

Titled Solo Rules

The following rules supersede any other written content.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Only Dance Masters Chapter #33 members in good standing may enter students in the Titled Solo Competition. Member teachers must also have been a member of Dance Masters Chapter #33 prior to the entry deadline. Member teachers **MUST** be present at the Grand Body Meeting of the convention in which you plan to compete. In the event of an emergency, the board will decide the validity of absence from the missed meeting.
2. A student must have studied a **MINIMUM OF TEN MONTHS** with the member teacher of record prior to the chapter competition. The teacher of record shall be the member teacher whose name appears on the entry form. This rule may be superseded if written permission from the previous member teacher is received.
3. A student who has studied with the teacher of record for a period of not less than three (3) years, has studied with the teacher of record in the past twelve (12) months, and is now in a position that does not permit the contestant to study with the teacher of record on a regular basis is eligible to enter the Titled Solo competition with said teacher of record. An exception will be made for:
 - a. Students not studying on a weekly basis that are now in a position that does not permit the contestant to study with the Teacher of Record on a regular basis due to their pursuit of higher education in an area that is more than 100 miles from the Teacher of Record or pursuing professional endeavors. This privilege may not be extended beyond 24 months.
4. Only **ONE (1)** teacher can be listed as teacher of record.
5. All contestants and their teacher of record must be pre-registered for both the convention and titled solo competition with all fees paid by the deadline. In addition, they are required to stay at the convention hotel or overflow hotel.
6. Teachers are required to use Dance Comp Genie for Convention Registration and Competition Entry. Entries **MUST** be submitted by 11:59pm on the deadline date.
7. Teachers are required to pay all fees for convention registration and titled solo entry fees to the Business Manager. All mailed payments **MUST** be postmarked by the **ENTRY** deadline date.
8. Contestants in the Miss, Teen Miss, Junior Miss, and Petite Miss title competitions must be female, childless, single, never married, never had a marriage annulled, and never been convicted of a crime.
9. Contestants in the Mister, Teen Mister, Junior Mister, and Master title competitions must be male, childless, single, never married, never had a marriage annulled, and never been convicted of a crime.
10. All female titleholders are not eligible to enter the Titled Solo Competition within the year of their reign.
11. Solo Titled contestants may not enter the Performing Arts Solo competitions at the same convention.
12. Solo Titled contestants may only enter 1 solo in the Titled Solo competition at the same convention.

AGE DIVISIONS (ALL AGES ARE AS OF JUNE 1ST THE YEAR OF THE NATIONAL FINALS)

LITTLE	5-7 years average age
PETITE	7-9 years average age
JUNIOR	10-12 years average age
TEEN	13-15 years average age
SENIOR	16-23 years average age

Note: A student whose age on June 1st is SEVEN (7) may choose to enter the Little Miss/Little Mister or the Petite Miss/Master competition.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Enter the Title Solo competition via Dance Comp Genie by 11:59pm on the Entry Deadline date.
2. Music uploaded to Dance Comp Genie by the **MUSIC** deadline.
3. 2 digital photos, sized for a 5x7 – **VERTICAL** / portrait orientation, both in **COLOR** on a **WHITE** background (one **FULL BODY DANCE** shot and one **HEADSHOT**) submitted via Dance Comp Genie online by the **ENTRY** Deadline. Photo resolution must be **AT LEAST 1500x2100 pixels**. The size of any one photo may not exceed 10MB.
4. Payments: Payments may be mailed to the Business Manager at the address on the entry form and **MUST** be postmarked by the **ENTRY** deadline. Include a check for the total entry fees (per studio) made payable to Dance Masters Chapter #33 (one check per studio for all Title Entries). Only teacher checks will be accepted. Teachers

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may pay their entry fees via credit card by using Paypal. You do NOT have to have a Paypal account to take advantage of this option. Email the Business Manager at treasurer@dma33.org and you will be sent a Paypal invoice. Instructions to pay the invoice via credit card are included. There is a service fee for this option.

5. Each contestant must have their birth certificate available AT THE CONVENTION should the board need to check them.
6. Each contestant must submit an online Titled Solo Form that can be found at: <https://dma33.org/2023-titled-solo-entry-form> This form will be used to submit the Talent Preview video and information for the judges to use during the interview process. This form must be completed and submitted for each contestant by 11:59pm CST on January 15th of the convention year. See the Talent Presentation section for instructions about the Talent Preview Video.

