

# DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA

## SOLO TITLE SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION RULES

### Section 1 – Eligibility

1. Only members in good standing or a student of a member in good standing of Dance Masters of America, Inc. (*also listed as DMA*) may enter DMA Solo Title Scholarship Competitions if the Teacher of Record, Teacher(s) of Recognition, DMA Approved Chaperones and the Affiliated Chapter has complied with all the rules and requirements of the National Organization.
2. The Teacher of Record shall be the DMA member teacher whose signature appears on both the Chapter and the National Scholarship Competition entry forms as the contestant's Teacher of Record. The Teacher of Record shall be legally responsible for the entrant. The Teacher of Record may not have more than one female contestant entered in each of the female Solo Title Scholarship Competition.
3. All other DMA member teachers to be recognized shall be "listed" on the Scholarship Competition entry form as "Teacher(s) of Recognition".
4. All choreographers to be recognized shall be listed on the DMA Solo Title Scholarship Competition entry form as "Choreographer(s)" and shall receive recognition. However, only DMA Members or students of a DMA Member are eligible for awards.
5. The Entrant, Teacher of Record, DMA Approved Chaperone, and Teacher(s) of Recognition listed on the DMA Solo Title Scholarship Competition entry form must be:
  - A. Pre-registered for the full National Convention;
  - B. A registered guest of and residing at the National Convention Hotel;
  - C. Responsible for arranging their own travel and hotel arrangements at the designated National Convention Hotel;
  - D. The Teacher of Record or DMA Approved Chaperone must be in present at the National Convention, from date of arrival to date of departure of the Entrant;
  - E. All fees and/or National Scholarship Forms must be submitted with their National Convention Registration Form and the DMA Solo Title Scholarship Competition entry form;
  - F. The complete packet must be received at the National Treasurer's Office on or before but not later than the deadline date.
6. Teacher of Record, Teacher(s) of Recognition and DMA Approved Chaperones who are members of DMA and found guilty of violating the rules of this competition are subject to fines, penalties and disciplinary action by the National Ethics Committee.
7. If an extraordinary circumstance prevents the Teacher of Record from attending the National Convention, another DMA Member may be designated by the Teacher of Record as the DMA Approved Chaperone if each of the following conditions have been met.
  - A. That the Teacher of Record has a legitimate reason for not attending the National Convention. Proof of said extraordinary circumstance shall be required;
  - B. The Teacher of Record shall have a "Request for Chaperone Form" signed by their Chapter President (forms may be downloaded from the National Website) and then form must be submitted to the National President for National approval or disapproval.
  - C. The said, "Request for Chaperone form" if approved, will be returned to the Teacher of Record for submission with their national convention registration form
  - D. That the Teacher of Record is Registered and paid in Full for the National Convention;
  - E. That the Teacher of Record has paid the fifty-dollar (\$50.00) Chaperone Fee;
  - F. That the Teacher of Record shall not be entitled to a Banquet Ticket if not in attendance;
  - G. That the DMA Approved Chaperone is a DMA Member;
  - H. That the DMA Approved Chaperone is paid in full for the National Convention;
  - I. That the DMA Approved Chaperone is a registered guest of, and residing at the National Convention Hotel;

