2022 DUPREE DANCE NATIONAL FINALS

Overview

We design our National Finals and Summer Intensive schedule so that attendees can easily pair amazing dance education along with a fantastic National Finals competition experience! We choose our location carefully each summer to ensure that dancers and dance families can enjoy the amenities and incredible leisurely options at the host hotel as well as surrounding area. Our convention class schedule is customized around our specific competition schedule each year and classes are spread out over 4 days. Dancers in our Junior, Teen and Senior ballroom can expect to receive approximately 3 hours of dance training per day during our Intensive. Dancers registered in our Mini ballroom can expect a slightly lighter class schedule during the Summer Intensive portion of our event. While we do give age recommendations for our convention classroom levels offered, registrants may opt to register any dancer "up" or "down" a class level if they desire. However, National Finals competition age divisions are strict and are determined as of January 1 of the same calendar year of National Finals.

Registration Guidelines

At our National Finals, we highly recommend that studio owners/directors register their dancers for both our convention classes and competition. However, we do give studio owners/directors the option of registering their dancers for either our convention classes only OR competition only if they desire. Our easy online registration system allows studios the ability to customize their own registrations to meet the needs/desires within their own studios and dance families. While we do accept independent convention registrants during our convention classes, we DO NOT accept independent entries for the National Finals competition portion of our event. In order to compete, a dancer MUST be studio registered. All scholarship opportunities/auditions at National Finals will be available for dancers who are convention registered only.

All entries for our National Finals will be registered on a first come, first served basis. It is possible that our convention and/or competition will fill up before the registration deadline, so register early! No refunds will be given after the registration deadline. Both convention registration and competition entries must be registered online through your studio profile. All entries must include the names and ages (DOB) of all contestants.

During the online registration process, you must select and follow through with a payment option in order to deem your registration as final and your entries as secured. Convention classroom and/or competition entries are not considered "registered" until full payment is received. The payment options for studio registrations will include: cashiers check or money order, credit card, or PayPal. Independent registrants may only pay with credit card/PayPal. Once you 'select' a payment option, our system will generate a 'Dupree Dance Event Registration' confirmation email to you. However, your registration will only be secured once the payment is received. After you complete the payment portion, you will receive a secondary 'Dupree Dance Event Payment' confirmation email. If studio registrants opt to pay with a cashiers check or money order, you must have your payment postmarked by the registration deadline.

Late registrations or registrations submitted by the deadline but without payment will be subject to late fees and only accepted on a space-permitting basis and are not guaranteed.

Please carefully review your competition registration before submitting it. Once you complete your registration (by selecting a payment option), our system will NOT allow you to make changes yourself. *Shortly after the registration deadline, Dupree Dance will remind registrants to review their registration summaries and competition entries carefully.* ***Dupree will provide a specific date to where 'late changes' may be made to existing entries if necessary. After this time, changes will NOT be permitted. 'At event' competition changes are not permitted.***

National Finals Competition Qualification Process

By attending and registering any number of competition entries under your studio profile at any regional event within 1 year of our National Finals, your studio automatically qualifies to register for our Dupree Dance National Finals! Your studio may bring unlimited entries to our National Finals!

There will be a $50 per dancer qualification fee for studios who did not have the opportunity to attend a Dupree Dance regional convention/competition but would still like to register and compete at the Dupree Dance National Finals. There will be a $100 per studio (one-time) qualification fee for studios who did attend one of our regional conventions within 12 months prior to our National Finals, but did not register for any competition entries during that event. During the registration process, our system will recognize the studio profiles that qualify for our Dupree Dance National Finals and charge the appropriate qualification fee(s) if they apply.

Dancers who register as independents at regional events do NOT represent the studio registration profile necessary for their home studios to register at our Nationals.

Unlike 'competition only' regional events, every Dupree regional event operates under the constraints of a convention and competition agenda. Since our regional events have a limited amount of time designated for competition, Dupree does limit the number of regional competition routines per studio. However, **at our National Finals, you can register an unlimited amount of competition entries despite the fact that only a portion of them may have competed at the Dupree regional event that you attended.**

Any studio that competes and qualifies at a regional event is permitted to add new students and/or additional entries to their National Finals registration with no additional qualification fees for those students or routines. This allows your studio to bring your best 'taste test' to any Dupree regional event competition, and then supplement that with more of your entries at our National Finals!

