

# Titled 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 Titled Solo Competition. Member teachers must also have been a member of Dance Masters Chapter #33 prior to the entry deadline. Member teachers **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. 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 This rule may be superseded if written permission from the previous member teacher is received.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 contestant to study with the teacher of record on a regular basis is eligible to enter the Titled 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 contestant 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 contestants and their teacher of record must be pre-registered for both the convention and titled 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 titled solo entry fees to the Business Manager. All mailed payments **MUST** be postmarked by the **ENTRY** deadline date.
8. Contestants in the Miss, Teen Miss, Junior Miss, and Petite Miss title competitions must be female, childless, single, never married, never had a marriage annulled, and never been convicted of a crime.
9. Contestants in the Mister, Teen Mister, Junior Mister, and Master title competitions must be male, childless, single, never married, never had a marriage annulled, and never been convicted of a crime.
10. All current titleholders are not eligible to enter the Performing Arts Solo Competitions within the year of their reign.
11. All female titleholders are not eligible to enter the Titled Solo Competition within the year of their reign.
12. Solo Titled contestants may not enter the Performing Arts Solo competitions at the same convention.
13. Solo Titled contestants may only enter 1 solo in the Titled Solo competition at the same convention.

## **AGE DIVISIONS (ALL AGES ARE AS OF JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> THE YEAR OF THE NATIONAL FINALS)**

LITTLE	5-7 years average age
PETITE	7-9 years average age
JUNIOR	10-12 years average age
TEEN	13-15 years average age
SENIOR	16-23 years average age

Note: A student whose age on June 1<sup>st</sup> is SEVEN (7) may choose to enter the Little Miss/Little Mister or the Petite Miss/Master competition.

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Completed entry form electronically submitted online by 11:59pm on the Entry Deadline date.
2. Music uploaded to Dance Comp Genie by the **MUSIC** deadline.
3. 2 digital photos, sized for a 5x7 – VERTICAL / portrait orientation, both in **COLOR** on a **WHITE** background (one **FULL BODY DANCE** shot and one **HEADSHOT**) emailed to [solophotos@dma33.org](mailto:solophotos@dma33.org) by the **ENTRY** Deadline on the entry form. Photo resolution must be **AT LEAST 1500x2100 pixels**. The size of any one photo may not exceed 10MB. If the total size of both photos exceeds 10MB, they must be sent in 2 separate emails.

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4. Payments: Payments may be mailed to the Business Manager at the address on the entry form and MUST be postmarked by the ENTRY deadline. Include a check for the total entry fees (per studio) made payable to Dance Masters Chapter #33 (one check per studio for all Title Entries). Only teacher checks will be accepted. Teachers may pay their entry fees via credit card by using Paypal. You do NOT have to have a Paypal account to take advantage of this option. Email the Business Manager at [treasurer@dma33.org](mailto:treasurer@dma33.org) and you will be sent a Paypal invoice. Instructions to pay the invoice via credit card are included. There is a service fee for this option.
5. In the event a teacher has a Titled Winner, the teacher, winner, and winner's parents **MUST ALL** be present at the Title Contract meeting on Sunday (see schedule). Teacher must be prepared to write a STUDIO check for the Nationals Deposit amounts for both teacher and the student (\$700). Teacher deposit = \$350. Student deposit = \$350. Little Miss and Mister do NOT pay a deposit, but are required to attend the Title Contract meeting.
6. Each contestant must email their birth certificate to the solo chairman at [solos@dma33.org](mailto:solos@dma33.org).

## TALENT PRESENTATION:

1. Routine must fall into one of the Performing Arts Style Categories (i.e., ballet, tap, jazz, etc.). Please see the Performing Arts 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 Little divisions. Little divisions 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 contestant 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, contestants deemed inappropriate by the Solo Committee (Solo Chairmen, Solo Co-Chairmen, and Chapter President) may be subject to disqualification.
5. At the end of the talent presentation for each Age Division, there will be a Line-up of all contestants.
6. There will be a talent preview at the beginning of the convention before competition begins. The preview is closed to audiences. Only member teachers are allowed to view their students. The preview is viewed by the judges but is NOT scored. Contestants will perform in costume. Little Miss and Mister do NOT participate in the preview.

