

## RULES & REGULATIONS 2021

Dear participants, please carefully read the Rules and Regulations of our competition. Elegance is a competition unique in its kind, and our regulations may differ considerably from those of other dance competitions.



### 1. General Information

- a. Please consider all ages on November 6, 2021.
- b. To register to any of the styles, candidates must be 8 years old, or older.
- c. Candidates may register to compete in ballet, or contemporary or both.
- d. The competition includes live grading (on ZOOM) and pre-recorded grading (if selected for the Finale).

### 2. Important Dates

- a. Competition: November 6-7 and 13-14, 2021
- b. Awards & Gala: November 15, 2021
- c. Registrations:
  - i. Opening of registrations: July 1st, 2021
  - ii. Early bird registration fee until: September 1st, 2021
  - iii. Regular registration fee until: October 1st, 2021
  - iv. Late comers registration fee until: October 15, 2021  
→ Absolute registration deadline: October 15, 2021
- d. Deadline to send in the pre-recorded video (ballet and/or contemporary): October 15, 2021
- e. Workshops: October 16-17, 2021.

### 3. Categories

#### a. BALLET

- i. Candidates are separated by age:
  1. 8-9 years old
  2. 10-11 years old
  3. 12-13 years old
  4. 14-15 years old
  5. 16-17 years old
  6. 18+ years old
- ii. Candidates aged 12 and older are further separated in two divisions: "Competitive" and "Professional". Please find below general descriptions of both divisions.
  1. **Competitive:** typically trains ballet less than 4 days per week. Does not necessarily seek a career in dance.

2. **Professional:** typically trains ballet 5 or more days per week. Seeks or has a career in dance. May be part of a professional ballet school or a professional ballet company.

**Note:** Although it is up to the candidate to choose which category they desire to compete in, the jury has the right to reclassify a candidate from the Competitive division to the Professional division, if they judge the latter suits the candidate better.

**Note:** Professional dancers engaged in ballet companies should register in the category “18+ years old” and division “Professional”, **even if the candidate is not yet 18 years of age on November 6, 2021.**

**b. CONTEMPORARY**

- i. Candidates are separated by age:
  1. 8-9 years old
  2. 10-11 years old
  3. 12-13 years old
  4. 14-15 years old
  5. 16-17 years old
  6. 18+ years old

**Note:** A candidate may be moved to a higher level, if the level of the age-appropriate solo is too easy. Please contact [competition@elegance.dance](mailto:competition@elegance.dance), if you think this would be necessary for your case.

#### 4. Description of the Events

- a. All participants must send us a video of a ballet and/or contemporary variation. Please read the section “*Pre-recorded videos*” below.
- b. All live events will take place through ZOOM. Please visit the tab *Our Stage* for more information about the platform ZOOM. Meeting IDs, passwords and links will be made available a few days prior to the first day of competition.
- c. **Workshops** (optional)
  - i. 30 minutes to learn the variation with the choreographer (**NOT** streamed)
  - ii. 3 weeks prior to the competition: October 16 (ballet girls), October 17 (ballet boys + all contemporary)
  - iii. Videos of variations and solos will be available on our website; therefore, if a candidate cannot be present during the workshop, they will still be able to learn the choreography.
- d. **Semi-Finale**
  - i. The Semi-Finale will be streamed live on YouTube. The link for access will be sent to all participants in the morning of every competition day.
  - ii. **BALLET**
    1. Mandatory and graded ballet class live on Zoom - **ONLY for age categories 12+**
      - a. Ballet categories 12+ years old, both in competitive and professional divisions, will have one ballet class with a renowned ballet teacher/master. Listed below are the ballet classes offered:
        - i. 12-13 y (competitive & professional)
        - ii. 14-15 y (competitive & professional)
        - iii. 16-17 y (competitive & professional)

- iv. 18+ (competitive & professional)
  - b. Attending the assigned **ballet class is mandatory** for these categories, as judges will assist and grade each participant.
  - c. Each candidate must participate in **one** ballet class only; however, it is possible to watch and do other classes for other categories. Note that only participants from the category being graded will be accepted into the conference: all external people will be kept in Webinar mode.
  - d. Ballet classes for different categories do not take place at the same time.
  - e. Within each age category, both divisions (i.e. *competitive & professional*) take the same class; however, they will be **judged separately** by a **separate jury panel**.
  - f. Approximate duration of ballet classes: 60 minutes.
  - g. ZOOM links and IDs will be sent to registered candidates a few days before the competition starts.
2. Perform the *Elegance variation* live on ZOOM (all age groups in ballet)
- a. Each category will be assigned one *Elegance variation*. All female variations are choreographed by Sandra Castro-Mühlbauer, founder of the competition, whereas male variations are choreographed by Mihail Sosnovski. Variations' choreographies must not be modified (it is however possible for lefties to reverse the entire variation).