- J. That the DMA Approved Chaperone will be present throughout the period required (from the date of arrival to the date of departure) of the Entrant;
  - K. That the DMA Approved Chaperone privileges have not been extended to the same Teacher of Record the previous year;
  - L. That the DMA Approved Chaperone privilege shall not be extended to a Teacher of Record more than three (3) times in his/her lifetime;
  - M. That the DMA Approved Chaperone is willing and able to assume all the duties and responsibilities of the Teacher of Record and be legally responsible for the entrant for the full National Convention or until the Teacher of Record arrives to assume their duties.
  - N. That the Teacher of Record will be held responsible to insure, that the DMA Approved Chaperone has knowledge of their responsibilities as Chaperone and that they will be required to attend the Mandatory Music Turn-In and the Mandatory Solo Title Orientation Meeting at their scheduled times.
8. Entrants must have been enrolled (registered and attending classes on a weekly basis) as a student with the Teacher of Record:
- A. CURRENT STUDENTS:  
For a minimum period of not less than ten (10) months prior to the Affiliated Chapter Competition;
  - B. STUDENTS WITH LESS THAN 10 MONTHS:
    - 1. With written permission from the former teacher if the student has studied with the Teacher of Record for a period of less than ten (10) months prior to the Affiliated Chapter Competition;
    - 2. Without written permission from the former teacher if he/she does not or will not continue to offer dance education to the student on a weekly basis.
  - C. STUDENTS NOT STUDYING ON WEEKLY BASIS:
    - 1. Has studied with the Teacher of Record for a period of not less than three (3) years;
    - 2. Has studied with the Teacher of Record within the past twelve (12) months and;
    - 3. Is now in a position that does not permit the entrant 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.
9. Miss Dance of America, Teen Miss Dance of America, Junior Miss Dance of America and Petite Miss Dance of America Scholarship Competitions are "CLOSED" competitions. To compete for any of these titles, entrants are required to represent an Affiliated Chapter of Dance Masters of America, Inc. as their "TITLE HOLDER". The Competition, in which the title was won, must be held within the same DMA fiscal year as the National Solos Title Scholarship Competition.
10. Mr. Dance of America, Teen Mr. Dance of America, Junior Mr. Dance of America and Master Dance of America Scholarship Competitions are "OPEN" Competitions. To compete for any of these Titles entrants are not required to represent an Affiliated Chapter of Dance Masters of America, Inc. as their "TITLE HOLDER". Title holders and Open Contestants must have received a minimum talent score of 80% or the equivalent at the Affiliated Chapter Solo Title or Performing Arts Solo Competitions. The competition in which the Entrant qualified must be held within the same DMA fiscal year as the National Competition.
11. If the Affiliated Chapter winner is unable to attend the National Convention, he/she must immediately forfeit his/her Title only to the First Runner-up who will represent the Affiliated Chapter as "TITLE HOLDER". The National Solo Title Competition Director, the National Treasurer and the Solo Title Program Book Chairman must be notified immediately of any changes. DEADLINE DATE FOR CHANGES IS MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>.
12. Entrants into the Miss Dance of America, Teen Miss Dance of America, Junior Miss Dance of America and Petite Miss Dance of America Scholarship Competitions must be female, single, never married, never had a marriage annulled, childless and never been convicted of a crime.
13. Entrants into the Mr. Dance of America, Teen Mr. Dance of America, Junior Mr. Dance of America and Master Dance of America Scholarship Competitions must be male, single never married, never had a marriage annulled, childless and never been convicted of a crime.
14. Ages:
- A. Entrants into the Miss Dance of America and Mr. Dance of America Scholarship Competition must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, but not more than twenty-three (23) years of age as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.

- B. Entrants into the Teen Miss Dance of America and Teen Mr. Dance of America Scholarship Competition must be at least thirteen (13) years of age, but not more than fifteen (15) years of age as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - C. Entrants into the Junior Miss Dance of America and Junior Mr. Dance of America Scholarship Competition must be at least ten (10) years of age, but not more than twelve (12) years of age as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - D. Entrants into the Petite Miss Dance of America and Master Dance of America Scholarship Competition must be at least seven (7) years of age, but not more than nine (9) years of age as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.
15. Entrants into the Miss Dance of America, Teen Miss Dance of America, Junior Miss Dance of America and Petite Miss Dance of America Scholarship Competitions who have not won the title may compete again after a lapse of one (1) year, provided they have again won an Affiliated Chapter's Solo Title Competition. No entrant may compete for the same title in two consecutive years.
  16. Entrants into the Mr. Dance of America, Teen Mr. Dance of America, Junior Mr. Dance of America and Master Dance of America Scholarship Competition, who did not win the title, may compete in succeeding years without any lapse of time if all eligibility requirements have been met.