## AUDITIONS:

1. Little Miss and Little Mister **DO NOT** participate in Auditions.
2. All other contestants will audition as follows:
  - a. Miss, Mister, Teen Miss, and Teen Mister will audition together.
  - b. Junior Miss, Junior Mister, Petite Miss, and Master will audition together.
3. Girls must wear a plain, solid, BLACK, one-piece leotard of any style with pink or suntan tights. Dance pants or shorts may be worn during the jazz, tap, and acrobatics disciplines. **NO rhinestones or embellishments on the leotard; however, lace and sheer is allowed on the back of the leotard. No jewelry!**
4. Boys must wear BLACK dance pants and a black compression t-shirt.
5. Correct shoes for each curriculum are required.
6. Long hair must be secured in a bun for all disciplines.
7. Petite Miss/Master and Junior Miss/Junior Mister contestants will be judged in up to four (4) disciplines of dance: ballet, tap, jazz, and acrobatics. Each category is worth a 20 point maximum. Teen Miss/Teen Mister and Miss/Mister contestants will also be judged in the modern/contemporary category. In all age division, the highest two (2) audition scores for each contestant will be combined to total 40 possible audition points. The other scores are discarded.
8. In the Acrobatics discipline, contestants are required to demonstrate:
  - a. A balance/control skill (i.e., headstand, elbow stand, or handstand)
  - b. A flexibility skill (i.e., backbend or scorpion)
  - c. Three repetitive forward/side acro skills (i.e., 3 front walkovers, 3 side areials, etc. Must be same skill 3 times in a row)
  - d. Three repetitive backward acro skills (i.e., 3 back walkovers, 3 back handsprings, etc. Must be same skill 3 times in a row. Back tuck or back handspring may be done with a round off)
  - e. Contestant's choice: Tumbling or acro pass of up to three continuous acro skills. Skills may be front, side and/or back, BUT NOT a skill shown in levels a thru d. This phase is designed to be an opportunity to show the judges additional skills.

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- Each Titled contestant is automatically entered in the Scholarship Auditions competition. Petite – Miss Titled contestants **DO NOT** submit a Scholarship Auditions entry form NOR do they pay an additional entry fee for Scholarship Auditions. It is included with the Titled entry fee. The Titled Contestants are automatically eligible to compete for the OVERALL Scholarship Auditions Awards. Contestants MUST participate in ALL disciplines of Auditions to remain eligible for the Overall Scholarship Awards. There is one exception. If a contestant was the 1<sup>st</sup> place OVERALL Scholarship winner at the previous Chapter #33 convention, he/she is ineligible to win any Overall Scholarship award in the same age category. He/she is still, however, eligible to win Category Scholarship Awards. Scholarship Auditions are a COMPLETELY separate competition and will be scored and awarded according to the Scholarship Auditions rules. See these rules for further details. If Little Miss or Mister contestants would like to participate in Scholarship Auditions, they will need to enter via the Scholarship Auditions entry form.

## INTERVIEW

- Little Miss and Little Mister **DO NOT** participate in interviews.
- All other contestants will have a private interview with the five (5) judges collectively. The Solo Chairman will be in the room at all times and will be timing the interview. Interview times are:
  - Petite, Junior, Teen – 3:00 minutes
  - Miss / Mister – 5:00 minutes
- Interview start times will be emailed to the Teacher of Record prior to the convention.
- Attire for girls is a suit or dress.
- Attire for boys is a suit.
- Judges will ask questions from the submitted information listing hobbies, activities, and interests.
- Please be sure your students do NOT mention your studio or studio affiliated dance company during the interview.

