



ARTS OF AMERICA DANCE COMPETITION

2027 TERMS & CONDITIONS

HOW TO REGISTER

- Register through the Registration Form on the APPLY page of the Arts of America website.
- Choose as many categories as you like.
- Each entry will incur a deposit of \$75 which must be paid to register.
- Then you will have access to your Application Form where you will provide all details including the link for your audition video.
- Your total balance will be calculated based on how many entries you chose.
- You can log into your account any time to edit your application and save it as a DRAFT until you are ready to SUBMIT.
- All fees must be paid after submitting.
- The final deadline for registering and submitting applications is December 1.
- Log in to your account at any time to review your entries or make any changes before the registration deadline. After the registration deadline, any changes will have to be emailed to info@artsofamerica.org and will incur a change fee.
- Registrations that are in progress without full payment submission are not qualified as entered and we will not hold your reservation if payment is not made in full before the deadline of December 1, 2026.

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DANCE CATEGORIES

Ballet	Classical ballet variation (pointe shoes allowed for dancers 12 or older)
Contemporary	A blend of ballet, jazz, lyrical, and/or modern
Jazz	Jazz dance, any style
Acro	Acrobatics with dance.
Hip Hop	Hip hop, can include street styles
Tap	Tap dance, performed with tap shoes
Ballroom	Waltz, Tango, Salsa, Cha Cha, Rumba, Quickstep, etc.
Broadway	Musical Theatre routine from a Broadway or Cinematic Musical, can include vocals
Open	Any style which isn't listed
Choreography	Original Choreography

ENTRY CATEGORIES

Solo	1 dancer
Classical Pas de deux	2 dancers (for dancers 12 and older)
Duo or Trio	2-3 dancers
Small Ensemble	4 to 8 dancers
Large Ensemble	9 to 30 dancers
Choreography	any number of dancers

AGE CATEGORIES

Petite	6 to 8
Junior	9 to 11
Teen	12 to 14
Senior	15 to 18
Professional	19 and up

REGISTRATION FEES

- Registration Fees are due at the time of registration. Registration is \$75 per dancer.
- Application fees (Solos, duos, etc.) are due at the latest by December 1.
- \$50 change of entry fee after December 1. No changes accepted after December 15.
- **All fees are non-refundable, unless the event is canceled by Arts of America and not rescheduled.**

APPLICATION FEES

Solo Dancer:	\$125
Duo/Pas de deux:	\$75 per person
Trio:	\$50 per person
Small Ensemble (4-6 dancers):	\$40 per dancer
Large Ensemble (7 + dancers):	\$30 per dancer
Choreography:	\$125 per Dance

FINALS FEES: If you are accepted to the Finals, the fees are the same as the above fees, no additional registration fee.

TIME LIMITS

Solos:	2 minutes 30 seconds
Duos and Trios:	3 minutes
Classical Duos (pas de deux)	6 minutes
Small Ensembles:	4 minutes
Large Ensembles:	5 minutes
Choreography:	5 minutes

Time limits must be adhered to, otherwise performers will receive a score deduction or disqualification.

AWARDS:

- \$1,000 award for the Grand Prize Winner.
- The top 5 competitors in each Category will receive Winners Certificates for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th Place.
- The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place Winners in each Category will receive medals (Gold, Silver, Bronze).
- A top 20 in each category will be announced out of all submissions from the Semifinal. Those scoring 95 or higher will advance to the Finals.
- See the Partners Page for other awards and scholarships.
- All participants' videos may be promoted on the Arts of America website or social media channels.
- All Finalists will have the potential to receive scholarships or contracts from Arts of America partner organizations.
- Free Master Classes will be offered at the Finals.
- Other Overall Awards – Best School, Best Teacher, Photogenic Award, TBA

JUDGES

- All competitors will be judged by a well-qualified panel of judges.
- Competitors will receive scores and comments.
- All scores are final and may not be disputed.
- No bystander may approach the judging table at the Finals, or the judges themselves during the competition. Bystanders include but are not limited to: studio directors, teachers, parents and dancers.

PROPS (at the Finals)

- Props must be approved by ARTS OF AMERICA. Please specify exact props with dimensions in your application.
- Only small props that do not need to be built are allowed.
- Props must be set up and removed within 2 minutes.
- Props may not be in the wings for more than 5 numbers prior to the routine and must be removed from the wings immediately after the routine.
- Props cannot be stored in the venue until the day of the performance.
- All props must fit through a standard 36 inch wide doorway.
- Powders, liquids, paint, hairspray, lipstick, glitter, confetti, sand, fire, swords, knives, guns or anything that could leave a residue on the stage are not allowed.
- If your routine/prop includes anything that will litter the stage, studio representatives must be prepared to clean the stage in less than 1 minute.
- Routines causing prop delay or use of any illegal prop will result in 5 point deduction.

MUSIC

All music tracks must be uploaded as mp3 files through the registration system by December 1. No exceptions.

