

RAD
DANCE
CHALLENGE
2021



Join dancers from across the country
in the first virtual
RAD USA Dance Challenge competition

February 27 & 28, 2021

Information Pack

REGISTRATION

Registration will be available beginning on November 16, 2020. The closing date is December 16, 2020. Candidates must meet the entry qualifications stated below. **Please note that the registration form, music form, and fees and payment form, must be submitted together in order to process the candidate's registration.**

Teachers will receive an e-mail notification when their registration has been processed and confirmed by the RAD USA office. The e-mail will include instructions for uploading performance videos. The deadline for submitting videos will be January 15, 2021.

ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

The RAD Dance Challenge is a multi-level competition made available to competitors up to the age of nineteen who are training in the United States under the direction of a RAD Registered Teacher. The competition will take place virtually over two days and is divided into four levels:

Level 1: Candidates studying RAD Grade 4 or 5 - Must be 14 years or under on January 1, 2021.

Level 2: Candidates studying RAD Grade 6-8, or Intermediate Foundation - Must be 16 years or under on January 1, 2021.

Level 3: Candidates studying RAD Intermediate - Must be 16 years or under on January 1, 2021.

Level 4: Candidates studying RAD Advanced Foundation, Advanced 1 or Advanced 2 – Must be 19 years or under on January 1, 2021.

ABOUT THE DANCE CHALLENGE

The online competition will be held February 27 & 28. This year, students will compete in the Dance Challenge through video submissions of Solo or Ensemble performances. The submitted videos will be compiled into competition performance videos (Levels 1 & 2 and Levels 3 & 4) which will be reviewed and scored by the judges.

Candidates will be judged based on their performance of a ballet Solo or Ensemble choreographed by their RAD teacher. Each competition level will be judged separately.

Virtual Master Classes

Students competing in the Dance Challenge will be invited to participate in two virtual master classes, Ballet Technique and Focus on Artistry, taught by international faculty. The classes will be offered via Zoom and will be interactive. Technique classes will be limited to a maximum of 30 students. To allow for more personal feedback from the faculty, the Focus on Artistry classes will be limited to a maximum of 15 students.

At the discretion of their RAD teacher, students may join their assigned classes from either their home or their studio. Classes are only open to those students competing in the Dance Challenge.

Competition Performance

The competition performances will be available to view for 24 hours beginning on February 27. A link to view the performances will be emailed to all participants and their teachers.

The Dance Challenge winners will be announced on February 28 in a recorded video, also accessible via an e-mailed link, that will be available to view for 24 hours.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Solos – Guidelines for Teachers

- Teachers should choreograph an original ballet Solo not exceeding 1 minute and 30 seconds.
- Steps and movements should correspond with the candidate’s RAD level.
- Choreography and costumes should not make any reference to characters, musicals, storylines, or films that are still in copyright.
- Candidates may wear a costume and use props if appropriate.

Ensembles – Guidelines for Teachers

- Teachers should choreograph an original ballet piece not exceeding 2 minutes and 30 seconds.
- Steps and movements should correspond with the RAD level of participating candidates.
- Ensembles **MUST BE** comprised of candidates who are currently studying in the same RAD grade level. At the discretion of the teacher, candidates may compete in a higher grade level Ensemble. Competing in a lower grade level Ensemble is prohibited.
- Choreography and costumes should not make any reference to characters, musicals, storylines, or films that are still in copyright.
- Candidates may wear a costume and use props if appropriate.

Choreography – Guidelines for Solos and Ensembles

- Solos and Ensembles must be original choreography created by the RAD Registered Teacher signing the registration form.
- All choreography must be Ballet. Limited Contemporary elements may be incorporated.
- Pointe work is optional and must be relevant to levels in which pointe work is included in exam settings.

Music – Guidelines for Solos and Ensembles

- Music for Solos should not exceed: 1 minute and 30 seconds.
- Music for Ensembles should not exceed: 2 minutes and 30 seconds.
- Music is not required to be a classical composition.
- Music must be from a recording, which for copyright purposes, has been purchased. An original composition may be used if an agreement of use has been made with the composer.
- There should be no “internal” cuts to the music as this will likely constitute an infringement of copyright.
- If the selection of music contains lyrics, it should not include any offensive, sexist or racist material.

JUDGING

Two elite artists from the dance profession will review the competition performance videos and adjudicate the performances.

SELECTION OF WINNERS

At the discretion of the competition judges, the following will be awarded:

- two solo winners; per level
- two ensemble winners; per level
- one solo Grand Prize winner; per competition (Levels 1 & 2 and Levels 3 & 4)

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

Candidates will be assessed on the following criteria for their Solos and Ensembles:

Technique

- Secure posture and weight placement, use of turn out
- Co-ordination of the whole body
- Sustained and balanced movements
- The ability to demonstrate a range of harmonious lines through the whole body

Music

- Rhythmical accuracy and timing
- Response to phrasing, atmosphere and dynamics

Performance

- An ability to interpret and express the varying artistic qualities and appropriate styles

General Information

COMPETITION ENTRY FEES

Registration and Master Classes Levels 1 & 2:	\$60 per person
Registration and Master Classes Levels 3 & 4:	\$65 per person
Solo Fee:	\$55
Solo Fee (RAD Member):	\$44
Ensemble Fee (2+ candidates):	\$30 per person

ATTIRE

Proper ballet attire should be worn for classes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do candidates need to have passed their exam with Distinction to participate?

A: Distinction is not necessary to participate.

Q: Must the choreography be strictly classical ballet or can it have contemporary elements?

A: The choreography will be the teacher's choice – contemporary ballet or character movement can be incorporated as long as it is not lyrical or modern.

Q: Do candidates have to be on pointe?

A: Pointe work is relevant to levels in which pointe work is allowed in exam settings. In which case, pointe in the Dance Challenge is completely optional.

Q: Does the candidate's RAD teacher have to choreograph the solo?

A: The piece must be choreographed by the candidate's RAD Registered Teacher signing the registration form.

Q: Can more than one child present the same choreography for a solo, or do they all have to be different dances?

A: Although candidates performing the same choreography is not against the rules, it essentially means students from the same school will be competing against each other with the same dance. Therefore, we recommend that each candidate use different choreography.

Q: Since music can have no internal edits, how can music that is too long be shortened?

A: An internal edit is meant as altering the original copyright of the music either at the beginning or throughout the piece. Music may be cut down to the allotted amount of time using a fade out at the end.