



GRAND PRIX 
Dance o/en
A M E R I C A

**2026 USA FORT LAUDERDALE
GRAND PRIX FINALS
APR 22-26**

DANCEOPENAMERICA.ORG

USA (Fort Lauderdale) FINALS

April 22nd to 26th, 2026.

We are delighted to welcome you to the Grand Prix Finals in the coastal city of Fort Lauderdale, Florida from **April 22nd to 26th, 2026**. Eligible dancers will be pre-selected at one of the Dance Open America International Semifinal Competitions, Golden Pass or through the **International Video Preselection**.

Deadline for payment is **March 1st, 2026**

Deadline submission of music is **April 1st, 2026**

Why Fort Lauderdale?

A New Chapter for Dance Open America

Known as the “Venice of America,” **Fort Lauderdale** is a vibrant coastal city celebrated for its beautiful beaches, dynamic arts scene, and world-class hospitality. With its thriving cultural institutions, international accessibility, and diverse community, the city offers an inspiring and welcoming environment for artists, performers, and audiences alike.

This year, **Dance Open America** is proud to announce a new home for our finals: **Fort Lauderdale**. After thoughtful consideration, we have chosen to move from Miami to Fort Lauderdale in order to provide our participants and their families with a more comfortable, accessible, and artistically supportive setting.

Fort Lauderdale offers:

- Convenient proximity to **Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL)**
- Easy access to **gorgeous Atlantic beaches** just minutes away
- A wide selection of hotels, restaurants, and family-friendly attractions
- Less traffic congestion and easier local transportation
- Beautiful performance venues equipped to meet the high standards of our event
- A strong local commitment to the arts and youth development

We believe this move will enhance the overall experience for dancers, coaches, families, and audiences. Fort Lauderdale reflects the values of our competition—excellence, diversity, and artistic growth—and we look forward to creating unforgettable moments in this new and exciting location.

General Information:

- A participant's age for Dance Open America season is determined as of January 1st, the year of the competition.
- A competitor can compete with a school or as an independent.
- Professional dancers up to 24 years old are eligible.
- For the Grand Prix Finals any soloist dancer **must** present a **minimum of 3 solos** with **at least ones being a classical routine**.
- A Pas de Deux dancer can compete as a soloist with a min of two solos.
- All participants must take the master classes even if you are only in an Ensemble routine.

The Theater:

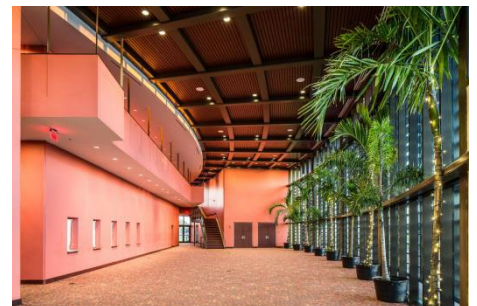
Lauderhill Performing Arts Center

We are thrilled to welcome you to the stunning Lauderhill Performing Arts Center—a beacon of creativity, diversity, and community spirit.

The mission of the Lauderhill Performing Arts Center is to provide high-quality, diverse performing arts programming to the City of Lauderhill and its surrounding communities. As a vibrant hub for artistic expression and civic engagement, it serves as a catalyst for cultural enrichment and positive economic growth.

Opened on January 20, 2016, this state-of-the-art facility is a LEED Silver certified structure, dedicated to sustainability and innovation in the arts. The venue hosts a wide array of events including music, theater, dance, cinema, and visual arts, making it a perfect home for Grand Prix Dance Open America's celebration of talent and artistic excellence.

Join us for a spectacular experience in this extraordinary space as we bring together dancers, educators, and enthusiasts from across the globe.



How to Get to the Lauderhill Performing Arts Center (LPAC)

Address:

Lauderhill Performing Arts Center
3800 NW 11th Place, Lauderhill, FL 33311
www.lpacfl.com

Located next to the Central Broward Regional Park, at the northeast corner of Sunrise Blvd (SR-838) and State Road 7 (US-441).

Nearest Airports:

For national and international participants, the following airports are conveniently located near Lauderhill:

1. Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL)

Approx. 20–25 minutes by car (14 miles), Best option for most domestic and international flights, Ride services (Uber/Lyft), rental cars, and public transportation available

2. Miami International Airport (MIA)

Approx. 35–45 minutes by car (30 miles), Major international hub with many direct global flights. Options include rental cars, Tri-Rail, or ride-share services

3. Palm Beach International Airport (PBI) *(optional, further away)*

Approx. 50–60 minutes by car (40 miles). Smaller airport, mostly domestic flights. Ideal for travelers coming from northern Florida or nearby states

By Car (from Miami or Fort Lauderdale)

- Take **I-95 North** or **Florida's Turnpike** toward Broward County.
- Merge onto **Sawgrass Expressway (SR-869)** heading west.
- Exit at **Sunrise Blvd / SR-838** heading west.
- Turn right on **State Road 7 (US-441)**, then right again on **NW 11th Place**.
- The venue and parking will be directly ahead.

