

# OSA RULES AND REGULATIONS

## 2016 - 2017

**ONLINE REGISTRATION:** This is the quickest and easiest way for you to enter. You create an account at [www.onstageamericoteachers.com](http://www.onstageamericoteachers.com). You first create a roster of all students and then enter your routines. All schedules and routine numbers will be posted for teachers to view on this account. Students can be added, deleted or modified by the studio at anytime. National entries can be created with 2 simple clicks. You can pay online with a single credit card payment or send us a check in the mail. However, registration will not be considered complete until payment is received.

**OFFLINE REGISTRATION:** If you choose not to register your entries online, you **MUST** submit a clearly printed or typed student roster form with all information completed. Student roster forms may be downloaded from our website or you can call our office to have an official entry form mailed or faxed to you. Please return the registration forms with full payment -- either a single studio check, or a completed credit card authorization form.

**For ALL Credit Card Payments a processing fee of 3% will be added to the total.**

Please submit one entry form per routine. If submitting a hard copy, all entries should be mailed together, with a typed Master List, in one large envelope and postmarked by the deadline date (listed next to the competition date in this brochure). All entries must be accompanied with payment in full by a single studio check payable to ON STAGE AMERICA (OSA). Returned checks will be charged a \$35.00 fee, and only cashier's checks or money orders will be accepted from that studio in the future. Entry fees are non-refundable.

There are no refunds for entry fees on a Regional or National Level. Gift certificates are issued only in cases of documented injury or illness. These will be issued directly to the studio.

**Studios must provide a Master List of all performers, which shall include the name of each student, date of birth, Competition Level (Novice, Intermediate or Advanced) and a parent's signature for each student. The parent's signature constitutes a waiver of liability for *On Stage America*. A completed form can be downloaded from the teacher's site after the student roster has been created.**

For mailed entries, a copy of the Master List should be attached to each entry form with the names of the students highlighted who are performing in that routine. Please make sure that the entry form, when submitted, is complete.

### **LATE ENTRIES**

Late entries will be accepted up to 3 weeks prior to the competition on a space-available basis. Any late entries received less than 3 weeks prior to the competition will be charged a late fee of 10% of the entry fees. Payment for all entries mailed after the Deadline Date (see schedule for deadline date of each competition) must be submitted with a CASHIER'S CHECK / MONEY ORDER or CREDIT CARD and sent overnight with tracking information e-mailed.

## TIME LIMITS

Solo	3:00 Minutes
Duo/Trio	3:00 Minutes
Small Group	3:00 Minutes
Large Group	4:00 Minutes
Line	5:00 Minutes
Production	6:00 Minutes

The length of entries may be extended with prior approval of an *On Stage America* director, and will require an additional charge of \$2.00 per each minute, per dancer for each routine that exceeds the time limit.

## ENTRY DIVISIONS

Solo	
Duo/Trio	
Small Group	4 – 9 performers
Large Group	10 – 19 performers
Line	20+ Performers
Production	Minimum of 20 performers of all ages and abilities incorporating any combined styles of dance with a storyline or theme.

Solos are limited to 3 per competition for Advanced dancers, 2 for Intermediate dancers and 1 for Novice dancers.

**An entry that is unable to perform with its respective division, will be adjudicated only.** For Example: A Junior dancing on a Senior day or a Senior dancing on a Junior day is not eligible for High Score Awards unless it is scheduled by On Stage America.

## AGE DIVISIONS\*

Petite	8 & Under
Junior	9 – 12
Teen	13 – 15
Senior	16 – 21
OSA Adults	22 & Older
Teachers	Anyone over 18 years old who is receiving monetary compensation for his/her services to the studio
Pro-Am	For teachers dancing in a routine with 1 (one) or more students

\* All ages are as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

## **Novice, Intermediate and Advanced Levels**

**The Novice level should consist of dancers who take less than 3 hours of classes per week. Novice dancers are limited to a maximum of 3 routines per competition.**

Dancers performing in the Intermediate level should be taking fewer than 5 hours of classes weekly and are limited to a maximum of 6 routines per competition.

Dancer's performing in the Advanced level are dancing more than five hours per week.

All four of our age divisions will be divided into Novice, Intermediate and Advanced levels.

Age groups are as follows:

Petite -- 6 years & under, or 7-8 years

Junior -- 9-10 years, or 11-12 years

Teen -- 13-15 years

Senior -- 16-18 or 19-21 years

On Stage Adults -- 22-34 years; and 35 +

Ages of entries other than solos must be averaged. In determining average age, drop all decimals. Full names, ages, and birth dates of all performers must be attached to the entry form.

