

Registration

- All entries should be made through our Online Registration at www.ascensiondance.com
- For questions regarding Registration, contact Melissa@Ascensiondance.com or at 1-833-RISEUP1 Ext.2
- To be invoiced please 'Checkout and Submit' Registration upon agreeing to Guidelines listed within this document
- Invoice will be emailed to you 1-3 business days after receipt of your Registration. For questions or to submit a P.O., please contact billing@ascensiondance.com. Payments are accepted by mail, credit card or ACH transfer
- Changes to your Registration may be made until 4 weeks prior to Contest Date
- For ANY Changes to a completed Registration, contact Melissa@Ascensiondance.com or at 1-833-RISEUP1 Ext.2 to UNLOCK your account to log on. This process ensures that we process any changes you may have prior to scheduling
- Entries following the Registration Deadline will incur a \$250 Administrative Fee
- By Registering for our Competitions you agree that your music selections have been purchased legally and have not been altered in any way to violate music copyright laws. By agreeing to our Terms & Conditions you hold harmless Ascension Dance should you be in violation of any copyright rules
- By Registering for our Competitions you agree and hold harmless Ascension Dance to take photographs/video footage and utilize for the purpose of advertisement both in print and electronically
- By Registering for our Competitions you agree to grant permission for Ascension Dance to seek medical attention/treatment in case of illness or injury as deemed appropriate. Any medical cost incurred due to illness or injury is not the responsibility of Ascension Dance

Registration-Payment-Schedule Timeline

4 WEEKS:

- ★ DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION ENTRIES
- ★ ENTRY VERIFICATION COMPLETE via email
- ★ Submit Academic Excellence Application with Overall GPA
- ★ Submit Facility Agreement – Dressing Rooms Assigned

3 WEEKS:

- ★ ADD/DROP DEADLINE
- ★ PAYMENT OR P.O. MUST BE RECEIVED prior to Scheduling
 - Pay by Mail to: Ascension Dance - P.O. Box 1692 – Cypress, TX 77410
 - Pay by Credit Card: <https://melio.me/ascensiondance>
 - Pay by ACH Transfer Contact: billing@ascensiondance.com
 - Submit P.O.'s to: billing@ascensiondance.com
- ★ FULL REFUNDS will not be issued past the ADD/DROP DEADLINE for each Contest Location Date

2 WEEKS:

- ★ PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE will be emailed on Tuesday
- ★ Please Submit Schedule Change Form via email by next day (Wednesday)
- ★ ALL MUSIC must be uploaded to website on your Ascension Dance Portal

TUESDAY WEEK OF CONTEST DATE

- ★ UPDATED PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE will be posted on website
- ★ Please Submit Schedule Change Form for any changes by 5PM Tuesday

THURSDAY WEEK OF CONTEST DATE – FINAL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE will be posted on website

Refund & Cancellation Policy

- In the event of inclement weather or cancellation due to circumstances beyond our control, teams will be offered a full credit toward future Ascension Dance Events for one calendar year or a 50% refund
- Routine Refunds will not be offered following the Add/Drop Deadline 3 weeks prior to Contest Date
- Cancellations following the Add/Drop Deadline may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Any credit offered must be applied at another contest location during the current season only

2024 Entry Fees

PER ENTRY	PRESEASON <i>Jan. 27 Only</i>	REGIONAL	STATE	NATIONALS
Team/Elite/All Male:	\$ 250	\$ 295	\$ 305	\$ 375
Production:	\$ 275	\$ 350	\$ 360	\$ 400
Dance Officer:	\$ 220	\$ 265	\$ 275	\$ 315
Social Officer:	\$ 180	\$ 225	\$ 235	\$ 245
Extra Large Ensemble:	\$ 205	\$ 250	\$ 260	\$ 270
Large Ensemble	\$ 195	\$ 240	\$ 250	\$ 260
Medium Ensemble:	\$ 185	\$ 230	\$ 240	\$ 250
Small Ensemble:	\$ 175	\$ 220	\$ 230	\$ 240
Trio:	\$ 130	\$ 200	\$ 210	\$ 220
Duet:	\$ 120	\$ 190	\$ 200	\$ 210
Solo:	\$ 100	\$ 115	\$ 120	\$ 125