Online Registration Information

National Fees are provided to studio owners and directors only. Please call or email Dupree Dance for the National Finals registration entry fees.

By the time you register for our National Finals, your studio will already have a studio profile in our database containing all the dancers who attended the Dupree regional event. You will register for our event through your same studio profile. **For your benefit and ease, we have a wonderful 'transfer routines' feature that allows you to transfer all your regional competition entries into your national finals registration!** Once you have done this, you can go in and edit/delete any routine so that it reflects the dancers attending our National Finals. New students and new entries MAY be added to your studio's National competition registration, despite whether or not they were represented at the regional event your studio attended/competed at within a year of our Nationals. New studios that opt to register for our Nationals Finals will simply create a studio profile at the beginning of the online registration process.

During the registration process for any event, you must first enter the name, DOB and competition level of any dancer you plan on registering to compete. Our system will store (remember) your dancer data, allowing you to conveniently use a dropdown option to add any dancers from your previously registered roster. Please refer to our "Competition Levels" criteria and rules when selecting either a "Performance" or "Competitive" level for each one of your dancers. Since age divisions at Nationals are determined by the average age of a routine as of January 1 and since dancers may be added/deducted from routines previously performed at the regional event, it is possible that a routine may fall within a different age division at our National Finals than it did during the regional qualifying event.

Divisions / Levels / Categories

The following routine divisions are available for your studio during our National Finals. Time limits are provided for each division. **Extended Time fees will be provided to Studio Owners/Directors upon request and are applicable for routines that exceed a 15 second 'grace period'.**

Routine Division	***Time Limit***
Solo (max of 2 solos per dancer at Nationals)	3 minutes
Duo/Trio	3 minutes
Small Group (4-9 dancers)	3 minutes
Lines (10-14 dancers)	4 minutes
Productions (15-29 dancers)	6 minutes
Super Productions (30+ dancers)	6.5 minutes

Competition Levels

Dupree Dance has two competition levels, a performance level and a competitive level, at both our regional competitions and National Finals. These two levels will exist for all age groups; Mini, Junior, Teen, Senior and Adult. Individual and Overall Awards will be given to both competition levels in each age division at our National Finals. The two levels are designed to give dancers a more level playing field at competition, not to allow your best dancers to win more awards. Dupree Dance has no way of 'proving' or 'disproving' the performance level of each registered dancer. Teachers, we trust that you will use fair judgment and honesty when assigning a 'performance' or 'competitive' level to each of your dancers. Winning is great, but educating young dancers and raising them to perform with integrity is most important.

Our *Performance Level* is for a dancer who trains an average of 1-4 hours of dance per week.

Our *Competitive Level* is for a dancer who trains an average of 5 or more hours of dance per week.

During the registration process, you will name each dancer as either a 'performance' level dancer or a 'competitive' level dancer. Our system will automatically place each dance in the correct division during your registration process based on the combined level of dancers in each routine. **Changes will NOT be made to a dancer level once your registration is submitted.** The following rules will apply:

***Duo and trio routine competition level rule*:**

Any duo or trio containing one or more competitive level dancers will be placed in the competitive division.

***Group routine competition level rule*:**

Any group routine containing two or more competitive level dancers will be placed in the competitive division.

***Lines and Production routine competition level rule*:**

Any line or production routine containing four or more competitive level dancers will be placed in the competitive division.

***Super production routine competition level rule*:**

Any super production routine containing six or more competitive level dancers will be placed in the competitive division.

'At event' changes/injury rule

During the competition live event, if any dancer is injured or unable to perform, the routine must still remain in the exact same age division, routine division, competition level and category. In other words, a small group routine of 4 dancers that becomes a trio at our live event for unforeseen reasons will still be judged in the small group category. That routine will still be eligible for individual, category high and overall awards in the small group category. 'At event' changes that occur as a result of injury/illness/unforeseen reasons are not permitted, regardless of the day that a routine is scheduled to perform. Dancers will not be removed from our registration system at any time for any reason during a live event, despite whether or not they perform.