## **Section 2 – RULES**

17. All entries will adhere to the standards of Dance Masters of America, Inc. The standards are as follows:
  - A. Inappropriate or sexually suggestive movements should not be part of any performance in any DMA competition. Such movements will be evaluated and scores will be lowered accordingly.
  - B. Costuming such as thongs, bikini bottoms or tops that allow exposure of private body parts or that is not age appropriate, will be evaluated and scores lowered accordingly.
  - C. Vulgar, profane, morally offensive, or suggestive language in music is not acceptable for our family audiences. Music that is unacceptable or not age appropriate will be evaluated and scores lowered accordingly.
18. The Teacher of Record is required to send music directly to the Solo Title director which must be received two (2) weeks prior to the start of the competition arrival. Music may be sent via CD, email, or USB FLASHDRIVE. A backup copy of the music must be in the ballroom at the time of performance.
19. Entrants, the entrant parents (if attending the National Convention), Teacher of Record or the DMA approved official chaperone, are required to attend the Mandatory Solo Title Orientation Meeting. This meeting will be held at the designated National Convention Hotel (please refer to the National Convention Schedule of Events "Arrival of the Solo Title contestant's" for the exact date, time and place). Be sure to allow for travel emergencies and cancellations. Teachers of Record or DMA Approved Chaperone not present at the Mandatory Solo Title Orientation Meeting will be fined one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per infraction. Solo Title Contestants not in attendance at the Mandatory Solo Title Orientation Meeting will receive a three (3) point penalty. The Teacher of Record's Chapter Delegate will be notified of the infractions.
20. That DMA Petite, Master, Junior Miss and Junior Mr., Teen Miss and Teen Mr. Solo Title contestants may hold other dance related Titles. Upon winning DMA Title, they will not be permitted to seek or accept any other National dance related Title during the year of their reign.
21. That DMA Miss and Mr. Dance Solo Title contestants may hold other dance related Titles prior to entering this competition. Upon winning DMA Miss and Mr. Dance of America they will be required to relinquish currently held Titles from any other organization, before signing DMA agreement. After contract signing they are not permitted to seek or accept any other dance related Title during the year of their reign.
22. As a prerequisite for entrance into any DMA Solo Title Scholarship Competition, the Entrant agrees that if he/she is selected as the winner of a said Title Scholarship Competition, he/she will sign and enter an agreement with Dance Masters of America, Inc. This agreement will govern their reign as a DMA Title Holder. The Title Holder, their legal guardian, if required, and the Teacher of Record shall sign this agreement the morning following their competition. (Please see your Competition Director for signing place and time). Failure to sign or have a legal guardian sign this agreement on the specified day and time (without written permission) will result in the immediate forfeiture of the title, all rights to amenities, awards, scholarships and privileges. Copy of this agreement may be obtained through the National Office.

## 23. PENALTY POINTS

Contestants are required to follow all rules governing the competitions, instructions without exception throughout their stay at the National Convention. Failure to do so will result in automatic penalty points deducted from your Overall Score of the Competition. Penalty Points to be administered as follows:

A.	Late or Missing the Orientation Meeting	3 Point Penalty
B.	Missing Judges Preview	15 Point Penalty
C.	Missing A Called Meeting	3 Point Penalty Per Infraction
D.	Late For A Rehearsal	3 Point Penalty every 15 minutes late
E.	Missing a Rehearsal	10 Point Penalty Per Infraction
F.	Late For Any Phase Of The Competition	3 Point Penalty every 15 minutes late
G.	Disobeying Competition Director	3 Point Penalty Per Infraction
H.	Dress Code Violations	3 Point Penalty Per Infraction
I.	Poor Attitude/Uncooperative/Use of Foul Language	5 Point Penalty for each Infraction
J.	Violation of DMA standards (Rule #17)	10 Point Penalty Per Infraction
K.	Immoral Behavior-Use of drugs or alcohol	Expelled from Competition & Convention

*All Penalty Points will be given at the discretion of the Solo Title Directors and verified by the Solo Title Liaison*

