

iamDANCE

rules & regulations

i am DANCE registration rules

- Entries will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis and will be limited to the amount of performance time available.
- All entries must be paid in full before they will be processed
- Payments may be made by credit card, E-check, checks, money orders. Bounced checks will incur an additional bounced check fee of \$50.
- No phone, faxed, or mailed entries will be accepted.
- All entries must include the correct names and ages of all contestants.
- The name of a routine may not be the same name as the dance studio.
- Be certain that you are entering your performers in the correct competitive level when inputting your registration data.
- i am SENIOR Choreographer- Student Choreography - Seniors in high school for the annual school year are automatically eligible for the i am SENIOR project. Must choose the option of Student Choreography during the online registration process. Advanced competitive division only.
- After payment is made, you will receive a summary via email of all routines registered. It is imperative that you review this information including birth date and age division, and reply with any corrections.
- We reserve the right to add additional competition days/times, if deemed necessary, and also reserve the right to move the competition location.
- If there are any updates to scheduling please e-mail info@iamDANCEcomp.com to accommodate the request for an update. Please note we will do our best to accommodate the request but we cannot guarantee implementation.

age divisions

AGES ARE DETERMINED BASED ON THE DANCERS AGE ON DECEMBER 31ST, 2023.

- Mini 5 & Under
- Child 6-9
- Junior 10-12
- Teen 13-15
- Senior 16-19
- Adult 20+

Proof of Age: All performers are required to have proof of age on hand at every event. Failure to provide a birth certificate or proof of age division is challenged will result in disqualification of that routine.

Determining Age Division: Duets/Trios, Groups and Lines will compete at the average age division determined by averaging the age of all members of the group. Do not use decimals or round up. Example: If the average comes to 11.8, they will compete in the Junior age division.

Routine Size & Time Limits

Any person who is actively participating in an entry for ANY amount of time is counted as a performer and must be registered as such. This includes any person who can be seen by the judges for any amount of time on stage.

Advanced, Intermediate and Novice Soloists are limited to entering a maximum of two (2) solo performance categories and may not compete against themselves in any category.

A contestant cannot place more than once for over-all placement in the Solo division.

The highest scoring solo will be eligible for the over-alls.

Note: Novice Division are NOT eligible to register any EN-POINTE routines.

- Solo - 1 Performer // Time Limit - 2:45 minutes

Solos MUST compete in the competition level in which the dancer is registered originally on the studio's roster.

- Duet/Trio - 2-3 Performers // Time Limit - 2:45 minutes

- Small Group - 4-9 Performers // Time Limit - 3:30 minutes

*A Maximum of 3:00 minutes extended time may be purchased.

- Large Group - 10-19 Performers // Time Limit - 3:30 minutes

*A Maximum of 3:00 minutes extended time may be purchased.

- Line/Production - 20+ Performers // Time Limit - 4:30 minutes

*A Maximum of 8:00 minutes extended time may be purchased.

- Adult- 1+ Performers // Time Limit - (See Above)

*All entries registered as Adult Division will be combined into one overall placement.

EXTENDED TIMES

Groups, Lines & Productions may purchase an extended time of 30 seconds at \$3/per performer. To register for extended time, please check the box on the routine that indicates "Request Extended Time" on your online studio account.

SETUP TIME LIMIT

- Entry with prop must notify the Backstage Manager prior to scheduled performance time. If setup exceeds 30 seconds you can add additional setup time at the time of registration.
- 30 seconds will be allotted for setup and another 30 seconds for tear down with a total of 1 minute.
- If needed more time you have the option to purchase up to 8 minutes for your /Line Production and 4 minutes for Small/ Large Groups.
- To register for extended time, please check the box on the routine that indicates "Request Extended Time" on your online studio account.

Competition Levels

Entries need to be placed by technical ability in all categories of dance. As it is a guideline for the studio to place appropriately; the staff of i am DANCE have the sole right to move, adjust entry placements accordingly.

novice Technical Allowance

- Single/double Pirouette
- Basic Leaps - grand jete, saute, leap in second, ect.
- Basic time steps, single wings, paddle steps, military march, ect.
- Basic acrobatic movement cartwheel/walkover, bridge, round-off, hand-stand, ect.
- Pointe shoes not allowed

note: If entry is suggested to move up to Intermediate Division, this will affect all the performers' solos registered. The staff and judges will use discretion for any other entries the 'bumped up' performer may be performing in.

intermediate Technical Allowance

- Double/triple pirouette
- Intermediate leaps - Tour jete, switch leaps, sissone, rondeverse, axes
- Double/triple time steps, doubles, separated wings/ pullbacks, multiple shading, complicated rhythms (syncopated)
- Aerials, back/front handsprings, layout, single tucks, half twist.