Age Groups

The average age will be automatically configured by our online registration system for Duet/Trios, Groups, Lines, Productions and Super Productions. All age divisions at Dupree regional competitions or at National Finals will be determined by the ages of the performers as of January 1. To determine the age division, our system will average the performers ages and drop the decimal point. Example: 12.0-12.9 will compete in the 12-year-old age division. All competing dancers must be prepared to present proof of age should a question arise.

Dancers will be grouped into the following age ranges for our individual and category high score awards: 4 and under, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-19, 20-29 (adult), 30 & up (adult)

** Any combined age division with more than five entries in a particular competition level and dance category will be broken down into individual ages. The only exception to this rule is for our adult routines. They will remain grouped together in the 20-29 and 30 & up age division, despite the number of entries within their age and competition level.*

(Examples: If there are six or more age 13-15 contemporary solo routines in the competitive division, then the competitive contemporary category age divisions will be broken down into age 13, age 14 and age 15. If there are only four age 7-8 tap routines in the performance division, then the performance tap category with remain grouped to include ages 7-8)

Adult Rule: If any duet/trio, small group, line, production or super production has any dancer age 20 or over, they must compete in the Adult age group despite the routines average age. This applies to even one dancer in the routine who is 20 or over, NO exceptions. Adult routines are not eligible for the Dupree Showdown.

The following age divisions will be used for Overall High Score awards for both the Performance and Competitive Levels:

Mini (8 & under) Junior (9-12) Teen (13-15) Senior (16-19) Adult (20 & up)

Additional Competition Rules

2 SOLOS PER DANCER LIMIT

Soloists may perform a maximum of two solo routines, but they must be within different categories (i.e.: jazz and lyrical, NOT tap and tap). The same contestant may not place more than once for overall high score awards in the solo division. Only his/her highest scoring routine will be eligible to receive an overall high score award. Dupree Dance reserves the right to limit solo entries due to time constraints. Once the solo limit has been reached, no more solo entries will be accepted. If a dancer opts to compete for the Solo Title Competition, our system will automatically use the highest scoring solo to qualify them as a finalist/winner.

2 DUO/TRIO EXACT DANCER LIMIT
There is a maximum of two duet entries that are comprised of the exact same dancers, but each duet must be within different categories. There is a maximum of two trio entries that are comprised of the exact same dancers, but each trio must be within different categories.
For duo and trio entries, there must be at least a one dancer change in order for each routine to still be eligible for an overall high score award. Unless there is at least a 1 dancer change in a secondary duo or trio entry, only the highest scoring duo or trio entry containing the exact same dancers is eligible to receive an overall high score award.

1-DANCER CHANGE RULE WITHIN THE SAME DANCE CATEGORY FOR OVERALL AWARDS
The same exact group of performers who compete 2 or more routines in the same dance category may not place more than once for overall high score awards for those routines. The exact same group of performers *may* win more than one overall high score award if they perform in a different dance category for each routine. (i.e. The same exact 8 dancers cannot compete two jazz routines and win an overall award in both unless there is at least a one-member variance to the secondary jazz routine. The same exact 8 dancers CAN compete a jazz routine and a lyrical routine and win an overall award for both numbers.)

Dance Categories

Note: There is a maximum of three acrobatic tricks permissible in every category except our open and acrobatic dance categories. Any routine consisting of 4 or more acrobatic tricks must be entered in the acrobatic dance or open category regardless of the style of routine that is mixed along with the acrobatic elements. A deduction of 1 point per judge will result for routines that do not comply. Tricks are considered movements that pass through or stop at a fully inverted (upside down) position with both feet off the floor (the torso passing or stopping directly over the top of one's head/shoulders). Forward, backward and shoulder rolls, and acro tricks in lifts (a lift being defined as being supported by another dancer with any body part) are not considered tricks. A gymnastic pass will be counted as one trick (i.e., a round-off back-hand spring into a back flip = 1 trick)

- *Note: Routines that performed under our "Parent Number" category option during our regional event will fall under our Adult Routine age division at Nationals Finals. First and last names along with DOB of each dancer will be entered during the Nationals registration process for these routines.*

The various types of routines include:

JAZZ - Routine uses primarily jazz technique, utilizing up-tempo music.

