

MDDDTUSA

MISS DANCE DRILL TEAM U.S.A.®

TH

ANNIVERSARY

— 1967 ★ 2027 —

NATIONAL

— ★ CHAMPIONSHIPS ★ —

Honor the Past. Celebrate the Present. Inspire the Future.

MARCH 12–14, 2027

SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL ★ SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA

* **TENTATIVE**



SCHEDULE *

MARCH 12-14, 2027 | SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL

FRIDAY

MARCH 12

- SOLO TITLE CONTESTANTS ONLY
- REGISTRATION / ORIENTATION / BRUNCH
- SOLO TITLE SPOTLIGHT & INTERVIEW
- SOLO TITLE PIZZA PARTY / DJ

SATURDAY

MARCH 13

- SOLO TITLE ROUTINES (MR. DANCE & MISS TEEN)
- GRADE LEVEL SOLOS
- IMPROV SOLOS
- DUET / TRIO
- OFFICER / MINI OPEN
- SMALL TEAM DIVISIONS
- AWARDS
- "TRIPLE THREAT" MASTER CLASS DANCE WORKSHOP (OPEN TO PUBLIC)
- FINALS "OPENING NUMBER" REHEARSAL (SOLO TITLE CONTESTANTS ONLY)
- **NEW: COACHES / DIRECTORS RECEPTION**

SUNDAY

MARCH 14

- MISS SOLO TITLE ROUTINES
- MEDIUM / LARGE TEAM DIVISIONS
- 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
- FINAL AWARDS CEREMONY & SPECIAL RECOGNITION

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE | FINAL TIMES PROVIDED TO REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS



MDDT

NATIONALS

TEAM DIVISIONS

TEAM CATEGORIES

- ★ **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.

DIVISION SIZES

CONTEMPORARY • JAZZ • LYRICAL

Small:	6-10 members
Medium:	11-17 members
Large:	18+ members

HIP HOP - FEMALE / OPEN

Small:	6-10 members
Medium:	11-17 members
Large:	18+ members

HIP HOP - MALE

Small:	4-10 members
Medium:	11-17 members
Large:	18+ members

MILITARY • POM/SONG

Small:	6-14 members
Large:	15+ members

SPECIALTY DIVISIONS

Duet/Trio:	2-3 dancers
Mini Open/Officer:	4-5 members
Novelty/Character:	6+ members
Dance/Drill:	6+ members
Kick:	6+ members
Open Dance:	6+ members
Short Flags - Single:	4+ members
Short Flags - Double:	4+ members
Show Production:	25+ members

CASH PRIZES & SPECIAL TEAM AWARDS

- ★ BEST CHOREOGRAPHY
- ★ BEST SHOWMANSHIP
- ★ BEST TECHNIQUE

- ★ U.S. GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
- ★ OVERALL SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPIONSHIP



MDDT

NATIONALS

SOLO DIVISIONS

NATIONALS SOLO CATEGORIES

GRADE LEVEL SOLO (BEST OF USA)

For soloists who wish to compete within their school grade level & preferred style: jazz, lyrical/contemporary, or hip hop. Divisions are separated by school grade & dance genre.

IMPROV SOLO - HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY

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

- ★ **MISS DANCE TEAM USA** **AGE 16-19**
- ★ **MR. DANCE USA** **AGE 16-19**
- ★ **MISS TEEN** **AGE 13-15**

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 are 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!

★ JUDGES QUESTION (15% OF TOTAL SCORE)

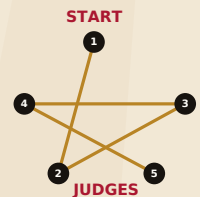
Contestant is scored on their response to an impromptu question from the judges (response must not exceed 45 seconds to avoid penalty). Score is based on confidence, projection, poise, diction & enthusiasm. No notes or props allowed! During prelims, solo title contestants MUST wear their spotlight outfit 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 to be recognized during the Grand Finals awards ceremony.

★ 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 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 relevé, strutting, jazz walks/runs, or dancing).



★ SPOTLIGHT 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.

ACCEPTABLE

- ★ 3/4 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)

UNACCEPTABLE

- ★ 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.





MDDT

NATIONALS

RULES & REGULATIONS

2027 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS | EVENT 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.

