



WELCOME TO ORLANDO

Welcome to The Dance Awards 2024!

It's that time of year! The best young dance talent from around the world meet in Orlando for The Dance Awards! We are excited to announce that this is our largest event ever with three stages of simultaneous dancing. It will be an amazing week of events, and we're honored that you're joining us. Below is info to help you prepare for the week. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at info@thedanceawards.com.

EVENT LOCATION

The Hyatt Regency Orlando

The Dance Awards' events take place in the ballrooms located on the Convention Level of the Hyatt Regency Orlando.

THE DANCE AWARDS DESK & CHECK-IN

- The Dance Awards Desk is located directly on the Convention Level and will be open for the duration of the event.
- Dancers attending without a studio representative, or as Independents, can check-in beginning July 6th. All Best Dancers will check-in individually during Orientation. If attending with a studio representative, Best Dancers will NOT need to check-in at the TDA Desk to receive their workshop materials. If not attending with a studio rep., Best Dancers WILL need to check-in at the TDA Desk to receive their workshop wristband, etc.

STUDIO OWNERS & TEACHERS

- Studio Owners & Teachers have reserved seating during competition. Reserved seating will apply whether entered in the competition or not. To find reserved seats, please proceed to the front of the audience.
- Registered Teachers have access to all workshop classes, at all times. Registered Teachers can observe the Best Dancer Audition Classes; however, they do not have access to any Best Dancer rehearsals.
- All studios that qualify for complimentary tickets to The Dance Awards Closing Show can pick up their tickets from The Dance Awards Desk on Friday, July 12th.
- All score sheets and online critique information will be made available to the users of the Dance360 account within 5-7 days after the event, or sooner. Class Scholarships & Best Dancer Adjudicated Awards can be picked up on July 13th after 11am.
- We are providing a few meals for Studio Owners and Teachers during the event. There will also be a *Teacher Oasis* as well as our Welcome Cocktail Party and After Party. More info on this will be sent in a later email.



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WORKSHOP

- During the first two days of workshop classes (July 11th & 12th), the faculty will be awarding Class Scholarships to dancers that excel at their particular style. Class Scholarships can be awarded to any dancer, up to 19 years old, in the Mini, Junior, Teen & Senior Rooms. All Class Scholarship Winners will be announced on Saturday, July 13th in each workshop room immediately following the final class.
- We recommend dancers bring their own water and water bottles.

COMPETITION

- **Please Remember:** Due to the Teen Group Competition being significantly larger than the other divisions, we split the Teen competition into Small Groups and Large Groups (Lines, Ext Lines & Productions). We separate them for placement awards as well as for the Best Performance Nominees re-competing in the Closing Show.
- The criteria for the Best Dancer Competition puts equal weight on both the Jazz & Ballet Audition and the Best Dancer Solo. For all updated Best Dancer info please visit our website thedanceawards.com.
- The Dance Awards will be assigning dressing rooms based on the amount of competing dancers from a studio. This information will be sent to Studio Owners prior to the event. Doors to the "General" dressing rooms will open 1 hour before the competition start time each day. If these rooms are also used for workshop classes, we ask that costume racks, make-up cases, etc. are NOT brought into the rooms until workshop classes have ended and the dancers have cleared the room.
- In an effort to have the competition run smoothly, we will not be allowing routines to perform out of order without the approval of an Event Director. Once the competition starts, we will not be able to skip routines, swap the order of routines or move routines until a later time.
- Routines are not allowed to "age up" once the event officially begins.
- **NOMINATIONS REMINDER** – A Studio's Specialty Nominations & Studio Award Nominations are able to be changed up until the first routine (of any kind) competes at The Dance Awards. Once competition at The Dance Awards has started, there can be no changes to nominations for any reason.
- All competition music should be uploaded to your Dance360 account no later than Friday, June 28th. Please make sure to bring back-up music on an iPhone, iPod or computer.
- Prop load-in times and storage information will be provided to Studios in a follow-up email in the next week.

SPECIAL EVENTS - Please check online schedule for most updated times

- **Mini & Junior Electric Dance Party!** - All Mini & Junior dancers are invited to a fun and festive Electric Glow Dance Party! Come dressed in your best Glow Attire/Light Up/Colorful Costume and be ready for a night full of dancing and games!
- **TDA Prom** - All Teens and Seniors (ages 13+) are invited to TDA Prom! Grab a date or a friend, get dressed up and come dance the night away! We want to see your Promposals on Instagram with #TDAPROM. Your date to TDA Prom must be a registered Teen or Senior dancer attending TDA Orlando.
- **Parent Classes** - Calling all Parents! Join us for any/all of our parent classes but don't miss parent Mimosa & Grooves w/ Elizabeth. What more could you ask for than an hour of dance and mimosas?! All fun! No prior experience needed.
- **Optional workshop classes** for all registered workshop dancers throughout the week.
- **ROYAL CARIBBEAN OPEN AUDITIONS** - All Senior workshop dancers ages 16+ are invited to attend.



