

Dance Choreography Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

Dance: Pay close attention to sound levels on the recording and the stability and focus of the camera. Students DO NOT present the artist's statement to begin the recording.

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY is the act of scripting movement of people. The **choreographer** (the student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of scripted movement. The choreographer may be the performer or one of the performers, but the choreographer does not have to perform in the entry.

Consider the following styles and ensembles to portray your original choreography: Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Folk Dance, Religious Dance, Dance Ensembles (color guard/indoor guard), Ice Skating/Dancing, or Gymnastics-floor Routine.

Consider use of background song(s), props, and the location to show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme. Whether an entry displays formal dance technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality, and creativity.

Traditional Dance: The modification of the steps and the interpretation of the dance are considered when judging a traditional dance for creativity and/or originality. An explanation of the origin of the dance and/or the significance of the choreography might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a dance choreography entry that involves traditional, cultural, or regional dances.

Use of copyrighted music in dance choreography is **acceptable** when the **title, composer, and performer of any music in the submission is credited** on the student entry form.

Tips for Audio/Visual Quality:

- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Make sure there is plenty of lighting, especially if shooting indoors.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Record a short test and watch it. If needed, change the recording volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.
- Record two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your production.

Submission Instructions:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Performance must not exceed 5 minutes in length or 1 GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Record using a CD, DVD, or flash drive.

- Accepted file formats include: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, MP4.
- Credit background music (title, composer, lyricist, and performer) on the student entry form.
- Label the CD/DVD/flash drive with name, title of artwork, arts category, and division.
- Place CD/DVD/flash drive and student entry form in a full-page closeable manila envelope. Label the manila envelope with name, title of artwork, school, arts category, and division.
- Solo and ensemble works of all dance styles are accepted. Entrant must be the choreographer and may also be the performer, or one of the performers. If background music is used, cite it on the entry form. **Video** file must not exceed 5 min. and 1 GB in size. Accepted formats: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, MP4.