TALENT PRESENTATION:

1. Routine must fall into one of the Performing Arts Style Categories (i.e., ballet, tap, jazz, etc.). Please see the Performing Arts rules for a list of the possible categories and a description of each.
2. A maximum of TWO minutes and FIFTY seconds (2:50) will be allowed for talent presentations in all divisions, with the exception of the Little divisions. Little divisions will be allowed a maximum of two (2:00) minutes.
3. Any routine exceeding the time limit is subject to a \$25 per minute fee. A 5 second cushion is allowed.
4. Singing, baton twirling, playing of musical instruments, or music with audible taps are NOT allowed.
5. Inappropriate or sexually suggestive movements should not be part of any performance. Costuming should cover the contestant adequately and be age appropriate. Vulgar, profane, and/or suggestive language in music is not acceptable in our family audience. Judgment of the appropriateness of choreography, costuming, and music is left to the judges and will result in lower scoring. In addition, contestants deemed inappropriate by the Solo Committee (Solo Chairmen, Solo Co-Chairmen, and Chapter President) may be subject to disqualification.
6. At the end of the talent presentation for each Age Division, there will be a Line-up of all contestants.
7. Each contestant will submit a **TALENT PREVIEW VIDEO** by January 15th of the convention year. This video will be viewed by the judges before the interview portion of the competition. The video will not be judged and there will be no discussion amongst judges. However, the judges will be allowed to make notes. The preview should be performed in costume and with the same music and choreography that will be presented on stage. The students will record their talent presentation and upload the video to YouTube. Set the video privacy to UNLISTED and copy and paste the link into the appropriate box on the Titled Solo Form at <https://dma33.org/2023-titled-solo-entry-form>. The deadline to submit the form is 11:59pm CST on January 15th of the convention year.

AUDITIONS:

1. Little Miss and Little Mister **DO NOT** participate in Auditions.
2. All other contestants will audition as follows:
 - a. Miss, Mister, Teen Miss, and Teen Mister will audition together.
 - b. Junior Miss, Junior Mister, Petite Miss, and Master will audition together.
3. Girls must wear a SOLID BLACK, one-piece leotard of any style with pink or suntan tights. Dance pants or shorts may be worn during the jazz, tap, and acrobatics disciplines. **No jewelry!**
4. Boys must wear BLACK dance pants and a black compression t-shirt.
5. Correct shoes for each curriculum are required.
6. Long hair must be secured in a bun for all disciplines.
7. Petite Miss/Master and Junior Miss/Junior Mister contestants will be judged in up to four (4) disciplines of dance: ballet, tap, jazz, and acrobatics. Each category is worth a 20 point maximum. Teen Miss/Teen Mister and Miss/Mister contestants will be judged in the modern/contemporary category in addition to the other 4. In all age division, the highest two (2) audition scores for each contestant will be combined to total 40 possible audition points. The other scores are discarded.
8. In the Acrobatics discipline, contestants will perform 1 down and back pass demonstrating a total of 6 skills. The skills may be a balance, flexibility, forward, or backward skill. A round-off is considered a prep and will not count as 1 of the 6 skills.
9. Each Titled contestant is automatically entered in the Scholarship Auditions competition. Petite – Miss Titled contestants **DO NOT** enter the Scholarship Auditions competition NOR do they pay an additional entry fee for Scholarship Auditions. It is included with the Titled Solo entry fee. The Titled Contestants are automatically eligible to compete for the OVERALL Scholarship Auditions Awards. There is one exception. If a contestant was

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the 1st place OVERALL Scholarship winner at the previous Chapter #33 convention, he/she is ineligible to win any Overall Scholarship award in the same age category. He/she is still, however, eligible to win Category Scholarship Awards. Scholarship Auditions are a COMPLETELY separate competition and will be scored and awarded according to the Scholarship Auditions rules. See these rules for further details. If Little Miss or Mister contestants would like to participate in Scholarship Auditions, they will need to enter the Scholarship Auditions competition.