**In Group Divisions (Small and Large Groups), and Line No more than fifty percent of the dancers can be Higher than the average age or else the routine will be moved to a higher age group.**

**For Example: If a group has 16 dancers and the average age is 10 BUT there are 9 or more dancers who are above the age of 13, the group will be moved to Teen Division (13-15).**

**This rule does not apply to Petite Group, Line and Productions.**

**Productions are exempt to this rule. For Production routine please average the ages and drop the decimal.**

## **PERFORMANCE MUSIC**

**You now have the option of directly uploading your music through your teachers account. Please call our office for further details.**

All music not uploaded, must be recorded on a CD and clearly marked with the entry number and studio name. There must be only ONE TRACK per CD. **All music for a specific competition day must be turned in to the EMCEE ½ hour before the beginning of the competition, or at least ½ hour before the studio's first routine is to perform. (Please be sure to have a back-up for all of your music with you at the competition).**

## PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Acro	Routine containing gymnastic passes, flexibility moves, and/or contortionist moves. Must contain dance moves and choreography as well.
Ballet	Routine must consist of ballet technique, classical steps and movements, performed in soft shoes. No Acro passes permitted.*
Character	Routine must be 50% characterization, i.e., a clown, puppet, etc. and 50% dance
Cheer	Consisting of Cheerleading, Pom Pon, Drill Team and Kick Line.
Clogging	Routine using clogging technique and style.
Contemporary	Same criteria as lyrical but set to more contemporary music. No Acro passes permitted.*
Hip-Hop	Routine using primarily hip hop technique and moves.
Jazz	Routine using primarily jazz technique. No Acro passes permitted.*
Lyrical	Routine must emphasize control utilizing the lyrics and mood of the music. No Acro passes permitted.*
Modern	Interpretive dance patterned after Graham technique. No Acro passes permitted.*
Musical Theatre	Designed primarily for musical comedy and Broadway dancing--mime, lip sync singing, etc, are allowed.
Pointe	Same criteria as ballet. Must be performed in Pointe shoes. No Acro passes permitted.*
Song & Dance	Routine must consist of both singing and dancing in any category. No vocal is permitted on tape.
Tap	Routine utilizing tap technique. No Acro passes permitted.*
Vocal	Singing only. No vocal permitted on tape.
Open	To encompass any form of dance not already listed.

**Please make sure that all routines with more than two acro passes are entered in acro or open categories. No acro passes are permitted in ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, modern, contemporary, or lyrical categories.**

**\*Acro Pass** – an Acro pass is defined as a combination of two or more acro tricks. One single cartwheel or one single handspring, etc. constitutes a trick not a pass.

**Solo & Duo/Trio dancers cannot compete against themselves in the same category.**

### **TITLE SOLOS – (Advanced Dancers Only. Vocal Solos are not eligible for Title)**

Petite Miss/Mr. <i>On Stage America</i>	8 & under
Junior Miss/Mr. <i>On Stage America</i>	9-12
Teen Miss/Mr. <i>On Stage America</i>	13-15
Senior Miss/Mr. <i>On Stage America</i>	16-21

Advanced dancers are nominated by the Judges during competition to re-compete for the Title of Mr. and Miss On Stage America. Up to ten nominations in each age category will be made.

Selection criteria will be based on showmanship and overall presentation, as well as technique. Only dancers who score a Hi-Platinum and above are eligible to win title. However, earning a Hi-Platinum does not guarantee a nomination for Titles.

Dancers will perform first minute and half of the routine nominated. The music will be faded off by the emcee at approximately One and Half Minute mark.

Winners will receive an On Stage America Title Jacket. Winning the Highest Score does not guarantee a Title Win.

A specific time frame will be allotted for the Title nominations and they will perform in random order picked by the judges.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Dress Code:** *On Stage America* is a family oriented event. Costuming **MUST** be age appropriate and all acts presented on stage **MUST** be appropriate for family viewing. Choreography and lyrics which are suggestive and/or violent in nature are not acceptable. Failure to adhere to the above may lead to disqualification.

**Props:** Props are acceptable provided they can be set up and removed within a total time period of two minutes. Baby powder or helium balloons can not be used at any time. No dangerous props may be used on stage. No backdrop other than *On Stage America's* backdrop is permitted. The floor must be in the same condition after each act that involves props.

**\*NEW\*** No special lightning request can be accepted at the competition. All routines **Must** perform in Full Stage Light (Full Wash).

**Adherence to Schedule:** The schedule must be followed unless a change is approved in advance by OSA. Failure to follow the order of the program schedule may result in the loss of participation in the awards ceremony and/or high score awards. Contestants must check-in with the backstage manager prior to dancing.

**PLEASE NOTE: STUDIO OWNERS SHOULD REVIEW THEIR SCHEDULE UPON RECEIPT. ANY REQUEST FOR CHANGE / CONFLICT SHOULD BE MADE ONLINE VIA TEACHERS PAGE WITHIN THE TIME ALLOWED.**

**Delays: Dancers causing unwarranted delays MAY be ineligible for high score awards.**

**Competition Location/Days:** *On Stage America* reserves the right to extend or decrease the competition days and change the location of the competition.

**Cameras:** No cameras allowed in the auditorium during performances. Every studio can have a designated photographer as long as they have requested it in writing. An identification card will be issued and the photographer for the studio **MUST** wear while in the auditorium.

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDIO OWNERS TO MAKE SURE that all parents and guests understand these restrictions.**

**Incomplete Routines:** Dancers who run offstage before the completion of their dance, for any reason, will be asked to perform a second time. However, they will be competing for adjudication only and will not be eligible for high score awards.