TAP - Routine consisting primarily of tap technique. Routines demonstrating clogging technique and style may not compete in the tap category.

BALLET - Primarily ballet technique, including classical steps and movements.

POINTE - Routine uses primarily classical pointe technique. Pointe shoes only.

LYRICAL - Routine consisting of dynamic emotion and expressive movements demonstrated with fluidity, balance, extension and control.

CONTEMPORARY - A fusion of many styles (primarily jazz and lyrical) with a strong emphasis on modern technique.

HIP HOP – Routine that focuses on the groove (rock or bounce) with influences of foundational urban, street, funk, or club styles. Examples of such styles include (but are not limited to): bboy, locking, popping, krump, jooking, lite feet, and whacking.

JAZZ FUNK– A commercial dance style that fuses a multitude of genres from ballet, modern, hip hop, jazz and lyrical. A Jazz Funk routine contains highly syncopated musicality, involves intricate movement and typically exudes lots of femininity. This style is commonly referred to as Street Jazz.

MUSICAL THEATRE - Any routine using Broadway or theater styles. Song selection is from a Broadway, Movie, Musical or Television Show.

NOVELTY – Routine featuring any style of dance that is novelty or theme based. It must portray a recognizable character throughout.

OPEN - Routine demonstrating any dance style or combination of dance styles that is hard to 'fit' into any other category offered. Consists of all other categories including, but not limited to ethnic, folkloric, pom-pom, baton, cheerleading, etc. Routines containing 4 or more gymnastic tricks may also opt to enter in the open category.

CLOGGING – Routine that uses clogging/buck style. Clogging shoes only.

SONG AND DANCE – Routine containing both singing and dancing of any time. Dupree will provide 1 hand held microphone only (upon request). Dupree Dance does not allow any additional equipment to be hooked into the sound system, therefore, no personal microphones, headsets, etc. will be permitted.

ACROBATIC DANCE – A routine that combines classical dance technique with at least 4 or more acrobatic elements. Acrobatic dancer routines are defined by their athletic character and use of acrobatics within a dance context. Controlled movements and flexibility are used and elements like walkovers, aerials, backhand springs, etc. are incorporated.

SPECIAL NEEDS - Routines that includes dancers with special needs or disabilities who would like the opportunity to perform. Special Needs numbers are not eligible for Overall Awards. Dancers' names only (first and last) will be requested during the registration process of a Special Needs number.

Awards

Individual Awards:

Each routine will receive a Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum or Diamond award based on the total number of points received from the judges. Scoring systems for both our Performance and Competitive levels of competition are listed under our judging criteria.

Category High Score:

A 1st place will be awarded to the highest scoring routine per each level, dance category and age division after the individual awards for that group of routines are announced.

Judges Choice Awards:

Judges Choice awards will be presented at each awards ceremony. These awards include, but are not limited to: Entertainment, Technique, Artistry, Choreography, Intensity, Costuming and Precision.

Overall High Score:

High Score awards are given to the following age divisions for the Performance and Competitive Levels:

Mini (8 & under) Junior (9-12) Teen (13-15) Senior (16-19) Adult (20 & up)

Cash Award Criteria and Overall Awards

In addition to trophies, cash awards are given to the 1st place Overall High Score winners providing the minimum number of routines is reached within that particular age and level division. Competition vouchers are given to the top 2nd and 3rd place Overall High Score winners providing the minimum number of routines is reached within that particular age and level division. The cash award and competition voucher criteria are as follows.

Cash award and competition voucher criteria for Solos, Duo/Trios, Groups, Lines & Productions

* There must be a minimum of 5 routines in a particular age and level division in order for the 1st place winner to receive a cash award for solos, duos/trios, groups and lines. There must be a minimum of 2 routines in a particular age and level division in order for the 1st place winner to receive a cash award for productions. There must be a minimum of 7 routines in a particular age and level division in order for the 2nd place winner to receive a competition voucher for solos, duos/trios, groups, lines & productions. There must be a minimum of 9 routines in a particular age and level division in order for the 3rd place winner to receive a competition voucher for solos, duos/trios, groups, lines & productions.

