

31st Canberra Dance Festival 2025

Website: canberradancefestival.com

Over \$20,000+ in Cash and Prizes

Adjudicators

Catrina Ralph
Sarah Bakker (Troupes)

Dates

5-9, 12-15 June 2025

Troupe Dates

7-8 June 2025

Venue

Erindale Theatre, McBride Cres, Wanniasa ACT

*Dates and venues are subject to change

Entry Fees

Solo - \$25.00

Duo/Trios - \$30

Scholarships (Youth) - \$50.00

Scholarships (Junior & Senior) - \$80.00 (includes Scholarship Class)

Groups - \$40.00

Administration fee - \$25 per competitor

Online registration via: canberradancefestival.com

(No Entries will be accepted without payment)

Correspondence

If you have questions check the syllabus first, then ask your studio manager as they may have the answer.

Only studio managers are to contact the CDF Committee.

All information regarding scheduling and the competition will be either on the website or will be sent to you by email with the subject line 'CDF Important Information' ensure to check your Junk/Spam folder.

We look forward to seeing you at the Festival

Rules and Conditions

All correspondence with the Canberra Dance Festival (CDF) Committee must come from your studio manager.

1. General Information:

- CDF can overrule any of the below rules at any time. CDF shall decide on any matter not covered by these rules, and its decision on any questions or dispute shall be final
- Competitors enter at their own risk. CDF accepts no responsibility for a loss of property, accident or injury to any persons associated with the event, either as a competitor, volunteer, or a member of the general public, at any time
- No prompting during any performance to 'coach' the entrant, except by the adjudicator
- No competitor over 10 can re-attempt a routine unless at the request of the adjudicator
- Sections with less than 3 entries will be combined with similar styles, categories or age groups
- No repertoire in any section is permitted except for the ballet variation sections
- Rosin is not to be used during CDF.
- CDF reserves the right to change competition days and locations due to unforeseen circumstances, and entries will not be refunded

2. Adjudicator:

- The adjudicator's decision is final
- No one is to approach or speak to the adjudicator or adjudicator table staff
- If an adjudicator is unable to perform their duties, CDF will appoint a new adjudicator.

3. Entries:

- Entries close when competition is full
- Entries can only be made via the online portal, payment is by credit card. Please note, a small surcharge will be applied upon checkout.
- Entry fees:
 - \$25 Administration fee per competitor
 - \$25 per solo routine
 - \$30 per duo/trio routine
 - \$40 per group routine
 - \$50 per Youth Scholarship entry
 - \$80 per Junior, Intermediate and Senior Scholarship entry (includes class)
- All entries include the following items for the entrant: digital program, audio critique, free door entry (does not include group sections)

4. Age Groups:

- Solo, Duo/Trios and Scholarships Age is the first day of the competition: 5 June 2025
- Group age is taken from 1st January 2025
- Duos/trios and groups must dance at the age of the oldest competitor
- Competitors can compete up one age group in solos and duos/trios (not scholarships) only if the section is not offered in their age group
- Proof of age must be available for each competitor if requested by CDF.

5. Categories:

- **Solos:** soloists may only dance once in a section.
- **Restricted:** Competitors who have never won a first prize in that section at any age (except 6 & under and 18 & over) at any competition, Festival or Eisteddfod up to the closing date of the entries. The restriction applies to the section title, not to the competitor's routine.
- **Open:** Competitors who have won first prize in that section in any age group (except 6/u and 18/o) at any competition up to the closing date of the entries. Competitors may enter the open category if they have not won a restricted section in that section.
- **Additional Needs:** This section is for performers with special needs.
- **Duos/Trios:** Competitors may dance up to 2 times but with different partners per section. Competitors must enter at the age of the eldest competitor. Entries must include all competitors' names.
- **Groups:**
 - Minimum of four dancers
 - Maximum of three groups per studio per section
 - All dancers must be amateur performers - exception adult groups
 - Each group receives recordings of the adjudicator's comments, marking sheets and a trophy. Presentations will be onstage at the conclusion of each session
 - You do not need to enter each dancer's name into [MyCompHQ](#) for group sections
 - Instead of awarding prizes, groups are given a ranking from the adjudicator, as follows:
 - Highly Commended (up to 65 points)
 - Excellence (66 to 80 points)
 - Outstanding (81 to 90 points)
 - Superior (91 points and up).

6. Styles (no Repertoire in any dance permitted, except Ballet Variation sections):

- Ballet - choreography must contain ballet technique and steps
- Ballet Variation - a repertoire solo, for example, Sugar Plum Fairy or Siegfried
- Demi Character - must involve or resemble a character dance that uses classical technique as a basis for interpretation
- National Character - may also include Dutch Clog, Irish, Highland and Scottish
- Commercial Contemporary - a fusion of contemporary technique with commercial dance elements, featuring dynamic movement, sharp accents, and strong performance quality.
- Traditional Contemporary - classical and modern techniques, with emphasises on fluidity, control, strength and seamless movement
- Jazz - choreography containing movements based on Jazz Technique
Broadway Jazz - should contain jazz techniques in a cabaret style song
- Musical Theatre - a live presentation from a stage or film musical. Can include singing, dialogue and dance.
- Lyrical - choreography containing expressive movements through interpretation of a song's lyrics
- Tap - any style or tempo of tap (No pre-recorded tapping sound routines)
- Song & Dance - The routine must contain both singing and dancing. Vocal backing is not allowed in the 'vocal' portion of the routine. However, vocals may be included when dancing
- Acrobatic - combines dance technique with precision acrobatic elements
- Hip Hop - choreography containing the foundations of hip hop.