The files must be named with the following format:

- Performer Name (1st and last name), Studio Name, Age Category, Dance Category, Music title (i.e. *Mary Smith, ABC Dance Studio, Teen, Ballet, Nikiya Variation from La Bayadere*)

Other music rules:

- No profane lyrics allowed. Profanity may result in a score deduction or disqualification.
- Music must be fully edited, at the correct pitch, tempo, and volume.
- It is the contestant's responsibility to submit the proper music tracks. The competition and venue are not responsible for problems with your music tracks that you submit.
- If the music stops due to a technical glitch, the performer may stop and restart from the beginning with the music.

PHOTOGENIC CONTEST

- One Winner in each age division will be awarded at the live Finals event.
- Photogenic entries must be sent electronically. No paper photos will be accepted at the event.

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Quality of Photo (focus, clarity, lighting, composition, etc.)
- Artistic Quality of Photo (expression, body position, costume, originality, etc.)

PHOTO REQUIREMENTS

1. Send a high res JPEG photo.
2. Photos can be b/w or color.
3. Photos can be headshots or dance shots.

Each photogenic entry will be scored by the stated judging criteria. Photogenic results will be posted to the individual event page. Please allow up to 2 weeks after the event.

CHECK-IN at the Finals

Please check in at the registration desk at least 60 minutes prior to your scheduled competition time.

- **Director Check-In**

When you arrive at the event, please have the studio competition director check-in at Registration in the Lobby. If the studio director is sending a representative to check-in, please let us know so we can update the check-in name for your studio. You will receive a Teacher Bag which includes printed out schedules for the event and swag!

- **Entry Check-In**

All entries must be checked-in at the check-in desk prior to performing, as well as with the Backstage Manager. The Emcee will not announce a routine unless that routine has been checked-in backstage with the Backstage Manager. Parents are not allowed to check-in routines unless they are representing the studio staff. If so, ARTS OF AMERICA must be notified.

BACKSTAGE at the Finals

- Competitors, teachers, and studio owners are the only persons allowed in the wings/backstage area. All parents, family members and audience members remain in the main venue or the lobby.
- Please note that teachers are not to be backstage or in the dressing rooms areas unnecessarily – if crowding occurs, the theater will ask everyone to exit these areas.
- The ARTS OF AMERICA Backstage Manager will be available to help people with anything they need.

DRESSING ROOMS at the Finals

- Please only change in the dressing rooms. Hallways may NOT be used for changing, makeup application, storage of personal items or for any other reasons other than traveling throughout the building, without the prior permission of the competition and venue.
- Clean up after yourselves in the dressing rooms and anywhere in the venue.
- Do not touch other people's property in the dressing rooms.
- Dressing rooms are for all competitors and everyone must be respectful of the other competitors and their property. Rude and aggressive behavior in the dressing room can result in disqualification from the competition.

WARMUP/OPEN STAGE at the Finals

15 minutes open stage right before the group category begins.

MEDIA

- All competitors, teachers and studio owners consent to the use of video, audio and photographs for use in promotional material without royalty, fee or other compensation. By attending or competing in a Arts of America LLC regional or national event you are agreeing to the use of your image and likeness by Arts of America LLC, all partners and affiliates.
- Video recording and photography of any kind is strictly prohibited. This includes the use of electronics such as cell phones, laptops and tablets.
- A Video download of the Finals may be available for purchase, TBA

AUDIENCE AND PERFORMER ETIQUETTE at the Finals

- Be kind and courteous
- Be respectful of other people's property and space
- Audience must be quiet while participants are performing on stage
- No entering and exiting the auditorium while someone is performing
- No tobacco, alcohol, or drug use.

OTHER

- Everyone must wear proper footwear at all times to ensure their safety.
- Teachers and Studio Owners are forbidden from recruiting dancers from other studios.
- Lighting may NOT be adjusted during a performance including but not limited to stage and house lighting.
- If a routine cannot perform during their allotted time and award ceremony, the routine will be eligible for adjudication, but not an overall score or category placement.
- Coaching from the wings or audience is not allowed at any time throughout a performance. Doing so may result in score deduction or disqualification from the competition.
- Arts of America LLC and host venue are not responsible for any personal injury/property loss before, during or after the event.
- All competitors, teachers, studios owners, family members and audience members are required to comply with rules and regulations set forth by our hosting venue. Those who do not may be removed from the event by either Arts of America LLC's staff or the hosting venue's staff.
- Arts of America LLC reserves the right to refuse entry to any studio.
- Arts of America LLC reserves the rights to change, delete, or add to any rules, regulations, or policies at any time deemed necessary.
- Arts of America LLC reserves the right to cancel any event due to lack of registration, weather, or other unforeseen circumstance. If an extenuating weather or unforeseen circumstance arises and Arts of America LLC cancels an event and it is not rescheduled, refunds or credits for the following year will be provided. If the event is rescheduled, no refunds will be given.
- Should an extenuating circumstance arise, please check the website and/or your email address that you registered under for any event updates.
- By signing the Arts of America LLC Release Agreement, all registered competitors grant permission to Arts of America LLC and its representatives to publish their photographs/videos on local or national television, promotional videos, marketing materials, the internet, or any other visual media, as deemed fit by Arts of America LLC in an effort to promote its competitions.
- In addition, all representatives, staff of Arts of America LLC are released and held harmless from any and all claims for damages or injuries sustained while participating or attending any activity related to any and all Arts of America LLC Competition events.
- All photographs/videos taken by Arts of America LLC and any independent representative commissioned by Arts of America LLC become the property of Arts of America LLC.