Cash award and competition voucher criteria for Super Productions

* For Super Productions, there is automatically a cash prize given to the 1st place high score winner. There must be a minimum of 3 routines in the super production division in order for the 2nd place winner to receive a competition voucher. There must be a minimum of 5 routines in the super production division in order for the 3rd place winner to receive a competition voucher.

The number of Overall High Score trophies distributed in a particular age & level is based on the following:

0-4 routines = top 3 overall scores awarded
5-9 routines = top 4 overall scores awarded
10-14 routines = top 5 overall scores awarded
15-19 routines = top 6 overall scores awarded
20-24 routines = top 7 overall scores awarded
25-29 routines = top 8 overall scores awarded
30-34 routines = top 9 overall scores awarded
35 or more routines = top 10 overall scores awarded

Solo Title Competition

A **performance division soloist** may enter up to two solos to compete for the National Title of ***DUPREE RISING STAR*** in their age division.

A **competitive division soloist** may enter up to two solos to compete for the National Title of ***MR or MISS DUPREE DANCE*** in their age division.

Contestants will be scored separately from their adjudication score and will be judged solely on their combined *technique and performance score*. If they choose to perform two solos, the solo with the highest combined *technique and performance (presentation)* score will be used. In the event of a tie, the judges will break the tie.

Up to five performance or competitive division finalists in each age division will be announced during the overall awards ceremony for their solo division. A 2nd and 1st runner up winner in addition to one DUPREE RISING STAR champion (Performance Division) or one MR/MISS DUPREE DANCE (Competitive Division) will be crowned. The champion will be given additional information about their involvement and recognition during our Dupree Dance Showdown.

Our Solo Title Champions in each level and age division will receive a

1. Crown (girls) or Hat (boys)
2. Custom Dupree Dance Solo Title Champion jacket
3. A year round unlimited full regional convention tuition scholarship
4. A social media request form that will enable us to feature them on our social media platforms

Our Competitive Division Champions (Mr. or Miss Dupree Dance) will also be extended an invitation to perform a solo routine at the conclusion of any regional convention they choose to attend from 12 months of the date awarded (excludes National Finals)

Both the 2nd and 1st runner up winners will receive a convention tuition scholarship for 50% off any singular Dupree Dance regional event of their choice over the next 12 months.

Dancers do not need to qualify their competing solo(s) regionally in to compete for a national title. As long as their studio met our qualification rules at an attending regional event, their solo can be added with no additional qualification fees.

Additional Awards & Honors

Top Soloist & Duo/Trio Champions ~ Dupree Showdown Invitation
Our 1st place overall solo champions and our 1st place overall duo/trio champions in both the Performance and Competitive level in the Mini, Junior, Teen and Senior age divisions will be invited to perform again at our Dupree Showdown on the last day of our National Finals! Top soloists and duo/trios will not re-compete at the Showdown. If two entries tie for a 1st Overall High Score in any one age and level division, both soloists and/or both duo/trios will be invited to perform at the Dupree Showdown.

Dupree Dance Scholarships
Dupree Dance instructors and judges will use our convention classes as a platform to select scholarship winners based on their work ethic, artistry, performance, technique and overall entertainment quality or 'charisma' during our event. Dupree Dance convention scholarship winners will receive either a 50% off or full convention tuition scholarship. Scholarship winners will be announced at the conclusion of our convention class schedule.

Partnering Scholarships
Dupree Dance is very proud to partner with a number of prestigious organizations including Point Park University, Go 2 Talent Agency, Hussian College LA, Rhythmic Souls Tap Company, Apolla Shocks, Just Dance Customs, Artistic Dance Designs, idance4acure and more! Our National Finals convention attendees will be eligible for a number of incredible awards, scholarships and opportunities through our partnership organizations. Those awards will also be announced at the conclusion of our convention class schedule or during our Dupree Dance Showdown.

Top It Off Award
Two "Top It Off" winners will be announced during our National Finals once all the group, line, production and super production routines have competed. One routine will be selected from the 12 and under age group and one routine will be selected from the 13 and over age group. Our 'Top It Off' award goes to the highest scoring routine from the combined Performance and Competitive division group, line, production, and super production entries. In the event of a tie, Dupree Dance will award a secondary 'Top It Off' winner for that age group. Our 'Top It Off' routines will receive a special trophy and their routine will be featured on our Dupree Dance website and Facebook following our event! Adult routines are excluded from our Top It Off Award winners.

