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*USA Dance, Inc. - a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to improving the quantity and quality of ballroom dancing in the United States*

## Rhode Island Chapter of USA Dance Newsletter

April, 2011

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### Chapter News

Welcome to our new members Sandra Reitmire, social dancer from Providence, Katie Karolczuk, DanceSport Unified Sports Partner from Providence, and Agnes Desjarlais Special Olympics DanceSport Athlete from East Greenwich.

News Flash - Our Rhode Island Chapter now ranks #7 in the nation for the highest percentage of new members in 2010! USA Dance headquarters has placed us in their "Rising Star" category. Many of our new members are team members of the Special Olympics Ballroom Dance Performance Team. Thanks for joining our chapter and helping us promote ballroom dancing.

#### New BOD Secretary Named

Janice Markey, a DanceSport competitor, has accepted the position of BOD Secretary. Janice is also our chapter's Facebook page editor. Please join us on Facebook. Click on <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=58309556641>.

## **Volunteers Needed for So You Think You Can Dance New England**

Volunteers are needed to help with the auditions on Friday, April 1, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 2, 9:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m. at Studio One Rhode Island, 85 Industrial Circle, Lincoln, RI 02865 and for the Grand Finale Thursday, May 5, 2011, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM, Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Cranston, RI. All proceeds from the events will be donated to the Women's Center of Rhode Island, serving victims of domestic violence. Please give a little of your time to help the Women's Center and support all forms of dance. Contact [studiooneri@cox.net](mailto:studiooneri@cox.net) to sign up for a volunteer shift. Thank you.

## **Next Chapter Dance Scheduled for First Friday in May**

Friday, May 6, 2011  
8:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Studio One RI  
85 Industrial Circle, Lincoln, RI 02865

Light refreshments, couples and singles welcome; dance hosts, Mixer, Ballroom and Latin recorded music by Studio One Rhode Island

Night Club Two Step Lesson included

Admission:  
\$10 USA Dance members  
\$12 non-members; \$5 college students with current ID

Driving directions at <http://www.studiooneri.com>  
401.305.3551 - [Studiooneri@cox.net](mailto:Studiooneri@cox.net)



## **Special Olympics Ballroom Dance Team Performances**

The team, pictured above, performed at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Eastern US Dancesport Championships in Boston on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Linda Succi,

team organizer and chapter president, arranged the performance opportunity with Eastern Comp organizer Mark Nocera. Not only did the troupe perform in front of an audience of ballroom dancers who gave them a warm reception, they stayed on to watch youth and adult competitors compete in several categories of DanceSport. Each Special Olympics Athlete was awarded a participation trophy.

The group is preparing for their next performance at the Grand Finale of the So You Think You Can Dance New England competition to be held May 5, 2011 at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet.

RIUSADANCE is the proud sponsor of this dance team, and we are very grateful to Linda Succi and our team coaches John and Dee Soares of Studio One Rhode Island for their dedication and inspiration for this cause.

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