



THE DANCE EFFECT COMPETITION

2018 COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please follow all rules listed below, failure to do so could result in point deductions or disqualification from the event

Entry Deadline

All entries MUST be made online. Please click the "Register Here" link on our website to register for competition. Registration is on a first come, first served basis and will remain open until all openings are filled. Registrations received after the 30 day prior to competition date will be assessed a \$15 late fee per entry. Also, please note that late entries will not be listed in the program. Any changes made to an entry after the deadline will incur a \$15 administration fee. And no changes will be allowed within 7 days prior to competition.

Entry Fees

Released to Studio Owners or Independent Entries during online registration

Motivational Title - \$25/per entry

Photogenic Contest - \$25 (\$15 additional entry)

Most Moving Costume - \$25 (\$15 for each additional entry)

Entries are required to be paid in full 30 days prior to competition to reserve the entry in the show. We may accept late entries but there is a \$15 late fee per entry. Payments are made during registration by credit card. If paying by studio check, your check must be received by The Dance Effect 30 days prior to competition. There is a \$40 fee on all returned checks. All entries are non-refundable and all payments are final. If you register and pay 45 days early for a Regional Competition, you can save \$5 per entry fee for the Early Bird Special. Early Bird Discounts are not valid on Nationals entries due to the increased cost we incur.

Types of Entries

Solo (the number of solos per person may be limited)

Duet/Trio

Small Group: 4-9 dancers

Large Group: 10-19 dancers

Production/Line: 20+ dancers

Motivational Solo Title

Photogenic

Most Moving Costume

*Soloist may not compete against themselves in the same category.

Age Groups

Mini's: 5 and under

Petite: 6-8 years old

Junior: 9-11 years old

Teen: 12-14 years old

Senior: 15-19 years old

Adult: 20+

The Age Group is determined by averaging all of the ages of performers in a dance. The age to be used is the age of the dancer on January 1, 2018. The average is figured by adding all of the dancers' ages and dividing by the number of dancers in the dance. For example, if there are 6 dancers at ages 6, 6, 7, 8, 8, and 9, the equation would be $6+6+7+8+8+9 = 44/6 = 7.3$, meaning this dance would be entered into the petite age group. For all numbers ending in a decimal, please drop the decimal. All dancers are registered through Dance Comp Genie, which automatically determines the age group your dancers will compete in. If there are two or more dancers in your dance that could compete in the age group above the majority of the others in the dance, the dance will automatically be bumped up one age group. Must be able to verify age if needed to do so.

*Dancers 20 years and older must compete in the adult division. Those ages cannot be included in the average dance age.

Entry Levels

DESIRE: The DESIRE entry level is for beginning dancers. The desire level dancer is in their first or second year of dance training and has little to no competition experience. This level is designed to let beginning dancers adapt to the competition scene and become comfortable dancing on stage. These level definitions are only guidelines. Teachers should take their student's technical ability into consideration when registering. The desire level will receive adjudicated and special awards in the form of trophies, pins, ribbons, plaques, medals, or scholarship prizes.

AMBITION: The AMBITION entry level is for intermediate dancers. The ambition level dancer has taken two to three years of dance lessons and has some competition experience. This level is designed to prepare dancers for the next competitive level. These level definitions are only guidelines. Teachers should take their student's technical ability into consideration when registering. The ambition level will receive adjudicated and special awards in the form of trophies, pins, ribbons, plaques, medals, or scholarship prizes.

LEGACY: The LEGACY entry level is for experienced dancers. The legacy level dancer has taken 4+ years of dance and has had ample amount of competition experience. These level definitions are only guidelines. Teachers should take their student's technical ability into consideration when registering. The legacy level will receive adjudicated and special awards in the form of trophies, pins, ribbons, plaques, medals, or scholarship prizes.

*The Dance Effect has the right to change a dancers entry level if our qualified judges feel the need to do so.

Time Limits

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|--------------|------|--------------|------|
| Solos: | 3:00 | Large Group: | 4:00 |
| Duets/Trios: | 3:00 | Line: | 4:00 |
| Small Group: | 3:00 | Production: | 6:00 |

* Five seconds over the time limit will be allowed, however, anything more and you will need to purchase additional for \$15 per entry.

Dance Category/Style

Jazz*: A jazz dance incorporates technique such as kicks, turns, and leaps in a rhythmic fashion.