Studio Spirit Award
This award will be selected by our Backstage Manager(s) and Dupree faculty. The Studio Spirit award will be presented to the studio that displays the most spirit, overall sportsmanship backstage and hard work and charisma during our convention classes and event schedule. Up to two Studio Spirit Awards may be given at National Finals.

Studio Appreciation Award
Two Studio Appreciation Awards will be given to the top two studios with the most participation at our National Finals competition. Each studio will receive a $200 Studio Appreciation gift certificate to apply towards any Dupree regional or national competition event within 13 months from the date awarded.

Dupree Dance National Finals Gala

The Dupree Dance National Finals Gala is a way to feature the 'best of the best' amongst studios in an exciting conclusion to our National Finals event. We want to highlight the talent of these amazing routines one more time and give them an opportunity to re-compete for the title of Dupree Dance Grand National Champion!

In order to qualify for the Dupree Dance Gala, each studio will look at the highest scoring routine (numeric point value) in both their Performance and Competitive division combined Group, Line, and Production routines in each of the Mini, Junior, Teen and Senior age divisions. Providing the highest scoring entry in each age and level division received either a platinum, double platinum or diamond award, it qualifies to re-compete at the Dupree Dance Gala on the last day of our National event. Our Super Production category will be separated from the Group, Line and Production in our Dupree Showdown and will follow the exact same rules.

Each studio may only be represented once in each age group within the Performance and Competitive divisions in the combined Group, Line and Production category. In addition, each studio may be represented once in each age group within the Performance and Competitive divisions in the Super Production category. *If a studio has two entries that our system awards a tie in a particular age and level division, then both routines will qualify for the Dupree Dance Gala. Our system tie breaking procedures are provided under our Judging section.

There are no written scores or audio critiques provided during our Dupree Dance Gala. We want our judges to sit back, relax and focus on the 'full effect' of each routine without the pressure to adjudicate. The Gala is all about having fun and entertaining your audience! Dancers need to focus on pouring their hearts out and leaving all they have on the dance floor! During our Summit Gala, each age and level division's qualified routines will perform, and then the judges will take a short break to determine the Grand National Champions, and 1st and 2nd Runners Up. During the judges' voting breaks, our 1st Place High Score soloists and duo/trios from each age and level division will be featured on stage and have the opportunity to showcase their award winning routine.

1st and 2nd Grand National Champion Runners Up will be presented in each age group. Dupree Dance Grand National Champions will receive a unique trophy, Championship banner and a cash award! 1st and 2nd Runner Up winners will receive a gift certificate to apply towards any regional competition registration of their choice within 18 months from our National Finals event.

Numbers that qualify for the Dupree Dance Gala will be announced at the appropriate Group/Line/Production award ceremonies for each age division at our event. Studio owners/directors will receive a special Gala questionnaire form per each routine that qualifies to re-compete. The competition emcee will utilize your form in order to share something special regarding each Gala routine as they take the stage for the last time.

Adult age division routines are not able to qualify for our Dupree Dance Gala.

Judging

There will be a total of 3 highly qualified and diverse Dupree Dance judges that will provide scores and audio critiques per each entry. All acts will receive one trophy per act and individual award tags (for each dancer in the routine) that they will be able to add to a gifted Dupree necklace that will be provided to the Owners and Directors during the registration check-in process at our event. Although acts are competing against an adjudicated point system for individual awards, all contestants will compete against each other in their age and level division for the Overall High Score awards.

