



## OUR BENEFITS:

### Affordability

- **Entry and program fees, priced 37 – 49 % below our competitors;**
- **Early registration discounts offered;**
- **FREE event admission;**
- **FREE event program for registered studio directors and teachers!**

The Dance Championships provides the most affordable experience within the dance competition industry. Entry and program fees are significantly less than our competitors with no pre-qualifying workshops or obligation to attend regional or national finals. Registration discounts are offered to provide incentive for early registration.

### Considerate Planning

- **Punctuality is a fundamental principle;**
- **Attempt to provide at least five routines for costume changes;**
- **Award ceremonies scheduled throughout the day;**
- **Competition schedule published at least 10 days in advance!**

Renowned for our ability to stay on time, this fundamental principle was a primary motivation for creating the Dance Championships and continues to be a product of our careful and considerate planning. We begin with a weekend program that schedules adequate time for each routine and caps the maximum number of entries. We also evaluate the age of the children competing and adjust the schedule accordingly; young children generally do not compete late in the evening and especially late on Sunday when out-of-town families need to return home. The names of competitors are also carefully scrutinized to reasonably accommodate costume changes. Finally, judges are scheduled a break no more than three hours apart, keeping them mentally fresh and engaged.

### Placement

- **Professional and Apprentice performance divisions;**
- **Traditional placement of 1<sup>st</sup> (Gold), 2<sup>nd</sup> (Silver), 3<sup>rd</sup> (Bronze), and Honorable Mention;**
- **Numerous age divisions:**
  - **Professional: 6 & Under, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, 19 & Over**
  - **Apprentice: Junior (10 & Under), Teen (11-14), and Senior (15 & Over).**

Remember when dance competitions used to be a competition and not just a showcase? Remember when dancers used to compete in crowded categories for a traditional 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placement? Remember when these crowded categories taught our children humility in victory, grace in defeat and ambition towards achieving their goals? Unfortunately, many of today's competitions have abandoned these precepts and goals for a confusing mixture of dance categories, skill levels and placement options that serve more as a pass-through qualification for their national finals than a lesson for the children to learn and grow from.

## Awards

- **Gold, Silver, & Bronze Medals with neck ribbons presented to each dancer of the highest three (3) scoring routines in each category;**
- **Honorable mention ribbons awarded to each dancer not qualifying for a medal in the Apprentice Division and to each dancer in the 12 & Under age divisions in the Professional Division;**
- **Special “Merit” recognition for an average score between 90 and 94;**
- **Special “Elite” recognition for an average score 95 or higher.**

We believe each young dancer should be rewarded for their hard work and accomplishment, meaning each dancer aged 12 and under will receive their own medal or ribbon according to placement. Each dancer aged 13 and over will also receive their own medal or ribbon for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placement or for an honorable mention with “Merit” or “Elite” recognition. The common practice of providing only one medal or ribbon per duet/trio or group routine should not be tolerated given today’s exorbitant registration fees charged by our competitors.

## Special Awards

- **Overall High Scores:** \$200 cash scholarship and trophy presented to the highest scoring routine in each age division with a minimum of 10 routines. Nine (9) additional trophies presented to the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> highest scoring routines in each age division with a minimum of 15 routines;
- **Grand Champions:** \$100 cash scholarship and Grand Champion trophy presented to the highest scoring routine in the 12 & Under, 13 & Over age divisions. Each dancer in a Grand Champion routine, excluding solos, will receive a Grand Champion ribbon and the choreographer will receive a plaque;
- **Choreography:** “Choreographer” Award presented in solo/duet/trio and group categories in each age division;
- **Studio Spirit:** \$100 Studio Spirit Award and plaque presented to the studio director entering the highest number of dancers;
- **Production:** A trophy will be presented to the highest scoring production routine. Where there are three (3) or more routines, a \$100 cash prize will also be awarded;
- **Special Judges Awards:** Presented during each awards ceremony.

## Technology

- **Online Registration:** The Dance Championships uses a state-of-the-art, proprietary technology for online registration. We encourage each of you to register your studio online through the official website. If you have previously registered online with the Dance Championships, existing student lists will carry forward and birthdates will automatically update. If you have previously registered online with one of our competitors using the same online registration software, account information may be migrated from and to our event with proper authorization. For e.g., starting in 2013, the Starpower International Talent Competition [Starpower] began using the same online registration technology we helped develop two years earlier in 2011. Starpower blocks its customers from migrating any registration data to their competitors. We place no such restriction on this convenience;
- **Video Judge:** A DVD including video and audio of each judges’ adjudications is provided to each studio director after the event;
- **Multi-Media:** Photography and video services are offered throughout the event. Action photos and video may be purchased on-site through our third party vendor.

## Accessibility

- **Direct contact with the competition owners / directors at all times;**
- **Studio directors and teachers have access to all competition scores, which are posted throughout the event for viewing in the tabulation room.**

The Dance Championships is owned and operated by individuals who live or have lived in the local dance community, thereby allowing all studio directors, teachers, dancers, parents and friends direct and immediate access to the competition organizers. This level of accessibility highlights a special commitment to providing the most personal and responsive customer service in the dance competition industry. It makes us accountable to our neighbors and guarantees a special interest in preserving and improving the dance experience for your children.

## Studio Recognition

To celebrate the diversity in local offerings and to encourage support of the local dance community, our website and competition programs identify participating studios and indicate recital dates and locations, as well as a link to your studio website, where available.

## Contact Us

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us:

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