## SECTION 3 – THE COMPETITION

### 24. A. TALENT PREVIEW:

- 1.. The Talent Preview portion of the competition shall not be adjudicated.
2. Only Teachers of Record and Teacher(s) of Recognition of the participating Contestants will be permitted into the preview room.
3. **MUSIC**
  - a. A maximum time limit of 2:50 minutes will be allowed for a talent presentation.
  - b.. All music must be labeled with the contestant's name and entry number, the title of the music and teacher's name;
  - c. The music selection shall be age appropriate and within the standards of the Dance Masters of America, Inc. (Rule #17)
- 4.. **THE ROUTINE**
  - a. The discipline of dance, choreographic style and music presented in the National Solo Title Competition (Talent Preview & Final Talent Presentation) must be the same as was used in the Chapter Scholarship Competition to win the Title or qualify in the case of the open male contestants. Edits will be allowed if suggested by Solo Title Director for the final Talent Presentation.
  - b. This routine may be performed only in the Solo Title Scholarship Competition and at no other competition during the same convention week.
  - c. Singing, baton twirling or playing of musical instruments by the entrant will not be permitted. Music with audible tap sounds will not be permitted for tap or clogging routines.
  - d.. It is at the Talent Preview that all routines are reviewed by the Solo Title Director and a Member of the Executive Committee to assure that DMA standards are being upheld. The Solo Title Liaison shall notify the Teacher of Record of any music, costume or choreography deemed unacceptable. If the Teacher of Record does not make the suggested changes to the music, costumes or choreography to meet the DMA standards, the routine will be disqualified.
5. **PROPS:**
  - a. Props, scenery and stage sets will only be permitted if they are functional and are an integral part of the choreography.
  - b. Smoke or props that are connected to an electrical outlet may not be used.
  - c. Fire, swords, knives or live animals on stage are prohibited.
  - d. Contained dry ice is acceptable.
  - e. There is a three (1) minute time limit for props, scenery or stage sets to be set up and a three (1) minute time limit for tear down of same. There will be a five (5) point penalty for exceeding this time limit for both set up and tear down of props, scenery or stage sets.

- f. Studios are responsible for getting props on and off the stage. Check with the Stage Manager about where to leave the props backstage. The stage crew setting and striking the props may not wear any “logos” or other identifying article of clothing.
  - g. All props must be stored away from the stage area.
  - h. Depending on hotel availability and costs, DMA will contract with the hotel for a special room for the storage of props, scenery or stage sets. However, the Teacher of Record is responsible for the cost of any hotel personnel transporting props, scenery or stage sets to and from the storage area. ALSO, TO BE ABLE TO STORE PROPS, SCENERY OR STAGE SETS, THE TEACHER OF RECORD MUST NOTIFY THE NATIONAL SECRETARY BEFORE ARRIVING AS TO STORAGE REQUIREMENTS.
  - i. Any routine that causes a hazard to any student or the facility/stage is not permitted. Such as but not limited to, liquid, gel, aerosol, glitter, powder or paint.
6. **COSTUMES:**
- a. Costumes for the Talent Preview portion of the Competition shall be the same costume that will be worn for the Final Talent Portion of the competition and shall be the responsibility of the Entrant.
  - b. The costume shall be age appropriate and within the Standards of the Dance Masters of America, Inc.

**B. INTERVIEW:**

- 1.. Petite/Master, Junior Miss/Mr., Teen Miss/Mr. entrants will be required to sit before the judging panel for a three (3) minute interview. Miss/Mr. Dance entrants will be required to a five (5) minute interview.
- 2.. The interview portion of the Competition will have a point value of 1-15. The Tabulators will discard the “high and low scores”; adding the three remaining scores to determine the interview score.
- 3. Female Entrants will be required to wear a daytime dress or business type suit for the interview portion of the competition. The required clothing shall be the responsibility of the Entrant.
- 4. Male Entrants will be required to wear dress shirt and tie with either dress slacks or a business type suit for the interview portion of the competition. The required clothing shall be the responsibility of the Entrant.