By Public Transit

Broward County Transit (BCT). Bus routes 11, 36, and 40 stop near the venue. Closest stop: Sunrise Blvd & NW 29th Terrace (5-minute walk)

Tri-Rail + Bus: From Fort Lauderdale or Miami, take Tri-Rail to Fort Lauderdale Station, then transfer to BCT Route 36.

Parking & Accessibility

Free parking available adjacent to the building

Venue is ADA accessible, with ramps, accessible seating, and facilities.

Use Google Maps or Apple Maps with the full address for turn-by-turn directions

Official Host Hotel of Grand Prix Dance Open America:

HYATT PLACE FORT LAUDERDALE/ PLANTATION

8530 West Broward Blvd, Plantation, FL 33324 USA

Easy access to Brightline

Hyatt Place Fort Lauderdale/Plantation keeps you close to Brightline, making it simple to travel between Fort Lauderdale, Miami and beyond. Stay with us and enjoy a seamless connection to South Florida's high-speed rail.

Dialing reservations: 1 800 709-6411

CODE:G-0420

BOOKING LINK:

http://plantation.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-0420

Options:

Soloists:

Two Classical Solos and One Contemporary Solo

One Classical Solo and Two Contemporary Solos

Pas De Deux:

Pas de Deux, One Classical Solo, One Contemporary Solo

Divisions:

Classical and Contemporary Solos:

Rising: Age 8 to 10 years

Junior: Age 11 to 13 years

Teen: Age 14 to 16 years

Senior: Age 17 to 19 years

Professional: Age 20 to 24 years

All other categories

(Duos/Trios Contemporary, Classical Pas de Deux, Ensembles: over 4 participants)

Intermediate: Age 8 to 13 years

Advanced: Age 14 to 24 years

The ages for Duos/Trios Contemporary, Classical Pas de Deux, Ensembles pieces will be averaged/combined between the ages of all participants. The category will depend on the result of this average. This will be divided among only three categories as labeled above:

Intermediate/Advanced

Dance Open America directors will determine, from the number of registered male competitors within an age division, whether or not males will compete with or separately from the females in a given category.

Maximum Performance Time Allowed:

Solos: 2:45 min

Pas de Deux: 6:00 min

Duo/Trios: 3:00 min

Ensemble (4-7 dancers): 4:00 min

Ensemble (8 + dancers): 5:00 min

Music:

Each competitor will be required to provide their own music using an MP3 file and will be required to upload their music as part of their registration.

All music must be recorded at competitor's desired speed and cued properly at the beginning of the music. No adjustments to music can be made at the competition and is due by the last day of registration. Studio directors/competitors must have a backup CD (CD-R) readily available.

Pas de Deux dancers must submit one track only (will be played straight through) that records the necessary amount of pause time in between the Adagio and Coda. This pause may be no longer than 15 seconds in length.

Please make sure the track does not include any additional sounds or previously recorded applause as we use videos for promotional purposes later.

Evaluation Process:

Each competitor will be judged independently in each style.

Each of the three (3) Judges will score 100 points Maximum Total of Points per Judge:

Please note: The judges' scores are final and unappealable.

Scores:

There will be three (3), professional qualified judges, at the competition. While dancers are on stage competing, each judge will give individual critiques and comments that will be accessible via Dance Comp Genie following the conclusion of the competition.

Each competitor will receive a score out of 300 possible points. Every performance is expected to be age-appropriate and family-friendly. Any routine that is considered by the judges to be inappropriate based upon dance moves, costumes, and/or music, will be subject to disqualification.

Awards:

FIRST PLACE: Gold Medal
SECOND PLACE: Silver Medal
THIRD PLACE: Bronze Medal

Dance Open America will announce "Top 15 or 25" in each division.

A dancer with two solos in either the classical or contemporary category will be considered for placement qualification and awards based on their higher scoring solo. For example, you would not be given both a Gold and Silver medal within the same category.

Certificate of Achievement:

Each competitor will receive a CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT for their participation. In addition, a high score awards medal will be given to the top scores in each category within an age division. DOA reserves the right to limit awards based on number of entries in the category.

