



# TEACHER GUIDE

Here is all of the info you need to set your routines up for success at SHINE!

**Have questions?**

Email us at  
[register@shinedancefestival.com](mailto:register@shinedancefestival.com)

# EFFECTIVE SCORING

We believe honest scoring builds motivated and resilient dancers. At Shine, non-inflated scores mean each award has value and meaning. An average of judges scores determines medal standing.

- ★ Every dancer in a routine receives a medal based on its average score.
- ★ Each adjudicator provides a mark out of 100 for each routine based on the breakdown below:

## **SKILL /50%**

Strength, Technique, Timing, Precision, Unison

## **PRESENTATION /50%**

Energy, Commitment, Connection, Impact, Style, Storytelling

## **DEDUCTIONS:**

Point deductions may be applied for **CHOREOGRAPHY, CONCEPT, COSTUME, or MUSIC deemed unsafe or inappropriate** for the dancers age/level/or for a family audience.

## MEDAL STANDINGS

Adjudicators are instructed to use the full spectrum of medals from bronze to pro platinum, and are advised to award platinums with careful consideration.

### **PRO PLATINUM: 95 & ABOVE**

Professional Performance

### **PLATINUM: 90-94.99**

Exceptional Performance

### **GOLD: 85 TO 89.99**

Commendable performance

### **SILVER: 80 TO 84.99**

Satisfactory Performance

### **BRONZE: 75 TO 79.99**

Basic Performance

- ★ Dancers who earn 2 or more platinum solo awards at one event **MUST** be bumped up a level the next competition year.

# LEVELS

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Levels provide the opportunity to focus on healthy, continuous growth by grouping dancers based on comparable skill level. Studios must assign a level to each dancer that applies to all disciplines. **We rely on honesty and integrity when entering dancer levels to promote a fair and encouraging competition experience for everyone.** We recognize that each dancer's journey is unique and ask studios to **contact us to regarding dancers who may not fit the level description on the table below.**

LEVEL	AGE	DESCRIPTION
<b>RISING STAR</b>	<b>9 &amp; UNDER</b>	A positive introduction for a dancer's first year of competition. <b>MAXIMUM 2 entries/dancer.</b>
<b>NOVICE</b>	<b>18 &amp; UNDER</b>	For dancers who train fewer than 6 hours/week and are in their first or second year of competition. <b>MAXIMUM 5 entries/dancer.</b>
<b>COMPETITIVE</b>	<b>18 &amp; UNDER</b>	For dancers who have 2+ years of performance and/or competition experience. <b>MAXIMUM 10 entries/dancer</b>
<b>ELITE</b>	<b>13-18 YRS</b>	For dancers <b>age 13+</b> who meet any of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ Are performing in 11+ routines this season.</li><li>★ Train 10+ hrs/week.</li><li>★ Are part of an elite level team.</li><li>★ Are enrolled in a half day dance training program.</li><li>★ Train with a professional company.</li><li>★ Are paid for choreography, teaching, or performance.</li></ul>
<b>JUST FOR FUN</b>	<b>19 &amp; OVER</b>	<b>FOR ADULTS AND TEACHERS AGE 19+.</b>

\* Our system calculates levels for duos and groups.

\* Rising Star and Novice routines are NOT eligible for Cash Awards or TOP 10 Dancer or TOP 10 Challenge For Charity.

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# DISCIPLINES-DANCE DIVISION

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## OPEN

A routine comprised of at least 50% dance movement in any style or combination of styles.

## CLASSICAL BALLET

A routine based strictly on classical ballet steps and technique.

## CHARACTER BALLET

A demi-character or character routine comprised of ballet steps and technique that portrays a theme, character or story line.

## VARIATION

A variation on a traditional choreographic work.

## POINTE + CLASSICAL, CHARACTER, VARIATION, CONTEMPORARY, OPEN

Any routine danced wholly or partially on pointe must be entered into its pointe category ie: Pointe Classical, Pointe Open

## FOLKLORIC

A routine that is a historical expression of a people/culture.