note: If entry is suggested to move up to Advanced Division, this will affect all the performers' solos registered. The staff and judges will use discretion for any other entries the 'bumped up' performer may be performing in.

advanced Technical Allowance

- Advanced in all fields with no limitations.

non-competitive/ exhibition

- Not eligible for overall placement
- Option to just exhibit/perform your entry.
- All Adult entries 20+ are NOT eligible for overall placements.

important notes

- Studios are required to assign a competition level for EACH performer when they are entering their roster in the registration system.
- Please be certain that you are entering your performers in the CORRECT COMPETITIVE LEVEL.
- DANCERS MAY ONLY BE REGISTERED AT ONE LEVEL.
- Solos and Duo/Trios MUST compete in the division they registered in.
- Duet/Trios, Small Groups - The highest level of dancer in an entry will determine the level of the entry.

example

If entry is suggested to move up to Advanced Division, this will affect all the performers' solos registered. The staff and judges will use discretion for any other entries the 'bumped up' performer may be performing in.

- Lines and Productions- No more than 1/3 of the dancers in a routine may be a higher performance level than the level that the routine is entered.

example

If a routine has 12 dancers - 4 advanced, 4 intermediate & 4 novice, the routine will be placed in the 'advanced' level because 1/3 or more of the dancers are advanced.

- No dancer that is registered in the Advanced level will be permitted in ANY Novice level routine.
- No Solo may be bumped to a lower competition level than the level in which the performer is entered on the 2022 studio roster.
- Groups/Lines/Productions may be placed in a higher competition level than the average of the participants, but never a lower competitive level.

Any routine that is bumped to a higher level at any i am DANCE competition will remain in that higher level for the remainder of the season. It is at the judges and/or directors discretion to move any routine that they feel is placed in a level below their ability to the level in which they feel is necessary. All judges' decisions are FINAL.

Performance Categories

ballet

A routine consisting of classical steps & ballet technique traditionally used with classical music.

note: Only Intermediate and Advanced Divisions may wear pointe shoes.

contemporary

A style of “new” interpretive dance that embraces innovation, blending techniques from various genres, including but not limited to, ballet, jazz, modern.

modern

A routine containing a modern technique such as Horton, Graham, Ailey, Tharp style of dance.

lyrical

A style of dance that combines ballet and jazz techniques. Expression of lyrics, storytelling is highlighted with emotion inspired by the music.

jazz

A style of dance that combines both African and European dance styles. Traditionally high energy and up-beat tempo.

tap

A routine utilizing tap technique and must be performed with tap shoes only.

hip hop

A range of street dance styles primarily performed to hip hop music or that have evolved as part of hip hop culture.

musical theater

A routine that inhabits the intersection between choreography and written text, whether dialogue or sung lyric seen on TV/Film/Stage.

acro dance

A style that combines elements of acrobatics and floor gymnastics with classical dance styles.

open

A routine that is a combination of any of the other categories; a routine that does not exactly fit any of the definitions of any other category.

No vocals permitted

Scoring System

3 Judges scores combined for a total of 100 points.

Scoring Criteria

0-40 Technique
0-40 Performance
0-20 Style

Adjudication Scoring Breakdown All Levels

95-100 Pre-Pro
90-94.9 HighGold
85-89.9 Gold
80-84.9 High Silver
70-79.9 Silver
0-69.9 Bronze

Style Points

Each judge scores points for each entry in its category up to 20 points. Style points are a separate scoring criteria for rankings in styles registered with entry i.e Ballet, Lyrical, Jazz, ect.

Pre-Pro Status & i am IMPROV Challenge Qualifications.

Solos who rank Pre-Pro Status will automatically be eligible for the i am IMPROV Challenge which will be held in the beginning of each award presentation.

Dancers will perform in random order for 30 seconds on stage individually in the style of dance they qualified in.

Must check-in with the backstage manager to receive a number for line-up. Dancers will be broken up into age groups 12 & Under/ 13 & Over starting with 12 & Under dancers.

After the last improv dancer, all 12 & Under will line up in order and the judges will pick the i am IMPROV Challenge winner.

notes:

i am DANCE is supporting the arts by providing each style of dance an opportunity for scholarships, higher education, representation, diversification. With the intent to support parents, studio owners, the arts, and most importantly, the dancer. With covering the cost of tuition, finding opportunity to be seen, the right program for their dance style.

Scholarships are assigned strictly by the judges, director of i am DANCE. All decisions are final.

