THE DANCE Awards

LAS VEGAS 2026

WELCOME to LAS VEGAS

Welcome to The Dance Awards 2026!

It's that time of year! The best young dance talent from around the world meet in Las Vegas for The Dance Awards! We are excited to see everyone in Las Vegas. It is going to be an amazing week of events and we are honored that you're joining us. Below is information 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 Venetian/Palazzo Resort Las Vegas

The Dance Awards' events will take place in the ballrooms located on levels 4 & 5 of the Venetian/Palazzo Resort Las Vegas.

THE DANCE AWARDS DESK & CHECK-IN

- The Dance Awards Desk is located inside the **Palazzo Ballroom** on the 5th level and will be open for the duration of the event.
- Dancers attending without a studio representative, or as Independents, can check-in beginning June 28th. 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. Registered Teachers will be permitted to observe The College Scholarship & Audition Experience.
- All studios that qualify for complimentary tickets to The Dance Awards Closing Show can pick up their tickets from The Dance Awards Desk on Sunday, July 5th after 12pm..
- All score sheets and online critique information will be made available to the users of the Dance360 account within 7-14 days after the event, or sooner. Best Dancer Adjudicated Awards can be picked up on July 5th after 9am.
- We are providing a few meals for Studio Owners and Teachers during the event. There will also be a *Teacher Lounge* as well as our Welcome Cocktail Party and After Party. More information will be available on-site!

WORKSHOP

- During the first two days of workshop classes (July 3rd & 4th), 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 Sunday, July 5th 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 www.thedanceawards.com.
- Doors to the 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 and/or Studio Of The Year 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 19th. 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 via email..

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! Your date to TDA Prom must be a registered Teen or Senior dancer attending TDA Las Vegas.
- **Parent Classes** - Calling all Parents! Join us for any/all of our parent classes but don't miss parent Mimosa & Grooves w/ Luther. 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 WORKSHOP** - All Senior workshop dancers ages 16+ are invited to attend.
- **ROYAL CARIBBEAN OPEN AUDITIONS** - All Senior workshop dancers ages 16+ are invited to audition.
- **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.
- **Studio Of The Year Dance-Off** - The best of the best dance-off for Studio of The Year!

We're giving away prize money to all studios in the Top 5! $25,000 cash for the Winner PLUS $5,000 for the remaining Runners-up!

THE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP & AUDITION EXPERIENCE

We are proud to announce that we are continuing 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, dance teams and other professional development paths to participate in this event. Be seen and earn financial scholarship from top universities as well as DanceOne.

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- **Open to all SENIOR workshop dancers ages 16-19. All ages are as of January 1st, 2026.**
- **Saturday, July 4th**
  7:00a-12:30p - The College Scholarship & Audition Experience (Held In Senior Ballroom, Level 5)
  12:30p-1:30p - Q&A with Representatives—Parents & Teachers are welcome! (Held In Senior Ballroom, Level 5)
  2:00p-3:00p - The College Fair (Held In Delfino Ballroom, Level 4)
- **Sunday, July 5th**
  12:45p-1:30p - Senior Scholarship announcements (Held In Delfino Ballroom, Level 4)

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 $65.

VIDEO & PHOTOGRAPHY

Videotaping, flash photography and SLR cameras (professional grade/detachable lens) are strictly prohibited during the entire event. Photos & videos of the competition at The Dance Awards will be available for download through the DanceOne Media Season Pass.

LIVESTREAM

The Dance Awards is happy to provide a free webcast of the Best Dancer Solo Competition, Finals Competition, The Best Dancer Dance-Off, Studio of the Year 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 Sunday, July 5th at 6pm.
- Tickets for the Closing Show go on sale June 9th @ 12pm PDT. The Closing Show is known to sell out quickly so if you are unable to purchase tickets on June 9th, you can join the waiting list online and we will also have a re-sale board on-site at the event.
- ALL audience members must have a ticket to enter, including dancers who are performing in the show if they wish to watch before or after.
- 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.

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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 2026 Dance Awards Senior Best Dancer title winners
- Award presentations in over 30 categories
- Announcement of the Studio Of The Year!
- Special guests

FINALLY…

If you have any questions, please email us at info@thedanceawards.com. Thank you for all of your support. Safe travels & we will see you soon!

Sincerely,

Michael, Kristen, Ronnie & Tony

Event Directors

The Dance Awards