Dance Open America Special Awards:

-Grand Prix Award Dance Open America
(only Teens, Seniors and Professionals are eligible)

The Grand Prix Award will be presented to a dancer in the Teen, Senior or Professional age division. Selection will be based on the highest scores in both the classical and contemporary solo category, which will allow the jury panel to make a final decision. In order to qualify for this special award, a competitor must compete with a classical and contemporary solo.

- New Generation Star
- The Talent Award
- Hope Award
- The Joy of Dance
- Outstanding Classical Dancer
- Outstanding Contemporary Dancer
- Best Contemporary Duo
- Best Classical Pas de Deux Award
- Best Ensemble Award
- Outstanding Contemporary Choreographer
- Outstanding Instructor Award
- Outstanding School Award
- People's Choice Award (Audience Award)

Competition Entry Fees:

Registration Fee: \$105 non-refundable

Classical and Contemporary Solos : \$120 each

Classical Pas de Deux : \$85 (per dancer)

Ensembles: \$85 (per dancer)

IN ORDER TO RESERVE SPACE IN THE GRAND PRIX DANCE OPEN AMERICA IN MIAMI WE MUST RECEIVE THE REGISTRATION FEE DEPOSIT OF \$105 per dancer, 60 days before the competition. The \$105 Registration fee is non-refundable.

All fees must be paid in full 4 weeks before the competition, April 1st, Discounts applied cannot be combined with any other offer. In the event that entries are received within 1 week of the competition, a \$10 per entry late fee will be added, only if the entries were able to be added to the schedule based on available space.

Payment may be made by credit card, cashier's check or money order. No personal or studio checks will be accepted. All fees are non-refundable.

No entry is guaranteed until payment has been processed. A confirmation email will be sent to each studio for their records and approval.

Classical Solo/Pas De Deux List:

Classical Pas de Deux must be selected from the repertoire list below. Adagio and Coda will only be performed as variations are not permitted.

RISING AGE CATEGORY:

- Coppelia (A. St. Leon) 1st Act Variation
- Don Quixote (M. Petipa) Cupid Variation
 - Fairy Doll (S. Legat)
- Flower Festival at Genzano (A. Bournonville) Pas de Deux Variations
 - Giselle (J. Perrot, J. Coralli) Peasant Pas de Deux Variations
 - Graduation Ball (D. Lichine) Pas De Deux Variations
 - Harlequinade (M. Petipa) Pas De Deux Variations
 - La Bayadere (M. Petipa) Three Shade Variations

- La Fille Mal Gardée (B. Nijinska, D. Romanoff) Pas de Deux Variations
 - Le Corsaire (M. Petipa) Odalisque Variations
 - Paquita (M. Petipa) All Variations (except Principal Variations)
- Raymonda (M. Petipa) All Variations (except Principal Variations)
 - Swan Lake (M. Petipa, L. Ivanov) Pas de Trois Variations
 - The Flames of Paris (V. Vainonen) Pas de Deux Variations
- The Sleeping Beauty (M. Petipa) Variations of Fairies, Bluebird Pas de Deux

Rising competitors are allowed and encouraged to slightly modify and simplify the above variations to fit their technical skill level.

JUNIOR, TEENS, SENIOR, AND PROFESSIONAL AGE CATEGORY

- Coppelia (A. St. Leon) Pas de Deux and all Variations
- Diana & Actaeon (A. Vaganova) Pas de Deux and Variations -
 - Don Quixote (M. Petipa) Pas de Deux and all Variations
 - Fairy Doll (S. Legat)
- Flower Festival at Genzano (A. Bournonville) Pas de Deux and all Variations
- Giselle (J. Perrot, J. Coralli) Variation of Giselle, Act I Peasant Pas de Deux and Variations, Pas de Deux Variations from Act II
 - Graduation Ball (D. Lichine) Pas De Deux Variations
 - Harlequinade (M. Petipa) Pas De Deux and Variations
- La Bayadere r (M. Petipa) Three Shade Variations, Act III; Gamzatti Variation, Pas de Deux and Variations, Bronze Idol
 - Nikia Variation (is not accepted for competition, unless under 2:30 minutes.)
 - La Esmeralda (M. Petipa) Pas de Deux and all Variations
- La Fille Mal Gardée (B. Nijinska, D. Romanoff) Pas de Deux and all Variations
 - La Sylphide (A. Bournonville) Pas de Deux and all Variations
 - Laurencia (V. Chabukiani)
- Le Corsaire (M. Petipa) Pas d'Esclave and Variations, Odalisque Variations, Jardin Animé, Act III Pas de Deux and Variations

