



MDDT

DANCE TEAM
NATIONALS

3/22-3/23

LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE
**HALL OF
CHAMPIONS**
- LONG BEACH, CA -

EL CAMINO COLLEGE
**MARSEE
AUDITORIUM**
- TORRANCE, CA -

AMERICA'S **FIRST** DANCE TEAM NATIONALS... SINCE 1967

OUR LEGACY IS YOUR MOMENT TO SHINE!

NATIONALS TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 3/21

- SOLO TITLE CONTESTANTS ONLY: MISS, MR., TEEN
REGISTRATION ORIENTATION & DINNER ACTIVITY

SATURDAY 3/22

- TEAM DIVISIONS
- SOLO TITLE SPOTLIGHT & INTERVIEW
- GRADE LEVEL SOLOS
- IMPROV SOLOS
- DUET/TRIO
- OFFICER/MINI OPEN
- "TRIPLE THREAT" MASTER CLASS DANCE
WORKSHOP [OPEN TO PUBLIC]
- FINALS "OPENING NUMBER" REHEARSAL
[SOLO TITLE CONTESTANTS ONLY]

SUNDAY 3/23

- TEAM DIVISIONS
- SOLO TITLE ROUTINES
- GRAND FINALS (SEE BELOW)



GRAND FINALS!!!

NIGHT SHOW & TEAM AWARDS

- MISS DANCE TEAM FINALISTS FIGHT FOR THE CROWN
- TOP TEAMS BATTLE FOR THE U.S. GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP
- ENCORE PERFORMANCES BY JUDGES' FAVORITES
- PRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
- ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEAM U.S.A. FOR WORLDS IN JAPAN
- FINAL AWARDS CEREMONY & SPECIAL RECOGNITION



NATIONALS TEAM DIVISIONS

DUET/TRIO [2-3]

MINI OPEN/OFFICER [4-5]

SMALL CONTEMPORARY [6-10]

SMALL JAZZ [6-10]

SMALL LYRICAL [6-10]

SMALL FEMALE HIP HOP [6-10]

SMALL MALE HIP HOP [4-10]

SMALL OPEN HIP HOP [6-10]

SMALL MILITARY [6-14]

SMALL POM/SONG [6-14]

MEDIUM CONTEMPORARY [11-17]

MEDIUM JAZZ [11-17]

MEDIUM LYRICAL [11-17]

MEDIUM FEMALE HIP HOP [11-17]

MEDIUM MALE HIP HOP [11-17]

MEDIUM OPEN HIP HOP [11-17]



LARGE CONTEMPORARY [18+]

LARGE JAZZ [18+]

LARGE LYRICAL [18+]

LARGE FEMALE HIP HOP [18+]

LARGE MALE HIP HOP [18+]

LARGE OPEN HIP HOP [18+]

LARGE MILITARY [15+]

LARGE POM/SONG [15+]

CHARACTER/NOVELTY [6+]

DANCE/DRILL [6+]

KICK [6+]

SHORT FLAGS - SINGLE [4+]

SHORT FLAGS - DOUBLE [4+]

SHOW PRODUCTION [25+]

OPEN DANCE [6+]



CASH PRIZES &

SPECIAL TEAM AWARDS

BIDS TO MDDT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN JAPAN

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

BEST SHOWMANSHIP

BEST TECHNIQUE

U.S. GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

OVERALL SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPIONSHIP



MDDT NATIONALS

TEAM DIVISIONS

TEAM CATEGORY GUIDELINES

CONTEMPORARY: Must contain creative, abstract, and dramatic movements that display emerging contemporary/modern dance styles, musical interpretation, and/or concert dance techniques.

Divisions: Varsity or JV

HIP HOP: Any combination or interpretation of street dance styles. Divisions separated as follows: Female, Male & Open Hip Hop.

Divisions: Varsity or JV

JAZZ: Emphasis must be on jazz dance technique and movement. Props permitted but must not be the focal point of the routine.

Divisions: Varsity or JV

LYRICAL: Routine must be of a poetic style with soft, flowing choreography that focuses on lyrical interpretation. Music selection must contain audible song lyrics. Much more technical & controlled in nature than any other division. **Divisions:** Varsity or JV

POM/SONG: Routine must focus on the use of poms, featuring innovative dance and precision movements. **Divisions:** Varsity or JV

MILITARY: Choreography must demonstrate precision movements, sharp angular arm sequences, contagion/level dynamics and a variety of marching styles (kickline sequence is allowed). Traditional military includes leading with the left foot.

KICK: Majority of routine must emphasize defined and precise kicks with focus on technique, height, timing and unison.