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- **The Best Dancer Dance-Off** - The most high-energy night of The Dance Awards! *The Dance-Off* begins with the Top 10 Best Dancers, in each age division, improvising to randomly selected music. The judges then narrow it down to the Top 3 who then re-compete their solos.

THE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP & AUDITION EXPERIENCE

We are proud to announce the expansion of our program, The College Scholarship & Audition Experience, for attendees pursuing higher education in dance. We have gathered a distinguished and diverse array of college and university dance programs to participate in this event. Be seen and earn financial scholarship from top universities as well as the first ever DanceOne scholarship, totaling up to \$25,000.

- **Open to all SENIOR workshop dancers ages 16-19. All ages are as of January 1st, 2024.**
- **Friday, July 12th**
 - 8:00a-2:30p - The College Scholarship & Audition Experience (Held In Senior Ballroom)
 - 3:00p-4:00p - The College Fair (Held In Senior Ballroom)
- **Saturday, July 13th**
 - 12:45p-1:30p - Senior Scholarship Announcements (Held In Orange County Convention Center, W414)
- **Our Collegiate Partners for TDA 2024:** Alvin Ailey at Fordham University, AMDA College of the Performing Arts: Los Angeles, California Institute of the Arts, Marymount Manhattan, Ohio State University, Pace University, Temple University: Boyer College of Dance, The Julliard School, University of Minnesota, University of Southern California, Wayne State University and more to come!

OBSERVER PASSES

- Observation of the entire Competition is FREE.
- Friends and family who would like to watch workshop classes have the option of purchasing an observer pass for \$90. This allows observation of all (except Teacher) workshop classes throughout the week. If you registered to be an Observer in advance through your studio, they will have your wristband with their registration. You may also purchase an observer pass on-site at The Dance Awards merchandise booth.
- Additional PeeWee Observer bands can also be purchased at The Dance Awards merchandise booth for \$55.

VIDEO & PHOTOGRAPHY

Videotaping, flash photography and SLR cameras (professional grade/detachable lens) are strictly prohibited during the entire event. Parents will be able to purchase photos & videos of the competition at The Dance Awards media booth or at thedanceawards.com

CONCESSIONS

The Hyatt Regency has numerous food outlets open at all hours. However, there will be a concession stand in The Dance Awards foyer on our busiest days. Hours of operation: July 8-10th, 10:00a-2:00p.



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LIVESTREAM

The Dance Awards is happy to provide a free webcast of the Best Dancer Solo Competition, Finals Competition, The Best Dancer Dance-Off & The Dance Awards Closing Show! You will be able to access the livestream through thedanceawards.com. The livestream will go LIVE about five minutes before each start time. Please understand that sometimes we are limited by the internet capabilities of the event's venue. Occasionally, we are unable to get a strong enough connection from the venue to do the livestream, or the connection is intermittent. Please be assured we do everything possible to produce a seamless livestream. We apologize in advance if you experience any difficulties!

THE DANCE AWARDS CLOSING SHOW

- The Dance Awards Closing Show will take place on Saturday, July 13th at 6pm.
- Tickets for the Closing Show are available on our website, www.thedanceawards.com. The Closing Show is known to sell out prior to the event so don't delay! We will have a re-sale board on-site at the event.
- We are happy to announce that we will be offering a free livestream of this year's Dance Awards Closing Show! As always, we may be limited by the internet capabilities of the venue but will do our best to produce a seamless livestream.
- Dress is upscale chic.

WHAT'S IN THE CLOSING AWARDS SHOW?

- The 25 Best Performance Nominees—the top five routines from the Mini, Junior, Teen Small Group, Teen Large Group & Senior age divisions. These top five routines, in each age division, are the Best Performance Nominees and will re-compete for our special guest panel of judges.
- The ONE overall highest scoring PeeWee and Open routine (out of all of the Group, Line, Extended Line and Production divisions)
- All Senior Best Dancers will be performing in the Opening Number
- All Teen Best Dancers will be performing in the Closing Number
- The 2024 Dance Awards Senior Best Dancer title winners
- Award presentations in over 30 categories
- Special guests

FINALLY...

If you have any questions, please email us at info@thedanceawards.com. Thank you for all of your support. We can't wait to see you!

Sincerely,

Mike, Kristen, Ronnie & Danny

Event Directors

The Dance Awards