**Note:** Although choreographies must be kept unmodified, we do prioritize quality over quantity (e.g. number of pirouettes, battus etc).

- b. All variations links are available on our website. Please visit the tab *Variation Demonstration*.
  - c. Candidates must learn the variation corresponding to their category. Variations are the same for both divisions (*Competitive & Professional* divisions). Please make sure to learn the correct variation for your age group.
  - d. Variations were choreographed considering possible limited spaces available to dancers.
  - e. Candidates will receive an approximate time of performance (see *Schedules and Dates* below for more information, and then please visit the tab *Competitors' Schedule*).
  - f. Candidates will perform their variation according to their assigned number, in ascending order.
- iii. Contemporary
- 1. Perform *Elegance variation* live on Zoom (all age groups).
    - a. All variations links are available on our website. Please visit the tab *Variation Demonstration*. Please make sure to learn the correct variation for your age group.

- b. Contemporary solos for age categories 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 and 14-15 years old are choreographed by Chanelle Allaire. Contemporary solos for age categories 16-17 and 18+ years old are choreographed by Oscar Chacon.
    - c. Candidates will receive an approximate time of performance (see *Schedules and Dates* below for more details).
    - d. Candidates will perform their solo according to their assigned number.
  - e. **Finale**
    - i. The Finale will be streamed on YouTube. The link for access will be sent to all participants in the morning of the Finale day.
    - ii. To be selected to the Finale:
      - 1. For age categories 8-9 and 10-11:
        - a. One must reach 90% or more for the performance of the Elegance variation.
      - 2. For age categories 12+:
        - a. One must reach 90% or more on average for **ballet class** and **performance** of the Elegance variation.
      - 3. A maximum of 10 people per category can be selected to the Finale.
    - iii. Format of the Finale for all age groups and styles:
      - 1. Pre-recorded video (to be sent to us until October 15) will be streamed on the ZOOM conference.
      - 2. The jury will watch and judge each category separately.
  - f. **Awards Ceremony**
    - i. The Awards Ceremony can be watched in the competition's ZOOM as well as streamed on YouTube.
    - ii. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes of each age category and division, of both styles, will be announced.
    - iii. Special Awards and Prizes:
      - 1. Some special awards/prizes may also be announced during the Awards Ceremony. Please note that, in sake of time, some special prizes may not be announced during the Awards Ceremony; however, the winners of these special prizes will be contacted by email soon after the end of the competition.
      - 2. All special prize winners will receive an email soon after the end of the competition with the information on how to get the special prize, if it is a material prize, or with the special certificate they may have received.
  - g. **Gala**
    - i. The Gala can be watched in the competition's ZOOM as well as streamed on YouTube.
    - ii. The gala will consist of:
      - 1. A section of variations/solos (from the Finale). Not necessarily only of prize winners videos may be selected, but rather any performance that the jury noticed something special about.
      - 2. Live performances by professional dancers from around the world.

## 5. Pre-recorded videos

- a. All participants must send us a video of a ballet and/or contemporary variation.
- b. Competitors who are selected for the Finale will have their videos streamed for the jury to judge, as the Final round of the competition.
- c. Videos will be presented to our partners (directors of dance schools/companies) for scholarship/contract offers.
- d. Videos may be recorded in a studio, or onstage (**logos/names** of other dance competitions must **not be visible** - the competitor must have the rights to use the video).
  - i. Ballet:
    1. Ages 14+: please visit the tab *List of Ballet Variations* for the repertoire variations accepted as videos. It is mandatory for competitors aged 14+ to choose a variation from the list below, if competing in classical ballet, to send as video. Variations must be **2:30 min** or less.
    2. Ages 8-13: may choose a ballet variation on the list or not on the list, or a choreographed ballet variation, or they may pre-record and send the age-appropriate *Elegance* ballet variation (although they still must perform the *Elegance* variation live in the Semi-Finale). Variations must be **2:30 min** or less.
  - ii. Contemporary:
    1. Any free or repertoire contemporary solo may be used. Make sure to include the name of the choreographer to the description of the video. Solos must be **2:30 min** or less.
- e. **How to send the video(s):**
  - i. Only one solo per style is accepted:
    1. One for ballet if competing only in ballet **OR**
    2. One for contemporary if competing only in contemporary **OR**
    3. One for ballet and one for contemporary if competing in both styles.
  - ii. All videos must be uploaded to a personal Google Drive account. You must then “Get link”, and make sure you change from “Restricted” to “**Anyone with the link**”. Copy the link and send it to [elegancecompetition@gmail.com](mailto:elegancecompetition@gmail.com)