**C. TITLE COMPETITION CLASSES:**

- 1 Entrants in the Petite/Master and the Junior Miss/Mr. Dance Solo Title Scholarship Competitions will be required to take a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) competition classes. Tap, Ballet, Jazz and Acrobatic classes will be offered. Entrants in the Teen Miss/Mr. and the Miss/Mr. Dance Solo Title Scholarship Competitions will be required to take a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of five (5) competition classes. Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Modern and Acrobatic classes will be offered.
- 2. All classes shall be **CLOSED**.
- 3. Each class has a point value of 1-20. The Tabulators will discard the “high and low scores” and add the three remaining scores. This process shall be repeated in each subject. When all four (4) or five (5) subjects are complete the tabulators will take the two (2) highest subject totals and add them to the Entrant’s overall score (1-120 points)
- 4. Female Entrants will be required to dress as follows for all competition classes. The required clothing shall be the responsibility of the Entrant.
  - a. **Ballet Audition:** one-piece solid black leotard. No lace, see through material, embellishments, logos and no undergarments showing. Pink tights, footed or convertible are acceptable.
  - b. **Tap/Jazz/Modern/Acrobatics:** one-piece solid black leotard. No lace, see through material, embellishments, logos and no undergarments showing. Pink or Suntan/Carmel tights, footed, stirrup, footless or convertible are acceptable. Females not wearing tights for Acrobatics or Modern must wear dance shorts over their leotard.
  - c. appropriate dance shoes for the class. There are no shoe requirements for Acrobatic or Modern Class.
  - d. No jewelry, shorts, shirts or pants, etc. will be permitted.

- e. Hair must be secured neatly and off the neckline, no ponytails, no hats or other head ornaments.
5. Male Entrants will be required to dress as follows for all competition classes. The required clothing shall be the responsibility of the Entrant.
- a. Solid black form fitting pants, ankle or Capri length, or black tights. Must be able to dance comfortably.
  - b. Dance Belt.
  - c. Black form fitting compression shirt or muscle shirt tucked in.
  - d. Appropriate dance shoes for the class. There are no shoe requirements for Acrobatic or Modern class.
  - e. No jewelry, shorts, hats, etc. will be permitted.
  - f. Hair must be secured neatly off the neckline, no pony tails, no hats or other head ornament.
  - g. No shorts, stripes, logos or other designs on pants or shirt.

**25. WELCOME PARTY & PARADE OF CONTESTANTS:**

National Title Holders and entrants are to attend the Welcome Party to participate in the "Parade of Contestants". Attire for the Welcome Party must be the same that will be worn in the awards ceremony of their competition.

**26. OPENING ROUTINE:**

- A. Title Holder shall be responsible for securing the required dancewear and shoes for the Opening Routine. You will receive a letter from the Director with detailed instructions and specifications of the required dancewear after he/she has spoken to the Choreographer and the National President.
- B. All rehearsals shall be **CLOSED WITH NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**27. SCORING:**

- A. Five adjudicators shall score the competition. The High and low score of the adjudicators will be dropped and the combined scores of the three (3) remaining adjudicators shall be used to determine scores in each portion of the competition.
- B. Entrants 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 of America, Inc. and that all decisions will be final.
- C. Adjudicators score sheets will be the sole property of Dance Masters of America, Inc. The Teacher of Record will receive a copy of the tabulation sheet within 24 hours following the Competition.
- D. Scores: Total point values (155 points per judge)
  - 1. Interview: Point value of 1-15 per Judge. **MAXIMUM INTERVIEW SCORE = 45 POINTS**
  - 2. Title Competition Classes: Each class has a point value of 1-20 per Judge. Tabulators will take the two (2) highest subject totals and add them to the Entrant's overall score. **MAXIMUM CLASS SCORE =120 POINTS)**
  - 3. The talent portion of the competition will have a point value of 1-100. **MAXIMUM TALENT SCORE = 300 POINTS.**
- E. **ALL TIES WILL BE BROKEN IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:**
  - 1. In Competition Classes:
    - a. the "class" scores of all 5 Adjudicators.
    - b. the decision of the Adjudicators.
  - 2. In Interview:
    - a. the "interview" scores of all 5 Adjudicators.
    - b. the decision of the Adjudicators.
  - 3. Selecting the Winner:
    - a. the "talent" scores of all 5 adjudicators
    - b. the "class" scores only of the 3 scoring adjudicators
    - c. the "class" scores of all 5 adjudicators
    - d. the decision of the Adjudicators by secret ballot.

