 a completely Online Journal, which you can personally print out if you so choose. From now on, we will also not be sending out printed and postal bound Membership Packets. We do send a dance to the trees we'll be keeping alive...
- * Increasing the services and interactive ways to communicate amongst each other through our growing website www.sacreddanceguild.org. Every few weeks we add more, so please visit us on a regular basis and let us know what you think...
- * And increasing our programs. We hope to dance with you at our Simply Soaring Sacred Dance Festival 2010 this coming July in New London, Conn. And we hope you will either attend, sponsor, or help to coordinate one of our up and coming SDG Traveling Workshops, SDG Presenters Package, SDG Sacred Dance Journeys, and SDGO Benefit Concerts...

We, your all-volunteer Board, are looking forward to dancing with you as we all celebrate and spread Sacred Dance in our lives, in our communities and in our greater world. And always remember that we can use your ideas and energy in helping to Green & Grow this unique organization, our Sacred Dance Guild.

Doing the board boggie with you! JoyBeth Lufty, President Pres@sacreddanceguild.org

SDG TRAVELING WORKSHOPS TO BE PILOTED IN CANADA

Our very first "Traveling Workshop", where SDG brings a workshop weekend to your local community, will be piloted as this new program model through Ottawa Canada's local SDG group of Sacred Dancers. It will be held the weekend of May 14th in Ottawa.

The facilitators will be Ruth Douthwright, Carlynn Reed, and Jonathon Neville. The weekend will include a Friday night workshop on "Pulse - Release, Rebound and Resonate" and Saturday Workshops on "Establishing Connections - Our First Partner-the "Earth" and moving to "The Sacred in Swing!"

More details will soon be posted on our website www.sacreddanceguild.org. Within a few months, start looking for our new Traveling Workshop Pages on our site with information on how you can bring one of our Traveling Workshops to your community. You may also contact Wendy at Prog@sacreddanceguild.org.

INTRODUCING OUR VIRTUAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY

SDG going more green actually started a few years ago when our modern realities and needs (when fewer volunteers couldn't match increasing technological expertise and demands) showed us that SDG would have to pay for the services of a Management Company. With all of SDG's volunteer worker- dancers being scattered geographically, "Virtual Management" seemed to be the closest fit with SDG's nonprofit orientation.

For a few years now, we have been working with Next Wave Group, an association management firm and a forerunner in Virtual Management, specializing in using technology to provide database management, accounting, membership services, publications, web sites, event management and more.

Quite frankly, we wouldn't be here if we volunteers had to do all that we're paying Pat Troy and her Next Wave Group to do. Pat, who has been honored many times over for her business skills, feels very adamant about the discounted prices and extra work she gives to SDG. In the months to come we will be featuring our Management Services both in our Journal and on our website. So keep tuning in to find out the latest about Virtual Management and your SDG. <http://www.nextwavegroup.com/>

ADD-ED WAYS TO SUPPORT SDG

Are you a sacred dance teacher or part of a sacred dance troupe, group, organization, or university program? Do you have sacred dance products such as books, films, music, choreography, props, and garments? Do you know of others that aren't already SDG members that do?

It doesn't matter if its Conscious or Ecstatic, Liturgical or Classical, Ethnic or International, individual or group Sacred Dance, you can let other sacred dancers know

all about your services through supporting and advertising with SDG in a variety of ways.

Within a month, SDG will have its advertising and sponsorship options listed online through its expanding "Support" section. Here's an overview of what is coming:

1. You can always advertise through our Journal whether it is postal mailed or online and from now on your ads will be in color.
2. Advertising and /or sponsoring our various programs such as our week long Festivals, our SDGO Concerts and workshops, our Traveling Workshops, Our Presenters Package, and our Sacred Dance Journeys is a great way to become more visible. Ads for our 2010 Festival this coming July "Simply Soaring" are now available.
3. Within a couple of months, SDG will have on our website a "SDG BUSINESS DIRECTORY" where you can buy an ad for a year that will be able to support your logo, a couple of pictures, and detailed description of your sacred dance services. Members will be given a discount.
4. SDG's Mailing Labels policy for sacred dance products and services has been updated and will soon be posted at <http://www.sacreddanceguild.org>.