- ★ All Teams will be assessed a \$125 Facility Fee. This fee will be reflected on your invoice generated by our Billing Department.
NOTE: Any JV Team requiring their own dressing room will be assessed this fee
- ★ Registered and PAID Team and Officer Entries by December 1 will receive a 10% Discount (Not applicable for Preseason Event)
- ★ Early Registrations NOT PAID by December 1 will be invoiced at full price
- ★ Optional Services Fees: Data Entry for Online Registration \$200.00
- ★ Additional Time Fee for Extensive Set-Up (for each entry which exceed time limits): \$125.00
- ★ Late Entries or Changes following the Add/Drop Deadline 3 weeks prior to Contest Date will incur a \$250 Administration Fee
- ★ Independent Solos will be permitted at the Preseason Event only

Spectator Admission Fees & Complimentary Passes

Preseason, Regional and State Challenges

\$ 15.00

National Challenge

\$ 25.00

- Tickets may be purchased online at the link provided on contest website
- Children 4 & under are Free unless there are Capacity Restrictions
- Doors open at 3:30PM Friday and 7:00AM Saturday for Spectators and Teams (Nationals TBA)
- Directors will be given Admission Credentials and 2 complimentary Admission Credentials to use at their discretion
- Bus drivers are given free admission with proper School District ID
- Prop parents must have Admission Credentials to enter (provided by director or must pay admission)
- Non-Performing Team Members arriving separately without Team must pay Admission

Performance Time Limits

TEAM:	1½ - 3	Minutes in Length	(5 Total Minutes)
GAME DAY:	2½ - 3	Minutes in Length	(5 Total Minutes)
PRODUCTION:	5 - 7	Minutes in Length	(12 Total Minutes)
DANCE OFFICER:	1½ - 3	Minutes in Length	(5 Total Minutes)
SOCIAL OFFICER:	1½ - 2½	Minutes in Length	(5 Total Minutes)
ENSEMBLE:	1½ - 2½	Minutes in Length	(5 Total Minutes)
DUET/TRIO:	1½ - 2½	Minutes in Length	(4 Total Minutes)
SOLO:	1½ - 2	Minutes in Length	(4 Total Minutes)

- Total Time Limit refers to Set-Up, Entrance, Performance, Tear Down and Exit
- Team, Officer and Ensemble performances are scheduled every 5 minutes
- Production performances are scheduled every 12 minutes
- Solo, Duet and Trio performances will be scheduled every 4 minutes
- In the event a Team or Officer Routine must be reperformed, it must be within 30 minutes of the original performance time to remain in Category. The second performance will be the score of record in the tabulation system

IMPORTANT! For scheduling purposes, please select the Extensive Set-Up option for EACH entry which exceeds the Time Limit for TOTAL time for Set-up/Entrance, Dance, Exit/Tear Down. Please note the \$125 Fee to purchase extra time in the event schedule

Music Requirements

- For your Online Registration to be complete, you must VERIFY by agreeing to our Terms & Conditions that your music selections for our event have been purchased legally and have not been altered in any way to violate music copyright laws. By agreeing to our Terms & Conditions you hold harmless Ascension Dance from being liable should you be in violation of any copyright laws
- **Music must be uploaded to our website 2 WEEKS prior to contest date**
- Music will be played on a high quality, professional sound system
- Team Representative with Backup Music at the Sound Table should remain for the duration of routine
- **ONLY FOR BACKUP - For iPhone/iPad, please do the following: AUTO LOCK OFF / PASS CODE OFF / VOLUME UP / AIRPLANE MODE ON**
- Music should be recorded at correct performance tempo
- For the best music quality have your music professionally recorded
- Ascension Dance and Host Facility are not responsible for audio devices not picked up following performances