INTERVIEW

1. Little Miss and Little Mister **DO NOT** participate in interviews.
2. All other contestants will have a private interview with the five (5) judges collectively. The DMA#33 Board Member will be in the room at all times and will be timing the interview. Interview times are:
 - a. Petite, Junior, Teen – 3:00 minutes
 - b. Miss / Mister – 5:00 minutes
3. Interview start times will be emailed to the Teacher of Record prior to the convention.
4. Attire for girls is a suit or dress.
5. Attire for boys is a suit.
6. Judges will ask questions from the submitted information in the Titled Solo Form at <https://dma33.org/2023-titled-solo-entry-form>.
7. Please be sure your students do NOT mention your studio or studio affiliated dance company during the interview.
8. Each Titled contestant is automatically entered in the Interview Experience competition. Petite – Miss Titled contestants **DO NOT** enter the Interview Experience competition NOR do they pay an additional entry fee for Interview Experience. It is included with the Titled Solo entry fee. The Titled Contestants are automatically eligible to compete for the Interview Experience Awards. The Interview Experience Competition is a COMPLETELY separate competition and will be scored and awarded according to the Interview Experience guidelines. If Little Miss or Mister contestants would like to participate in Interview Experience, they will need to enter the Interview Experience competition.

SCORING:

1. A panel of either three (3) or five (5) qualified judges will judge the competition. If there are five (5) judges, in all categories, the high and low scores are dropped and the three (3) remaining scores are summed to give the score. If there are only 3 judges there is no high / low drop. All scores are summed to give the score.
2. Little Miss and Little Mister are scored on TALENT ONLY. The winner is determined from only the talent score. Ties are broken by adding back the high / low scores if there are 5 judges. If that still results in a tie, or if there are only 3 judges, the judges will decide the tie break.
3. For ALL other divisions, the following scoring categories are used to determine winners:
 - a. Talent Presentation (0-100 points per judge)
 - b. Audition (0- 40 points per judge)
 - c. Interview (0-15 points per judge)
4. The total Title competition score is the sum of the talent, audition, and interview scores.
5. In the event of a tie, the tiebreak procedure is as follows:
 - a. In Scholarship Classes
 - i. If there are 5 judges, the scholarship scores of all 5 judges are summed and the total score is used.
 - ii. The tie will be awarded.
 - b. In Interview
 - i. If there are 5 judges, the interview scores of all 5 judges are summed and the total score is used.
 - ii. The tie will be awarded.
 - c. Selecting the Winner and Runners Up when there are 5 judges
 - i. The talent scores of all 5 judges are summed and that score ONLY is used.
 - ii. The scholarship scores of the 3 scoring judges and those scores alone are used.
 - iii. The scholarship scores of all 5 judges are summed and that score ONLY is used.
 - iv. The decision of the judges.
 - d. Selecting the Winner and Runners Up when there are 3 judges
 - i. The talent score alone is used.
 - ii. The scholarship score alone is used.
 - iii. The decision of the judges.

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6. No teacher or student is allowed to approach any judge about scoring or competition results at any time. Score sheets and critique DVDs will provide feedback.
7. If the talent presentation includes props, three (3) minutes is allowed for setup and three (3) minutes for strike down. Failure to remain within these time limits will result in a \$25 fee. All props must be removed from the venue immediately following the competition.
8. Contestants and the Teacher of Record agree that the time, manner, and method of judging the competition will be solely within the discretion of Dance Masters Chapter #33 board of directors, and all decisions and awards presented on stage are FINAL.

AWARDS

1. The top 50% in each Age Division will be recognized as finalists and receive a certificate. When determining 50%, decimals are rounded up (i.e., if there are 11 contestants, 6 finalists will be recognized). In the event of a tie, we will award an additional finalist.
2. Audition Awards will be given in each Age Division. Awards are given to the highest Ballet score, Tap score, Jazz score, Acrobatics score, and Modern/Contemporary score (for Teen Miss/Teen Mister and Mister/Miss Contestants only). Each Audition category winner will receive a certificate.
3. An Interview Award is given to the contestant with the highest Interview score. The Interview winner receives a certificate.
4. The top 25% in each age divisions will receive place awards. When determining 25%, decimals are rounded up. However, we will always award 1st Runner-up, and 2nd Runner-up regardless of the number of entries. If there are 4 entries, we will award Winner – 3rd Runner-Up. Each place winner receives a place trophy.
5. The Winner in Little Miss/Mister will receive the following:
 - a. \$100 scholarship
 - b. Crown (girls) / Medal (boys)
 - c. Banner (girls only)
 - d. Trophy
 - e. Jacket
 - f. Free Convention Registration to the following year's DMA Convention in which he / she will return to give up their title.
6. The Winners in Petite – Miss Division will receive the following:
 - a. \$500 scholarship (Petite – Miss) *NOTE: This scholarship is intended to offset travel and hotel expenses at the national convention for the titleholder.*
 - b. Crown (girls) / Medal (boys)
 - c. Banner (girls only)
 - d. Trophy
 - e. Jacket
 - f. Free Convention Registration to the following year's DMA Convention(s) during their reign.
 - g. Chapter #33 pays the titleholders' entry fees to the National Convention.
 - h. Chapter #33 pays the teacher of record's registration fee for the National Convention. The teacher of record is REQUIRED to attend the National Convention with the winner. By Nationals rule, the winner is not allowed to enter the National Finals without the Teacher of Record.
 - i. Contestants competing unopposed must have an adjusted talent score of 270 or higher to receive the above awards.