NOVELTY/CHARACTER: Emphasis must be on characterization or be of a unique, thematic nature. Routine must use clever costumes & unusual or innovative moves to convey the thematic character-driven choreography. Small sets/props allowed.

PROP: Routine emphasis must be on the use and manipulation of a prop or variety of props as the major focal point.

DANCE/DRILL: Routine must consist of 50% jazz/lyrical choreography AND 50% military choreography.

SHORT FLAGS: Routine must focus on use of short pep flags. Divisions are divided into 1-flag & 2-flag categories

SHOW PRODUCTION: Routine consists of a halftime-type presentation using a variety of dance styles. Should incorporate elaborate sets. Emphasis is on the overall spectacle & entertainment value.

OPEN DANCE: May be any genre, style, or combination of styles.

DUET/TRIO: Divisions separated as follows: Open Dance OR Hip Hop



MISS DANCE DRILL TEAM USA

MDDDTUSA

SOLO DIVISIONS

U.S. SOLO TITLE CHAMPIONSHIP

- MISS DANCE TEAM USA (AGE 16-19)
- MR. DANCE USA (AGE 16-19)
- MISS TEEN (AGE 13-15)

GRADE LEVEL SOLO (BEST OF USA)

- JAZZ
- HIP HOP
- LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY

IMPROV SOLO

- (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY)

WILL YOUR DANCE SOLOISTS WIN A BID
ON THE U.S. NATIONAL TEAM?

REPRESENT TEAM USA AT
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
IN TOKYO, JAPAN

TOP 5 MISS DANCE - TOP 5 MR. DANCE - TOP 5 MISS TEEN
AND TOP 10 "BEST OF USA" GRADE LEVEL SOLOS



MDDT NATIONALS

SOLO DIVISIONS

GRADE LEVEL SOLO (BEST OF USA): For soloists who wish to compete within their school grade level & preferred style: jazz, lyrical/contemporary, or hiphop. Divisions are separated by school grade & dance genre.

IMPROV SOLO: During prelims, dancers perform an individual contemporary freestyle to a piece of music selected by our judges (45 seconds). Top improv solos advance to the Grand Finals (contact improv with other finalists).

SOLO TITLE: The most prestigious dance solo competition in America! Patented by the U.S. Library of Congress...

U.S. SOLO TITLE CHAMPIONSHIP

CLICK HERE FOR COMPLETE RULES & INFORMATION VIDEO



Contestants are evaluated by a highly-qualified panel of judges in the areas of dance performance, technique spotlight (previously known as *modeling*), and response to a judge's question. Scores tabulated as follows:

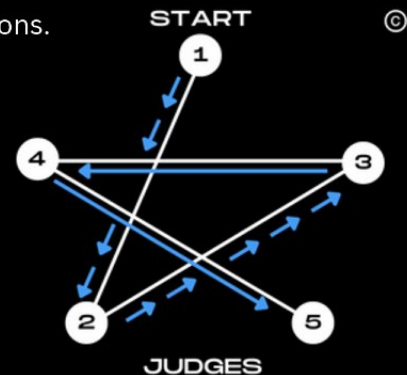
DANCE ROUTINE (70% OF TOTAL SCORE)

Contestant must display talent in a dance routine (1:30-2 minutes) using any or all disciplines of dance performance styles (limited to 3 gymnastic feats). Contestant is judged on routine construction, execution & showmanship. Costuming for this element may be as creative as you wish!

SPOTLIGHT (15% OF TOTAL SCORE)

Contestant performs a compulsory format demonstrating (5) movement combinations. Dancers should present areas of personal strength in technique, tricks, movement specialties, etc (Total timing **MUST NOT** exceed 45 seconds to avoid penalty). This element is not performed to music, and is scored on content presentation & overall execution of the following **REQUIRED** star-pattern format:

Position #1: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
Position #2: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
Position #3: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
Position #4: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
Position #5: SKILL/POSE (pause), and then EXIT.



Dancer must walk **naturally** from position-to-position (no walking on *rélevé*, strutting, jazz walks/runs, or dancing).

Dress Code: Spotlight attire is separate from the dance routine costume with an emphasis on simplicity. Contestants **MUST WEAR ALL BLACK** fitted dance attire with any style of dance shoe (Bare feet also allowed). Chosen apparel should accentuate the dancer's talent & movement abilities...

Examples of **ACCEPTABLE** spotlight dancewear attire include:

- ¾ sleeve or sleeveless leotard (lace, sheer & cutouts acceptable; no rhinestones, beading or sequins allowed)
- Fitted top (any sleeve length; NO cleavage allowed; NO baggy allowed)
- Black tights/leggings/dance pant/capri pant (all must be at least knee length)

Examples of **UNACCEPTABLE** spotlight dancewear attire include:

- Low cleavage tops of any kind
- Spandex shorts without accompanying tights/leggings underneath
- Please contact us prior to the event with any attire questions, for guidance.