## 6. Grading System

- a. All graded events: ballet class (for age categories 12+), as well as ballet and contemporary competitions, will be graded as a **percentage (%)**. The grade is based on the **general impression** the candidate gives to the jury.
- b. Grading system for the **Semi-Finale**
  - i. Ballet
    1. Age categories 8-9 and 10-11:
      - a. The Semi-Finale grade is based solely on performance of the *Elegance* ballet variation.

2. Age categories 12-13, 14-15, 16-17 and 18+:
  - a. The Semi-Finale grade will be calculated as the **average** of the grade from the ballet class, and the grade from the performance of the Elegance ballet variation. The class is therefore just as important as the performance.
- ii. Contemporary
  1. The Semi-Finale grade is based solely on performance of the Elegance contemporary solo.

**Note:** For those competing in ballet and in contemporary: the grade of one dance style is completely independent from the grade of the other dance style, and a separate ranking scheme is in place, with different prizes to be distributed.

- c. Grading system for the **Finale** (for those who make it into the Finale)
  - i. Ballet
    1. Age categories 8-9 and 10-11:
      - a. The final grade will be calculated as the **average** of the grade from the performance of the Elegance ballet variation, and the pre-recorded performance of the repertoire variation. Therefore, the Semi-Finale grade is just as important as the Finale grade.
    2. Age categories 12-13, 14-15, 16-17 and 18+:
      - a. The final grade will be calculated as the **average** of the grade from the ballet class, the performance of the Elegance ballet variation, and the pre-recorded performance of the repertoire variation. Therefore, the Semi-Finale grade is just as important as the Finale grade.
  - ii. Contemporary
    1. The final grade will be calculated as the **average** of the grade from the performance of the Elegance contemporary solo, and the pre-recorded performance of the free contemporary solo. Therefore, the Semi-Finale grade is just as important as the Finale grade.

## 7. Dress Code

- a. **Semi-Finale**
  - i. Ballet

1. Females
  - a. Performance of the Elegance variation: leotard (any color), tights, ballet shoes or pointe shoes. *Optional:* skirt (of short length).
  - b. Ballet class (age categories 12+): leotard (any color), tights, ballet shoes. *Optional:* skirt (of short length).
  - c. Ballet bun.

**Note:** Pointe shoes are expected for candidates aged 12 and over; however, we understand that certain dancers may not have a safe floor for pointe use if they are competing from home. We then accept dancers 12 years old and over to perform on flat ballet shoes.

2. Males

- a. Performance of the Elegance variation: shirt (tight), black/white/grey tights, ballet shoes matching the tights/socks.
- b. Ballet class (age categories 12+): shirt (tight), black/white/grey tights, ballet shoes matching the tights/socks.
- ii. Contemporary
  - 1. Females:
    - a. Solo performance: leotard (any color), black not-footed tights. Optional: ballet shoes.
  - 2. Males:
    - a. Solo performance: shirt (tight), black not-footed tights. Optional: ballet shoes.

**Note:** Please choose your colors wisely: make sure to have contrast with your background.

**b. Finale**

- i. Ballet
  - 1. Costume appropriate to the ballet variation performed.
  - 2. If the candidate does not own a costume, please wear a rehearsal tutu/skirt, according to the original costume to the ballet variation performed.
- ii. Contemporary
  - 1. Costume appropriate to the contemporary solo performed (if from contemporary repertoire).
  - 2. Any costume if it is a free contemporary solo.

## 8. Schedules and Dates

- a. All events will take place from 9:00 am (earliest) to 4:30 pm (latest) EST. **Please make sure you check your TIME ZONE.** Please consider that, as any competition, delays are possible.
- b. We aim to do our competition events on Saturdays and Sundays; however, it is possible that the events may occur on Mondays, depending on your time zone. The Awards & Gala will be on a Monday.
- c. Dates:
  - i. Workshops (optional): October 16 to 17.
  - ii. Competition: **November 6 to 7**, and **13 to 14**.
  - iii. Awards & Gala: **November 15**.
- d. Time of performance:
  - i. Approximate times of performance will be given to each candidate. To avoid confusion with time zones, times of performance will be given **based on the beginning of the event** (e.g. if given time 1:37:00, the candidate is scheduled to pass 1h 37min after the beginning of the event).
- e. Visit the tab *Competitors' Schedule* for detailed schedules for each category.