Each act that performs will receive an individual award based on the following scoring systems:

Performance Level Scoring System	
Diamond	284-300
Double Platinum	280-283.9
Platinum	272-279.9
Gold	260-271.9
Silver	248-259.9
Bronze	247.9 & under

Competitive Level Scoring System	
Diamond	290-300
Double Platinum	286-289.9
Platinum	279-285.9
Gold	268-278.9
Silver	255-267.9
Bronze	254.9 & under

Scoring criteria/breakdown
Three judges adjudicate each routine in one of five areas. Each judge considers the following criteria:

1. Technique (max of 25 points)
2. Presentation/Artistry (max of 20 points)
3. Routine (max of 20 points)
4. Age Appropriate (max of 15 points)
5. Overall Impression (max of 20 points)

In the event of a tie on a Category High Award and during Overall Awards, our system will initially use the overall technique score to break the tie. If the technique score is the same, the system will then use the Presentation/Artistry score and finally the Overall Impression score to break the tie. If two or more routines are still tied once these three areas are compared, a tie will be awarded.

Incomplete Routine Rule
A 10-point deduction will be in effect for a routine that is not completed by a dancer or group of dancers due to memory mistake(s). "Not completed" is defined as exiting the stage before the routine is finished. The routine will be scored from the time it started up until the point the dancer(s) exit the stage. The tabulator will note the 10-point deduction (10 points total, not per judge) on the score sheet(s) per our Incomplete Routine rule. IF TIME PERMITS, that routine may be given the opportunity to re-perform but will not be rescored. If a dancer or group of dancers forget one portion of their routine but remain on stage and complete the routine, our incomplete routine rule is not in effect. In this case, the judges will take the portion of the routine that was forgotten into consideration and that will be reflected in their individual scores.

Time Schedule

A general competition schedule will be issued and posted on our event page within 3-4 weeks prior to our National Finals event. A minute-to-minute schedule will be issued via email to each registered studio account no later than 10 days before the National competition start date. Each Nationals competition schedule is based solely on the breakdown of entries by solos, duet/trios, groups, lines, productions and super productions in each age and competition level. This breakdown is not available until all of the entries have been processed. At that time, a schedule will be set to best accommodate the entrants at that competition. No time requests will be accepted.

ALL ENTRIES MUST COMPETE ON THE DAY AND TIME ASSIGNED. Dupree Dance understands that there are sometimes unforeseen events that can arise. Any entry, which is not able to compete at their assigned day and time, may request an alteration to the routine's performance time. If this is approved and if the adjusted performance time falls after the other routines in the same age/division, then the routine will be permitted to compete for adjudication only and will not be eligible for high score awards. If the routine falls at any time prior to the other performances in the same age/division and if the same 3 judges can be secured, then it is *possible* (not guaranteed) that it will be eligible for high score awards. Any change in competition days and/or times is at the sole discretion of the Dupree Dance Directors and will be determined by the time allowance at each event.

The number in which each routine is assigned is for reference and identification purposes. We try to run in numerical order. However, you may be asked to compete out of sequence in order to avoid a delay due to costume changes. Performers should arrive at least 1 hour prior to their scheduled performance time and check in with Backstage Managers no less than 5 numbers prior to their performance. Please be prepared to compete when we call your number, even though it may be a little earlier than you anticipated. **If we run ahead of schedule within a set block of routines, we will stay ahead of schedule.** However, we are committed to starting each assigned block of entries at the time stated on the general schedule.

*****QUICK CHANGES***** If you determine that you do not have enough time between numbers to change costumes, it is imperative that you advise the backstage manager. If the backstage manager has not been notified of any problem, and you are not ready to compete when called, points may be deducted. If there are at least 4 routines between your entries, we feel it is an adequate amount of time to change quickly and get back on stage. Please do your best to stay on schedule and pre-plan for your 'quick changes' accordingly.

Music Submission

Dupree Dance will require that all entrants submit their competition music digitally before the event. Digital submission of your music will alleviate the stress of CD's skipping or not reading properly. Digital submission also allows us to prepare a master competition playlist ahead of our event. A detailed email will be sent to entrants a month prior to our event that gives you easy, step-by-step directions on how to submit your music digitally. A strict digital music submission deadline will be given to registrants well in advance.

All music must be submitted at the proper speed with a complete 'start to finish' edit for each entry. Dupree Dance will not 'speed up' or 'slow down' music during our competition, nor will we fade out music that is too long.

Back up music must be kept on you and can be in the form of a smart phone, tablet, laptop computer, iPad or thumb drive.