**Photos:** Contestants grant the directors of *On Stage America* their authorization to use any photographs or videos for advertising purposes.

**Be ready!** All contestants should be at the venue at least 1 hour before their scheduled routine ready to perform. If the competition is running ahead of schedule, they are expected to be ready earlier.

**Schedules will be posted on teacher's registration site approximately 10 days prior to the competition.**

**Refunds:** There are no cash refunds. To obtain a credit in the case of illness or medical emergency, a letter from a doctor is required. A studio credit will be issued and can be used at a future *On Stage America* competition.

## **ADJUDICATED AWARDS**

Trophies or plaques will be awarded to all Diamond, Hi-Platinum, Platinum, Hi Gold, Gold, Hi-Silver and Silver winners. In addition, all duo/trio and group dancers will receive award pin. Scoring will be based on a 100 point system.

Diamond	100 – 98
Hi-Platinum	97.99 – 94
Platinum	93.99 – 90
Hi-Gold	89.99 – 87
Gold	86.99 – 80
Hi-Silver	79.99 – 77
Silver	76.99 and lower

## **Special Awards**

The following Special Awards are presented during each competition for 12 & Under and 13 & Over age categories.

- Best Choreographer Award
- Student Choreography Award (Minimum of 3 Student Choreographed routines required)
- Entertainment Award
- Technique Award
- Class Act Award
- Backstage Award

## **HIGH SCORE AWARDS**

**Engraved Plaques/Trophies** are awarded to the highest score for Solos, Duo/Trios, and Groups in the Petite – Novice, Intermediate and Advanced, Junior – Novice, Intermediate and Advanced, Teen – Novice, Intermediate and Advanced, Senior – Novice, Intermediate and Advanced, Pro/Am and On Stage Adults divisions. In addition, the following cash amounts are presented for the Top Score in the **PETITE - Advanced, JUNIOR - Advanced, TEEN - Advanced, SENIOR - Advanced, AND PRO/AM.**

**\*New\* All vocal routines will receive separate high score awards.**

**A soloist can only place once in the Overall Top 10 High Scores.**

**In order to receive cash award the routine must be in Advanced Category and a Minimum of 5 entries are required in each division. If there are not enough entries in the division, a gift certificate will be issued.**

### **Cash Awards:**

Solo	\$ 75.00 cash
Duo/Trio	\$ 75.00 cash
Small Group	\$ 100.00 cash
Large Group	\$ 100.00 cash
Line	\$ 100.00 cash
Productions	\$ 150.00 cash
Pro/Am Group	\$ 100.00 cash

All Novice and Intermediate level dancers will be eligible for overalls (No Cash Awards) in their respective divisions.

Advanced level dancers are eligible for both overalls and cash awards.

In the Novice level to be eligible for overall awards a routine must score Gold, for Intermediate level, to be eligible for the overall awards, the routine must be awarded a minimum of Hi-Gold.

In the Advanced level to be eligible for overall cash awards, the routine must be awarded a minimum of Platinum.

All cash prizes will be awarded to the Dance Studio.

**TEACHERS AND ADULT** dancers are not eligible for high score awards.

### **In addition to above rules following rules apply to Nationals Only.**

#### **NATIONAL TITLE SOLOS**

Petite Miss/Mr. On Stage America 8 & under

Junior Miss/Mr. On Stage America 9-12

Teen Miss/Mr. On Stage America 13-15

Senior Miss/Mr. On Stage America 16-21

In order to compete for a National title, you must be a Top 10 finalist or winner at one of our regionals. Scoring criteria is below:

- Interview (20%) -- Each contestant will be asked one question from our judging panel. This will be an on stage interview which is closed to public.
- Performance (80%) -- Judges will score based on execution, showmanship and overall performance

Title winners cannot win Solo High Score with the Title Winning routine. A contestant may enter only one solo in the title division. There must be at least 3 contestants in each division (i.e.: 3 Petite girls, 3 Jr. Boys etc) otherwise entries will be combined to form 12 & Under and 13 & Over divisions.

A Title entry that does not win will be eligible for Overall Solo High Score.

Senior Title winners will receive a trophy, crown, sash, flowers and a \$300.00 cash award. Petite, Junior and Teen Title winners will receive a trophy, crown, sash, flowers and Scholarship to a Storm Convention of your choice. No Title entries will be accepted during the competition. A specific time frame will be allotted for the title contestants.

Diamond Award – This award is given to the Highest Overall Score of each division Petite, Junior, Teen, and Senior.

Excellence Award for each of the following discipline's: Tap, Jazz, Lyrical and Hip Hop

Challenge of Champions: Is the highest scoring group from each studio will re-compete for a 6 foot trophy and \$1000.00 cash prize. There will be a Challenge for the 12 & under and 13 & over.

Best Choreography for Petite, Junior, Teen and Senior Divisions

Entertainment Award: Given to the most entertaining number for both 12 & Under and 13 & Over

Best Costume, Award of Merit, Achievement Award, Broadway Bound, Outstanding Technical Execution, Award of Excellence, Triple Crown Award, Dancer of The Year, Teacher of the Year and Judge's Choice Award.