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Louisiana DanceSport to Host 2011 Gumbo of Ballroom Weekend

12th annual event to feature both amateur and pro-am competitions

BATON ROUGE – The 2011 Gumbo of Ballroom weekend will once again take place June 17-19 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge, La. The Gumbo DanceSport Championships, an all-amateur competition, is planned for Friday and Saturday. The pro-am competition, The Louisiana Challenge, will take place on Sunday.

The Gumbo DanceSport Championships is sanctioned as a qualifying event for the National Championships sponsored by USA Dance. It is one of the premier ballroom competitions in the nation, drawing top amateur couples from throughout the country, including many current champions in various categories of American Style and International Style DanceSport. The 2010 edition of this prestigious event drew an estimated 315 dancers to Baton Rouge from 20 states outside of Louisiana.

Competition begins at noon on Friday and continue throughout the evening, before resuming all day Saturday, and finishing on Sunday morning. Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$10 a day, or at the door for \$15. For more information, including a complete

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schedule of events, please visit the 2011 Tickets-Spectators section of the event website, www.gumboofballroom.org, or contact Peggy Clement at 225-627-6154.

Louisiana DanceSport was established in 2003 to promote ballroom dancing and provide opportunities for amateur competitors to participate in both amateur and pro-am competitions at a reasonable cost. In partnership with the Louisiana Gumbo Chapter 5031 of USA Dance and the Saturday Night Ballroom organization, the Louisiana DanceSport board of directors is dedicated to the expansion of ballroom as a sport, as a hobby and as a means of socializing with friends. The intention of Louisiana DanceSport is to serve the state of Louisiana by bringing together dancers who share a passion for ballroom dancing, as well as to foster the education of young people in an activity that will last throughout their lives. Ultimately, it is the vision and hope of Louisiana DanceSport to eventually see ballroom practiced as a sport within local schools. For more information on the event or Louisiana DanceSport, please visit www.gumboofballroom.org.

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