

Performing Arts Solo Rules

The following rules supersede any other written content.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Only Dance Masters Chapter #33 members in good standing may enter students in the Performing Arts Solo Competition. Member teachers must also have been a member of Dance Masters Chapter #33 prior to the entry deadline. The member teacher **MUST** be present at the Grand Body Meeting of the convention in which you plan to compete. In the event of an emergency, the board will decide the validity of absence from the missed meeting.
2. A student must have studied a **MINIMUM OF TEN MONTHS** with the member teacher of record prior to the chapter competition or the National Preliminary. The teacher of record shall be the member teacher whose name appears on the entry form. This rule may be superseded if written permission from the previous Member Teacher is received.
3. A student who has studied with the teacher of record for a period of not less than three (3) years, has studied with the teacher of record in the past twelve (12) months, and is now in a position that does not permit the entrant to study with the teacher of record on a regular basis is eligible to enter the Performing Arts Solo competition with said teacher of record. An exception will be made for:
 - a. Students not studying on a weekly basis that are now in a position that does not permit the entrant to study with the Teacher of Record on a regular basis due to their pursuit of higher education in an area that is more than 100 miles from the Teacher of Record or pursuing professional endeavors. This privilege may not be extended beyond 24 months.
4. Only **ONE (1)** teacher can be listed as teacher of record.
5. All competitors and their teacher of record must be pre-registered for both the convention and Performing Arts Solo competition with all fees paid by the deadline. In addition, they are required to stay at the convention hotel or overflow hotel.
6. Teachers are required to use Dance Comp Genie for Convention Registration and Competition Entry. Entries **MUST** be submitted by 11:59pm on the deadline date.
7. Teachers are required to pay all fees for convention registration and Performing Arts Solo entry fees to the Business Manager. All payments **MUST** be postmarked by the appropriate deadline date.
8. Competitors who receive High Silver or above at the Dance Masters Chapter #33 competition shall be eligible to compete in the National Finals competition.
9. A preliminary competition will also be held at the National Convention. Those who qualify at this preliminary competition will also be able to participate in the National Finals competition.
10. Performing Arts Solo competitors may not enter the Titled Solo competition at the same convention.
11. Performing Arts Solo competitors may only enter 1 solo in the Performing Arts Solo competition at the same convention.

AGE DIVISIONS (ALL AGES ARE AS OF JUNE 1ST THE YEAR OF THE UPCOMING NATIONAL FINALS)

MINI 4-6 years of age
PETITE 7-9 years of age
JUNIOR 10-12 years of age
TEEN 13-15 years of age
SENIOR 16-24 years of age

Teachers must have in their possession a copy of each competitor's birth certificate. Failure to provide proof of age upon request and/or entering a student in the incorrect age division will result in a \$25 fine.

STYLE CATEGORIES:

1. **TAP:** Any form of dancing done wherein rhythmic sounds are created by the feet. No clogging allowed. No audible taps allowed in the music accompaniment.
2. **BALLET:** Routine must consist of ballet technique using classical and contemporary steps and movements done in ballet or pointe shoes.
3. **JAZZ:** Routine must consist of any jazz techniques.
4. **OPEN:** Any routine that consists of more than one type of dance or any routine that does not possibly fall under one of the other categories, such as novelty, clogging, hula, flamenco, can-can, etc.
5. **LYRICAL:** A combination of ballet and jazz technique and movements usually an interpretation of the lyrics of the song, or the lyrical quality of the music.

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6. *CONTEMPORARY/MODERN*: Ballet and/or modern technique reaching beyond jazz.
7. *ACROBATICS/GYMNASTICS*: Routine consisting of any form of dance that includes more than 50% acrobatic tricks.
8. *MUSICAL THEATER/SHOW*: A dance style denoting comedy, depicting a character, relating a story, or creating a theatrical mood. Pantomime, lip sync and singing allowed.
9. *HIP HOP*: Today's contemporary street and funk movements incorporating some jazz technique.

TALENT PRESENTATION:

1. Routine must fall into one of the Style Categories above (i.e., ballet, tap, jazz, etc.). Please see the Style Categories section of these rules for a list of the possible categories and a description of each.
2. A maximum of TWO minutes and FIFTY seconds (2:50) will be allowed for talent presentations in all divisions, with the exception of the Mini division. Mini division contestants will be allowed a maximum of two (2:00) minutes.
3. Singing, baton twirling, playing of musical instruments, or music with audible taps are NOT allowed.
4. Inappropriate or sexually suggestive movements should not be part of any performance. Costuming should cover the entrant adequately and be age appropriate. Vulgar, profane, and/or suggestive language in music is not acceptable in our family audience. Judgment of the appropriateness of choreography, costuming, and music is left to the judges and will result in lower scoring. In addition, entrants deemed inappropriate by the Solo Committee (Solo Chairmen, Solo Co-Chairmen, and Chapter President) may be subject to disqualification.

