

ENTRY GUIDELINES

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All entries for Regional and National competitions are registered on a first come, first served basis, and will be limited to the amount of performance time available. Some competitions WILL fill up more than 45 days before the competition date. Entries are not considered "Registered" until full payment is received.

All entries must be registered online. Mailed, faxed or emailed entries will NOT be accepted.

We do not currently accept independent entries.

GENERAL ENTRY INFORMATION

Competition schedule and studio confirmation, along with directions to the competition venue will be emailed to the studio director at least ten (10) days prior to the competition.

Please be ready to perform at least one (1) hour prior to your performance time. You must be prepared to perform when scheduled or slightly earlier if asked. Legitimate costume change issues of less than 4 routines will be accommodated. In the interest of running on time, Stage One reserves the right to modify the schedule. The wrongful holding of numbers may result in disqualification of the routine from High Point Awards.

All routines that compete at a Stage One Regional will qualify for the National Finals. All National Finals entries must first qualify at a Regional event.

DIVISIONS, LEVELS AND CATEGORIES

AGE DIVISIONS

Ages will be broken down as follows: 4 & under, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20-29, 30-39, 40 & over.

All age divisions at Regional competitions or at National Finals will be determined by the ages of the performers as of January 1, 2018.

To determine the age division, average the performers' ages and drop the decimal point. Example: 12.0-12.9 will compete in the 12-year-old division.

The same group of performers cannot compete more than once in exactly the same division, category and age division. The group may compete in the exact division, category and age division with some variance in the group's members.

Soloists may perform a maximum of three solo routines (in three different categories). Stage One 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.

When there are five or more production routines in any age group; Petite, Junior, Teen or Senior will become its own Division for that age group. High Point awards including prize money will be awarded.

AGE GROUPS

Petite: 8 and under **Teen:** 13-15 **Adult:** 20 & Over
Junior: 9-12 **Senior:** 16-19

Bump Rule: Groups including dancers of different age groups will compete no more than one age group below the oldest dancer, regardless of the average age. For example: if a routine includes a dancer age 16 (Senior Age Group), but the average age of the dancers in the group is 11 (Junior Age Group), the routine will compete in the Teen Age Group. The only exception to this rule is the Production category.

Adult Rule: If any duet/trio, small group, large group or line has any dancer age 20 or over, they must compete in the Adult age group. This applies to even one dancer in a routine who is 20 or over. **No exceptions.**

PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Stage One will have three performance levels for all age groups (Petite, Junior, Teen, Senior and Adult).

A competition has no way of knowing the experience level of each student. Our goal is for all dancers to compete with dancers of equal abilities. Stage experience, technical ability, and the choreography of each routine must be considered. Of course with only three levels there will be some variance of ability. We have listed several points to consider in the proper placement. For example: If a soloist is receiving many hours of individual training then they should be in a higher level for their solo, as well as duo/trio or small group. If the same soloist is in a group dance that has more students on the recreational level, that dance may be considered for a level more consistent with the majority of dancers in the group. HOWEVER, this does not apply if that soloist is highlighted as a soloist for much of the group dance and the less experienced dancers are receiving limited stage time.

There are studios that only require a few hours a week from their students and there are those who require total dedication and do not allow their dancers to participate in other extracurricular activities. Some studios have required Master classes and conventions to allow for more training and some who do not require any at all. These variables should help you decide, but throwing all of these considerations away for the sake of just simply "winning" does not serve our dancers well.

We know that each studio is diverse, so we'll offer guidelines and hope that everyone will place their dancers in the appropriate performance level.

Winning is great but educating young dancers is far more important.

RIISING STAR: (Recreational) Recreational/Beginner dancers who receive limited weekly studio time and have had little, if any, stage time, other than at their annual recital. They have not had the time to master the technical skills that are required in the competition's higher levels.

SHOOTING STAR: (Intermediate) This level is for those dancers who may not be considered beginner because of previous dance experience but are training less than 5 hours per week. This level is not a place for elite dancers to place higher in the High Point Awards by gaining an unfair advantage.

ELITE STAR: (Advanced) Dancers who average several hours of technical dance training per week and are competing in several competition routines and have strong technical ability. This is also a place for a good dancer to be challenged and possibly become a great dancer.

Teachers, please use fair judgment when placing groups into performance levels. The different levels are designed to give dancers a level playing field of competition, not to allow your best dancers to win more awards.

Some examples to consider:

1. A routine with dancers of different levels of technical ability or experience should be entered in the performance level that applies to more than 50% of the dancers.

2. If a mixed-level routine has more than 50% intermediate dancers, but you feel the overall level of the routine is elite, please be fair and enter the routine as Elite Star.

3. If your studio has multiple competition companies, please consider the placement of each company individually. It is possible that several companies should compete in the same level. Performance levels should not be used to keep dancers from competing against one another.

If you do not select a performance level, you will automatically be entered as an Elite Star. Soloists may only compete in one level.

If all judges ascertain that a dance is in the wrong Performance Level they may move a routine to their appropriate level. This could be moving to a more difficult level or to a less difficult level.

Any routine scoring below 278 points in the Elite Star Performance Level at a Regional event may move down to the Shooting Star Performance Level for National Finals competition.

If you feel you need to adjust your dancer's performance levels, from Regional competition to National Finals, please contact our office.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

For specific information regarding categories, visit our website - www.stageonedance.com.

MUSIC GUIDELINES

CDs will no longer be accepted. Please turn in your music on a thumb drive prior to the start of the competition.

TIME LIMITS

Solo/Duet/Trio:	2:45 minutes
Small Group:	3:00 minutes
Large Group:	4:00 minutes
Line:	5:00 minutes
Production:	6:00 minutes

EXTENDED TIME LIMITS

Extended time limit prices are \$3 additionally per routine for Solos and Duo/Trios, and \$3 additionally per person for all groups.