JUDGES QUESTION (15% OF TOTAL SCORE)

Contestant is scored on their response to an impromptu question from the judges (Response must not exceed 45 seconds to avoid penalty). Score is based on confidence, projection, poise, diction & enthusiasm. No notes or props allowed! During prelims, solo title contestants **MUST** wear their spotlight outfit for the judges question element. All solo title contestants should be prepared to wear a more formal interview outfit in case they make Finals, and also to be recognized during the Grand Finals awards ceremony at the conclusion of the event.

MDDT NATIONALS

RULES, REGULATIONS & INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

MDDT Dance Team Nationals is an Open Nationals! Team routines, grade-level solos, and improv solos DO NOT have to pre-qualify to participate. All participants must be under 19 years of age and active registered students/members of the school, dance studio, or community dance program they represent.

Please note that dancers who wish to compete in our patented U.S. Solo Title Championship division at Nationals must receive a bid at one of our affiliated regional competitions (For dancers living in U.S. states that currently do not offer an MDDT authorized regional dance competition, virtual qualification for Nationals by video is also an available option). Please email us at registration@mddtusa.com for information on how to receive a virtual Nationals Bid, if applicable.

ONLINE REGISTRATION & PARTICIPANT RELEASE WAIVER

Each team Director must complete the official MDDTUSA online registration portal on our website. We proudly use DanceComp Genie, the leader in dance team competition registration software. Click on the [REGISTER NOW](#) link on our website to input your dance team roster, register your dance routines & upload dancer release forms.

JUDGING CRITERIA

A panel of highly-qualified judges scores each performance in the areas of Routine Construction (40%), Technical Execution (40%) & Showmanship (20%). Routines must demonstrate dance genre of category entered.

PERFORMANCE STAGE DIMENSIONS NEW

Hall of Champions: 84' x 50' (Standard basketball court dimensions and markings; hardwood sprung floor)
Marsee Auditorium: 60' x 45' (Marley floor stage covering) *** Grand Finals Night Show will also be held in this venue ***

TIME LIMIT REQUIREMENTS

Performers have 30 seconds to enter/exit floor. Timing begins with the first beat of music and ends with the last beat of music. Solo & duet/trio routines must be 1:30-2:00 minutes in duration. Team routines must be 2:00-3:00 minutes in duration (Exception: Show Production division allows for a 2:00 minute setup/breakdown & 3:00-5:00 minute routine).

MUSIC REQUIREMENTS (NO COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS)

MDDTUSA allows teams permission to use any family-friendly music they wish (excluding profanity & suggestive lyrics). Directors/Coaches **MUST UPLOAD** all music to our online registration system by **MARCH 1, 2025** to avoid penalty.

COSTUMES & FOOTWEAR

Performance costumes must enhance the theme and/or style of the routine. Costumes must be in good taste, appropriate for a family audience, and approved by the team's Director. With regard to footwear, our preference is performers wear any style of soft/rubber sole shoes; but half-soles/bare feet are permitted.

PROPS AND SETS

Sets must be rubber-tipped! Any damage to facilities or performance floor caused by use of props and/or sets will result in disqualification, with damages charged to the team's school or dance studio/program.

NO VIDEO RECORDING POLICY

Strictly prohibited from the competition space (even if filming your own team or soloist). This strictly-enforced policy is intended to protect the choreographic originality & integrity of each routine. Please advise team members, spectators, and family members regarding this rule. Professional quality video packages can be purchased from our on-site vendor.

SCORESHEETS & JUDGES' AUDIO CRITIQUES

Directors will receive all scoresheets at the conclusion of the awards ceremony when they sign out with competition staff (after the Grand Finals Night Show). Judges audio critiques will be uploaded to the team's registration account on or before **MARCH 24, 2025**

MDDT NATIONALS

GRAND FINALS (NIGHT SHOW & AWARDS)

AWARDS INFORMATION

Trophies/Plaques are presented to approximately half the total number of entries in each division. All first place U.S. national championship winning teams receive a special high-quality trophy and banner. National solo title contestants win a variety of prestigious awards and cash scholarships.

PRODUCER'S AWARDS & SPECIALTY AWARDS

Special recognition for Best Choreography, Best Technique & Best Performance are presented, as well as special awards for U.S. Solo Title Championship contestants and visiting international teams.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (MDDT INTERNATIONAL TITLES)

At MDDT Dance Team Nationals, U.S. high school team routines competing in divisions against visiting teams from foreign countries are awarded international trophies and world championship title recognition. The winning team in any international division wins a world championship trophy and banner. The highest scoring U.S. team in any international division also receives a U.S. national championship banner, to further recognize their U.S. national title win.