Team: Divisions and Classifications

- The top 3 scoring performances count toward the overall score for Best in Classification and Grand Champion
- ***School Entries must be registered in the same Spectrum***
- Elementary, JH/MS, HS Pep Squad, Jr.Varsity, HS Spectrum I, HS Spectrum II, HS Elite, HS All Male, HS Co-Ed and Studio Teams compete separately
- High School Classifications are based on the AVERAGE # of Performers on floor. Please understand your performing #'s in each routine should be representative of your team size and should be within a consistent range without a wide variance
- Following the Registration Deadline we reserve the right to reevaluate the Size Classification #'s dependent on the total #'s in each Size Classification for the competitive experience. In the event adjustments are made, Directors will be notified PRIOR to scheduling
- Preseason Challenge – Dependent on total entries, HS Team Classification sizes may be combined based on Division (Spectrum I/Spectrum II)
- Late Registrations or Changes following scheduled Deadlines will incur a \$250 Administrative Fee

SCHOOLS:

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SPECTRUM I *Teams with limited competitive dance experience and a variety of skill level (Director Discretion)*

SMALL	4-15 Average Performers
MEDIUM	16-25 Average Performers
LARGE	26-35 Average Performers
EXTRA LARGE	36-45 Average Performers
SUPER	46+ Average Performers

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SPECTRUM II *Teams with more competitive dance experience and a more consistent or advanced skill level*

SMALL	4-15 Average Performers
MEDIUM	16-25 Average Performers
LARGE	26-35 Average Performers
EXTRA LARGE	36-45 Average Performers
SUPER	46+ Average Performers

JR. VARSITY

SMALL	2-15 Average Performers
MEDIUM	16-29 Average Performers
LARGE	30+ Average Performers

JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL

SMALL	2-15 Average Performers
MEDIUM	16-29 Average Performers
LARGE	30+ Average Performers

HS ALL MALE 6 or more Performers

HS CO-ED 6 or more Performers

HS VARSITY ELITE 8-24 Team Premier Performers (Ineligible for Overall Awards)

HS PEP SQUAD 6 or more Performers

ELEMENTARY 6 or more Performers

STUDIO *(Age as of August 31, 2023)*

TOT	Age 4 and under
TINY	Age 5-6
MINI	Age 7-9
YOUTH	Age 10-12
JUNIOR	Age 13-15
SENIOR	Age 16-18

Dance Officer: Divisions and Classifications

- The top 3 scoring performances count toward the overall score for Best in Classification and Grand Champion
- Spectrum choice should be consistent with Team Spectrum

SCHOOLS:

HIGH SCHOOL SPECTRUM I Officers with limited competitive dance experience and/or a variety of skill level (Director Discretion)

SMALL 2-4 Dancers

MEDIUM 5-6 Dancers

LARGE 7+ Dancers

HIGH SCHOOL SPECTRUM II Officers with more competitive dance experience and a more consistent or advanced skill level

SMALL 2-4 Dancers

MEDIUM 5-6 Dancers

LARGE 7-8 Dancers

EXTRA LARGE 9+ Dancers

JR. HIGH/MIDDLE

SMALL 2-4 Dancers

MEDIUM 5-6 Dancers

LARGE 7+ Dancers

Social Officer: Divisions

- Social Officer Lines should consist of social officers only
- Spectrum choice should be consistent with Team and Dance Officer Spectrum

SCHOOLS:

HIGH SCHOOL SPECTRUM I Social Officers with limited dance experience and/or a variety of skill level

HIGH SCHOOL SPECTRUM II Social Officers with more dance experience and/or a more consistent or advanced skill level

JR. HIGH/MIDDLE Grade 6-8

Duet, Trio, Ensemble: Divisions and Classifications

SCHOOLS

HIGH SCHOOL Spectrum I

HIGH SCHOOL Spectrum II

JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

STUDIO (Based on Age as of August 31, 2023)

TOT Age 4 and under

TINY Age 5-6

MINI Age 7-9

YOUTH Age 10-12

JUNIOR Age 13-15

SENIOR Age 16-18

ENSEMBLE CLASSIFICATIONS:

DUET: 2 Performers

SMALL: 4 - 6 Performers

LARGE: 13 -18 Performers

TRIO: 3 Performers

MEDIUM: 7 - 12 Performers

EXTRA LARGE: 19 -25 Performers

Solo: Divisions and Classifications

- Performances may be any genre
- Performer may enter more than one solo, however only highest scoring solo may Place
- Solo Winners will perform prior to the Awards Ceremony

PUBLIC/PRIVATE SCHOOLS

HIGH SCHOOL – SPECTRUM I & II	Grade 12
HIGH SCHOOL – SPECTRUM I & II	Grade 11
HIGH SCHOOL – SPECTRUM I & II	Grade 10
HIGH SCHOOL – SPECTRUM I & II	Grade 9
JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL	Grade 8
JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL	Grade 7
JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL	Grade 6
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Grade 5
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Grade 3-4
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Grade 1-2

STUDIO (Based on Age as of August 31, 2023)

TOT	Age 4 and under
TINY	Age 5-6
MINI	Age 7-9
YOUTH	Age 10-12
JUNIOR	Age 13-15
SENIOR	Age 16-18

Adjudication

- Our Adjudicators are Dance Professionals including professional dancers and choreographers known throughout the nation and FORMER Dance Team Directors selected for their experience, integrity, insightful critiques, excellence, and high standards
- Ascension Dance and our Adjudicators are committed to providing the most positive, stress-free, and fun contest environment
- Our Adjudicators are the most respected in the industry who will provide useful, high-quality feedback for your team
- Our Adjudicators understand and honor our goal of providing a most organized, time efficient and fair competition
- Adjudicator Scores will be available on your Registration portal immediately following the Awards Ceremony
- Adjudicator Video Critiques will be available on your Registration portal following the contest after all uploads are complete

Scoring System

Adjudicators will adhere and score according to the following Point System:

Technique (35 Points)

Strength, Extension, Control, Flexibility, Movement Quality
Alignment, Carriage, Placement: Head, Arms, Legs, Body, Feet
Proper Execution of Skills Presented: Turns, Leaps, Lifts, Stunts

Choreography (30 Points)

Construction, Creativity, Originality, Suitability, Variety, Artistry
Staging, Visual Effects, Formations, Transitions, Continuity
Degree of Difficulty, Appropriateness of Choreography

Execution (25 Points)

Synchronization, Uniformity, Dynamics, Completion of Movement
Spacing, Transitions, Stamina, Memory

Performance Impression (10 Points)

Showmanship, Projection, Energy, Genuine Expression
Audience Appeal, Appropriateness of Costume and Music

Performance Categories

CONTEMPORARY: A compilation of many techniques and styles that integrate the mind, body, and spirit connection with its freedom of movement and form. It has a strong emphasis on modern dance technique

HIP HOP: A dance performance that displays a grounded, street-style movement. Performance includes isolations and control while utilizing rhythmic, creative, movements with the major beats of a musical selection

JAZZ: A dance performance which includes a combination of rhythmic body movements which interpret and emphasize a musical selection while emphasizing technique and execution

KICK: A performance that includes a variety of kicks choreographed into 75% of the routine performed by the majority of the team emphasizing precision, timing, control, technique and uniformity of height

LYRICAL: A dance performance which incorporates smooth, fluid, technical body movements which include balance, isolation, extensions and control that emphasize and interpret a musical selection

MILITARY: A dance performance which emphasizes sharp, concise, precision movements that utilizes formation changes, patterns, footwork and dynamic presentation

MODERN: A dance style that exhibits personal expression and inner feeling through movement and abstract ideas while utilizing contractions, suspension, releases, falls, level changes, and weight sharing

NOVELTY: A dance performance choreographed with movements placing special attention on a character or theme reflected in the music selection. Props and/or costumes may be used to reflect a theme, but should not be the main focus