## 9. Set up

- a. **Studio**

- i. If the government regulations of your country allow studio rentals, we recommend you to rent a studio to dance at for the competition. However, competing from home is very much welcome as well.
- b. Home spacing**
- i. In order to make it easier for the judges to see the candidate, make sure to have a clear spacing for all events in which you participate.
  - ii. Unnecessary objects such as bags, chairs, tables, or any other movable objects or furniture should, as much as possible, be hidden from the camera. This way, the focus would be on the dancer, rather than on objects.
  - iii. Position your camera in a spot where the **dancer's whole body can be seen, both at the barre and center. The following are recommendations in terms of spacing:**
    - 1. Minimum distance between the camera and the dancer (for barre, center, and performances): 4 m (13 feet)
    - 2. Minimum width of the room: 2.5 m (8 feet)
    - 3. Advised height to place the camera: 1.2 m (4 feet)
  - iv. We recommend positioning your camera so there is a "landscape" recording, rather than "portrait", especially for center and performances.
  - v. Please have your camera still, and avoid having a person holding it.
  - vi. We encourage candidates to have a ballet floor or equivalent.
  - vii. We encourage candidates to have a ballet barre, although another support would also be welcome.
  - viii. We will not be responsible for any injuries or any damaged objects caused in any of the events hosted by Elegance.
- c. ZOOM**
- i. In order to participate, please create a ZOOM account prior to the competition.
  - ii. Enter the **number and the name of the candidate** as the ZOOM username (e.g. 29 Anna Smith).
  - iii. Please change the profile picture to an image with the number of the candidate. The number must be in black, with a white background. Please make this number very visible.
  - iv. Please log in to each event at least **30 min before** the beginning of all events, with your name as described above.
  - v. Once a member of our staff accepts you from Webinar mode into Participant mode, please turn ON your camera and stay visible.
  - vi. Please keep an eye on the "chat" – you will be contacted if our staff believes your visibility is not optimal. We count on you to make efforts to have the best set up possible, within the circumstances.
  - vii. During the graded **ballet class**, all candidates of the category in question must have their **cameras ON**, or else the jury will not be able to judge (*reminder*: ballet class is mandatory for categories 12+ registered to compete in ballet).
  - viii. If you are watching a ballet class that is not for your category, our staff will keep you in Webinar mode. In case you are accidentally kept in Participant mode although it is not the class for your category, please keep your camera off at all times.



- ix. During **performances**, candidates of the category in question must have their cameras OFF, except the **one candidate performing**, as well as the **next 4 candidates**, following the numbers assigned. Please pay attention to the progression of the performances, so cameras are turned on around 4 numbers before your own. The number and name are announced prior to each solo performance.
- x. Please make sure your Wi-Fi connection is adequate. We are not responsible for candidates missing any of the events due to problems with connection.
  1. We recommend that you place your Modem in the same room where you will be dancing. An alternative would be to plug in your computer an Ethernet cable.
  2. If you are using Wi-Fi, we recommend to limit the use of other devices to the same Wi-Fi at the same time.
  3. In case of connection issues right at the moment of a candidate to perform, a second chance will be given at the end of the age category/division in question.

## 10. Disqualification

- a. Candidates who do not follow the above rules and regulations may be disqualified.
- b. The following points will **immediately disqualify** a candidate:
  - i. For those registered in ballet or ballet+contemporary:
    1. Absence at the ballet class assigned (ages 12+).
    2. Absence at the ballet performance.
  - ii. For those registered in contemporary or ballet+contemporary:
    1. Absence at the contemporary performance.

## 11. Fees

- a. All fees are in Canadian Dollars (CAD).
- b. Candidates may register for ballet, contemporary, or both.
- c. Fees for age categories **8-9** and **10-11**:
  - i. Registration fee per style (ballet, contemporary):
    1. Early Bird (until September 1st, 2021): **85 CAD**
    2. Regular (until October 1st, 2021): **95 CAD**
    3. Late Comers (until October 15, 2021): **105 CAD**
- d. Fees for age categories **12-13**, **14-15**, **16-17** and **18+**:
  - i. Registration fee per style (ballet, contemporary):
    1. Early Bird (until September 1st, 2021): **115 CAD**
    2. Regular (until October 1st, 2021): **130 CAD**
    3. Late Comers (until October 15, 2021): **145 CAD**
- e. There are no additional fees for competitors selected to the Finale.