

Synergy Performing Arts Competition

www.synergypac.com

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General Rules and Regulations

Please read carefully. Our rules have been updated and revised for 2026. Please refer to new rebate guidelines in payment section!

SYNERGY PAC will conduct business with studio owners, directors and teachers only. No students or parents should call the SYNERGY office for any reason. If a parent has questions regarding schedules, etc., they should be directed to the participating studio, not SYNERGY. All entries must be ready to perform at least one hour before their scheduled time.

ENTRY DIVISIONS

ENTRY DIVISION	TIME LIMIT	# OF DANCERS
Solo	3:00 minutes	1 dancer
Duo/Trio	3:00 minutes	2-3 dancers
Small Group	3:00 minutes	4-8 dancers
Large Group	4:00 minutes	9-17 dancers
Line	4:00 minutes	18+ dancers
Production	5:00-8:00 minutes	18+ dancers

(Please contact us for pricing or log in to your Synergy dance comp genie account via our website www.synergypac.com)

Please note: There is a 15-point deduction for exceeding the time limit. All time limits include set up and tear down of any props.

Level Guidelines:

For the benefit of your dancers, your directors and/or teachers will determine the adjudication level of each routine. *Directors/teachers: please be sure to correctly select your preferred level of adjudication for each routine, when registering.*

- I. *Beginner Dancers:* up to 3 hours of training per week and/or 1-2 years of competition experience
- II. *Intermediate Dancers:* 4-7 hours of training per week and/or 3-4 years competition experience
- III. *Advanced Dancers:* 8 or more hours of training per week and/or 5 or more years

of competition experience

IV. Professional/Pro Am: a “professional” derives 50% of their income from teaching, performing, and/or choreography

AD. Adaptive Dance: this is a division tailored for children and adults with intellectual, cognitive, and/or physical disabilities

**Judges will change the level of a routine, if they believe the dancer(s) skill level is above the level that they were initial placed at.*

SYNERGY PAC considers “training” to be the combination of classes *and* rehearsal time. We trust each director’s or teacher’s judgment and appreciate your honesty in placing your dancers in the appropriate division level.

Ages:

Ages are calculated as of January 1, 2026. Please average ages and DROP the decimal.

- Minis (5 and under)
- Petite (6-8 yrs old)
- Junior (9-12 yrs old)
- Teen (13-15 yrs old)
- Senior (16-18 yrs old)

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

- **Acrobatic Dance** – Must consist of acrobatics in 75% of routine.
- **Ballet/Pointe** – Ballet or Pointe technique. Ballet or Pointe shoes only.
- **Ballroom** – All styles of partner dancing including, but not limited to, *Waltz, Tango, Salsa, Fox Trot, Cha Cha, Rumba, Quick Step, etc.*
- **Baton** – Uses a baton and showcases twirling techniques. No fire or swords.
- **Character** – Easily recognized character is portrayed. May incorporate any style of dance technique.
- **Clogging** – Routine resembles a type of folk/social dance typically in a clogging or buck style, in which the dancer's footwear is used musically by striking the heel, the toe, or both against a floor or each other to create sounds.
- **Contemporary** – A type of dance that is a combination of jazz, modern, and lyrical styles.
- **Dance Team/Drill** – Precision choreography that also incorporates dance technique.
- **Folkloric** – Uses dance styles of a particular ethnic group.
- **Hip Hop** – The use of street style jazz, or jazz funk, along with current street style dance movements, including those seen in current dance trends and videos. May include, but is not limited to, *popping, locking, breakdancing, tutting, voguing, waacking, and current pop culture dance trends.*
- **Jazz** – Primarily jazz techniques, utilizing up tempo music.