## CONTEMPORARY

A routine that fuses genres and dance techniques, and explores new movement.

## MODERN

A routine based on modern dance techniques such as Graham, Horton, or Limon.

## LYRICAL

A routine based in ballet and jazz technique that expresses song lyrics through a connection between movement, musicality and storytelling.

## JAZZ

A routine consisting of at least 85% jazz technique.

## TAP

A routine consisting of 85% tap technique. No pre-recorded tap sounds permitted.

## VARIETY

A routine involving a theme, character or story line. Lip synching is permitted.

## TRIPLE THREAT

Our song & dance category for theatrical routines that include singing, dancing and acting. Pre-recorded singing of melody and lip-synching are not permitted.

## STREET

A routine with movement vocabulary which emerged outside of the dance studio and features groove, character, originality, intention, creativity and social interaction, including: Hip Hop, House, Popping, Locking, Voguing, and Breaking.

**A LIMIT OF 3 ACRO ELEMENTS applies to all routines outside of the Acro Division. [Learn More](#)**

# DISCIPLINES-ACRO DIVISION

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## ACRO DANCE

A dance routine that seamlessly blends acrobatics with dance through flowing transitions and formation changes and expression of emotion and musicality. An Acro dance routine should include a balance of dance with approximately 50-60% acrobatics.

## ACROBATICS

A routine primarily composed of acrobatics that may include unlimited contortion, tumbling, gymnastics as well as dance. This is the category for any routine comprised of more than 60% acrobatic elements.

## CIRQUE

A routine that features circus skills and/or apparatus including hand balancing, juggling, unicycle, hula hoop, canes, or cubes MUST be entered in the cirque category. For safety reasons, rig, aerial silks/tissu, lyra/hoop, trapeze, and other apparatus that suspend performers above the ground are not permitted.

**PLEASE REVIEW IMPORTANT SAFETY UPDATES.**

## ★ ACRO DIVISION AWARDS

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- ★ Routines will be categorized by age, level, and group size and may be combined.
- ★ The Acro Division will have its own Overall Solo, Duo, and Group awards including cash/credit for highest scoring routines in the competitive and elite levels (the number of placements and awards will be based on number of entries).
- ★ Scholarships to Circus Lab, ADTA, and Acrobatic Arts will be awarded in the Acro Division.
- ★ ELITE and COMPETITIVE Routines in the Acro division are eligible for TOP 10 Dancers and the TOP 10 Groups Challenge for Charity.
- ★ Dancers who earn a place in the TOP 10 Dancers or win the Challenge for Charity for an Acro routine MUST also be entered in the Dance Division to be granted access to the TOP 10 Intensive.

# ACRO LIMITS

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**There is a 3 Acro element/routine limit for ALL routines outside of the Acro Division.**

Acro elements include:

- cartwheels
  - handstands
  - walkovers
  - arial variations
  - limbering
  - tumbling
  - contortion
- ★ When multiple dancers perform the same element at/or around the same time it is considered one element.
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- ★ A tumbling pass is considered one element.
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- ★ There is NO LIMIT on Acro elements in the Acrobatics or Cirque categories.

**A 2-POINT DEDUCTION WILL APPLY TO ROUTINES THAT EXCEED THE LIMIT.**

# SAFETY

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- ★ Safety and wellness is a TOP priority at Shine. A deduction may be applied to any routine where costume, choreography, concept, or music is deemed unsafe.
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- ★ A spotter is required to stand backstage for the entire routine when a performer is over 6 feet above the ground on a prop/set or in a lift.
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- ★ A dancer may not be more than 6 feet above the ground on a prop or set without the apparatus passing an engineering inspection.
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- ★ Set up time for apparatus and props MUST be included in the "NOTES" field at the time of registration to ensure adequate time is scheduled for safe set up.
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- ★ Rig, aerial silks/tissu, lyra/hoop, trapeze, and other apparatus that suspend performers above the ground are not permitted.
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# PROPS