Tap: A tap dance must use tap shoes and basic tap technique and rhythm. Recorded tap sounds is not permitted.

Ballet: A ballet dance must be performed in proper ballet shoes and include classical ballet technique.

Hip Hop*: A hip hop routine can include any hip-hop technique ranging from street dance, break dance, pop & lock, free style, funk, and stepping.

Lyrical*: A lyrical dance combines jazz and ballet techniques to show balance, flexibility, and emotion that will compliment the tone of the music selected.

Contemporary*: A contemporary dance is a combination of jazz, modern, and lyrical movements. The dance technique demonstrates control, balance, and flexibility.

Modern: A modern dance is an interpretive dance that executes the principles of fall and recovery and contract and release to express emotions related to the song choice.

Musical Theatre*: A music theatre dance uses music from a Broadway or movie musical.

Pointe: A pointe dance uses classical ballet technique. Pointe shoes are required for female dancers.

Pom*: A pom dance demonstrates the execution of sharp, uniformed movements. Pompons must be used for this type of dance. Jumps, kicks, and cheers may be performed during the routine, but stunts are not allowed.

Acrobatics/Gymnastics*: An acrobatic or gymnastic routine contains controlled gymnastics movements, such as walkovers, handstands, chest rolls, etc. Gymnastic passes are allowed, however, a mat must be present for advanced gymnastic skills, such as a Full and an Arabian. Dance choreography must be incorporated into the piece to blend dance, acrobatics, and gymnastics.

Clogging: A clogging dance uses proper clogging shoes and clogging technique.

Production*: A production performance incorporates any style of dance and/or acrobatics. The performance should incorporate full use of the stage and transitions on and off stage. Solo or small group performances can be incorporated during the production piece.

Character*: A character dance portrays an easily recognizable character from a play, movie, musical, or television. You may also portray a character such as a police officer, business person, animal, etc.

Open*: An open dance can be any of the listed categories or a combination of the listed categories/styles of dance.

Variety*: A variety dance is a style that does not fit into any of the categories or styles of dance listed.

Vocal: A vocal performance is considered to be singing only. Recorded voices or lip-syncing is not permitted.

Song & Dance: A song and dance performance includes both vocals and dance technique. Recorded voices or lip-syncing is not permitted.

Student Choreography: Routine choreographed by a student and performed by the student or another student.

* These categories may include acrobatic and gymnastic tricks. Advanced gymnastic tricks must be performed on a gymnastics mat (provided by the studio). Advanced gymnastic tricks include, but are not limited, to twisting rotations (Full or Arabian), double rotations, and passes with 3 or more tricks. Round-offs and cartwheels are not included as a trick in a pass.

Music

The Dance Effect requires that all music be uploaded to Dance Comp Genie during the online registration process. Music must be uploaded by 7 days prior to competition. If this is not possible, please contact The Dance Effect directly by 15 days prior.

Even though you have uploaded your music to Dance Genie, please bring an **audio formatted CD** as a backup. The Dance Effect is not responsible for your music left at event.

All music must be cut and set to the proper tempo. The Dance Effect will not change the speed of music manually and is not responsible for improper playback of music.

Also, if you need to convert your type of file, please see below.

The music upload feature only supports mp3 files. If the music you are using is in another audio format, you will need to convert using an online mp3 converter such <http://audio.online-convert.com/convert-to-mp3> before uploading your music.

You will not need to re-upload music for Nationals if you already uploaded it prior to Regionals. It is a good idea to check your music before you complete registration!

Props

If your routine involves props, be sure to list the props on Dance Comp Genie when entering routines.

All props must be brought backstage and checked in with the stage manager 30 minutes before the first act of the day. All props must be clearly marked with the studio name and studio owner. You may pick up your props after **your** last act of the day. Each studio is responsible for setting and striking their own props. Each studio will have two minutes to set props before the act and two minutes to strike props following the act. Points could be deducted from that entry number for exceeding the time limit.

The following list of props, but not limited to, are prohibited:

- Weapons
- Fire/pyrotechnics
- Back drops/special lighting
- Fog/smoke
- Anything released from the performers hands that cannot be cleared off the stage as the dancers are exiting (glitter, confetti, liquids, baby powder, etc.)
- Release of balloons
- Live Animals

The Dance Effect reserves the right to refuse any props that are unsafe or which do not comply. The Dance Effect is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged props or any injuries related from your props. Any prop that causes any kind of damage to the venue in anyway will be the responsibility of the Studio Owner. The Dance Effect will not be held liable.

