WORLD OF DANCE

SUMMIT COMPETITION AND INVITE PROCESS

2025-2026

SUMMIT

THE ROAD TO SUMMIT

DATE & LOCATION

July 7th to July 10th, 2026
Anaheim Convention Center
800 W Katella Ave, Anaheim, CA 92802, United States

TUESDAY, JULY 7TH	DAY 1	OPENING CEREMONY
TUESDAY, JULY 7TH	DAY 1	CHALLENGER ROUND & CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND (PART 1)
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH	DAY 2	CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND (PART 2)
THURSDAY, JULY 9TH	DAY 3	WORLD FINALS AND AWARDS CEREMONY
FRIDAY, JULY 10TH	DAY 4	MASTERCLASSES

***schedule is subject to change**

COMPETITION DIVISIONS

All teams of 5 or more members will have the opportunity to compete at the World of Dance Summit Competition, regardless of placement or score at a World of Dance qualifying event. At the World of Dance Summit Competition, there will be two rounds of competition in three divisions to qualify for the World of Dance Finals Competition. The three competing divisions at World of Dance Summit Competition will be the following:

DIVISION	AGE
Pre-Junior Team Division*	12 and Under
Junior Team Division**	17 and Under
Team Division	All Ages

For more information, please e-mail summit@worldofdance.com

DIVISION ELIGIBILITY

PRE-JUNIOR TEAM DIVISION (Under 12)

Ages: 12 and under* // Group size: 5 or more

Experience/Background

- Dancers have performance experience, though they may be newer to the community and industry setting.
- Dancers demonstrate a developing and consistent understanding of formations and stage use
- Choreography complexity varies according to age and group level

*Eligibility: All dancers must be 12 years of age or younger as of January 1st 2026 of the competition year. Dancers who begin the season at age 12 and celebrate their 13th birthday later in the year may remain in the Pre-Junior Team Division and continue with their team through the conclusion of that competition year, including finals.

- Teams composed of dancers younger than the Junior Team Division age range (under 12) may elect to participate in the Junior Team Division. This must be applied to the entire team and not on an individual basis.

JUNIOR TEAM DIVISION (Under 17)

Ages: 17 and under** // Group size: 5 or more

Experience/Background

- Dancers have performance experience in a pre-professional, community, or industry competition settings.
- Dancers demonstrate a consistent and efficient understanding of formations and stage use.
- Choreography reflects maturity, precision, and sustained complexity throughout the set.

**Eligibility: All dancers must be 17 years of age or younger as of January 1st of the competition year. Dancers who begin the season at age 17 and celebrate their 18th birthday later in the year may remain in the Junior Division and continue with their team through the conclusion of that competition year, including finals

- Currently enrolled high school students who are 18+ on January 1st of the competition year may contact World of Dance for eligibility.
- Teams composed of dancers younger than the Junior Team Division age range (under 13) may elect to participate in the Junior Division. This must be applied to the entire team and not on an individual basis.

TEAM DIVISION

Ages: All Ages // Group Size 5+

Experience/Background

- Dancers have performance experience in professional, pre-professional, community, or industry competition settings.
- Dancers demonstrate an advanced understanding of intricate formations and stage use.
- Choreography showcases originality, creativity, and a high degree of complexity throughout the set.

For more information, please e-mail summit@worldofdance.com

PROCESS AND ADVANCEMENT

Teams will be invited to compete in a specified round based on their Bell Curve Score (please review "Bell Curve" section) at a qualifying event. The competition process for World of Dance Summit Competition will commence in the following round order:

- World of Dance Summit: Challenger Round (89.99 or less in the bell curve)
- World of Dance Summit: Championship Round (90 or above in the bell curve)
- World of Dance Finals Competition: The top ten teams from each of the competing divisions from the Championship Round will compete in the "World of Dance Finals Competition."

ROUND	QUALIFICATION	ADVANCEMENT
CHALLENGER ROUND	Teams that score 89.99 or less in the bell curve, across all regional qualifiers, or Silver Ticket Winners from Audition Series Events (US Only). Applied to Pre-Junior, Junior Team, and Team Divisions.	The top 5 teams from each of the three divisions (Pre-Junior Team Division, Junior Team, and Team Divisions) will advance to the Championship Round.
CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND	Teams that score 90 or more in the bell curve, across all regional qualifiers, or Gold Ticket Winners from Audition Series Events (US Only). Applies to Pre-Junior, Junior Team, and Team Divisions	The top 10 teams from each of the three divisions (Pre-Junior Team Division, Junior Team, and Team Divisions) will advance to the World of Dance Finals Competition.

WORLD FINALS (JULY 9TH 2026)

The top 10 teams from each of the three divisions in the Championship Round (Pre-Junior Team, Junior Team, and Team Divisions) will compete in the World of Dance Finals Competition.

The top three teams from each of the three divisions in the Finals Competition (Pre-Junior Team, Junior Team, and Team Division), will be awarded the following:

1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
• World Champion title • Trophy • Cash Prize	• Trophy • Cash Prize	• Trophy • Cash Prize

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THE BELL CURVE

The World of Dance Bell Curve scoring method will be applied after a qualifying event is completed. Through this method, the 1st place team in a given division will have their score scaled to 100 and all other teams competing in the same division will have their score adjusted according to how the 1st place team's score was scaled.

How teams score in the bell curve at a qualifying regional event will determine which round they will start at.