7. Scholarships

Competitors entering a scholarship must qualify by dancing in open solo sections relevant to their scholarship, attend a class if relevant to their age group and perform a scholarship solo.

Age Group	Open solo section/s required to qualify	Attend Class to qualify	Perform scholarship solo (no repeats)
Youth - 10/under	1 section	No	1
Junior - 12/under	2 sections	Yes	1
Intermediate - 14/under	2 sections	Yes	1
Senior - 15/over	2 sections	Yes	1

Solo and Scholarship dances:

- You must appear at your scheduled time and cannot dance out of order to qualify
- You cannot perform out of order in your scholarship dance section.

Theatrical Scholarship details:

Qualifying Solo dance/s:

- Slow Tap, Fast Tap, Waltz tap, Jazz, Broadway Jazz, Musical Theatre, Lyrical, Hip Hop or Song and Dance.

Scholarship dance:

- Slow Tap, Fast Tap, Waltz tap, Jazz, Broadway Jazz, Musical Theatre, Lyrical, Hip Hop or Song and Dance. No Repertoire and no repeats.

Class:

- Will be a theatrical jazz class
- No black shoes, black soles or sneakers are to be worn. Light coloured dance shoes or bare feet are acceptable.
- Black leotard, crop top or shorts must be worn.

Classical Scholarship details:

Qualifying Solos dance/s:

- Ballet, Demi-Character, Commercial Contemporary, Traditional Contemporary, National Character.

Scholarship dance:

- Classical Ballet solo. No Repertoire and no repeats.

Class:

- Pink or white ballet shoes to be worn
- Black leotards must be worn. Skirts and shorts are not permitted

8. Time Limits:

- Competitors exceeding these limits (including taking on and off props) will be penalised
- Solos and Duos/Trios - 3 minutes
- Song and dance (solos/duo/trios) - 3.5 minutes
- Groups - 5 minutes. Production Groups - 10 minutes.

9. Props:

- Props can be used. It is the entrant's responsibility to bring them on/off the stage
- CDF takes no responsibility for any props left at the theatre.

10. Prizes and Awards:

- Solo, duo/trio sections will be awarded as follows:
 - 1 - 3 competitors - 1 prize
 - 4 - 8 competitors - 2 prizes
 - 9 - 14 competitors - 3 prizes
 - 15 - 20 competitors - 4 prizes
 - 21+ competitors - 5 prizes
- Number of places/awards depends on entries and entrants on the day
- 6/u receive trophies, medals and ribbons
- 8/u and above receive cash prizes, scholarships, gift cards, medals and ribbons
- Scholarship - Cash prizes and trophy for winner and runner-up
- Groups will receive a trophy and report with a ranking and score
- The Adjudicator may withhold any placing if they feel a suitable standard has not been met.
- Perpetual awards must be returned before the commencement of the next competition:
 - Audrey Callanan Theatrical Award (Encouragement Award for Theatrical Dancer)
 - Betsy Sawers Classical Award (Encouragement Award for Classical Dancer).

11. Music:

- Music is only to be uploaded to [MyCompHQ](#)
- No backup vocals are permitted during a singing section of the song and dance, song and tap
- CDF will not be held responsible for any infringement of copyright, royalty or privacy laws by individual performers or persons associated with the performance
- Performers are responsible for having backup music (backup on a USB, phone or laptop).

12. Critiques:

- Audio critiques will be uploaded to the performer's portal on [MyCompHQ](#).

13. Backstage:

- Check-in at the front desk upon arrival at the venue 60 minutes before you dance
- Check in backstage before your section
- All performers must always follow the direction of backstage crew members
- During scholarship sections, only scholarship participants will be allowed backstage.

14. Admittance:

- Studios are eligible for 5 teacher passes, we will provide information on where to pick them up
- Competitors admitted free of charge on days they are competing, excluding troupe sessions
- General admission prices are listed below (all entry prices are per session):
 - Adults per Session \$20.00
 - Concession per session \$15.00
 - Adult Day pass excluding Group days \$50
 - Concession Day pass excluding Group days \$35

15. Photography & Video:

- Professional Photography and Video services will be available for purchase in the foyer.
- The theatre prohibits the use of photography, videography or any recording device within the theatre ,including the dressing rooms. Failure to comply with this regulation contravenes copyright and privacy regulations and will result in immediate disqualification.

Canberra Dance Festival

2025 Sponsorship

We are asking for your sponsorship for our eisteddfod the Canberra Dance Festival 2025, which has attracted local and interstate dancers for 31 years. The competition runs from June 5th to 15th.

We are seeking monetary donations, voucher donations and dancewear/costume items for competitor prizes and scholarships.

To participate, please reply here or email your business artwork to canberradancefestival@gmail.com by 14 May 2025. Please also send your logo or social media tile as soon as possible.

CDF will advertise you on our social media, website, online timetable and printed program. If you provide promotional material, we will display this at the festival. The MC will also acknowledge your business during the competition.

We welcome dancewear stallholders to attend our competitions and showcase their products.

We also offer advertising space in our online program at the following rates:

- \$75 for 1/4 page (minimum size 145mm wide x 52mm high)
- \$150 for 1/2 page (minimum size 145mm wide by 115mm high)
- \$300 for a full page (190mm wide x 277mm high)

We also extend an invitation to dance merchandise stallholders to participate. Particularly the 2 group days on Saturday and Sunday, which have the highest number of competitors and spectators.

You can also provide promotional material for display during the competition.

Our MC will acknowledge your business throughout the festival and your logo/advertisement will be displayed in our online and printed programs. If you sponsor prizes for specific sections or scholarships, this will be noted.

How to get involved

Email your details, logo or advertisement artwork to: canberradancefestival@gmail.com