

STAGE READY

DANCE COMPETITION

2025 - 2026 RULES & REGULATIONS

TYPES OF ENTRIES

Solo (3 minutes) – 1 performer

Duo/Trio (3 minutes) – 2 to 3 performers

Small Group (3:30 minutes) – 4 to 9 performers

Large Group (4 minutes) – 10 to 19 performers

Line (4:15 minutes) – 20+ performers

Production (9 minutes) – 16+ Performers*

*Productions should have a storyline and involve props. Extended time for groups/lines/productions is \$3 per dancer, per minute. Maximum group length is 5 minutes; maximum production length is 12 minutes. No extended time available for solos/duos/trios

AGE DIVISIONS (as of Dec 31, 2025)

Mini: 6 & Under

Petite: 7-9

Junior: 10-12

Teen: 13-15

Senior: 16-18

Adult: 19+

DANCE CATEGORIES

Acro – Ballet – Character – Contemporary – Hip-Hop – Improv
Jazz – Lyrical – Modern – Musical Theatre – Open – Pointe – Tap

LEVEL & PLACEMENT GUIDE

****NEW FOR 2025-2026 - "ENTRY LEVEL"*****



LEVEL DISCLAIMER: FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF EVERY ROUTINE AT STAGE READY, ALL 3 JUDGES SELECT WHAT LEVEL THEY FEEL THAT ROUTINE IS BEST SUITED TO BE COMPETING IN. IF AT LEAST 2 OF THE 3 JUDGES SELECT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN WHAT THAT DANCER/ROUTINE WAS REGISTERED AS, THE ROUTINE WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE MOVED INTO THAT LEVEL OF COMPETITION FOR ALL OVERALL AWARDS. THIS ENSURES THAT EVERY DANCER PRESENT WILL ONLY BE COMPETING AGAINST ROUTINES THAT SHOWCASE A SIMILAR LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY AND EXECUTION AS THEIR OWN.

EXTRAORDINARY: Division for dancers with special needs and/or differing abilities

***NEW* ENTRY LEVEL:** Reserved specifically for your MOST recreational & beginner dancers. This level is for dancers with little to no skills and competition dance experience, dancers should also have very minimal visual technical training.

NOVICE: For dancers with 1-3 years of dance experience OR for dancers with minimal skills and visual technical training. Advanced dance and tumbling skills should not be seen in this level.

INTERMEDIATE: For dancers with 3-5 years of dance experience OR for dancers with a skill set more advanced than Novice performers but at a medium level of technical ability and have not yet visually mastered most of their training. Dancers in the Intermediate division are limited to 2 solos, only 1 of which will place in the overalls.

ELITE: For dancers with 6+ years of dance experience OR for dancers that seem to have a strong understanding of their technical training and have mastered many key elements in a dancer's training journey. Elite dancers also typically have a more advanced skill set than dancers seen in the Intermediate level. Dancers in the Elite division are limited to 3 solos, only one of which will place in the overalls.

***PRODIGY:** Our HIGHEST LEVEL OF COMPETITION, only unlocked when we have at least 4 routines that have achieved a score of 297 or higher. For example, if 4 Teen Elite solos were to receive the "Prodigy" adjudication at a single event, instead of these dancers competing in the "Elite" division for overalls, they will all receive special recognition and be bumped up to the PRODIGY level. This category was created for high achieving dancers & routines, that we feel are in a league of their own. We want your most advanced dancers to compete only against the BEST OF THE BEST and to get extra recognition for being able to achieve such an impressive score at Stage Ready! Prodigy level routines will receive onstage recognition during both their award ceremony and our social media accounts and will also receive a custom crystal trophy.

Each dancer will be assigned a level when registering. A soloist can only compete in one level. Duos will be placed in the level of the highest dancer; trios will be placed in the level of 2 of the 3 dancers; groups will be placed in the level where 60% of the dancers fall. Studios can always opt to move a routine UP a level but cannot have a routine moved DOWN a level.

PRODUCTIONS: Due to Productions being such a large combination of ages & levels for all studios, Productions at Stage Ready are not registered in a level but are only separated by age, with the divisions being 12 & Under or 13 & Up for all overall awards.

ARTIST OF THE WEEKEND (TITLE COMPETITION)

PETITE ARTIST OF THE WEEKEND: Ages 7-9

JUNIOR ARTIST OF THE WEEKEND: Ages 10-12

TEEN ARTIST OF THE WEEKEND: Ages 13-15

SENIOR ARTIST OF THE WEEKEND: Ages 16-18

Title contestants will be evaluated on both their Solo performance & Improv. All title contestants will be required to participate in their age division's Improv competition. The Artist of the Weekend is not chosen based on score but is decided by all 3 judges after both the solos and improv have been completed.