Solo/Duet/Trio:	3:15 minutes
Small Group:	3:30 minutes
Large Group:	4:30 minutes
Line:	5:30 minutes
Production:	8:00 minutes

NATIONAL AWARDS

CATEGORY AWARDS

Each routine will be adjudicated and receive an award reflecting their placement: Double Platinum, Platinum, High Gold, Gold. The highest scoring routine in each category will be awarded a First Place.

HIGH POINT AWARDS

High Point Awards are given in five age groups:

Petite: 8 and under **Teen:** 13-15 **Adult:** 20 & Over
Junior: 9-12 **Senior:** 16-19

High Point Awards will also be given for each level. Petite, Junior, Teen and Senior Shooting Star and Elite Star routines will be eligible for cash prizes subject to cash award rules.

A solo performer cannot place more than once in the High Point Awards.

SOLO SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Stage One is proud to offer a New York City Broadway Dance Center Scholarship of five classes to the 1st and 2nd High Point winners in the Junior, Teen, and Senior Age Groups entered as Elite Star performers.

PERFORMANCE AWARDS

There must be a minimum of FIVE acts in each age group and performance level (Petite, Junior, Teen- and Senior-Shooting Star and Elite Star) to award cash prizes.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AND PLAQUES - will be presented at EACH awards ceremony. These awards include, but are not limited to; Entertainment, Technical Excellence, Showmanship, Fabulous Feet, Diva, Outstanding Costume, Intensity, Choreography and Precision.

SPECIAL AWARDS

STAGE ONE COMPETITIVE SPIRIT AWARD - to be awarded to the studios who embody the true spirit of competition. Friendly, helpful and polite to staff and other dancers, these dancers' infectious positive attitudes encourage an atmosphere of integrity and mutual respect. The Competitive Spirit Award includes a \$400 and a \$200 gift certificate for any Stage One 2019 Regional Competition.

STAGE ONE STUDIO EXCEL AWARD - a \$400 and a \$200 gift certificate presented to the studio with the most participation at a National Finals competition - may be used for any Stage One 2019 Regional.

STAGE ONE STAR TITLE DIVISION

All group performers (under the age of 20) are automatically eligible for the title competition. Titlists will be chosen on the basis of the performer (boy or girl) exhibiting the most professional entertainment skills in addition to technical execution. Judges will select titlists in the 12-and-under and 13-and-over age groups.

Each title winner will receive a certificate, and embroidered Stage One Star Jacket and a scholarship to The One Dance Intensive. Winners will be announced at the specified group awards ceremony for 12-and-under and 13-and-over ages.

For the latest up-to-date information on all Stage One Competitions and Events Visit us at - www.stageonedance.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NO cameras of any kind allowed during a performance. This includes smart phones with video capabilities. Violation may result in disqualification of a routine from High Point Awards.

Gymnastics tricks are allowed in any category as long as the style of dance is predominantly that of the category entered.

No dangerous substances (including, but not limited to: water, gels, rosin, aerosols, glitter, confetti, etc) that might damage the integrity of the dance floor may be used during a routine.

A time schedule will be available at least seven (7) days prior to an event. Every National schedule is based on the breakdown of entries for that particular city. Since we cannot know this breakdown until all entries are processed, we will, at that time, set a schedule designed to accommodate the majority of entrants. This would not necessarily be possible with a predetermined format.

High Point Award winners at any 2018 National Finals **MAY NOT** compete with the same routine at any of the 2019 Regional competitions.

Stage One reserves the right to add dates to any competition due to number of entries, move a competition to a new venue 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.

Absolutely no coaching from the audience or backstage.

Any teacher, parent, performer or participant displaying improper conduct, either through social media or at a competition, can result in a disqualification with the loss of entry fees.

Stage One National Dance Competitions shall in no way assume any responsibility for accidents or theft.

Absolutely no alcoholic beverages are permitted at any Stage One Competition or other event.

All protests must be in writing and made by a studio director prior to the awards ceremony for that particular division. All protests must be signed.

All performers give their permission to Stage One National Dance Competitions to use the performers' photographs, likenesses and/or videos in connection with Stage One advertising, marketing, television and/or electronic broadcasts and social media.

For complete rules and guidelines information or for information regarding judging and awards, please visit our website - www.stageonedance.com

SHOOTOUT CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

We are excited to once again host a Solo Shootout at each of our National Finals. The Solo Shootout Challenge will take place after all of the solos have performed. We are always looking for new and better ways to showcase the amazing dancers from across the country.

The Group Shootout Championship Show will take place at the end of the regular National Competition and consist of (at least) the EIGHT top scoring routines in each Age Group (Petite, Junior, Teen and Senior). The top scoring duet/trio routines from each age division will perform between the group Shootout routines. Shootout numbers will be chosen from all Performance Levels, and from Small Groups, Large Groups and Lines. A studio may only be represented once in each Age Group (Petite, Junior, Teen and Senior); thus, each studio may have a maximum of **FOUR** numbers competing in the Shootout. Shootout Champions, 1st and 2nd Runners Up will be presented in each Age Group. Shootout Champions will receive \$250 cash, plus a \$250 gift certificate toward any 2019 Regional Competition. First Runners Up will receive a \$200 gift certificate toward any 2019 Regional, and 2nd Runners Up will receive a \$100 gift certificate toward any 2019 Regional competition.

Secondary Qualification: A studio may qualify a **SECOND** Shootout routine in each Age Group if:

1. The routine's score would have originally qualified it for the Shootout.
2. The two qualifying routines have completely different performers.

No previously-qualified routines will be eliminated due to Secondary Qualification.

If Secondary Qualification occurs, the Show will be comprised of more than eight routines in each Age Group.