If any policy and/or code of conduct is not adhered to, this can result in disqualification from the competition and/or removal from the venue.

WAIVER AND RELEASE

Arts of America LLC

Registration Agreement, Release of Liability, and Waiver

By registering for the Arts of America LLC ("Competition"), I certify that I have read, understood, and agree to comply with all Competition Rules, eligibility requirements, deadlines, judging procedures, and policies published by Arts of America. I understand that failure to comply with the published rules may result in penalties, disqualification, or forfeiture of awards at the sole discretion of the Competition.

Acknowledgment of Competition Rules

I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to comply with all current Arts of America LLC Rules, Regulations, Policies, eligibility requirements, deadlines, judging procedures, age requirements, video submission requirements, scholarship policies, awards policies, codes of conduct, and any other published Competition requirements.

I understand that these published Rules and Regulations are incorporated into this Agreement by reference and form a binding part of my registration.

I understand that Arts of America LLC reserves the right to interpret, apply, and enforce all Competition Rules and Regulations. All decisions regarding eligibility, scoring, rankings, awards, scholarships, invitations, scheduling, rule interpretation, and disciplinary matters are final and not subject to appeal.

I further understand that Arts of America LLC may revise or clarify its published Rules and Regulations when necessary to ensure the fair and efficient administration of the Competition. Such revisions or clarifications shall apply to all participants upon publication.

Registration Fees

I understand and agree that all registration fees, application fees, processing fees, ticket purchases, and any other fees paid to Arts of America LLC are final and non-refundable. No refunds, credits, or transfers will be granted for withdrawal, illness, injury, scheduling conflicts, travel delays, visa issues, weather, force majeure, disqualification, failure to qualify for subsequent rounds, inability to attend, or any other reason, except where required by applicable law.

Assumption of Risk

I understand that participation in dance classes, rehearsals, performances, competitions, warm-ups, backstage activities, and all related events involves inherent risks of injury, including but not limited to muscle strains, sprains, fractures, falls, illness, permanent disability, and, in rare circumstances, death.

I voluntarily assume all risks associated with participation in the Competition and all related activities.

Medical Responsibility

I certify that the participant is physically able to participate in the Competition. I understand that Arts of America does not provide medical insurance for participants and that I am solely responsible for all medical expenses resulting from participation.

In the event of an emergency, I authorize Arts of America and its representatives to obtain emergency medical treatment if I or my emergency contact cannot be reached. I understand that I am financially responsible for any medical treatment provided.

Release of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I release, waive, and forever discharge Arts of America LLC, its owners, officers, directors, employees, judges, faculty, volunteers, contractors, partner organizations, sponsors, venues, and affiliates from any and all claims, demands, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, expenses, or causes of action arising out of or relating to participation in the Competition, except where prohibited by law or resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct.

This release includes, but is not limited to, claims arising from personal injury, illness, death, property damage, theft, or loss occurring before, during, or after the Competition.

Personal Property

I understand that I am solely responsible for all personal property, including costumes, dancewear, pointe shoes, props, electronic devices, valuables, and other belongings. Arts of America LLC is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged property.

Competition Administration

I understand that Arts of America LLC reserves the right to interpret and enforce all Competition Rules. All decisions regarding eligibility, scheduling, judging, scoring, awards, invitations, scholarships, and disciplinary matters are final.

Arts of America LLC reserves the right to modify schedules, judges, venues, categories, master classes, awards, or any other aspect of the Competition when necessary.

Force Majeure

If the Competition is postponed, modified, interrupted, or canceled due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of Arts of America LLC—including but not limited to severe weather, natural disasters, government action, public health emergencies, labor disputes, technical failures, venue issues, transportation disruptions, or other force majeure events—Arts of America shall not be liable for any travel expenses, hotel costs, lost wages, entry fees, or any other consequential or incidental damages.

Photography and Media Release

I grant Arts of America LLC the unrestricted right to photograph, videotape, livestream, record, and otherwise capture my participation in the Competition. I authorize Arts of America to use my name, likeness, voice, biography, photographs, and performances in print, broadcast, digital, social media, promotional, educational, archival, and commercial materials worldwide without additional notice or compensation.

Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Any legal action arising out of or relating to the Competition or this Agreement shall be brought exclusively in the state or federal courts located in Virginia.

Electronic Acceptance

I understand that checking the agreement box and submitting my registration electronically constitutes my legal signature and that this electronic acceptance is fully binding and enforceable to the same extent as a handwritten signature.

Parent/Guardian Certification

If the participant is under the age of 18, I certify that I am the participant's parent or legal guardian and have the legal authority to enter into this Agreement on the participant's behalf. I have read this Agreement in its entirety, understand its terms, and agree to be bound by them individually and on behalf of the participant.

Contact us: info@artsofamerica.org