

the GUIDANCE experience

GENERAL INFORMATION

- For events that occur, entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.
- All fees must be paid by check or credit card 45 days prior to the competition.
- All competition entries must be registered 45 days prior to the competition.
- The deadline for competition changes is 2 weeks prior to the event. No changes will be accepted after this date.
- All competition fees are per person, per entry. Rates are listed in TourPro and available after you have read the Artistic Standards.
- Events include workshops and master classes taught by our faculty. Students may choose to attend classes and not compete, however all competing dancers are required to be registered for these classes. There is a fee associated with these classes. Classes will consist of one movement and one seminar class, or two movement classes. Classes will be Friday evening or first thing Saturday morning. The Pittsburgh event is slightly different: classes will be held all day on Sunday and the pricing is different. For the Pittsburgh event only classes are not mandatory to compete. For all other cities if a dancer has a circumstance in which they cannot participate in classes after the fee is paid, they may compete; however, they will forfeit the class fee.
- Dancers and routines may compete in more than one city. There is no limit to the amount of entries and/or solos from any given studio.
- Competing dancers should be ready 45 minutes prior to their scheduled competition time. The Competition may run early and each dancer will be expected to perform at the earlier time. Being prepared and being early helps keep the day moving and is much appreciated.

ENTRY FEES: Are visible after Artistic Standards are viewed and an account is created on TourPro.

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

- All participants must sign a photo/video waiver before participating. guiDANCE staff will be capturing moments throughout the day for potential use on our website, social media, and other promotions. If a studio owner, teacher or parent decides they do not want their likeness captured in a photo or video, please let us know in writing prior to arrival. Release forms will be sent after registration through our online system.
- Any videos posted of choreography will be only excerpts and any photos captured and utilized will adhere to the YPAD standards and social media guidelines. These will not be posted on faculty or staff pages, only on the official guiDANCE Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat accounts. However, our faculty and staff may share posts from GDX accounts.
- Personal photography and videography of any kind will not be allowed in the dressing areas at any time. This is to maintain the safety of our children participants.
- Each studio will receive colored wristbands to allow them to video and photograph **their** studio's routines only as well as during award ceremonies, using a phone or any personal equipment. Within each studio, these wristbands must be visible to our staff.

TIME LIMITS

- There will be a five (5) second "grace period" allowed for each routine. After that, 1 point will be deducted for each second past the "grace period".
- Time and classifications will be strictly enforced.
- You may purchase up to three (3) additional minutes of time for any group, line, extended line or production for just \$5 per dancer, per additional minute.

DIVISION TIME LIMIT	FEE PER DANCER
Solo 2 minutes 50 seconds	Studio Owner/ Directors: Please contact us for rates
Duo/Trio 3 Minutes	
Group (4-8 Dancers) 3:30 Minutes	
Lines (9-14 Dancers) 3:30 Minutes	
Ext. Line (15-22 Dancers) 5 Minutes	
Production (15+ Dancers) 8 Minutes	

MUSIC REQUIREMENTS

- Audio files are accepted in MP3, OR MP4 format only.
- All music is due with payment, no later than 45 days prior to the event.
- ALWAYS have a back-up just in case (phone or ipod)! We will NOT be able to play any songs from an email, CD or internet link or source.
- Music that does not meet our Artistic Standards may not be permitted to play at the event. You may be contacted and requested to edit your music if it does not comply.