- ★ Props are allowed in any category.
- ★ Use of the loading bay for large props must be included in the **"NOTES"** field when registering routines so we can factor it in to our scheduling.
- ★ Props and sets must be free-standing and engineered for safety. \*See important safety guidelines for props.
- ★ Routines featuring apparatus including unicycle, hula hoop, canes, or cubes **MUST** be entered in the cirque category.
- ★ Prop set up and strike must take place within the allotted time limit OR extra time must be registered and paid for. Entries that run overtime at the event due to props will incur a \$100/minute overtime penalty.
- ★ A \$50 charge will be incurred for any substance that alters the condition of the stage or imposes risk to people or equipment. This includes sprays, liquids, glitter, hay and balloons.

★ **If extra time is required for ANY reason you must enter the details in the "NOTES" field when registering the routine, including:**

- setting props
- hair, make-up, or costume changes
- clearing the stage of props, accessories, petals, paint, feathers, etc...

# SPECIAL CATEGORIES

## Routines in our stand-alone Special Categories:

- ★ Are grouped into one category regardless of age, level, or discipline.
- ★ Receive a medal based on score and are eligible for Choreography & Shine Bright Awards.
- ★ Are eligible for placement in their stand-alone special category.
- ★ Are NOT eligible for overall awards including TOP 10 Dancer or TOP 10 Group.

## JUST FOR FUN

Our amateur adult category for routines with an average age of 19+.

## EMERGING CHOREOGRAPHER

For COMPETITIVE and ELITE students to develop their choreography skills. Choreography must be entirely original. It may be a solo, duo or group. Comments & scoring will be based on choreography skills and performance.

**AWARD: TOP 10 Intensive Invitation**

## PRODUCTION

A production has 15 or more dancers, is 5 to 15 minutes in length and may include a variety of disciplines. Please include the following details in the **"NOTES"** field when registering the routine:

- ★ Loading bay parking required: Y/N
- ★ Time required to load in props:
- ★ On-stage set up time required:
- ★ Length of routine (from first appearance of dancers on stage).
- ★ On-stage prop strike time required:
- ★ Time required to load out props:
- ★ Describe props:
- ★ Describe quick changes and run-arounds:



# CATEGORIES & TIME LIMITS

We value your time and are known for running on schedule. When timing your routines, **PLEASE INCLUDE: entrance, exit and props.** Extra time is always available for a fee, just add it when registering the routine.

# of DANCERS	CATEGORY	Time Limit Including entrance, exit and props.
1	Solo	3 minutes
2	Duo	3 minutes
3-8	Small Group	4 minutes
9-14	Large Group	5 minutes
15 & Over	X-Large Group	5 minutes
15 & Over	Production	5-15 minutes + 5 minutes for set up and strike

  

EXTRA TIME	
30 second increments	\$50/each

★ **EXTRA TIME:** Routines that run over the registered time at the event will incur a penalty of \$100/min.

# ENTRY FORM

*This handy form can be copied and filled in by teachers to ensure administrators have accurate data for each routine.*

## ROUTINE DETAILS

TITLE

DISCIPLINE

ON POINTE?  CHECK THE BOX FOR YES.

## SCHEDULING CONSIDERATIONS

PROPS?  CHECK THE BOX FOR YES.

SET UP TIME M      S

TEAR DOWN TIME M      S

ROUTINE LENGTH M      S  
*From first to last appearance of a dancer on the stage.*

TOTAL LENGTH M      S  
*Add set up, tear down and routine length to determine **total time** to register.*

HAIR/MAKE-UP/COSTUME MINUTES  
*If time is needed before or after this routine for hair/make-up/costume changes please provide notes.*

## DANCERS