



DANCE MASTERS OF AMERICA

Open Scholarship 2023

It has been a pleasure serving as Scholarship Chairman for the 138th National Convention for the 13 to 23 age group. This group of students has exemplified the standards, work ethics and talent that we all hope to instill in all of our applicants.

We had classes in modern, acrobatics, ballet, jazz and tap. The following is a breakdown of numbers, no shows and teachers of each genre.

	Participants	No shows	Teacher
Modern	45	1	Valerie Hamilton
Acrobatics	29	2	Kathi Halbert
Ballet	57	1	Ami Yaro
Jazz	52	4	Mandy Doyle
Tap	41	3	Alicia Monaco

There was a total of 69 students registered for the scholarships.

The judges preferred groups of 4 and performing each combination twice.

- Modern gave a 1 minute combo. Time: 1hr. 15 min.
- Acro did all 5 phases at the same time. This seems to be favorable by the students and judges. Time: 1hr. 15 min.
- Tap was a :35 sec routine. Difficult but appropriate to separate the talent. Time: 1 hr. 30
- Ballet was 1 min. combination that included adage, allegro, grand allegro. This is a wonderful way to present the ballet material. Time 1 hr. 45 min.
- Jazz was a :40 sec. routine with improv included at the beginning and the end. Time 1 hr. 5 min. .

I want to thank the judges and teachers who were wonderful to work with. They were kind and caring to all of the students.

The judging panel was:

Melody Houck, Patricia Flowerday, Tamala Taylor, Alyssa Gallagher, Noreen Rhode

Awards will be given in the following:

- DMA Award of Excellence, 5 phase and winner will be awarded the banquet.
- All other scholarship awards will be announced 2:00pm on Friday, in the Marquis Salone A-D

Recommendations:

- Do boys wear compression shorts need to wear a dance belt?
- The rules read: Age of the day the NATIONAL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS are held. (Should it read as of the first class of the National Open Scholarship Auditions)
- Appropriate jazz shoes, are dance paws included

The information given to the teachers by Erin outlining their preparation was very helpful and appreciated by the faculty. The spread sheet compiled by Shawn that was emailed to me with 5 phase and 4 phase entrants listed first was very helpful for the judges having the first 36 entrants consistent. Thank you for all your help and the opportunity to chair this committee.

Kathi Halbert
Scholarship Chairperson