- **Lyrical** – Combination of jazz, modern and ballet techniques.
- **Modern** – Modern style techniques and movements.
- **Musical Theatre** - “Broadway” or movie musical style of dance and/or song.
- **Open** – Routine does not fall under any other dance category. Can be a combination or blend of multiple styles. Routines containing more than three acrobatic passes should perform in the Open Category.
- **Pom Pom/Cheer** – Use of Pom Poms and pom pom/cheerleading techniques.
- **Student Choreography** – must be completely choreographed by dancer and can compete with any genre.
- **Tap** – Tap technique.
- **Vocalist** – Live singing, must be using vocals for at least 75% of the routine.

MUSIC

Synergy requires that all music is uploaded via your dance comp genie account. Music must be uploaded and double checked within 14 days of the first day of competition. If this is not possible, please contact Synergy ASAP. Please bring a backup in the event of malfunction. A \$30 administrative music fee will be charged per day to your account if you are late uploading music. NO MUSIC CHANGES will be allowed after Sunday, the week of the competition, without a \$30 administrative fee.

Time Extensions:

You are allowed to pay for extra time which includes: \$10 per 30 seconds not exceeding 1 minute in solo/duet/trio, and groups/lines/productions must not exceed 2 minutes.

**MUSIC & CHOREOGRAPHY FOR ALL ROUTINES MUST BE APPROPRIATE FOR FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT! If any music has inappropriate or foul language, immediate disqualification will be enforced.*

ADJUDICATION AND AWARDS

Criteria:

- 40% - Technique (skills of style/steps, flexibility, strength, body alignment)
- 20% - Showmanship (stage presence, expression, energy, emotion)
- 20% - Choreography/Content (difficulty, creativity, intricacy, pace, transitions)
- 10% - Overall Difficulty/Appeal (consistency, timing, age appropriate, music)
- 10% - Overall Costume

Awards & Scoring System:

- Synergy Shine 300-291 pts
- Platinum 290-282 pts
- High Gold 281-270 pts
- Gold 269-261 pts

- High Silver 260-249 pts
- Silver 248-237 pts
- Bronze 236-225 pts

**points are a combination of all three judges scores*

Composite trophies will be presented to the studio. Scores and audio critiques will be uploaded in your dance comp genie account within 3 business days after the last day of the event.

Awards will be given in the following areas:

- Solos
- Duos/Trios
- Small Groups
- Large Groups
- Lines/Productions
- Judges Choice Awards
- 1st in Category Awards – *solos, duets/trios, groups, lines, productions*
- Overall Awards - *solos, duets/trios, groups, lines, productions*
(If a dancer competes with more than one solo, only the highest scoring solo will be eligible for overalls. Small groups & large groups may be combined depending on amount of entries in each division.)
- High Scores – *solos, duets/trios, groups, lines, productions*
- Choreography winners will be recognized for duet/trio and groups/lines
- Solo Title Winners will be announced and crowned
- Studio Awards for *Technique, Showmanship, Costumes, Sportsmanship*
- Photogenic Awards
- Scholarships
- TOP Studio Awards for each division (as long as there are 10 or more routines registered in that level)

1st in Category, High Score, Overall Awards:

In order for a routine to earn 1st in Category there must be 7 or more dances of the same age, division, and performance categories. Overall awards are presented in levels I, II, & III for Minis, Petite, Junior, Teen, and Senior divisions. To be eligible for overall awards, a routine must have 2 or more routines in the same age and division. Adult groups (19 years and over) and Teacher/Pro-Am groups will be adjudicated and are eligible for overall awards, ONLY. They are not eligible for high score awards. Entries which perform out of division/type will not be eligible for high score awards. High scores and choreography awards will receive specialized prizes.