Scores & Deductions

A panel of judges who specialize in various styles of dance will judge all registered entries. All entrants agree that the time, manner, and method of judging the entrants shall be solely within the discretion of the judges and staff of i am DANCE and that all decisions are final.

If dance movements, music lyrics, or costuming are deemed to be too suggestive or otherwise inappropriate for our family audience, or if the music contains vulgar or inappropriate lyrics, the routine will be scored lower by the judges or disqualified from the competition.

A 5-point deduction will be made for routines that are not completed unless due to a costume malfunction that would result in an immodest performance.

A deduction of one tenth point (.1) per judge will be made for every 15 seconds (or any portion thereof).

Entry with prop must notify the Backstage Manager prior to scheduled performance time. If setup exceeds 30 seconds you can add additional setup time at the time of registration.

Up to 30 seconds will be allotted for setup and another 30 seconds for tear down with a total of 1 minute.

If needed more time you have the option to purchase up to 8 minutes for your /Line Production and 4 minutes for Small/ Large Groups.

To register for extended time, please check the box on the routine that indicates "Request Extended Time" on your online studio account.

NOTE: Entries that are over the time limit will result in automatic deduction of one point or a fraction thereof for every 5 seconds of overtime if extended time has not been registered for that entry.

STYLE POINT DEDUCTIONS

It is the right of the judges to deduct Style points due to inappropriateness, explicit content in music/choreography, improper attire/costume.

Music Rules

when:

Music must be uploaded 2 weeks minimum prior to the event as part of the registration process. Each entry will need to be labeled with an entry number first then space, then the name of your entry for example, 100 A Whole New World.

deadline for changes:

If there needs to be any changes/updates to your music, you must bring a master & back-up to the venue prior to entry performing - contact the event director or Host at registration table.

back-ups:

Flash drive or iPad should be provided during studio check-in on site as a back-up. In this instance please have your mp3 files named with entry # then name of dance ie 156 Le Jazz Hot. Back-ups must be fully charged, providing the correct dongle attachment.

appropriateness:

Any music which contains profanity, mature, sexual content, or explicit content, will result in a score deduction and/or disqualification. This will be under the discretion of the judges and the onsite director. All decisions are final.

Tap routines should not have tap sounds in a piece of music.

troubleshooting assistance:

If assistance is needed with the uploading process, labeling music, please contact the office.

We no longer accept CDS/Cassettes/A-tracks.

Props

Props must be loaded in and out of the venue on the same day they are used. Storing props in the wings or backstage is not permitted unless authorized by i am DANCE staff.

All props must be fire-proofed. Props must be labeled with the studio name for identification purposes backstage.

No dangerous props may be used on stage (such as fire, swords or knives). Live animals are also prohibited on stage.

Please alert the backstage manager of any props that will be used before your performance time.

30 seconds to set-up and 30 seconds to tear down the prop is allotted.

competition time schedule

A studio schedule will be e-mailed seven (7) days before the competition date. Every regional schedule is based on the breakdown of entries by size, age, and competitive division for that particular city. Schedule is not available until all of the entries have been processed. If there are discrepancies in scheduling, only the director/studio owner or registrant may contact the office. We cannot guarantee requests.

entries must compete on the day and time assigned

We understand that there are sometimes unforeseen events that can arise. Any entry, which is not able to compete at their assigned day and time, may request an alteration to the entry's scheduled time.

If this is approved, this entry may be permitted to compete for ADJUDICATION ONLY and may not be eligible for overall high score placement.

However, your entry may be eligible for overall awards if your entry performs prior to scheduled overall awards.

Any change in competition days and/or times is at the sole discretion of the director and will be determined by the time allowance at each regional competition.

The number in which each routine is assigned is for reference and identification purposes. Routines will perform in numerical order. If the backstage manager sees potential delays due to changes in the program, you may be asked to compete out of program order. Be prepared to compete when we call your entry number, even though it may be a few entries earlier than you anticipated.

Performers MUST be checked in with the Backstage Manager 5 entries prior to their scheduled performance time.

note

If you determine that you do not have enough time between numbers to change costumes, it is imperative that you advise the backstage manager.

General Rules

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO RECORDING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Failure to abide by this rule can result in Disqualification for the studio. If anyone is found photographing or video recording in the competition auditorium, we reserve the right to delete the video footage. Teachers... It is your responsibility to inform your contestants and parents of this rule.

No smoking is permitted in any of our venues.

If a dancer would like to compete at an event with two separate studios, that dancer must have written permission from BOTH studios prior to the event.

No dancer may compete as an independent entry if their studio is registered.

Only Intermediate and Advanced Divisions may wear pointe shoes.