**28. AWARDS PRESENTATION:**

All Title Holders and Entrants will be required to participate in the Awards Presentation. Entrants will not be judged on their attire however the attire must meet the standards of DMA as listed below:

- A. Title holders shall be responsible for securing their required dress attire for the Awards Presentation Ceremony. The same requirements and specifications for the Contestants apply to the current National Title Holder. Note: Teacher of Record must accompany their contestants, both male and female to the review of the awards ceremony attire since it is their responsibility to assure their contestants are following all of the rules of the competition. This review will take place immediately following the orientation meeting.
- B. Miss Dance of America, Teen Miss Dance of America and all Miss Dance & Teen Miss Dance Entrants will be required to wear a floor length evening gown (no cascading fronts or floor dragging trains permitted) of the Entrant's choice of color with appropriate shoes during the Awards Presentation. The gowns (including the length) and shoes shall be the responsibility of the title holder and the entrants.

**Reminder:** *Silhouette dresses (short dress with a sheer overlay) are not permitted.*  
*Trains (back of dress draped on the floor) are not permitted*  
*Cascading (short in front tapering to long in the back) are not permitted*  
*Provocative slits are not permitted*  
*Floor length does not mean dragging on the floor – which is a hazard*

- C. Mr. Dance of America and Mr. Dance Entrants will be required to wear a tuxedo, dress appropriate shoes during the Awards Presentation. The tuxedo, dress shirt, bow tie, cummerbund and dress (tuxedo) shoes shall be the responsibility of the Title Holder and Entrants.
- D. Teen Mr. Dance of America and Teen Mr. Dance Entrants will be required to wear a dress suit, shirt and tie with appropriate shoes during the Awards Presentation. SUITS AND SHOES SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TITLE HOLDER AND THE ENTRANTS.
- E. Junior Miss Dance of America, Petite Miss Dance of America and all Junior Miss & Petite Miss Dance Entrants will be required to wear a party dress (the length of which must cover the entire knee but not be longer than mid-calf) with appropriate shoes during the Awards Presentation. No waterfall or cascading dresses will be accepted. PARTY DRESSES (INCLUDING THE LENGTH) AND SHOES SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TITLE HOLDER AND THE ENTRANTS.
- F. Junior Mr. Dance of America, Master Dance of America and all Junior Mr. and Master Dance entrants will be required to wear a SUIT OR BLAZER AND DRESS SLACKS, SHIRT AND TIE WITH APPROPRIATE SHOES FOR THE AWARDS PRESENTATION AND SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TITLE HOLDER AND THE ENTRANTS.
- G. The Solo Title Liaison will preview all Awards Presentation attire and footwear, to ensure that all the Entrants are keeping with the dignity and standards of DMA.

- 29. All "new" Solo Title Winners (8) will take a picture together the night of Miss and Mr. Dance. The winners will be dressed in their Award Ceremony attire.

**Section 4 – SOLO TITLE ENTRY FORM**

- 30. The Secretary of each Affiliated Chapter has been made responsible for the collection of all Solo Title entry forms and other required materials, forms and payments due. It is also their responsibility to check to insure, that all rules have been followed and to send a complete chapter package to the National Treasurer's Office before the deadline date of April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The following must be received (NOT POSTMARKED) at the National Treasurer's Office on or before but not later than THE DEADLINE DATE.