Soloists wishing to enter more than one solo in the title competition will pay a separate title entry fee for each solo. All title contestants must pre-register through the studio account. Title entries will NOT be accepted on-site.

IMPROV COMPETITION

2 Improv competitions will be held per weekend - one for ages 12 & under and one for ages 13 & up. A winner will be announced for each of the following age divisions: Petite, Junior, Teen & Senior. Improv is required for all dancers competing for the title of "Artist of the Weekend" but is open for all dancers that wish to participate. Dancers do not need to be registered for a solo to compete in Improv. The Improv Competition is entered on-site only!

SCORING CRITERIA

Technique – 30 points

Showmanship – 30 points

Execution – 20 points

Choreography – 10 points

Overall Appeal – 10 points

Ties will be broken by Overall Appeal, then by Execution, and then by judges' choice.

Each judge will have 100 points to allocate and the total of all 3 judges will equal the routine score. All 3 judges will have a checkbox for which level the routine should be competing in, according to the skills/choreography performed. Each routine will be placed in the level that 2 of the 3 judges have indicated, regardless of what level the routine was registered in. This leveling system is in no way meant to "punish" dancers – but rather to ensure that all routines/dancers are competing against those on their same level. All judges' decisions are final.

ADJUDICATION SCALE

Silver: 259.9 & below

Gold: 260-266.9

High Gold: 267-276.9

Platinum: 277-284.9

High Platinum: 285-289.9

Diamond: 290-296.9

PRODIGY: 297-300

HIGH SCORE AWARDS

1-4 Entries: Top 1

5-7 Entries: Top 3

8-10 Entries: Top 5

11-15 Entries: Top 7

16+ Entries: Top 10

35+ Entries: Recognition of 11th-20th, followed by Top 10

In all divisions, 1st overall receives a 2ft-3ft trophy and 2nd-10th overall receive a custom Stage Ready plaque.

Dancers with multiple solos will automatically be entered into the Power Solo category. Overalls will be based on the average of all solos competed. Individual solo scores are still eligible for "regular" overalls. At the end of every weekend, the highest scoring routine per skill level (Novice, Intermediate and Elite) will be named, regardless of age. All 3 of these routines receive a 5-foot trophy and acknowledgment on all our social media accounts. The recipients of the highest scores of the weekend can be a solo, duo/trio, small group, large group or line; but productions are not eligible for these awards and will have their own high score placements.

SPECIALTY AWARDS

Judges Choice Awards (every award session, 2 per judge)

Artistry Award -

Awarded to the studio that exhibits the most unique & expressive routines.

Technique Award -

Awarded to the studio that exhibits the strongest overall technical ability, across all ages & levels.

Entertainment Award -

Awarded to the studio that provides the most high-energy & exciting routines of the weekend.

Power Performance -

Awarded to one standout routine from the entire weekend, decided on by all 3 judges.

Choreography Award -

Awarded to select routines with outstanding choreography & creative vision.

Future Stars -

Awarded to one standout studio with 30 dancers or less on their competition team.

***The Dream Team Award -**

Awarded to the studio with the most supportive fan club (A.K.A. the parents/teachers)! At each event, our staff is looking out for which studio brings the most energy throughout our competition weekends. This means showing off your Studio Spirit, cheering for ALL routines in attendance, and bringing a light and positive energy to our competitions! At the end of the season, we will hold a social media voting contest showcasing all our regional "DREAM TEAM" winners and the studio with the most votes will receive a Studio Pizza Party & a large credit towards any Stage Ready event in the upcoming season!

STAGE READY MODEL SEARCH

\$35 – Headshot, action shot, & full body non-dance shot

Finalists are chosen for each regional and 1 winner per age group will be chosen at the end of the season. Model Search winners will participate in a Stage Ready photoshoot showcasing all our merch for the upcoming season and filming promotional material for our social media! These dancers can also expect to appear in the programs for all SRDC events as well as on posters and ads at each regional.

OPTIONAL MEDIA FEE!

If ALL dancers from a single studio choose to opt-in for the Stage Ready Media Fee at the time of registration, they will receive a special discounted rate of only \$25 per dancer and will receive ALL of their dancers photos & videos from their weekend at Stage Ready. If not purchased in advance or as a whole studio, the photo & video package is \$40 per dancer and can be purchased onsite.