PROP RESTRICTIONS

Safety is our main concern when it comes to props. ***All time limits include set-up and tear-down of props. There will be a 20 point deduction for exceeding the time limit.*** This includes the placement and removal of props, mats, etc. No form of liquid, gel, glitter, water, wet paint, aerosols, confetti, baby powder, flour, sand, glitter, lotion, or any other substance may be used

that would affect the dancing surface. Absolutely no items may be thrown or shot off the front of the stage. Helium balloons and haze are prohibited. Fire, swords, knives, and guns are also strictly prohibited. Should any of these items be used as a prop, the routine will be stopped immediately and asked to leave the stage. Performers must be prepared to completely clear the stage in the event of any loose items (feathers, streamers, etc.) Absolutely no littering of the stage is allowed. The incorporation of live animals and/or other human beings as a “prop” is also strictly prohibited. Any violation of the above rules may result in the routine not being eligible for Overall Awards, or being disqualified. Please do not build props backstage this presents a danger to our performers.

COSTUMING

All costumes should be family friendly. Any costume changes made during a performance, off-stage or backstage, should have appropriate undergarments.

SYNERGY STAR PERFORMERS

Synergy judges will invite dancers of their choice from each regional competition, to be a “Synergy Star Performer”. This gives these dancers the opportunity to participate in the opening number at our Grand Finale Nationals! Each Synergy Star Performer that is chosen will receive information to fill out and it will be their responsibility to notify Synergy if they plan to participate. Studios that attend our open Grand Finale Nationals, without attending a regional, will be contacted by Synergy to discuss how many Synergy Star Performers may be chosen from their studio.

MR/MISS SYNERGY:

When registering for Mr/Miss Synergy there will be an additional charge of \$30 per entry (regional) and \$50 per entry (grand finale nationals).

MR/MISS PHOTOGENIC

Please register on site, the day of your competition, at the Synergy Merchandise table. Each entry is \$30. Please include your dancer’s name, studio, and age on the back of their photo. We will announce the winner of “Mr. & Miss Photogenic” during the appropriate corresponding awards at the event.

Photogenic awards will be divided accordingly:

- 12 and under
- 13 and up

MASTER CLASSES

Synergy Master Classes are offered for FREE to any dancer that is registered in the competition. We generously offer your dancers this opportunity so that they may increase their knowledge of dance, and have the privilege of experiencing and learning from new instructors. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity!

CHARITY DANCE-OFF

Anyone (this includes dancers and non-dancers of any age) that purchases a \$10 cash ticket from the Synergy Merchandise table will be eligible to participate in the Charity Dance Off! Not only is this an exciting and memorable experience for all participants and spectators, but all proceeds will go one of the following charities that SYNERGY PAC supports:

- Cavett Kids Foundation (www.Cavettkids.org)
- Dancers Against Cancer (<https://imadanceragainstcancer.org/>)
- Folds of Honor (<https://foldsofhonor.org/>)

OPEN GRAND FINALE NATIONALS

For our open Grand Finale Nationals **pricing**, please contact us or log in to your dance comp genie account via our website: www.synergypac.com.

The Synergy Grand Finale includes a Solo/Duet/Trio Gala, as well as a Groups/Lines/Production Gala for each Level. We commemorate the closing of our Grand Finale Nationals event with a celebratory party that all are invited to!

ONLINE REGISTRATION

All competition entries must be registered through our online registration system via our website: www.synergypac.com. Payments must be received **immediately** when registration is completed, to hold your spot in the competition. ***It is the sole responsibility of each studio to double check their entries.*** If you request any changes the week of competition (starting on Sunday prior) there will be a fee of \$30 automatically placed on your account. Deposit is required to register routines. Deposit will go towards your invoice balance for event.

PAYMENTS (PLEASE READ IN FULL DETAIL)

All fees must be paid in one full payment for all entries, by studio check, cashier's check, money order, or via pay pal through your dance comp genie account. Checks need to be made out to Synergy Performing Arts, LLC (please see mailing address below). Entries will not be guaranteed, until paid in full. Paid entries are accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis. All fees are non-refundable. **There will be NO cash refunds for entries.**

When paying with a credit card or debit card, there will be a 4% processing fee. This fee is not refundable or able to be applied as a credit. The processing fee is a convenience fee that is paid to PayPal/credit card processor.