AGE* DIVISIONS

TOTS DIVISION average age: 4-5

MINI DIVISION average age: 6-7

JUNIOR DIVISION average age: 8-10

PRE-TEEN DIVISION average age: 11-12

TEEN DIVISION average age: 13-15

SENIOR DIVISION average age: 16-19

ADULT DIVISION average age: 20 and up

*Ages should be calculated and current for the date of the event

- To find the average age for your entry, add all the participants' ages together and divide by the number of dancers in the entry. Instead of rounding up or down to the nearest whole number, drop the decimal. For example: if a routine averages to an age of 10.7, you would drop the decimal and the routine would compete in the 8-10 petite division.
- The average age of each entry must not drop more than one age division below the age of the oldest dancer in the entry. Example: an entry contains dancers ranging in age from 8-16, the entry may not compete younger than the 13-15 age category, one division younger than the oldest dancer. In a production number it is the true average age. For example, if the average is 12.7 and the oldest dancer is 18 you will compete in the Junior Division. This is only for productions.
- Any child two (2) years younger or more than the average who is included in a routine must perform a meaningful and significant amount of the choreography, as determined by our adjudicating faculty.
- Names and ages of all dancers must appear on the entry form or it will not be accepted. All competing dancers must be able to present proof of age at the event if requested by guiDANCE team.
- The Adult Division may perform for adjudication but will not be included in the Overall Awards.

LEVEL DIVISIONS

- Dancers can compete at two performance levels, to be placed at the discretion of the studio director. They are as follows:

APPRENTICE DIVISION: For beginner dancers who typically dance less than five (5) hours per week and have been dancing two (2) years or less.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL DIVISION: For intermediate and advanced dancers, typically training more than five (5) hours per week and have been dancing three (3) years or more.

- If there is a duo/trio that has mixed performance levels, the entry must compete in the Pre-Pro division. For group entries, no more than half or three (3) Pre-Pro dancers (whichever is greater) can be placed in a group in the apprentice division.
- Adjudicators reserve the right to move an entry from the Apprentice division to the Pre-Pro division as they see appropriate. In the event this happens, guiDANCE staff will notify the studio owner or representative before the awards session.

PROPS

- No more than 3 minutes is suggested for set up and removal of props. If more time is needed please email when you register.. Set up and removal beyond that may be penalized in the overall score.
- No dangerous props can be used on stage (i.e. swords, knives, fire)
- No live animals
- No props can be used that may cause damage to the stage or marley.
- No helium balloons released on stage or anywhere in the venue.
- Please indicate on the registration form if there is a prop for each entry.
- Please load oversized props backstage at the start of the day and remove them in a timely and courteous manner.
- guiDANCE is not responsible for the care and storage of props

SCORING RUBRIC: Each entry is evaluated by our panel of adjudicators using the following rubric.

- **Technique (0-40 Points)** Form, clarity, strength, flexibility, demonstration and execution of level-appropriate movement and concepts. Evaluation of appropriateness includes the safety and suitability of choreography for the performer(s).
- **Musicality & Choreography (0-20 Points)** Firstly, we consider the choreographic choices, how suited they are to the technical abilities of the dancer(s), originality in movement, concept and staging, and the integration of these elements to convey story, character, emotion, etc. Secondly, we evaluate the execution based on perceived accuracy, musicality and timing, overall flow & cleanliness.
- **Performance Quality (0-20 Points)** Though we cannot evaluate artistry the same way we evaluate athleticism, we can consider the impact and perceived authenticity of a performance. Factors include expressions, smooth integration of props and set pieces if applicable, overall movement quality and ability to convincingly portray the message that the choreographer seems to have set out to achieve.
- **Overall Impact (0-20 Points)** We consider the cumulative effect of all choreographic choices and dancer performance, including the cohesion of musicality, costume, movement, tone and energy, etc. Pieces and performances that are especially memorable and/or emotionally striking in some way will receive more points in this category.
- **Total Scores (0-300)** Scores are calculated by the tabulator. The highest possible score is 100 per judge, 300 total. The final score is the average of the three total scores minus deductions, if applicable.
- Please review our Artistic Standards document for more information.

ADJUDICATED AWARDS

Each entry will be competing against a predetermined amount of points and will be reflected in our adjudicated scoring program. All entries will be adjudicated by three (3) qualified faculty members. All ties will be broken by the technique score. If a tie remains the head judge will break the tie. Awards will be presented based on the following scores as an average of the three (3) adjudicating faculty, where each entry is scored out of 100:

- ABOVE & BEYOND 95-100
- PLATINUM 91-94.99
- HIGH GOLD 85-90.99
- GOLD 80-84.99 GOLD

PLACEMENT AWARDS

The top third (no more than top 10) in each age and each level division will receive a placement award. For example if there are ten entries in a division, the top three will be announced.