By entering your email address, you hereby agree to join the i am DANCE mailing list.

Positive sportsmanlike behavior is expected from all contestants, teachers and families at all times. Failure to display proper decorum could result in immediate disqualification. This includes attempting to recruit students from other studios to attend yours at one of our events.

i am DANCE and the hosting venue is not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

Please note that every venue is unique and has its own set of rules concerning outside food & beverage, use of helium balloons, etc.

Glass of any kind including but not limited to props, costuming, accessories, ect., are not permitted backstage or on stage at any i am DANCE event.

awards adjudications/ general awards

Each Entry receives a trophy.

Duo/Trios and all groups receive a pin per performer.

During awards presentation, each entry will need an assigned representative to stand up, walk to the awards table and receive their trophy and pins.

overall awards **Top 10**

Each age division and competitive division will be eligible for overall placements.

Novice must receive a minimum of Silver placement in order to be eligible.

Intermediate must receive a minimum of Gold placement in order to be eligible.

Advanced must receive a minimum of High Gold placement in order to be eligible.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be recognized individually.

10th-4th will have top 10 recognition.

note:

A minimum of 5 must be in the age, size and competitive division in order for overalls to be generated. For example there must be 5 Junior Novice Soloists for a Top 3. 10 entries for Top 5. 15+ entries for Top 10.

Top 3

Olympic style with superior recognition of 1st, 2nd & 3rd place High Score.

Duo/Trios & Groups

Duo/Trio entries when receiving overall placement all dancers in the duo/trio may accept the award together.

Groups/ Lines/ Productions we ask only a single representative receive the award.

special awards

judges awards

These awards are individually curated and inspired by our panel of judges. These are presented during each award session

i am DANCE title competition

The highest scoring Solo will earn the title to represent their regional city. Only the Advanced division are eligible to compete for the regional title of Mr or Ms i am DANCE. There is no additional registration fee for title.

i am DANCE Studio Award

The studio that has the highest average style points of the whole weekend for Novice/ Intermediate/ Advanced divisions.

i am INCLUSIVE Award

The studio who shares the same values of i am DANCE and truly exemplifies good sportsmanship by demonstrating values of inclusivity, community. Sponsored by Discount Dance Supply.

i am IMPROV Award

Dancers who place in the PRE-PRO STATUS are automatically eligible to compete in the i am IMPROV challenge. 30 seconds to perform a random selected song of their style they qualified in. i am IMPROV challenge will occur during each award session if there are any qualified dancers. The staff of i am DANCE will select 1 winner who will receive an award.

Judges Choreography Pick

The judges will choose the choreography award that was their favorite choreography in a performance. It's under their sole discretion. Judges' decisions are final.

12 & Under High Score

Competitive Division only. Any size categories are eligible. Dancers announced will receive their award along with teacher/ choreographer of the 12 & Under High Score in the Competitive Division.

13 & Over High Score

Competitive Division only. Any size categories are eligible. Dancers announced will receive their award along with teacher/ choreographer of the 13 & Over High Score in the Competitive Division.

Style Awards

Each competitive division will be eligible for a high score in STYLE points. A curated scholarship will be awarded to the highest scoring style in their competitive division. For example... The "i am TAP" winner will receive a full scholarship to Syncopated Ladies Summer Bootcamp.

note:

It is under the discretion of the judges and directors of i am DANCE have the final say of who the recipient of the said scholarship/opportunity is, and does not guarantee a scholarship or a winner of a scholarship.

i am PRE-PRO dancer- company program

how to qualify:

Must register and compete a solo in the advanced division.

Solo must place in PRE-PRO Status in order to qualify during the adjudication portion of the competition.

Style of the solo ranked in PRE-PRO Status will be entered in the i am IMPROV Challenge

During the overall awards, the dancers who score the highest style points will be announced as i am DANCE PRE-PRO Dancer.

The announced winner(s) will receive a free solo for next season along with a convention scholarship tailored to their style they registered in and become an official member of the i am PRE-PRO Company.

PRE-PRO Company members will be featured in highlights, reels, online publications and print and have exclusive opportunities as a PRE-PRO Company member.

i am DANCE experience

The mission of i am DANCE is to promote innovation in the competition industry by providing an inclusive experience for all ages, levels and styles of DANCE.

i am DANCE provides a unique and safe competition experience that celebrates all styles of dance.

i am DANCE believe that all styles of DANCE are equally important to one another and should be equally championed.

i am DANCE proudly supports all ages and levels from the first time on the big stage to the seasoned competitor, from novice to pre-professional.

Providing an inclusive professional environment with an accredited panel of judges who specialize in various styles of DANCE.