- Les Sylphides/Chopiniana (M. Fokine) Male and Female Mazurkas, Waltz #7 and Waltz #11, Prelude
 - Napoli (A. Bournonville) Pas de Six and all Variations
 - Paquita (M. Petipa) All Variations
 - Raymonda (M. Petipa) All Variations
 - Satanella (M. Petipa) Pas de Deux and Variations
 - Swan Lake (M. Petipa, L. Ivanov) Pas de Trois and Variations
 - The Awakening of Flora (M. Petipa) Variations
 - The Flames of Paris (V. Vainonen) Pas de Deux and Variations
 - The Nutcracker Suite (V. Vainonen) Pas de Deux and Variations
- The Sleeping Beauty (M. Petipa) Variations of Fairies, Aurora Variations from Act I and Act II (under 2:30 minutes), BlueBird Pas de Deux and Variations, Wedding Pas de Deux and Variations. (Please note: Aurora Variation from Act I is not accepted for competition, unless under 2:30 minutes)
 - The Cavalry Halt (M. Petipa) Pas de Deux and all Variations
 - The Talisman (M. Petipa) Pas de Deux and all Variations

Performing on Pointe:

We are strongly committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all dancers, and especially of our youngest participants. Please make sure that you adhere to the guidelines set forth below:

Students Age 10 and under: We recommend performing in flat shoes.

Students Age 11 and older: We strongly encourage performing on pointe.

Teacher Credential:

When registering your dancers online, please be sure to list your Teacher and Director in the "Teacher" field of your registration process. If theater rules allow, we will distribute 2 Credentials per each school.

Due to each theater's security regulations, teachers / directors must provide a photo ID at the registration table located inside the theater. Please note that we will not be able to replace misplaced or stolen Credential.

Teachers and directors with their credentials will have access to participate in all master classes and open competitions. The competition schedule will be sent via email two weeks before the events.

Scholarship Offers:

Participants who receive scholarship offers or letters of interest/acceptance from Grand Prix Dance Open America should follow up directly with the contact information provided from the presenting school or company. We kindly ask participants to then inform our regional office once any offers have been formally accepted.

Videos and Photography:

Dance Open America will provide professional photography and video of each competitor's performance for purchase. No personal flash photography or videotaping will be permitted inside the competition venue. If photography or videotaping is identified, DOA reserves the right to confiscate the camera/video equipment and disqualify the competitor's performance.

Release Agreement:

By signing the Dance Open America Release Agreement, all registered competitors grant permission to Dance Open America and its representatives to publish their photographs/videos on local or national television, promotional videos, marketing materials, the internet, or any other visual media, as deemed fit by Dance Open America in an effort to promote its competitions.

All photographs/videos taken by Dance Open America and any independent representative commissioned by Dance Open America become the property of Dance Open America.

Dance Open America reserves the right to sell said photographs/videos at competition events and online for purchase of DVD or by download.

In addition, all representatives, staff, or kin of Dance Open America is released and held harmless from any and all claims for damages or injuries sustained while participating or attending any activity related to any and all Dance Open America events.

Additional Information:

To register, you can use your account with Dance Comp Genie. If you do not have an account, you must open an account before registering. Verify that all the data is entered correctly. After completing the registration, including the payment section, you will receive a confirmation email to the email address provided in your Dance Comp Genie account.

Dance Open America reserves the rights to change, delete, or add to any rules, regulations, or policies at any time deemed necessary. All changes to original submitted entries must be in writing; no verbal requests will be honored. Changes to original entries must be received seven (7) days before the competition event. Dance Open America requests any questions regarding schedule changes should be submitted by the Studio Directors.

Dance Open America reserves the right to cancel any event due to lack of registration, weather, or other unforeseen circumstance and reserves the right, when necessary, to relocate a competition site/date/time or expand a competition to a multiple day event if necessary. If an extenuating weather or unforeseen circumstance arises and Dance Open America cancels an event and it is not rescheduled, refunds or credits for the following year will be issued. If the event is rescheduled, no refunds will be given. Should an extenuating circumstance arise, please check the website and/or your email address that you registered under for any event updates.

In addition, Dance Open America and the venue hosting the event are not responsible for any personal injury or property loss that is suffered by anyone attending or participating in the competition. All representatives, staff, or kin of Dance Open America is released and held harmless from any and all claims for damages or injuries sustained while participating or attending any activity related to any and all Dance Open America events.

