



# 3rd Annual Maryland Middle School Dance Showcase INFORMATION PACKET

**Purpose:**

1. To highlight instruction in middle school dance programs in the state of Maryland.
2. To expose students to school dance programs and educators throughout the state of Maryland.
3. To provide master classes of high quality to broaden student experiences.
4. To foster a quality performance in dance as a fine art.
5. To provide an opportunity for dance students to perform in front of a statewide audience.

**Who is Eligible:**

All middle school dance programs (public/private/parochial/independent schools in MD with curricular dance programs) in Maryland are invited to participate in MDMSDS.

**Description:**

Due to the global pandemic and the current circumstances, the 2022 Maryland Middle School Dance Showcase will provide options for participation in this year's event.

Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022

Place: Gordon Center for the Performing Arts  
3506 Gwynnbrook Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21117

**Procedures:**

	<b>Virtual Track</b>	<b>In-person Track #1 (AM ONLY)</b>	<b>In-person Track #2 (PM ONLY)</b>
<b>Selected Participation</b>	For schools/studios participating in the virtual track	For schools/studios that are <b>NOT</b> participating and/or attending the in-person, live evening concert and/or those that must return to school prior to the	For schools/studios that <b>ARE</b> participating and/or attending the in-person, live evening concert and/or those that are NOT required to return to school prior to the end of the school day

		end of the school day	
<b>Masterclasses</b>	3 masterclasses to attend virtually on April 21, 2022	2-3 masterclasses and informal concert	2 masterclasses and formal concert
<b>Video Submissions</b>	<b>FINAL</b> Concert video submissions must be uploaded by April 1st, 2022 for adjudication	Video submissions must be uploaded by March 7th, 2022 for adjudication to be considered for the Informal Concert	Video submissions must be uploaded by March 7th, 2022 for adjudication to be considered for the Formal Concert

**Video Submission Criteria:**

*This opportunity is optional for participating schools/studios/programs. All submissions must meet MDMSDS standards as defined on page 4.*

- Each school/studio may submit up to two (2), 4 minute (maximum length) pieces for adjudication. Submission will be accepted via Google Drive as an mp4 file. Video submission requirements are outlined on page 4.
- All work submitted will be screened to ensure all standards are maintained and feedback will be provided.
- The culminating virtual presentation of all selected works will be made available in May.

**Timeline of Dates:**

December 17, 2021	<p><b>Intention Form due</b> Submit to <a href="mailto:mdmiddleschoolshowcase@gmail.com">mdmiddleschoolshowcase@gmail.com</a></p> <p><i>*Please submit AFTER receiving approval from your school administrator or program director.</i></p>
February 19, 2022	<p>School/Studio Fee (\$100) Submit to <a href="mailto:mdmiddleschoolshowcase@gmail.com">mdmiddleschoolshowcase@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Fees are non-refundable and must be submitted by this date - one check made payable to MDEA and include the <a href="#">MPMSDS Fee Description Form</a> with your payment</b></p>
See Dates above for selected track requirements	<p>Video Submission due via <b>google drive school folders</b> for adjudication for all tracks (optional)</p> <p>Teachers will be given a google folder link for submitting all required information uploads.</p> <p><b>*For schools/studios participating in the virtual track only, the final/edited version of your piece must be uploaded to be</b></p>

	<p>adjudicated for consideration for the culminating concert as well as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of lyrics</li> <li>• Program Information Form</li> </ul> <p><b>*For schools/studios participating in the in-person tracks</b>, the following items must be uploaded with your video submission in order to be adjudicated for consideration for the informal or formal concerts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Videos, Music, Costume and Lyrics</li> <li>• Program Information Form</li> </ul>
March 14, 2022	Announcement of Informal and Formal Concert Performers
March 14 - April 29, 2022	T-shirt/clothing orders available through online ordering site - link to be provided (optional)
April 21, 2022	Maryland Middle School Dance Showcase
May 25, 2022	<p>Maryland Middle School Dance Showcase Virtual Premiere</p> <p><i>The virtual showcase will be available for 2 weeks starting on May 25, 2022.</i></p>

**Fees:**

- School/Studio Registration fee - \$100
- **Checks should be made payable to MDEA.** All fees are non-refundable. No individual or personal checks will be accepted.
- Please ensure that MDEA is a vendor with your school district and that all checks are addressed to the mailing address below.
- Checks should be mailed to the following address and include the [MPMSDS Fee Description Form](#)

Mailing address: Maia DeBaugh  
11 Glyndon Gate Way  
Reisterstown, MD 21136

If you have questions, please email showcase committee at [mdmiddleschoolshowcase@gmail.com](mailto:mdmiddleschoolshowcase@gmail.com)

# MARYLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE SHOWCASE STANDARDS - 2022

- Schools/Studios may submit one or two pieces.
- Choreography may not be plagiarized.
- Each piece may have a maximum of 20 dancers.
- Maximum length for dances is 4 minutes. (Part of the adjudication will be appropriateness of length relative to dancer ability and choreographic intent.)
- Movement, music, costume and lyrics must be appropriate for an audience of all ages, genders, races, religions and ethnicities.
- A copy of the lyrics that matches the music must accompany videos of dances using words. If no lyrics are submitted with the video, the video will not be adjudicated.
- Costume selection should take into consideration choreographic intent, suitability for dancers' body sizes and shapes, the audience, and the dancers involved. Costumes may not shed, as there is no time to sweep the stage during the concert. No bare midriffs or booty shorts. **Tights are required.**
- Dancers may be in costume on the video or a picture or drawing of the costume must be available with the video **for the informal and/or formal concert submissions.** If the dancers are not in the Showcase costume on the video or a picture or drawing of the costume is not submitted with the video, the video will not be reviewed.
- It is suggested that dancers be in costume on submitted videos if at all possible.
- Performers and audience members may not use confetti, glitter, and other such materials.
- Participating schools/studios will receive a packet of information to include detailed procedures, adjudicator feedback, and the schedule for the day. Adjudicator feedback will include comments and suggestions.
- Directions to The Gordon Center for the Performing Arts  
3506 Gwynnbrook Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21117
  - From the Baltimore Beltway (I-695), take Exit 19 (I-795) toward Owings Mills. Leave the expressway at Exit 4 and bear right onto Owings Mills Blvd. Travel 2.2 miles and turn right onto Gwynnbrook Avenue. The entrance to the Gordon Center and the Rosenbloom Jewish Community Center campus will be ½ mile on your left.
- Drop Off and Pick-Up is **only at the front of the building.**
- The Showcase Concert begins at 7:00 PM – ticketing information will be shared at a later date.

# Maryland Middle School Dance Showcase

## Rules and Procedures

***Please review these rules and discuss with dancers prior to Showcase day.***

1. Be on time for the entire Showcase day, including all classes and concert.
2. In addition to the teacher, schools must provide 1 chaperone per 10 students who will accompany the group throughout Showcase day. The minimum number of chaperones is 1. (e.g. 20 dancers = 2 chaperones + teacher). A teacher is not counted as a chaperone.
3. Supervise student behavior to assure professionalism and appropriateness. Address inappropriate behavior immediately. Remind students that they are representing their school system.
4. TEACHERS MUST GO BACKSTAGE WITH THEIR DANCERS DURING THE PERFORMANCE AND ESCORT THEM BACK TO THEIR SEATS, and dancers must follow the directions of tech and theatre staff.
5. Be a good guest of The Gordon Center for the Performing Arts. Pick up trash, be neat in assigned dressing areas and restrooms, be responsible for your clothing and belongings, use only the restroom assigned, talk softly everywhere, observe quiet in the hallways.
6. Do not bring headphones, iPods, tablets, gum, jewelry.
7. Dancers must be properly dressed for class and rehearsal. Appropriate dress is leotard, tights, appropriate shoes for class, no gum or jewelry, and hair secured up and out of the face. No bare midriffs or booty shorts. No excessive warm-ups or layered clothing should be worn.
8. Wear cover ups while traveling between classes.
9. Do not rehearse in studios during Showcase day.
10. Dinner is to be eaten in the cafeteria ONLY. Suggested options for dinner will be provided.
11. Do not leave the campus for any reason except an emergency.
12. Dancers are either in class, or transitioning between classes. Dancers should remain with their school/studio at all times.

13. Each school must bring a first aid kit, emergency contact numbers, and a large trash bag.

14. Students must remain seated during the concert except to go backstage to perform.

15. Enforce appropriate audience etiquette with students (silence during pieces, applause is the only appropriate response at a fine arts dance concert; yelling, whistling, and calling dancer names are unacceptable responses).

16. Cell phones **MUST** be off and no texting or videotaping should occur during the entire Showcase day including the concert. Dancers do not have permission to video or photograph others at Showcase. Teachers must enforce this. Suggestion: Collect all phones at the beginning of the day and return them to dancers at the end of the concert.

17. Bring a copy of your music in CD form - MP3 format **ONLY** (playable in a CD player) as a back-up. Music will be uploaded to your school's google drive folder.

19. Before leaving, teachers and dancers must check that dancers have all their belongings, seating area is and dressing areas are cleaned up and all programs and trash are removed.

**The Gordon Center should not know that we've been there (Leave no trace!)**

**Dancers must be ready for performance by 6:30 PM!!!**

# Showcase Adjudication Procedures

## ***The adjudication committee is made up of professional artists.***

- Lyrics are screened for appropriateness for an audience of all ages and backgrounds.
- Costume pictures are viewed if the dancers are not in costume on the video.
- Adjudicators do not know the school represented in the piece(s) they are viewing. This is a blind adjudication.
- Every piece is viewed in its entirety.

Pieces are scored according to the rubric- out of 16 points.

- **Technical Execution** – performed well based on dancer ability, consistent with the style of the piece, performed clearly. This score is not based on ballet technique.

Example: If it is clear that feet should be flexed (or pointed) and they are not, this lowers the technique score.

- **Innovative Presentation & Creative Composition-** Use of Choreographic Tools - facings, formations, ABA, etc., clear intent, transitions that are clearly choreographed, appropriate for dancer ability, creativity/uniqueness, clarity of style/genre, music appropriate for style/genre.
- **Energy and Expression** - demonstration of meaning through use of dynamics, character, spacial awareness/relationships, musicality and rhythm
- **Performance** – overall dancers are invested in the movement, confident, show focus, appropriate for the piece and commitment to the choreography.

- The piece will be briefly discussed after viewing and any additional information is recorded.
- After all pieces are reviewed, adjudicators set the concert order based on variety.
- The adjudicator scores, comments, and suggestions are given to teachers for the sole purpose of improving the artistry of the piece(s) submitted. This should not be shared directly with dancers unless first reviewed by the teacher. This should not be shared with other teachers as they have not seen the video and have no point of reference.
- The adjudicators and the other professionals who give their time and expertise to Showcase have been a large contribution to the consistently elevated quality of dance education.