Dancers entering the patented U.S. Solo Title Championship division at Nationals must receive a bid at an affiliated regional competition. For dancers in U.S. states without an MDDT-authorized regional dance competition, virtual qualification by video is also available. Email registration@mddtusa.com for information on a virtual Nationals bid, if applicable.

* ONLINE REGISTRATION & RELEASE WAIVER

Each team Director must complete the official MDDTUSA online registration on our website. Use **REGISTER NOW** to enter the team roster, register routines, and upload dancer release forms.

* JUDGING CRITERIA

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

* TIME LIMIT REQUIREMENTS

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

* MUSIC REQUIREMENTS

Music must be family-friendly and exclude profanity or suggestive lyrics. Directors/coaches MUST UPLOAD all music to the online registration system TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE EVENT to avoid penalty.

* COSTUMES & FOOTWEAR

Performance costumes must enhance the theme and/or style of the routine, be in good taste, be appropriate for a family audience, and be approved by the team's Director. Soft/rubber-sole shoes are preferred; half-soles and bare feet are permitted.

* PROPS & SETS

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

* NO VIDEO RECORDING POLICY

Video recording is strictly prohibited in the competition space, even when filming your own team or soloist. This policy protects the choreographic originality and integrity of each routine. Please advise team members, spectators, and families. Professional-quality video packages may be purchased from our on-site vendor.

* SCORESHEETS & JUDGES' AUDIO CRITIQUES

Directors receive scoresheets at the conclusion of the awards ceremony when signing out with competition staff, after the Grand Finals Night Show. Judges' audio critiques are uploaded to the team's registration account 7-10 DAYS POST-EVENT.



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.

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.

MDDT NATIONALS

2027 ENTRY FEES

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

Required fee for each participating dancer

\$30 EACH

TEAM DIVISIONS

DUET / TRIO	\$100
MINI OPEN / OFFICER	\$125
SMALL ROUTINE	\$150
MEDIUM ROUTINE	\$175
LARGE ROUTINE	\$200

ADD-ONS

TRIPLE THREAT MASTER CLASS Workshop	\$50
EVENT T-SHIRT	\$30
EVENT LONG-SLEEVE T-SHIRT	\$40

**THANK YOU FOR BEING PART
OF OUR 60TH YEAR.**

We look forward to seeing you at Nationals.

SOLO DIVISIONS

IMPROV SOLO	\$50
GRADE LEVEL SOLO Best of USA	\$125
MISS TEEN DANCE TEAM USA Solo Title ages 13-15	\$175
MR. DANCE USA Solo Title ages 16-19	\$175
MISS DANCE TEAM USA Solo Title ages 16-19	\$200

GENERAL ADMISSION

SATURDAY	\$25
SUNDAY	\$30
SATURDAY + SUNDAY Two-day pass save \$5	\$50

SENIORS 65+ & CHILDREN UNDER 10

SATURDAY	\$20
SUNDAY	\$25
SATURDAY + SUNDAY	\$40

PAYMENT & REGISTRATION

PAYMENT METHODS

Registration fees are non-refundable.
Certified funds, cashier's checks, and school or
booster checks accepted. No personal checks.

ZEFFY ONLINE PAYMENT IS AVAILABLE TO TEAMS.

Payment details are provided upon registration.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO

MISS DANCE DRILL TEAM USA

ATTN: MDDT NATIONALS

5318 E. 2ND ST. #603

LONG BEACH, CA 90803

REGISTER NOW

YOUR SAN MARCOS HOME BASE

MARCH 12-14, 2027 | SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL

Between performances, explore scenic trails, Lake San Marcos, local dining and the North County coast. From the hills to the Pacific, Southern California is ready to welcome your team and family.

DOUBLE PEAK PARK

NORTH CITY

LAKE SAN MARCOS

NORTH COUNTY COAST

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ATTRACTIONS

PARKS | WILDLIFE | COAST



SAN DIEGO ZOO SAFARI PARK



LEGOLAND CALIFORNIA



SEAWORLD SAN DIEGO



BELMONT PARK



BALBOA PARK



LA JOLLA COVE

MORE TO EXPLORE:

SAN DIEGO ZOO

BEACHES & COASTAL TOWNS

ORANGE COUNTY DAY TRIP

PLAN FOR TRAFFIC



DISNEYLAND RESORT



KNOTT'S BERRY FARM

Make a day of the parks, shopping or beaches if your competition schedule allows.

Check official operating calendars and travel conditions before visiting.