- Teams of 5 or more in the Pre-Junior Team Division, Junior Team Division, Team Division, or from additionally approved divisions at a regional event, will be invited to compete in a specific round based on the following criteria:
  - Championship Round: Team scores 90 or above in the bell curve.
  - Challenger Round: Team scores 89.99 or less in the bell curve.
- Teams may also be placed into a specific round in either the Pre-Junior Team Division, Junior Team Division, or Team Division, per World of Dance discretion.
- Teams may compete in additional qualifying events to attain a higher bell curve score.
- World of Dance Summit Competition placement invites can be extended to two years if teams are unable to secure visa application appointments within a given competition season.

Example of the Bell Curve:

- In a recent competition, the 1st Place Winning Team scored 93.5 in their division. To standardize the scores, this score is scaled up to 100. Another team in the same division, Team #2, achieved a score of 86.5. Based on the scaling method used for the winning team, Team #2's score is adjusted to 92.51.

COUNTRY REPRESENTATION

Teams will be representing the country that they are from, not the country of the qualifier they competed in. The qualifiers that the team attended in the given competition season will be listed in their biography.

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MUSIC SUBMISSION & SCREENING PROCESS

All competition and showcase performances must submit music by deadline by the Event Organizer. Music must be in .m4a or .wav format, and uploaded to your registration portal. Failure to submit music by deadline without communication may lead to removal from the show (at the discretion of the Stage Manger and Tour Director

After you have submitted your music, the World of Dance organization will make sure your music meets our standards. The following rules apply:

- Profanity and inappropriate or offensive language are NOT allowed. Since World of Dance is a family event, all music must be clean. Explicit content is also NOT allowed.
- Music and performance time must not exceed **5 minutes** in length.
- The World of Dance Tour Team will send an email to your primary contact, notifying them of whether or not your music has been approved. If changes need to be made, your primary contact will have the opportunity to do so. Pay attention to the eligibility rules! **If your group is asked more than twice to clean up and resubmit your music, you will be removed from the event.**
- **Groups who neglect the designated deadline AND do not send in their music two weeks prior to the event may be removed from the show lineup (up to the discretion of the Tour Director and Stage Manager).**

*After your music has been approved, performers will need to provide a backup USB labeled with your group name on it. The music file on the backup USB must be the same music file that was approved. If the music file is switched and violates the language and/or time rules, the performer(s) will no longer be allowed to perform and may be banned from participating at future World of Dance events.

DEADLINES & SUBMISSIONS

Teams who neglect the designated deadlines without communication with World of Dance Staff may be subject to removal from the show lineup.

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JUDGES PANEL & SCORING SYSTEM

The judges panel will consist of a minimum of 5 judges and one tabulator. All judges will meet the eligibility, training judge skill level, and requirements set forth by World of Dance.

PERFORMANCE	20%	Facials, Energy, Stage Presence, Showmanship
TECHNIQUE	20%	Cleanliness of Routine, Execution, Foundations/Authenticity, Body Control, Timing/Synchronization
CHOREOGRAPHY	20%	Originality, Concept, Dynamics in Movement, Variety, Musicality
CREATIVITY	20%	Music Selection, Transitions, Theme, Staging/Blocking
PRESENTATION	20%	Costume/Performance Attire, Hair & Make-up

DEDUCTIONS

MUSIC LONGER THAN 6 MINUTES**	-0.25 Point Deduction per second over the time limit
UNAPPROVED PROPS	-1 Point Deduction
PROFANITY IN MUSIC	-0.1 Point Deduction per curse word

** If the music file is switched the day of the qualifier and violates the language and/or time rule, the team is still subject to deductions even if the previously sent music file was screened and cleared by World of Dance.

TIEBREAKERS

In case of a tie, the tiebreaker will be as follows:

- Average of performance scores. If tie still remains,
- Average of technique scores. If tie still remains,
- Average of choreography scores. If tie still remains,
- Average of creativity appeal scores. If tie still remains,
- Average of presentation appeal scores. If tie still remains,
- Majority vote by judges raise of hands

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PRE-SHOW PACKETS

World of Dance will provide a performers packet to each group's primary contact. The packet will include your check-in time, show line-up, example score sheet, and other vital information pertaining to the event.

MAIN STAGE AREA

VENUE / STAGING

- Main stage dimensions will differ per event. Inquiries for specific stage details can be addressed to the event manager, prior to the event date.
- Due to the number of dancers associated with each event, dressing rooms are not offered. Instead, performers can get ready in designated open space or other rooms as allocated for preparation.
- All performers are responsible for their own items. The venue, World of Dance staff, and all World of Dance live event affiliates and sponsors are not liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.

PROPS

- All props must be prescreened and approved prior to the event date. To get approval, descriptions, dimensions, and photos of your props must be submitted on your Registration Portal.
  - Props CANNOT occupy more than 25% of the stage
  - Props must be fire retardant.
  - All props NOT approved prior to the show will result in a 5-point deduction from your overall score.
  - For showcase teams, all props NOT approved prior to the event will NOT be allowed on stage or in the venue day of show.
- Any prop that has not been approved, may not be allowed inside the event and team will be subject to point deductions.

TECH

- Tech rehearsal is generally not permitted on the main stage. However, in cases when a tech rehearsal is provided routines, block timing, music playback are at the discretion of World of Dance.

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