Props

No dangerous props may be used during the competition (swords, fire, etc). General props are allowed, but must be taken on and off the stage within two minutes total (five minutes is permitted for production or super production routines). No liquid, gel, aerosol, glitter, or similar substance that would affect the dancing surface is allowed unless specifically approved by Dupree Dance. Special fog or smoke is not permitted unless specifically approved by Dupree Dance. It is the sole responsibility of each studio to ensure that its props are taken on and off stage. Dupree Dance staff cannot help with props. It is also the studio's responsibility to ensure that the stage is completely clean and clear after the routine is finished. Storing props in the wings or back stage is not allowed. If a Dupree Dance staff member approves, smaller props may be housed against the wall within 5 numbers of the routine in which they will be used. For safety measures, all props are restricted to a maximum height of 15 feet. Dupree Dance is not responsible for props left overnight or unattended and will not supply power.

Convention Master Classes at National Finals

Dupree Dance is excited to offer a fantastic convention class schedule to all ages/levels throughout our event. Dancers must be pre-registered for the entire convention portion of our event in order to take advantage of our classes. The only exception to this is our Improv Dance Challenge. All other master classes will not be available on a 'pay per class' basis. At-the-event convention registration will be available on a space-permitting basis only.

Within 2 weeks after our National Finals registration deadline, Dupree Dance will release the full convention class schedule. The schedule is customized around the specific competition schedule, which allows dancers the ability to easily participate in both aspects of our event.

Improv Dance Challenge!

We will host two exciting Improv Dance Challenges at our event! The first will be for *any* attending dancer age 8-12 and the second will be for *any* attending dancer age 13-19. The exact day/time of each Improv Dance Challenge will be stated when our general schedule is issued (at least one month prior to event).

The Improv Dance Challenge is an additional opportunity for all National Finals attendees whose age falls within the stated guidelines. The participation fee for our Improv Dance Challenge is $25 per dancer, and our strict at-event registration cut-off day/time will be stated on the event schedule. Dancers may register themselves at our front desk during any convention class hours; an owner/director does not have to be present.

** Note: *Collective Dancers who have registered for our Collective National Dancer of the Year competition are automatically enrolled in our Improv Dance Challenge and do not need to register separately at the event.*

"Pump It Up Parents" Dance-Off!

Within 1 month of our National Dance Finals, Dupree Dance will post a 'Pump It Up Parents' video on our website and Facebook. We invite, encourage and challenge a dynamic group of willing and brave parents to participate during our Nationals event in our "Pump It Up Parents" Dance-Off! (Little to no dance training needed here parents, come on!) Dupree will play our "Pump It Up" Parents Dance-Off song throughout our Nationals event and pre or post each Awards Ceremony. When the "Pump It Up Parents" song comes on, participants are encouraged to get up off their thing and break it down in the audience! Kids can help too!! Right before our last group awards ceremony takes place, we invite willing parents to come on stage for the "Pump It Up Parents" Dance-Off! Other than an inflated ego, our Pump It Up Parent or Parent(s) will be nominated by audience participation and will receive a special award. Do you have what it takes to be a "Pump It Up Parent"? Bring it!

Additional Information

Dupree Dance reserves the right to expand the dates of our Nationals due to number of entries, move the competition to a new location due to unforeseen circumstances, or cancel any event that does not qualify with a minimum number of acceptable entries. If cancellation occurs, all entry fees will be refunded.

By clicking on the waiver option during the online registration process and by signing the *Dupree Dance waiver/release form* at the event during registration check-in, all registered contestants do hereby grant permission to Dupree Dance to publish their photographs/routines on social media platforms, within promotional videos or in any other publication to promote its competitions. Furthermore, our waiver releases all owners, directors, officers, or representatives of this competition from any and all claims for damages or injuries sustained while participating in any activity related to this competition. Dupree Dance, LLC and the hosting venue are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

Sportsmanlike behavior is expected from all Dupree Dance contestants, teachers and families, and failure to comply with this could result in disqualification with loss of entry fees.

No cameras or video cameras of any kind are allowed during any performance at our National Finals. This includes smart phones or tablets with video capabilities. Violation may result in disqualification of a routine from the Overall High Score awards.

Absolutely no coaching is permitted from the audience or backstage during a routine.

DUPREE DANCE