

GENERAL DIVISIONS:

All entry forms must be completed in their entirety and postmarked by our 30-day deadline. If forms are not complete, they will be sent back via mail to the studio owner. No entries will be processed without full payment. Space is limited, as Ignite! NY is a full 1-day event. If there are any changes to the original entry's number of contestants, please let us know as soon as possible as division placement is dependant upon the number of contestants who actually perform the routine at the competition. The schedule will be available 10 days prior to the competition. If the directors of Ignite! NY do not deem a change requested by the studio director necessary, the change will not be made. No changes can be made to the schedule during the event. An entry that is unable to perform within its scheduled time may be adjudicated only. There will be no cash refunds. If a participant supplies the Ignite! office with a legitimate letter from a doctor prior by mail or fax, a studio credit will be issued. No studio credits will be issued during the event.

TIME LIMITS:

- Solo ===== 3 Minutes
- Duo/Trio ===== 3 Minutes
- Small Group (4-9) ===== 3 Minutes
- Large Group (10-19) == 4 Minutes
- Line (20+) ===== 4 Minutes
- Production (20+) ===== 5-8 Minutes

*** Overtime will result in an automatic 3-point deduction.

REGISTRATION:

All fees are due with fully completed Entry Forms postmarked 30 days prior to the competition date. Absolutely NO phone, fax or e-mail entries will be accepted. Mail entries only. We encourage you to mail your entries in 40 days prior to the competition date, as the studio owner can take 10% off of their total entries. Names of all contestants, as well as parent/guardian signatures must appear on the official Master Contestant List and sent into the Ignite office with the entries. All competition fees are to be submitted on (1) studio business check. ABSOLUTELY NO CASH REFUNDS! No Independent entries are accepted at this time. No entries will be processed without full payment. Make all checks payable to: Ignite! NY.

MUSIC:

Provide 1 professional quality recording, CD preferred, for each entry at the competition. A back-up recording must be available for all entries. All music must be recorded at the proper speed. There must be only one routine per tape/CD, properly cued at the beginning of the song with no more than 5 seconds lead-time. Ignite! NY music labels (studio code, entry number and name of routine) will be mailed to the studio in the confirmation packets. All music MUST be submitted to the judge's table no later than 60 minutes prior to the performance. Music can be picked up at the Judge's table at the conclusion of the presentation of awards. Feel free to send us your music early to ensure skip-free playback at Ignite! NY. Make sure to test your music in a CD/Tape player before providing it to us at the competition.

*** A 2-point deduction will be made for improperly cued music.

EXPECTATION:

Ignite! NY reserves the right to turn away registrations that are late and/or may over-capacitate the venue requirements. We strongly suggest that all paperwork and fees be submitted as early as possible to ensure acceptance of your entries. Admission is free and doors will open exactly 30 minutes prior to the first performance time.

AGE DIVISIONS:

All regional ages are as of the first day of the scheduled regional competition date. To reach the average age of an entry, add all of the ages together and divide by the number of dancers in the entry. When an average age ends in .5 or above, round up to the next age. Names and ages of all dancers must appear on the entry form or it will not be accepted and will be sent back to the studio director. If an entry contains dancers ranging in age from 9-18, the average age is 12.5; therefore the dancers will compete in the Teen division.

Baby ===== 6 and Under

Mini ===== 7 - 9

Junior === 10 - 12

Teen ===== 13 - 15

Senior === 16 - 18

Adult ===== 19 and Up

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES:

Judges have the right to change the entry's category if it has been entered incorrectly. Any entry with 3 or more acrobatic/gymnastic tricks must be entered into the acrobatic category.

Jazz - A routine that consists of primarily jazz technique, utilizing uptempo music.

Ballet - A routine that consists of classical technique, steps, and movements. Ballet slippers only.

Pointe - A routine that consists of classical and/or contemporary ballet/pointe technique. Pointe shoes only.

Tap - A routine that consists of tap technique. Tap shoes only.

Lyrical - A routine that consists of jazz and ballet technique - emphasizing strength, control, and interpretation.

Musical Theatre - A routine that utilizes a Broadway or a Movie Musical song incorporating dance, characters and/or costumes.

Open - A routine that consists of all other categories, baton, folkloric, cheerleading, bellydance, ballroom, novelty, etc.

Hip Hop - A routine that consists of street, funk, MTV video style jazz technique.

Contemporary - A routine that consists of modern and ballet technique, reaching beyond the standard jazz vocabulary.

Song and Dance - A routine consisting of a live vocal performance and dance (50 percent dance, 50 percent singing). No lip-sync. The singing may have back up vocal accompaniment only.

Adagio - A routine that may consist of any style of dance with an emphasis on partnering skills.