OPEN: A dance performance that does not adhere to the above listed categories. Examples include but are not limited to Ballet, Pointe, Folkloric and Tap (with use of protective flooring or tap boards)

POM: A dance performance which emphasizes strong, energetic dance movements containing visual effects, pattern and formation changes throughout. Poms should be utilized for at least 75% of routine

PROP: A dance performance that utilizes a visual aid as the object of the focus for at least 75% of the routine

PRODUCTION: A dance presentation over 3 minutes that utilizes a combination of dance elements and styles which interpret a theme throughout. Props, costumes, back drops and sets may be used, but emphasis should be on the overall entertainment value

GAME DAY: A dance performance that is a merge of Fight Song, Spirit Performance and Dance Performance

NOTE: Performance may be in any order and Team must submit Order and Time Sequence in Advance for Adjudicators to note

- Fight Song - Choreography should represent a traditional Fight Song that your team performs at games and community events. Recorded band music **MUST** be used and musical instruments may be utilized if off stage. Scoring in this section is determined by the dancers ability to perform a traditional school fight song displaying high energy and solid performance techniques with accurate execution
- Spirit Raising Performance - Teams will choose to perform **ONE** of the following: Sideline Routine, Stand Routine, Drum Cadence or Band Chant. Emphasis of team choice should be on the appeal to the audience. Scoring in this section is determined by the ability of the dancers to promote audience interaction/participation, excitement and genuine spirit
- Dance Performance - A routine (hip hop, jazz, kick, or pom) that is designed for entertainment with emphasis on energy and audience connection. Scoring in this section is determined by the ability of the dancers to entertain and connect to the audience

Awards

TEAM & DANCE OFFICER

Teams and Dance Officers must enter 3 different categories in one classification to be eligible for the "Classification Champion", "Challenge Elite" (Top Scoring Teams) and "Overall Grand Champion"

- **Champion and Runner-Up Awards** will be given in each Spectrum, Category and Classification of competition. Additional awards will be given in groupings with more than ten entries
- **Sweepstakes Award** will be given to teams with three scores of 80+
- **Judges Award Trophies** will be given to teams with three scores of 90+
- **Technique, Choreography and Special Awards** will be given to teams with the overall highest averages for this criteria in performances given in Team and Officer Competition
- **Academic Excellence: HS Highest GPA** awarded and **Academic Achievement** awarded to teams who have an Overall 3.0 GPA
- Application must be submitted 4 weeks prior to Contest Date. Overall Team GPA must be calculated on a weighted 5.0 scale
- **Best in Category Awards** will be given to the highest scoring team in each category regardless of Division or Classification (Minimum of 5 entries in category)
- **Classification Trophies** will be awarded to the highest combined scoring team in each Spectrum and Classification for three routines entered (Public/Private Schools and Community/Studio)
- **Judge's Choice Awards** are awarded by the judges to performances that are extraordinary and memorable
- **"APEX" High Point Performance Award** will be presented to the Team or Dance Officer performance with the highest single combined score in Spectrum I, Spectrum II and Community/Studio
- **Grand Champions and Runner Ups** will be named from the top scoring teams in the overall competition for both Team and Dance Officer Line (Spectrum I, Spectrum II and Studio). Jr. Varsity, Elite, Co-Ed, All Boys, Jr. High/MS, and Elementary must have minimum number of 5 teams for Grand Champions to be awarded

SOCIAL OFFICER

- Three adjudicator scores will be added to determine the final score
- **1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies** will be awarded to the top three scores

DUET, TRIO, and ENSEMBLE

- Three adjudicator scores will be added to determine the final score
- Superior Division Ratings (80+) will be awarded an Ascension Pin for each performer
- **Champion and Runner-Up Awards** for the top three scores

SOLOS

- Three adjudicator scores will be added to determine the final score
- Superior Division Ratings (80+) will be awarded an Ascension pin
- Ties will be broken by technique score
- **Champion and Runner-Up Awards** will be awarded to each age group