SPECIAL AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

CHOREOGRAPHY & INNOVATION: In the general competition category, adjudicators will award at least one (1) Choreography & Innovation award per event. The choreographer will be announced and recognized at the awards session.

TITLE COMPETITION WINNERS: will be announced and recognized at our awards ceremony. Each title winner will receive a plaque as well as:

- Cash Scholarship to be used for dance and/or academic study
 - Mini: \$50
 - Pre-Teen: \$50
 - Junior: \$50
 - Teen: \$50
 - Senior: \$100

- Cash prize will only be awarded when there are at least three (3) entries in the age category. Entries must be three different dancers.

“ARTIST & ATHLETE” AWARD: Co-presented with **Apolla Performance**. At adjudicators’ discretion, awarded to up to four (4) entries (solo, duo, trio and/or group) at each event that demonstrate exceptional Athleticism and Artistry.

“MUSIC TO OUR EYES” AWARD: Awarded to up to four (4) entries (solo, duo, trio and/or group) at each event that demonstrate exceptional musicality.

“MTJGD” AWARD: Awarded to up to four (4) entries (solo, duo, trio and/or group) at each event that resonate with our adjudicators as demonstrating Youth Protection Advocates in Dance and More Than Just Great Dancing values.

GENRE AWARDS: Awarded to up to two (2) entries (solo, duo, trio and/or group) at each event that are the panel’s favorite piece in each genre category. Genre awards are chosen by preference, not calculated by score.

“WELL-ROUNDED STUDIO” AWARD: Awarded to one (1) studio at each event that demonstrates training and performance in a variety of dance genres.

ADJUDICATOR SPECIAL AWARDS: Each adjudicator can choose up to two (2) entries for a unique award and recognition.

Adjudicators will award various scholarships to programs offered by our partners such as: **MOVE: THE INITIATIVE**

For Teachers Only: continuing education scholarships with our industry partners. Interested parties can apply through a link that will be sent 10 days prior to the event. Applications are due seven days prior to the guiDANCE event you are attending.

RHYTHM WORKS INTEGRATIVE DANCE

Visit <https://rhythmworksid.com> for more information.

ACROBATIC ARTS

Visit <https://www.acrobaticarts.com/> for more information.

SCORE SHEETS & CRITIQUES

- In an effort to cut down on our environmental footprint, we will be uploading all judges' critiques and scores to your online registration portal. All critiques will be uploaded by the Friday following your event, if not sooner.
- Scores will be available within 2 days of competition and audio critiques will be available by the end of the following week or sooner. All of this will be located by going into your registration portal in TourPro.
- We will provide feedback for the studio owner/director and choreographer on a separate recording from the dancer critiques. This feedback will address the Artistic Standards and other relevant information we'd like to keep separate from the recording for dancers.

SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE & ENGAGEMENT:

- Our vision is for the guiDANCE experience to be a positive example of a healthy dance environment, with values such as community, good sportsmanship, and respect in the spotlight. We ask all attendees to be active in this, online and at live events.
- We encourage you to “like” and “follow” all guiDANCE social channels

(@guidanceexperience) and engage (commenting, reposting and/or sharing) on our social channels, including but not limited to: Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Snapchat.

- We encourage you to “tag” us @guidanceexperience in any and all posts related to us and/or posts from photos taken at, or related to our events (including throwbacks or rehearsals leading up to competition).
- We encourage you to repost posts by the guiDANCE experience that you are tagged in.

For the protection of everyone who attends a GDX event we do require all spectators to wear wristbands and all teachers to wear a badge. Each studio will have a different color. Any questions or concerns please come to the front desk. We like to solve problems in real time to help with a better understanding and outcome.