Score Sheets

Score sheets will be available on Dance Comp Genie approximately 72 hours after the event. In addition to score sheets, each routine will receive a voice-recorded critique from each judge along with a video feed of their routine.

Scoring Breakdown

The judges will be judging the following things:

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| SHOWMANSHIP | 30 |
| (Stage Presence, Expression, Energy, Emotion of Movement) | |
| TECHNIQUE | 30 |
| (Skill of Style/Steps, Flexibility, Strength and Body Line) | |
| CHOREOGRAPHY | 20 |
| (Difficulty and Creativity, Intricacy and Pace of Movement, Transitions) | |
| OVERALL APPEAL | 20 |
| (Consistency and Timing, Age Appropriateness of Routine, Music, Costume) | |
| TOTAL | 100 |

*In the event of a tie, the Technique score will be the tie breaker. In the event that the Technique score is also tied, then the Showmanship score will break the tie. All scores are final.

Judges Choice Awards

Each judge will present 3 choice awards for the 3 entry levels.

Adjudicated Awards

Solo, Duet, Trio and Group entries will receive a trophy. Everyone in the routine will receive a TDE pin.

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| Platinum | 285-300 |
| High Gold | 280-284.99 |
| Gold | 270-279.99 |
| Silver | 240-269.99 |
| Bronze | 225-239.99 |

Other Awards

Top 3

The Top 3 in each level and age group will be awarded a medal. The first place champion will also receive a plaque and The Dance Effect Dollars, which are good for any of the TDE Competition or Intensive. Please note that the number of entries may change Top 3 to a Top 5 or a Top 10.

- Everyone in the entry receives a medal
- 1st Place Champions in each line up will also receive The Dance Effect Dollars in the following amounts:
 - Solos, Duets/Trios - \$50 *Nationals - \$100
 - Small Groups - \$75 *Nationals - \$150
 - Large Groups, Lines/Productions - \$100 *Nationals - \$200

Category Cup

The Highest Score in each category/style within the age group will receive a category cup trophy; all levels are combined. Must be 3 or more entries within the category/style in each age group.

Choreography Award

The Choreography Award plaque will be awarded to the routine with the highest choreography score in each entry level.

Solo High Point Award

Soloist that perform 2 or more solo acts will automatically be entered into the Solo High Point. The top 2 individual scores are averaged together to determine the winner. There are 2 different age groups for this award, 11 & Under and 12 & Over. All competition levels are combined. The winner will receive \$50 in TDE Dollars.

Solo Motivational Title Award

The Solo Motivational Title entries will be judged during their regular solo performance, but will be entered into a second (separate) award category. Only the top 1st place in each age group and entry level will be awarded and all dance styles will be combined for the Solo Motivational Title Award. The 1st place winner will be awarded a plaque, a tiara and \$50 in The Dance Effect Dollars for this prestigious award. If a male dancer enters for the title and wins the 1st place position, the tiara will be replaced with an acrylic award. Only 3 solos per person can be entered into this title division. Any entry level will be allowed to enter and each entry level and age level will be judged and awarded separately. The fee is \$25 per entry.

Photogenic Contest

Any participant can enter the Photogenic Contest. The fee to enter this contest is \$25 and must be paid at the merchandise table 1 hour prior to the start of the competition for the participant's age group. You will also turn in the photo and the entry form at that time. The 1st place winner will win \$50 in The Dance Effect Dollars. There must be at least 3 different contestants entered into each age group to make a valid contest. Contestants may enter up to 2 photos, the additional photo entry fee is \$15.

It is your responsibility to pick up your photo at the merchandise table after the awards ceremony. We are not responsible for damaged, unclaimed or lost photos. We also will not mail the photo if not picked up the day of the competition.

- Photo – 5x7 or 8x10 (color or black and white)
- Individual photos only, no group photos
- Information to be placed on back on photo – name, age and studio
- Age groups – 11 & Under and 12 & Over

Most Moving Costume

Any act can enter the Most Moving Costume contest. The fee to enter this contest is \$25 and must be paid at the merchandise table 1 hour prior to the start of the competition for the participant's age group. You will also turn in the entry form at this time. The 1st place winner will win \$50 in the Dance Effect Dollars. There must be at least 3 different acts entered into each age group to make a valid contest. Contestants may enter up to 3 different costumes, the cost is an additional \$15 fee per entry.