Top 3 placement teams in any division qualify for MDDT Dance Team World Championships in Tokyo, Japan (Bid is eligible for two years). This exciting international travel opportunity promises an incredible experience for U.S. dance teams & families to enjoy. More details sent to qualifying teams following MDDT Dance Team Nationals!

U.S. GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

During the Grand Finals Night Show, the Top (10) scoring first place high school teams from the entire MDDT Dance Team Nationals weekend will be announced. These Top (10) teams advance to the Grand National Championship Finals round throughout the evening. Teams competing in the Grand Finals are scored by our judges (previous scores are wiped). During the final award ceremony, the Top (5) team routines receive special awards and recognition. The winning team routine is named U.S. Grand National Champion and will receive a cash prize & more!

Note: In the event that multiple routines from the same team qualify for the final round, only that team's Top (2) scoring routines shall be eligible to compete for the Grand National Championship.

OVERALL SWEEPSTAKES TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

The Overall Sweepstakes Team Championship trophy and cash prize is awarded to the school entering (4) or more "TEAM" routines and totaling the highest average score. In the event of a points tie, the team with the highest number of 1st place winning routines will be named our Overall Sweepstakes Champion.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEAM USA SOLOS (BIDS FOR MDDT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TOKYO, JAPAN)

And now for something truly exciting! Top scoring solos named to **TEAM USA** will earn at-large bids to represent the United States of America at MDDT World Championships in Tokyo, Japan! The following division winners are bid eligible:



- TOP 5: Miss Dance Team USA
- TOP 5: Mr. Dance USA
- TOP 5: Miss Teen Dance Team USA
- TOP 10: Overall - Grade Level Solos (Best of USA)

TEAM USA designees will be invited to participate in our MDDT International program to compete at MDDT Dance Team World Championships in Tokyo, Japan (Summer)! Bids to World Championships for dance solos can only be used during the current year OR following year. More information regarding this international travel opportunity will be provided to our official **TEAM USA** dance soloists following MDDT Dance Team Nationals.

MDDTUSA IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION - FOUNDED IN 1967 BY DR. KAY TEER CRAWFORD

NATIONALS

FEES & PRICING INFORMATION



PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

DANCER REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED)

\$ 30/EACH

TEAM DIVISIONS

DUET/TRIO	\$ 90
MINI OPEN/OFFICER	\$100
SMALL ROUTINE	\$125
MEDIUM ROUTINE	\$150
LARGE ROUTINE	\$175

SOLO DIVISIONS

IMPROV SOLO	\$ 40
GRADE LEVEL SOLO (BEST OF USA)	\$ 90
SOLO TITLE: MISS TEEN DANCE TEAM USA (AGE 13-15)*	\$175
SOLO TITLE: MR. DANCE USA (AGE 16-19)*	\$175
SOLO TITLE: MISS DANCE TEAM USA (AGE 16-19)*	\$200
SOLO TITLE: MISS DANCE TEAM USA-INTERNATIONAL **	\$225

* Triple Threat Master Class Workshop is automatically included for contestants competing in solo title divisions

** Miss Dance Team USA-International contestants simultaneously compete for both the national **and** international championship titles! Their scores automatically roll over to the Miss International division, where they compete for a world championship alongside solos from other countries (judged by an international panel). Soloists advancing to the Top 10 during Grand Finals can improve their scores, but all contestants in the division remain eligible for final placement in the Miss Dance Team International division. Full rules are on our website!

ADD-ONS

TRIPLE THREAT	
MASTER CLASS WORKSHOP	\$ 40
EVENT T-SHIRT	\$ 25
EVENT LONGSLEEVE T-SHIRT	\$ 30

GENERAL ADMISSION & SEATING PRICES

SATURDAY	\$ 15
SUNDAY	\$ 25
SUNDAY VIP SEATING: GENERAL ADMISSION	\$ 35
SUNDAY VIP SEATING: COMPETITOR UPGRADE	\$ 15
2-DAY WRISTBAND (SAVE \$5)	\$ 35
2-DAY WRISTBAND W/VIP SEATING (SAVE \$5)	\$ 45

PAYMENT METHODS

Registration fees are non-refundable. We only accept certified funds, cashier's checks OR school/booster checks. NO personal checks or credit/debit cards. Please make checks for registration fees payable to:

MISS DANCE DRILL TEAM USA
ATTN: U.S. NATIONALS
5318 E. 2ND ST #603
LONG BEACH, CA 90803

registration@mddtusa.com | www.mddtusa.com