SCORING:

1. A panel of qualified judges will judge the competition. The decisions of the judges are FINAL.
2. All scoring is based on the adjudication process. Each entry will be scored on a point system.
 - a. Talent (80-100 points): This score will reflect the judges' overall impressions of the dance. It will include technical ability, musicality, performance, and difficulty. This score will be used to determine awards.
 - b. Choreography (0-100 points): This score is based on the choreography of the dance. This score is used to reward the Dance Masters Member Teachers for excellence in choreography. It is NOT used to determine awards for the dancers. Dances choreographed by Non-Member Teachers are NOT eligible for this award.
 - c. Technique (0-100 points): This score will reflect ONLY the technical ability of the dancers. This score is ONLY used in tiebreak situations.
3. Tiebreak procedures: If the final score results in a tie, the Dance Masters Chapter #33 tiebreak procedure is as follows:
 - a. The technique score is used to break the tie. If there is still a tie;
 - b. If there are five judges, the talent score of all five judges will break the tie. If there is still a tie;
 - c. If there are five judges, the technique score of all five judges will break the tie. If there is still a tie;
 - d. The tie is awarded. See AWARDS for further explanation of awarding ties.
4. No teacher or student is allowed to approach any judge about scoring or competition results at any time. Score sheets and critique DVDs will provide feedback.
5. Props: Three (3) minutes are allowed for setup and three (3) minutes will be allowed for strike down. Failure to remain within these time limits will result in a \$25 fine. All props must be removed from the venue immediately following the competition.
6. Entrances and exits must be brief.
7. Contestants and the Teacher of Record agree that the time, manner, and method of judging the competition will be solely within the discretion of Dance Masters Chapter #33 board of directors, and all decisions and awards presented on stage are FINAL.

AWARDS

1. Each entry will receive a place award. Place award categories include:
Category Point Range
Platinum 95-100
High Gold 92-94
Gold 89-91
High Silver 86-88
Silver 80-85
2. The top 50% in each Age Division will be recognized as finalists and receive a certificate. When determining 50%, decimals are rounded up (i.e., if there are 11 participants, 6 finalists will be recognized).

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3. Overall Awards: Given to the top three (3) scores in each Age Division (i.e., Mini, Petite, Junior, etc.). If the tiebreak procedure fails to break the tie:
 - a. If the tie is for First Overall, the prize money for First and Second Overall is combined and then split by the tied winners. The next highest entry will receive Third Overall.
 - b. If the tie is for Second Overall, the prize money for Second and Third Overall is combined then split by the tied winners. No Third Overall is awarded.
 - c. If the tie is for Third Overall, the prize money will be split by the tied winners.
 - d. If there is a 3 or more way tie, all cash awards for that age division are added together and split equally between the tied winners.
4. The Overall Cash Award amounts are as follows:
 - a. 1st - \$100
 - b. 2nd - \$75
 - c. 3rd - \$50
 - d. Grand Champion - \$150

Note: Cash Awards are only given to entries receiving a Gold or higher place award.
5. Limits to CASH Awards:
 - a. Any age division with less than 3 entries will receive NO Cash Awards.
 - b. Any age division with 3 entries will receive First Overall Cash Awards ONLY.
 - c. Any age division with 4 entries will receive First and Second Overall Cash Awards ONLY.
 - d. Any age division with 5 or more entries will receive First, Second, and Third Overall Cash Awards.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY: An award for the entries with the highest choreography score given by the judges. There will be a First, Second, and Third place for the entire Competition. The tiebreak procedure will be used to break ties (subbing the choreography score for talent). **THERE IS NO CASH AWARD FOR BEST CHOREOGRAPHY.**

NOTE: Only routines choreographed **100%** by Member Teachers are eligible for this award.

GRAND CHAMPION: 2 awards will be given, 1 to the highest talent score in the 12 & Under Category and 1 to the highest talent score in the 13 & Over Category. Ties are broken using the tie break procedures. If the tiebreak procedure fails to break the tie, the judges will choose between the tied entries.

MUSIC

1. Teachers must email their music by the MUSIC deadline listed on the Performing Arts Solo entry form.
2. Each piece of music should be sent in a SEPARATE email to music@dma33.org.
3. The file format for each piece of music must be MP3.
4. For each piece of music, the body of the email message should include:
 - a. Name of Dance
 - b. Style Category (ballet, tap, jazz, etc.)
 - c. Age Division (Petite, Junior, etc.)
 - d. Competition Category (Performing Arts Solo)
 - e. Studio Code Letter
5. In addition to emailing your music, you are required to have one (1) MASTER CD of ALL your Performing Arts Solo music. Please label all tracks clearly. This will be used as a backup should there be any issues during the competition.
6. Recordings with audible tap sound will NOT be permitted for tap routines, clogging routines, or open routines with tap or clogging content.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Teachers may pick up their packet of score sheets at the registration desk Sunday morning.
2. No video cameras (including cell phone and digital recording devices) are allowed during the competition. There will be professional videographers at the convention and each contestant will receive a DVD of her / his solo.
3. No practicing on the stage.
4. No one allowed in the theater prior to the opening of the doors. See the convention schedule for times.

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