All competition entries are due 30 days prior to the competition date! Any registration received after 21 days prior to the competition date will be charged a \$30 late fee per routine. If your account still has a balance due at the 21 day mark prior to the competition date, you will be charged 15% of the balance that is due, which will be added as a late fee to your account.

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL TO COMPETE.

Rebates:

SYNERGY PAC offers a 5% rebate to any studio who registers and pays in full 40 days prior to the competition date. Independent Entries are not eligible for the 5% rebate. If you qualify for the 5% rebate after your registration is completed and paid in full, Synergy will contact you directly to complete your rebate.

In order to receive the 5% rebate, payments must be **received** 40 days prior and be in the form of studio check, cashier's check or money order and mailed to the address below. Due to PayPal now charging 4% fees for each transaction, we can no longer offer the 5% rebate, if fees are paid via PayPal, we apologize for any inconvenience.

Mailing Address:

Please mail payments to 2476 Deerwood Drive, Little Elm, Texas 75068.

Returned Check Fee:

There will be a \$50 returned check fee applied to your account if a check is returned. We expect all returned checks to be handled immediately. You will have 7 days to handle returned check fees and pay the pending balance in full. Once the 7-day period has passed, if your balance is not paid in full you will be charged \$50 per week (every 7 days) until the balance is paid in full.

Coupons/Discounts/Rebates/Synergy Bucks:

No coupons/discounts/rebates/synergy bucks can be combined when registering for Synergy. Synergy bucks/coupons can only be used when 5 or more small group/large groups are entered into competition. *Synergy bucks are not to exceed \$250 per studio per event.*

EVENT SCHEDULE

Synergy event schedules will be emailed out 7 days prior to the event start date. You must have a zero balance to receive your event schedule.

COMPETING OUT OF ORDER

Each entry is expected to compete at the time in which it is scheduled. However, Synergy PAC may ask routines to compete out of order to avoid delay, due to costume changes. Please be

prepared to perform at least 1 hour prior to your scheduled time, as Synergy PAC could run ahead.

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

Routines that have clear technical problems with their music will be allowed to dance again with the approval of the SYNERGY PAC director. In other instances, except for technical difficulties on the part of SYNERGY PAC, re-performance of any routine will be adjudicated only.

CANCELLATION/EXTENSIONS OF COMPETITIONS

SYNERGY PAC reserves the right to cancel or extend any competition in response to the number of competition entries. Studios will be notified within three days if the competition is to be extended.

CONDUCT

Any teacher, parent, performer, or participant displaying improper conduct can result in disqualification with loss of entry fees. SYNERGY PAC does not tolerate any form of bullying, violence, or verbal assault.

Coaching dancers from the audience or backstage, during a routine, is prohibited. This includes verbal and non-verbal communication. Failure to abide by this rule may result in point deduction and/or disqualification of the routine.

SYNERGY PAC requests that all participants, and guest of participants, respect each facility that is hosting our dance competition. Absolutely NO food allowed in the theaters.

VIDEOGRAPHY and PHOTOGRAPHY

Video camera, movie cameras, or any other recording devices are prohibited from the auditorium. Failure to comply with this rule could result in disqualifications or point deduction for your studios routine performing. If videos cameras or any other type of recording devices are found in the auditorium, we reserve the right to take the tape or media being recorded. No still photography of any kind is allowed in the auditorium. We will ask you to delete the performance from your device. This is for the safety and protection of our dancers and choreographers.

LIABILITY

SYNERGY PAC, including the owners, directors, judges, staff, and affiliates, assume no liability for personal injury or property loss. Upon submission of your registration, studio directors and/or representatives are assuming all responsibility for your fellow studio affiliates, students, parents,

and property. Your studio's registration is proof that you acknowledge that SYNERGY PAC cannot be held liable for anything.

PUBLICITY

Choreographers, teachers, and performers automatically grant permission for SYNERGY PAC to use their photos and videos for advertising and publicity purpose, inclusive of television, videotaping, or film broadcast in connection with promotion campaigns.