Acro - A routine that consists primarily of gymnastics and acrobatic passes while incorporating dance (50 percent dance, 50 percent acrobatics)

Vocal - A vocal performance with an emphasis on singing ability. No lead vocals permitted on tape; backup voices only will be permitted.

Character - A routine that portrays a character that is easily recognizable, i.e., a movie, play, television, Broadway, cartoon character, or a stereotype such as a cowboy, doctor, animal, etc. Lip sync is acceptable.

Clogging - Consists of clogging technique.

PERFORMANCE LEVELS:

PRIMARY: These dancers spend under (3) hours per week in training and rehearsing at 1 or more studios. It is designed to let novice dancers get a feel for competition, the stage, audiences, and adjudication. They will win ribbons, medals, and special awards in the same fashion as the elite level, however, they are not eligible to win high score awards or compete in the Dance-Off and Title Competition.

ELITE: These dancers spend (4+) hours per week in training and rehearsing at 1 or more studios. They will win ribbons, medals, special awards, high score trophies, as well as have the opportunity to compete in the Dance-Off and Title Competition.

PROFESSIONAL: These dancers spend (20+) hours per week in training and rehearsing at 1 or more studios. Professional dancers must be entered into the Professional Category. They will win ribbons, medals, and special awards in the same fashion as the elite level; however, they are not eligible to win high score awards and compete in the Dance-Off and Title Competition.

*** Teachers, we are counting on you to be honest in placing your students in the correct performance level. Critiques will be geared toward the appropriate level of instruction. If we feel an entry was placed in Primary and should be in Elite, the judges have the sole discretion to move the entry "up" into another level.

IGNITE! NY TITLE AWARDS:

The following Ignite! Titles will be recognized in each competition region:

Mr. & Miss Baby Ignite NY (ages 6 & under)

Mr. & Miss Mini Ignite NY (ages 7-9)

Mr. & Miss Junior Ignite NY (ages 10-12)

Mr. & Miss Teen Ignite NY (ages 13-15)

Mr. & Miss Senior Ignite NY (ages 16-18)

ENTRY FEES:

Solo: \$75.00

Duet/Trio: \$45.00 per dancer

Small Group: \$30.00 per dancer

Large Group: \$30.00 per dancer

Line: \$30.00 per dancer

Production: \$30.00 per dancer

COMPETITION REGULATIONS:

1. No limit to the overall number of entries a studio may submit; however competing dancers cannot compete against themselves. Routines entered in the same category must have a 50% change in participants, in regards to groups, duos, and trios (only 1 person in trio must change).
2. Soloists are not limited to the number of solo entries; however, the soloist may not compete against himself/herself.
3. Competing dancers may compete for one studio only.
4. If a dancer leaves the stage during the performance, the routine will be judged on the portion of the routine performed. The dancer(s) are unable to perform the routine a second time
5. No dangerous props may be used during the competition (swords, fire, etc.). Excessive scenery and special lighting may not be used. General props are allowed; however if they require more than 30 seconds to set up/strike, a 5-point deduction will be enforced. Have a clean-up crew ready for any "litter" left on stage.
6. Tap sounds on the recordings of tap numbers will result in a 2-point deduction.
7. Vocalists must use a handheld wireless microphone provided by Ignite! NY. No supplemental sound equipment permitted.
8. Competing dancers should be ready 30 minutes prior to their scheduled competition time. If the competition is running ahead of schedule, you will be expected to perform.
9. Competing dancers must perform in the scheduled sequence. Intentional manipulation of the performance schedule will result in disqualification.
10. Music, choreography, and costumes that are not considered family friendly by the judges will be penalized.
11. Routines are primarily judged based on artistically interesting choreography, smooth transitions in movement, and technique.
12. 1st Place Winners and Title Winners cannot compete the same routine at another regional competition.
13. Any studio, dancer or parent that abuses the designated dressing area will be disqualified. All participants are responsible for cleaning their area and properly disposing of all garbage.
14. Contestants must check in with our Stage Manager and perform in scheduled order unless special permission is granted by our Stage Manager.
15. If a dancer does not have enough time between numbers to change costumes, the dance teacher of the student must advise the backstage manager. If the backstage manager is not notified of the problem and the dancer is not ready, points will be deducted.
16. No smoking is permitted in any of our venues.

17. No cash refunds will be issued for any reason.

18. Ignite! NY and the hosting venues are not responsible for personal injury or property loss to contestants or spectators. Sportsmanlike behavior is expected from Ignite! NY contestants, teachers, and families, and failure to comply with this could result in disqualification, as well as not having the opportunity to compete with us next year.

CONFIRMATIONS:

Confirmation packages will be mailed to each studio within 7-10 days of the competition. The package will include your confirmation letter, hotel information, studio code, music labels, competition running order, weekend schedule of events, as well as directions to the competition venue and directions to the hotel.

VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY:

There will be no Videotaping and Photography services provided at the event this year.

All dancers authorize the use of their image in photos and video for Ignite! NY publicity and advertisement purposes.

ADMISSION:

Admission to the competition is free.

Audience will be allowed to enter and exit between numbers only.

Absolutely no visual coaching is allowed.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Ability 40 percent

Performance and Interpretation 30 percent

Choreography and Musicality 20 percent

Overall Appearance 10 percent

*** All decisions by the panel of judges will be final.

SCORING:

Three qualified judges adjudicate all entries.

The special awards judge will be asked to break all ties.

Awards will be presented to all competing entries to meet the Platinum, Gold, High Silver, Silver, Bronze, and Honorable Mention criteria.

Platinum, Gold, High Silver, Silver, Bronze and Honorable Mention awards will be presented based on the following combined scores:

PLATINUM 290-300

GOLD 282-289

HIGH SILVER 276-281

SILVER 264-275

BRONZE 240-263

HONORABLE MENTION 216-239

Judges' score sheets and critiques may be picked up at the Judge's Table following each awards ceremony. These items will be given to the teacher only.

OVERALL AWARDS:

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place medals will be presented in ALL divisions that meet the following criteria:

1st Place - division must have 3 or more entries.

2nd Place - division must have 5 or more entries.

3rd Place - division must have 7 or more entries.

Adjudication ribbons will be awarded to ALL contestants in a Solo, Duet/Trio, Group, Line, or Production achieving a Platinum, Gold, High Silver, Silver, or Bronze performance level. The top scoring dancers in the "Elite" level are eligible to compete in the Dance Off for the Best Performance Award. High score trophies are only given to the "Elite" top scoring performers.

DANCE OFF:

Overall Top 3 Duos/Trios of the day will be announced for both the 12 & under and 13 & over divisions. Winner receives \$100 Gift Certificate.

Overall Top 3 Small Groups of the day will be announced for both the 12 & under and 13 & over divisions. Winner receives \$100 Gift Certificate.

Overall Top 3 Large Groups of the day will be announced for both the 12 & under and 13 & over divisions. Winner receives \$100 Gift Certificate.

Overall Top 3 Productions of the day will be announced for both the 12 & under and 13 & over divisions. Winner receives \$150 Gift Certificate.

Overall Top 3 Lines of the day will be announced for both the 12 & under and 13 & over divisions. Winner receives \$150 Gift Certificate.

The Winner from each division will go on to perform in the nightly Dance Off! i.e., 1 duo/trio, 1 small group, 1 large group, 1 production, and 1 line, will perform again. The Winning Routine will take home the BEST PERFORMANCE award.

The judges will take the audience applause, comments, and point system into consideration, when choosing the BEST PERFORMANCE of the day.

The Dance Off will take place after a FULL day of routines. The Dance Off will begin around 7PM, and both 12 & under, and 13 & over winners will dance at that time.

*** Teachers, if your routine competes in the nightly dance-off, please tell your dancers that they will need to compete one more time in the evening. Please notify your studio parents and dancers to bring their studio spirit to the Dance-off. Also, there is a LIVE critique following the performance.

IGNITE! NY TITLE COMPETITION:

All soloists, except primary, professionals and vocal solos, are eligible to win the title.

Ass soloists entered in the Elite category will be judged for the title at the same time they compete their solo.

Title Winners may not compete the same routine in another city the same season or at all the following season.

The Winner will receive a number of prizes (crown/cap, sash, 4 ft tall trophy) as well as the title of Miss/Mr. Ignite.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

The Class Act Award: The judges will acknowledge the one studio that consistently presents their dancers in an age-appropriate, professional, and classy manner. The studio director and teachers will be awarded, as well as receiving a \$100 IGNITE NY Gift Certificate to compete next year with us. We appreciate studio directors who encourage their dancers to have fun and dance for all the right reasons!

The Technical Excellence Award: The judges will acknowledge one studio with exemplary technical ability. The judges will determine who will win this based on a high technique score of the competition. The studio director and teachers will be awarded, as well as receiving a \$100 IGNITE NY Gift Certificate to compete with us next year.

The Broadway Award: The judges will acknowledge the one studio they feel demonstrates outstanding entertainment qualities. The studio director will be awarded, as well as receiving a \$100 IGNITE NY Gift Certificate to compete with us next year.

Best Choreography Award: The judges will acknowledge the studio that displayed exemplary choreography and unique ideas to a particular group or line. The choreographer will be awarded, as well as receiving a \$100 IGNITE NY Gift Certificate to compete with us next year.

**** Many other Judges Awards will be presented each weekend - at the discretion of the judges.