SDG'S MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY & JOURNAL ARE ONLINE

Simply Soaring Festival 2010 information in detail is being posted this week. Our Resource Library is continuing to expand, we have a new Update section where we want pictures of your Sacred Dance Troupe to post, and a new "Headlines" section featuring news about you and chapter/region newsletters. Soon will have a new and expanded "Support " section, a new "Dialogues" section and a new "SDG Business Directory" section. We will also be adding pages on our expanded programming entitled "Traveling Workshops", "SDG's Presenters Package", and "Sacred Dance Journeys".

Since our Membership Data base is online and printable by you personally in a variety of ways, we will no longer be extending our resources to printing and postal mailing Membership Directories. Our Online Membership Directory is constantly being updated so from now on we will all be able to access the latest of information on all of us. You simply have to go to our website, log in as a member, and then go to The Members Only Membership Directory and print your own updated version whenever you need to.

Please add your photo to your member profile.

In January, our Journal also went online. In going green, cutting unnecessary costs, and

providing updated services to our members, our Fall 2010 Journal will not be printed and postal mailed. It will be available online and we will send out an e-mail telling you when it is available. This way we can design it with color and it will always be there for you to read and to print out anytime you wish throughout the years to come.

Please make sure that we have your current e-mail address by going to <http://sacreddanceguild.org/journal.htm> and clicking on "click here to view the form."

Our up and coming Spring Journal will be our last printed and postal mailed Journal. In celebration of this transition, it will be in full color and a combination Journal and Festival 2010 Brochure. The deadline for submissions is March 15th to Jour@sacreddanceguild.org. We are in awe of our volunteer Journal Editor, Toni' Intravaia, who has spearheaded all our printed Journals for many, many, many years and hope you will join us in sending her copious dances of thanks-giving.

IT'S TIME FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

It's that time of year when your SDG Board begins looking for new volunteers to add their creative work to our organizational choreography. It's becoming harder for nonprofits such as ourselves to get volunteers to do the needed work, so we are in the process of tweaking our organizational structure. The board positions we are looking for, starting in July, are 1 Secretary/Treasurer, 1 Programs Co-Director, Development and Resource Co-Directors.

If you enjoy taking minutes and signing checks, you might be right for our combined Secretary/Treasurer's Office.

If googling on the web and connecting with and answering questions of Sacred Dancers from around the world is your thing, you will probably enjoy being a Resource CoDirector.

If you are an event planner at heart, then come join our Programs team.

If you enjoy people and attracting money, then consider becoming a Development Director.

Our board commitments are usually for 3 years and include yearly attendance at both our summer/Festival and winter board meetings, submitting quarterly reports, and participating in Board E-list discussions. The job descriptions are posted online. Contact Lisa Michaels, SDG's Vice President, if you want to find out more. VP@sacreddanceguild.org

CULTUREFEST REVISITED

Submitted by Elaine Sisler

I am delighted to report that I will present

“CultureFest Revisited”

Dancing Our Divine Diversity Workshop

At Festival 2010 at Connecticut College

For all those who missed CultureFest last fall and are interested in designing and implementing a similar program in your home location.

This workshop is an overview of CultureFest 2009, the Sacred Dance Guild’s first Global Outreach “SD-GO” program. Come see what you missed and/or learn how to coordinate your own SD-GO event!

Activities will include:

- Warm up exercises that stretch bodies and imaginations
- Dances from different cultures and historical eras
- Small group improvisations using props
- Guidelines for future successful SD-GO events
- “Moving Mysteries” a large group dance meditation
- “Hymn” an evolving danced prayer exploring forgiveness and gratitude

SDGO UPDATE

AN INDONESIAN ORPHANAGE WHERE DANCE IS HOLY

By Linda Telesco, Public Relations Director and SDGO Coordinator

SDG member Patricia Lee of Australia recently wrote to me about her visit to Yaysan Widya Guna, translated as Foundation for Children’s Education. an orphanage in Bali where dance is sacred and very important to the children. “The orphanage is run by an amazing man, Ketut Sadia, and his family,” said Tricia. “The children learn sacred cultural dances for the temple ceremonies.” Tricia visits Ketut and the orphanage whenever she can and describes her visits as “a beautiful and humbling experience.”