MUSIC

1. Teachers must submit their music by the MUSIC deadline of January 15th.
2. There is a \$25 fee to change music after the deadline.
3. Each piece of music should be submitted online via DANCE COMP GENIE.
4. The file format for each piece of music must be MP3.
5. In addition to submitting music online, each teacher of record must bring a flash drive to the Grand Body Meeting containing ALL music for the studio. Each file must be named according to the following format:
 - a. <ENTRY NUMBER>-<NAME_OF_DANCE>.mp3
 - b. So that is the 3-digit entry number, followed by a dash, followed by the name of the dance with underscores instead of spaces, followed by a dot and mp3. There should be NO SPACES anywhere in the name.
 - c. For example: **001-I LIKE TO BOOGIE.mp3** or **024-WE CAN FLY.mp3** or **121-CATS.mp3**
6. Recordings with audible tap sound will NOT be permitted for tap routines, clogging routines, or open routines with tap or clogging content.
7. The music used at the Chapter competition MUST be used at Nationals.

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- Any routine exceeding the time limit is subject to a \$25 per minute fee. A 5 second cushion is allowed.

GENERAL RULES:

- Teachers may pick up their packet of score sheets at the registration desk Sunday morning.
- No video cameras (including cell phone and digital recording devices) are allowed during the competition. There will be professional videographers at the convention and each contestant will receive a DVD of her / his solo.
- No practicing on the stage. There MAY be a scheduled time to "feel" the stage set by the Solo Chairman. You will be informed of this time during the Title Briefing.
- No one allowed in the theater prior to the opening of the doors. See the convention schedule for times.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WINNERS

- Titleholders and their teacher will attend a contract meeting following the competition during the same DMA #33 convention
- Titleholders agree to attend the DMA National Convention as the Chapter #33 Titled Solo Representatives and compete in their respective Titled Solo competition. Should a titleholder win the national title, they will be required to stay until the end of the National Convention and perform at the banquet.
- Regardless of their age, titleholders must stay with an adult over age 27 at all times while attending the National Convention.
- Titleholders must attend all classes at the National Convention up to the night of their Titled Solo Competition. Titleholders must also attend all Chapter #33 classes at all Chapter #33 conventions.
- Titleholders are required to attend all Chapter #33 conventions during the year of their reign and are strongly encouraged to perform as entertainment. Titleholders will also assist with any awards ceremonies. At the convention where protégés perform, the titleholders will participate in the protégé routine.
- Chapter #33 may use the titleholders' pictures and names for promotional purposes.
- National entry forms are completed at the Titleholder Contract Meeting. In addition, titleholders must have their resumes and any updated pictures submitted to the Business Manager NO LATER than March 1st.
- Titleholders must stay enrolled with their Teacher of Record during their entire reign. Should a titleholder leave their Teacher of Record, they will immediately relinquish their title to the runner-up. Should this happen before the national convention but after the national application has been submitted, the titleholder will forfeit their national deposit.
- In the event of an unforeseen emergency in which the titleholder's teacher of record is unable to attend nationals, a Chapter #33 member already in attendance at the national convention may serve as the titleholder's chaperone. The teacher of record is responsible for submitting the chaperone form and paying the chaperone fee. The teacher of record may send another teacher if they would prefer at their own expense. Because nationals requires the teacher of record to be registered for the convention, and Chapter #33 pays that registration fee, Chapter #33 will NOT pay the registration fee for the substitute teacher.
- In the event of an unforeseen emergency in which the titleholder is unable to attend nationals, the titleholder will relinquish their title immediately and the runner-up will become the titleholder. The relinquishing titleholder will return all awards listed in the AWARDS section, including the scholarship money.

Signature of the Solo Chairmen _____

Signature of the Teacher _____

Signature of the Winner _____

Signature of the Parent _____