Performance Facilities

- All routines will be performed in a Gymnasium or Auditorium
- Gymnasium has a regulation high school basketball court which is marked with a center court line, boundary lines, regular basketball court lines and volleyball lines
- Curtains will be provided at most Contest Locations. Specific Details and Curtain Specifications are listed on each Contest Location link on our website
- All performers must wear soft-sole shoes (unless barefoot) to prevent floor markings or damage
- Venue for performances will be listed on the Performance Schedule for each Host Facility
- Entrance/Exit, Warm-up Area and Host Facility information for each Contest Location will be posted on our website to Event FAQ's
- Dedicated Warm-Up spaces per Performance Area are provided. These spaces are intended for warm up and run-thru only prior to competition performance

Dressing Areas

- All Teams will be assigned a Dressing Area upon receipt of Facility Agreement located on the specific Contest Location link
- All Teams will be assessed a \$125 Facility Fee per Team
- Please understand Dressing Areas **are not** secured
- No food or drinks are allowed in the Dressing Areas
- Ascension Dance and Host Facility are not responsible for any lost or stolen items
- **Males are not allowed in Dressing Areas. Should you have male team members who need dressing facilities, please indicate on your Dressing Room Agreement**
- Please make sure to have your team leave the dressing area in the condition you found it
- Please have your team exit dressing rooms immediately following your last performance prior to Awards Ceremony
- **If you have early performances, please arrive dressed for your first performance!**

Props. Backdrops. Poms. Hazardous Materials

- *****IMPORTANT NOTE: PROP PARENTS MUST HAVE ADMISSION CREDENTIALS FOR ENTRANCE!**
- Please have team representatives available to clean performance floor IMMEDIATELY following any performance with poms or props that may leave floor unsafe for next performance
- Please note Extensive Set-Up on your Registration for any entrance/set-up/exit that exceeds time limitations
- Props must not require electricity, smoke, fog, fire, fireworks, compressed air, aerosol or non-aerosol sprays or any other type of flammable or hazardous material. Confetti, glitter, balloons, streamers or other similar substances may not be used or thrown to the audience during a performance. Please contact our office should you have any questions
- The use of knives, swords or other objects that may be considered dangerous are strictly prohibited
- If tap shoes are utilized, either tap boards or staging is necessary for the protection of the gymnasium floor (not necessary if Solo Performances are on a stage). If Solo Performances are in a Gymnasium, please make the necessary arrangements
- Entrance to the performance floor is a double door with the center pole removed. Props which come in contact with the floor must be padded. Props will be inspected prior to performance and if prop fails to meet the guidelines, it will not be allowed
- Any team that damages the performance floor will be responsible and billed for repairs by host facility

Photography and Videography

- Spectators are allowed to videotape and photograph, however tripods and the use of electrical outlets are prohibited
- An Official Photographer will be onsite at some competitions for orders during and following competition
- No other photography may be sold onsite during competition
- Flash photography that could interrupt the performer's spots or focus and tripods are prohibited

First Aid, Lost & Found

- First Aid will be located in an area near the main Performance Gymnasium
- Lost and Found will be located in the First Aid area
- Minor first aid supplies and ice will be available. No medication of any kind will be dispensed

Dining & Concessions

- Food concessions will be open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner graciously offered by our Host Facility
- Teams are highly encouraged to Pre-Order Meals offered by our Host Facility
- Bottles, containers or food items are not allowed to be brought into the building by participants or spectators. PLEASE support our gracious Host Facility and their efforts throughout the day
- Directors are invited to the Directors Hospitality Room throughout the day
- Bus Drivers will have a designated hospitality per Contest Location

Awards Ceremony

- The main floor is reserved for performers and directors only. Please have your Team sit on the main floor when the Emcee announces time to enter the floor following Solo Winner Performances
- Studio Awards Ceremony will be separate from the Private/Public School Awards Ceremony dependent on total # of entries for the competition
- Please plan arrangements with Host Facility to pick up any awards or items left behind
- Ascension Dance is not responsible for any awards or items left at host facility

CLICK HERE FOR *Champion* CIRCUIT RULES & REGULATIONS