Ketut’s wife, Nyoman, explained in an e-mail to me that the most common dances in the orphanage are Rejang Dewa, which is danced by a girl and Baris Gede, danced by boys. “Both of these dances are performed only in the temple to accompany the

ceremony procession. They are not commercial dances,” she noted. Rejang is the symbol of angels and holiness. The dancer wears a white and yellow dress and wears holy flowers on her head. “White and yellow are holy colors for Hindus,” said Nyoman. Performed in front of the temple, the Rejang Dewa is a dance to welcome the gods of temple. After the Rejang Dewa, The Baris Gede dance is danced in front of the temple by boys, symbolizing the brave warrior who is ready to guard the gods

The orphanage is in need of ongoing financial support to care for the children, but in particular, they need funds to purchase the attire and religious masks used in their dance ceremonies. They even have a special fundraising goal to purchase a Barong mask (In Balinese mythology, the Barong is a central figure of a dance and wards off evil spirits).

SDG Members: Would you consider hosting an SDGO fundraiser to “Buy a Barong Mask” or other materials needed by these young Indonesian dancers? Visit our website and click on SDGO to learn more about how you can Host an SDGO event. And you can read more about the orphanage and see touching photos of the young dancers.

Tricia... many thanks and fragrant blessings!

HAITI: CAN WE HELP?

A Message from Linda Telesco - SDGO Coordinator

The devastation in Haiti is huge, but imagine the devastation to the spirit of a young dancer who, like many, lost a limb in the tragedy. Fabienne Jean danced with the Haitian National Theater. But as a result of the earthquake, the lower part of her right leg was amputated.

One doctor thinks she may be able to dance again with a high-performance prosthetic!

Fabienne's story appeared Feb. 22 in The New York Times. Click here to read it, or copy and paste this link into your browser: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/23/world/americas/23amputee.html>

Can we help? Please give thought to hosting an event for Fabienne and/or other Haitian dancers who need our support. I will investigate and report back with details about Fabienne and others like her. Meantime: Send your suggestions to me at sdgo@sacreddanceguild.org

<http://www.sacreddanceguild.org/sdgo/landing.htm>

Contact: Linda Telesco,
SDG Public Relations Director and SDGO Coordinator

E-Mail PR@sacreddanceguild.org
Regular Mail: PO Box 9357 Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

SIMPLY SOARING – A SACRED DANCE FESTIVAL

Sacred Dance Festival July 26-31, 2010
Connecticut College, New London, CT

We fine-tuned it. We tweaked it. We are pushing the SDG experience to new heights. Come and soar at this summer's, Sacred Dance Guild Festival, on the beautiful campus of Connecticut College, in New London, CT.

Experience some of the finest presenters in sacred dance today, panel discussions, Ecstatic Dance, Circle Dances and daily gatherings to Soar As the Divine. **Explore** workshops in choreography, body spirituality, rhythm and music, and more. **Energize** with daily technique classes in diverse styles for all levels and abilities. **Enrich** your spirit with morning meditations, movement rituals and reflections. **Enjoy** concerts, networking, shopping our expanded sacred dance marketplace, fashions shows and opportunities too numerous to list here.

New events you will experience at SDG's **Simply Soaring Festival**; the Largest Sacred Dance Flash Mob in the New England area, a benefit for the Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut, a presentation of Doris Humphrey's Soaring, The Share What U Wear Fashion Show and more.

The full color, online, and printed spring 2010 SDG Journal will have lots of festival pictures and information. Register; learn about the faculty and much more at <http://www.sacreddanceguild.org> Information will be in the mail soon.

If you are interested in joining Team Soar, contact Festival Co-Directors, Mary Kamp at Prog2@sacreddanceguild.org or Wendy Morrell at Prog@sacreddanceguild.org. There are many opportunities for you to work with the festival planning committee.

"I see dance being used as communication between body and soul to express what is too deep to find words..." Ruth St. Denis When you are Soaring there no limits.

SHAKE YOUR SPIRIT FUNDRAISER

The second Shake Your Spirit, dance church fundraising event in Atlanta January 24, 2010 brought in over \$400. in revenue for SDG, 2 renewing members and 2 new SDG members.

We will be posting the fundraiser model on the website in the future so you can have the support materials available to host one in your area.

Lisa Michaels
Vice President
VP@sacreddanceguild.org

Executive Board Members

Officers, 2009-2010

President: JoyBeth Lufty (ME/TX)
Vice-President: Lisa Michaels (GA)
Secretary/Treasurer: Marcia Miller (CT)

Directors, 2009-2010

Programs: Wendy Morrell (ON, Canada), Mary Kamp (OH)
Public Relations: Linda Telesco (NJ), Elaine Sisler (MA)
Resources: Kathlene Pettycrew (NJ), Gail Conway (VA)
