

Spotlight Non-Classical Dance Rules

Dance students who will be attending a dance program away from home and outside of Southern California during the Spotlight year and whose parent(s) still live in Southern California may participate in Spotlight as long as they attend auditions, rehearsal and final performance if advancing to Grand Finale Performance. Proof of study will be required from dance program. You may not be an apprentice or full time member of a professional dance company and participate in Spotlight.

What's required of me for my Non Classical Dance Preliminary 1 video audition?

All students begin with a Preliminary 1 video audition. Those scoring highest will advance to Preliminary 2 live auditions in January, 2020. Those scoring highest after Preliminary 2 will advance to the Semifinals

- You will perform one solo in the style of your choice (urban, tap, jazz, modern, etc.); you may perform your own choreography
- Your solo must not exceed 3 minutes
- For all forms of dancing, your choreography must show a range of movements: turns, jumps, controlled sustained movements, and extensions
- We encourage you to refrain from using too many gymnastic or dance team movements
- Please keep floor work and sustained poses to a minimum. We want to see you dance! 😊
- Please do not lip sync while dancing
- If you advance to Preliminary 2, you may either perform the same solo or change it

Audition Apparel

- Applicants may not wear pointe shoes or costumes, with the exception of World Dance. A costume is something with a bodice, sequins, feathers, etc.
- All dancers must wear a color that is in contrast to the background
- Leotard and tights or unitard or rehearsal/jazz pants and fitted top. A skirt is allowed for women
- Urban dancers are required to wear clothes which allow the judges to see the lines of the dancer; please wear things which are not overly baggy.
- World Dance: dancers are encouraged to wear a costume in order to present the dance in an authentic manner

Guidelines for Recording Your Audition

- Your recording device can be a cell phone, tablet, camera, etc. You do NOT have to rent fancy recording equipment. We will refer to the recording devices as "cameras"
- Record your audition in a clearly defined interior space with a neutral background that is free of creases and breaks
- Shoot straight on. You may either place the camera in a fixed spot, or it may follow your movements. The camera should be placed sufficiently close to you so that all parts of the body are clearly visible
- The camera should be placed sufficiently close to you so that all parts of the body are clearly visible
- Record with the camera framing your entire body to capture movement in place as well as movement in and through space
- Ensure recording captures good quality sound and image
- Do not do any editing within the video
- Do not use special effects, dissolves, fades or wipes
- Do not submit pre-recorded live performances, such as recitals or concerts

- When recording with a tablet or cellphone, use the landscape/horizontal mode for best results

How To Submit Your Audition Video

- After you have recorded your solo, watch it in playback to make sure you can be seen and the music heard
- When uploading, verify that image is upright (not sideways) and plays smoothly
- Save and name your file and upload into application
- Please do not do any of the following as it may disqualify you:
 - Do not edit within the solo
 - Do not use special effects, dissolves, fades or wipes
 - Do not submit pre-recorded live performances, such as recitals, concerts, or competitions

Evaluation Criteria and What Judges are Looking For

You should approach your video filming as though you are performing for an audience. Do not look at the camera, but instead look out as though you are performing on stage, beyond the camera. _

- Technique - the skill to execute the demands of the choreography with proficiency and apparent ease
- Presentation - the presentation of one's self, physically, at a standard recognized in this dance form
- Musicality and phrasing - the ability to physically express the rhythm, melody, nuance, and character of the music through the choreography
- Artistry - the creativity and sincerity of the performance, which arouses a response within the viewer. The connection and expression of the dancer to the story of the solo

Please be sure you follow all requirements related to your application. Failure to comply with any of the requirements listed below may result in disqualification during the review process and/or make your application ineligible for an award.

To start or complete your Spotlight application, go to: <https://app.getacceptd.com/musiccenter>.
If your application is already open, simply click on the Acceptd tab on your computer to return to it.

Got Questions??? Email us at spotlight@musiccenter.org