- A. Convention Registration Form with EITHER a check for payment in full OR an applicable Scholarship Form to cover the following.
  - 1. the Teacher of Record's Convention Fee;
  - 2. the DMA Approved (National chaperone Request Form with Chapter and National President's signature) Chaperone's Convention fee and fifty dollars (\$50.00) Sur-Charge;
  - 3. the Teacher(s) of Recognition's Convention Fee;
  - 4. the Entrant's Convention Fee, in addition to all competition fees
  - 5. the Solo Title entry form

- B. A copy of the official Entry Form with all required information, signatures and notarized Medical Release Form if Entrant is less than 18 years of age. No “blank spaces” or “to be announced” will be permitted on the entry form.
- C. One (1) CD containing the following:
  - 1. ONE (1) COLORED 5X7, HIGH RESOLUTION VERTICALLY POSED HEAD SHOT PHOTOGRAPH (NO HATS, CROWNS OR HEAD ORNAMENTS ARE TO BE WORN)
  - 2. ONE (1) COLORED 5X7 HIGH RESOLUTION VERTICALLY POSED DANCE SHOT PICTURE TAKEN IN COSTUME OR DANCE ATTIRE.

A solid white & flat (no curtain, scenery or props) professional back ground must be used. DMA reserves the right to approve or disapprove all photographs submitted. Pictures that are not approved will be returned to the Teacher of Record. The name of Entrant and the Teacher of Record must appear on the CD. All pictures are the property of DMA and will not be returned.

- 31. All fees must be in United States currency, drawn on a United States Bank and made payable to “DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA, INC.” Only checks from member teacher(s) or chapter accounts will be accepted.

#### **SECTION 5 – RULE INFRACTION**

- 32. All rule infractions pertaining to solo Title Entries must be submitted to the National Executive Secretary.
  - A. All rule infractions before April 15th against a Teacher of Record or Student entering the National Solo Title Scholarship Competition must be in writing, documented and sent to the National Executive Secretary. If the rule infraction is validated by the National Advisory Committee, the contestant will not be allowed to compete, the Affiliated Chapter and all parties will be notified. The chapter and the national office will make the necessary changes.
  - B. All rule infractions after April 15th and before Solo Title Orientation against a Teacher of Record or Student entering the National Solo Title Scholarship Competition must be in writing, documented and sent to the National Executive Secretary. If the rule infraction is validated by the National Advisory Committee, the contestant will be able to perform but not be eligible for any awards. A fine and or suspension will be levied by the National Ethics Committee against the Teacher of Record who entered the contestant.
  - C. All rule infractions after Solo Title Orientation must be submitted to the National Executive Secretary prior to the start of the first scoring event of the Competition. If the rule infraction is found to be valid the contestant will be permitted to perform but will not be eligible for any awards. A fine and/or suspension will be levied by the National Ethics Committee against the Teacher of Record who entered the contestant.

#### **SECTION 6 – GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 33. Rehearsing in hallways or any public areas of the convention facilities is discouraged

#### **34. CROWN, BANNER & MEDALLION ETIQUETTE**

- a
  - A. The crown, banner & medallion represents the title and you should always show respect for Dance Masters of America when wearing them.
  - B. Your crown is a piece of jewelry and should be worn with pride. You may wear a suit, dressy dress, pant suit, or gown with the crown and banner.
  - C. You may wear your medallion with a suit, dress shirt & dress slacks, blazer & dress slacks or a tuxedo.
  - D. Never wear your crown, banner & medallion with shorts, jeans, swim suit, sweat suit or dance wear of any kind.
  - E. The crown, banner & medallion should never be worn when in a bar, or when smoking or drinking.
  - F. Profanity and derogatory comments of any kind are unacceptable. Be mindful you are a role model for DMA.

#### **SECTION 7 – RESPONSIBILITY**

- 35. The Teacher of Record, DMA Approved Chaperone and/or Parents shall be JOINTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR the safety and well-being of the Entrant during their stay at the National Convention.
- 36. The Teacher of Record, DMA Approved Chaperone and parents, if in attendance at the National Convention shall, if the Entrant is under eighteen (18) years of age, collectively or individually assume all responsibility for;
  - A. The Entrant’s behavior
  - B. The Entrant’s attendance in class
  - C. The Entrant’s proper nourishment
  - D. That the Entrant is properly groomed and dressed for the various events of the Scholarship Competition and convention in accordance with the guidelines provided.