- Solos, Duets, Trios, Groups or Line/Productions are all eligible
- Age groups – 11 & Under and 12 & Over

Sportsmanship Award

The Sportsmanship Award is the most prestigious award. This award will be given to the studio that shows the most sportsmanship and charisma. The winner will receive a 5'0" tall trophy to take home to their studio.

Competition General Information

The doors will open 1 hour prior to the first act to allow access to lobby and dressing rooms. The doors to the performance hall and backstage will open 30 minutes prior to the first act.

Please note that the competition may run ahead of time or behind time. Please be prepared for this possibility.

Please secure personal items. The Dance Effect is not responsible for any damaged, lost or stolen items.

Performance Hall Guidelines

No food or drink in the performance hall.

The use of tobacco or alcoholic products is prohibited in the performance facility.

Video recording and picture taking are **prohibited** inside the performance hall during competition and dressing rooms at ALL times! Points could be deducted for violating these rules and you could be asked to leave. We will have a professional photographer and videographer for you to purchase routine videos and pictures from. However, you may take photos during the award ceremonies.

We encourage applause and cheering for each act, but please refrain from screaming or shouting. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated and you may be asked to leave.

Backstage Regulations

All routines must check in backstage with the stage manager 1 hour prior to their performance. One representative from the routine may check in with the stage manager. The Dance Effect Stage Manager will line routines up in the correct order.

At the time of check-in, please notify the Stage Manager of any use of props or microphones.

Teachers and performers are only allowed backstage for their performances or when directed by a staff member. Nobody is allowed to be backstage during awards except for TDE Staff.

No food or drink is allowed in the backstage area, on stage, or dressing rooms. All dancers and studio teachers are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Any damage to venue or dressing rooms will be the responsibility of the Studio Owner. The Dance Effect will not be held liable.

Only same gender parents and studio owners will be allowed in the dressing rooms.

Competing Out of Order

Each entry is expected to compete at the time in which it is scheduled. However, The Dance Effect Stage Manager may ask routines to compete out of order to avoid delay, due to costume changes. **Please be prepared to perform 1 hour earlier than your scheduled time as The Dance Effect Competition could run ahead of scheduled time. We shouldn't come searching for you.**

Other Rules and Disclaimers

The Dance Effect reserves the right to:

- Cancel any competition at any time
- Add/change competition days
- Move competition location

These changes may be due to weather or number of entries.

The Dance Effect reserves the right to limit the number of entries at each competition. We also reserve the right to change the number of entries at any given time.

If you have received The Dance Effect Dollars it is YOUR responsibility to keep them until you are ready to use them. The Dance Effect will not take the time to go back and see what your studio was awarded. TDE Dollars may be used towards any Competition entry or Intensive entry, not valid for cash or merchandise.

Risk of Injury

It should be known to all performers that by competing in dance competition you are at risk of injury such as; sprains, muscle strains, bruises, and broken bones. By entering into this competition it is agreed to release, exonerate, indemnify, and hold The Dance Effect, LLC and their entities harmless of any liabilities and/or injuries that occur as a result of participation at a The Dance Effect, LLC event. Furthermore, I agree to release The Dance Effect, LLC and their entities from responsibility of any and all losses, damages, and court, legal, and/or medical fees.

If an injury does occur please report it to a staff member immediately and complete an Accident Injury Form.

Media Release

By entering into this competition, I also agree to allow The Dance Effect, LLC and their agents to use any pictures or video that my child or myself may be in for promotional use.

Inappropriate Choreography and Costumes

The Dance Effect Competitions are a kid-friendly environment. We will not tolerate choreography, costumes, and content that is inappropriate for the age division or audience members.

Judges

The Dance Effect will have three (3) judges throughout the competition. The judges will be given an iPad for scoring. All Judges scores are FINAL and are not open for discussion.

Please do not crowd the judge's table or communicate with the Judges during the competition in anyway!

Nationals

All routines must be performed at a Regional Competition to be eligible to enter the National Competition. With that being said, there may be a possible "Regional" performance day, prior to the start of Nationals to allow those who missed the scheduled Regionals. The number of entries will determine if this will be allowed at that time or not. National fees will apply to those "Regional" registration routines and will only qualify for an adjudicated award.