## SCORING:

- Five (5) qualified judges will judge the competition.
- For every age division, in all categories, the high and low scores are dropped and the three (3) remaining scores are summed to give the ADJUSTED score.
- Little Miss and Little Mister are scored on TALENT ONLY. The winner is determined from only the Adjusted talent score. Ties are broken using the tiebreak procedure below.
- For ALL other divisions, the following scoring categories are used to determine winners:
  - Talent Presentation (0-100 points per judge)
  - Audition (0- 40 points per judge)
  - Interview (0-15 points per judge)
- In each scoring category the ADJUSTED score is used to determine the winner. The total Title score is the sum of the adjusted talent, adjusted audition, and adjusted interview scores.
- In the event of a tie, the tiebreak procedure is as follows:
  - In Scholarship Classes
    - The scholarship scores of all 5 judges.
    - The tie will be awarded.
  - In Interview
    - The interview scores of all 5 judges.
    - The tie will be awarded.
  - Selecting the Most Talented Non Finalist
    - The talent scores of all 5 judges.
    - The tie will be awarded
  - Selecting the Winner, and Runners Up
    - The talent scores of all 5 judges, and the talent score ONLY.
    - The scholarship scores of the 3 scoring judges and those scores alone.
    - The scholarship scores of all 5 judges and those scores ONLY.
    - The decision of the judges.
- 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.

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8. If the talent presentation includes props, three (3) minutes is allowed for setup and three (3) minutes 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.
9. 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. 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 contestants, 6 finalists will be recognized). In the event of a tie, we will award an additional finalist.
2. The non-finalist contestant with the highest talent score will be recognized as the Most Talented Non-Finalist in each Age Division. The MTNF receives a certificate.
3. Audition Awards will be given in each Age Division. Awards are given to the highest Ballet score, Tap score, Jazz score, Acrobatics score, and Modern/Contemporary score (for Teen Miss/Teen Mister and Mister/Miss Contestants only). Each Audition category winner will receive a certificate.
4. An Interview Award is given to the contestant with the highest Interview score. The Interview winner receives a certificate.
5. The top 25% in each age divisions will receive place awards. When determining 25%, decimals are rounded up. However, we will always award 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up regardless of the number of entries. Each place winner receives a place trophy.
6. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runners-up in Petite – Miss divisions will receive cash awards.
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up - \$100
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up - \$50
7. The Winner in Little Miss/Mister will receive the following:
  - a. \$100 scholarship
  - b. Crown (girls) / Medal (boys)
  - c. Banner (girls only)
  - d. Trophy
  - e. Jacket
  - f. Free Convention Registration to the following year's DMA Convention in which he / she will return to give up their title.
8. The Winners in Petite – Miss Division will receive the following:
  - a. \$500 scholarship (Petite – Teen) \$750 (Miss/Mister)
  - b. Crown (girls) / Medal (boys)
  - c. Banner (girls only)
  - d. Trophy
  - e. Jacket
  - f. Free Convention Registration to the following year's DMA Convention in which he / she will return to give up their title.
  - g. Chapter #33 pays the winners' entry fees to the National Convention.
  - h. Chapter #33 pays the teacher of record's registration fee for the National Convention. The teacher of record is REQUIRED to attend the National Convention with the winner. By Nationals rule, the winner is not allowed to enter the National Finals without the Teacher of Record.
  - i. Chapter #33 pays the teacher of record's travel expenses to Nationals (mileage or airfare). The expenses MUST be booked and paid for by the Chapter #33 Treasurer/Business Manager. Chapter #33 will NOT reimburse teachers who purchase airline tickets on their own.
  - j. For each age division (Petite – Miss), ½ of the hotel room at the National Convention will be paid by Chapter #33 and is given to the Teacher of Record.
  - k. Male contestants must have an adjusted talent score of 270 or higher to receive the above awards.

## MUSIC

1. Teachers must email their music by the MUSIC deadline listed on the Titled Solo entry form.
2. Each piece of music should be sent in a SEPARATE email to [music@dma33.org](mailto: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. Contestant's name
  - b. Title of dance

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- c. Age Division (Petite, Junior, etc.)
  - d. Contestant number (emailed to the teacher prior to the convention)
  - e. Teacher of record
  - f. Studio Code Letter
5. In addition to emailing your music, you are required to have one (1) MASTER CD of ALL your Titled Solo music. Please label all tracks clearly. This will be used as a backup should there be any issues during the competition.
  6. The music used at the Chapter competition MUST be used at Nationals.

## **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. There will be a scheduled time to "feel" the stage set by the Solo Chairman. You will be informed of this time during the Title Briefing.
4. No one allowed in the theater prior to the opening of the doors. See the convention schedule for times.