- E. Teachers of Record must accompany their Contestants, both male and female, to the “review” of the Award Ceremony attire. Since it is their responsibility to ensure that their contestants comply with “all” of the rules of the Competition.
- 37. The Teacher of Record, DMA Approved Chaperone and parent(s), if in attendance at the National Convention, shall, if the entrant is over eighteen (18) years of age, assume none of the responsibilities listed above. The Entrant shall be considered an adult and shall be treated as such. If the entrant is found in violation of any of the rules as stated or announced thereafter; or found not to be of good moral character; using foul language or engaging in any activity that is not upholding the standards of Dance Masters of America, Inc. the entrant shall be punished as an adult and be expelled from the Competition and Convention.
- 38. Medical Release – Entrant must notify the National Office of any injuries that are still being cared for before arriving for Solo Title Scholarship. Entrant will be asked to sign a medical release before being allowed to compete.

#### **SECTION 8 – NATIONAL TITLE WINNERS & TEACHERS OF RECORD**

Upon entrance into the DMA Solo Title Scholarship Competitions each entrant and their Teacher of Record hereby agrees to the following stipulations should they become the winners of said Titles:

- 39. That, during the year of their reign, winners of the DMA Solo Titles who alter any of the eligibility requirements, or violate any of the rules and regulations in force when they entered the competition or subsequently changed during the year of their reign, will immediately result in the forfeiture of said title and all rights to amenities, awards, scholarships and privileges of said title.
- 40.. That, the term “year of reign” shall be defined as the span of time between the date the Agreement is signed and executed and the date and time my successor signs their agreement; or the date and time I voluntarily relinquish said title; or the date and time I am found in violation of this Agreement and said title is removed.
- 41 That DMA Petite, Master, Junior Miss and Junior Mr., Teen Miss and Teen Mr. Solo Title Winners may retain other dance related Titles, but will not be permitted to seek or accept any other National dance related Title during the year of their reign.
- 42. That DMA Miss and Mr. Dance Solo Title Winners may hold other dance related Titles prior to entering this competition. Upon winning DMA Miss and Mr. Dance of America they will be required to relinquish currently held Titles from any other organization, before signing DMA agreement. After contract signing they are not permitted to seek or accept any other dance related Title during the year of their reign.
- 43. Reigning National Solo Title Holders will return to relinquish their title at next year’s DMA National Convention as a student of the same Teacher of Record who submitted their original entry form to compete and from whom they will continue to study during the year of their reign, if said teacher is still an active member in good standing of DMA and continues to provide the said Title Holder their dance education on a weekly basis. If said Teacher of Record is not a member in good standing the National Advisory Committee will appoint a chaperone.
- 44. That when returning to the DMA National Convention to relinquish the Title. Duties will begin at the Solo Title Orientation Meeting and end upon the contract signing of your successor. You will be expected to be an active participant, and a role model to those in attendance throughout the National Convention.
- 45. That they may never again compete for the Title you now hold.
- 46. The DMA Solo Title Winners will receive:
  - A. Fifty percent of the cash awards within sixty (60) days from the close of the National Convention. This money is to be used for advanced dance training and education. The checks will be made payable to the students Teacher of Record for the students continuing dance education.
  - B. A scholarship to attend the National Convention held during the year of their reign.
  - C. Economy air-travel to the National Convention. The Executive Secretary will make travel reservations.
  - D. Fifty percent of a double room accommodation. The exact number of days to be determined by the Advisory Committee. The Executive Secretary will make room reservations.
  - E. The remaining fifty percent balance of scholarship funds less any monetary penalties upon their return the following year and the complete fulfillment of their duties as the reigning Title Winners.
- 47. In the event, that a Reigning Title Holder is unable or unwilling to fulfill the duties of said title or cannot attend the National Convention to fulfill their obligations and relinquish their title, they will immediately notify the National Executive Secretary at the National Office, in writing and forfeit to their successor, the title, all rights to amenities, awards, scholarships and privileges of said title.