

MPAC

melbourne performing arts challenge

2019 Dates:

Friday August 2nd (evening only), Saturday August 3rd & Sunday August 4th – *SOLOS / DUOS, TRIOS, QUADS*

Saturday August 17th & Sunday August 18th – *TROUPE WEEKEND*

Saturday August 24th & Sunday August 25th – *SOLOS & CHAMPIONSHIPS*

Venue – Solos / Duos, Trios, Quads:

Ken Thompson Performing Arts Centre
Gladstone Park Secondary School
14-36 Taylor Drive, Gladstone Park VIC 3043

Venue – Troupe Weekend:

Quin Auditorium, Caroline Chisholm College
204 Churchill Ave, Braybrook VIC 3019

Closing Date for Entries:

Sunday 30th June 2019

ABOUT US

Melbourne Performing Arts Challenge was started to give dancers of all ages and genres, a supportive environment to showcase their talents! 2019 sees MPAC back for its tenth year and we are extremely excited to have so many talented schools looking to take part and celebrate the performing arts!

AGE LIMITS:

Solos/Duos/Trios/Quads/Championships: Age limit is to be taken as of the 1st January 2019.

Troupes: Average Age for all troupe entries (please refer to “Age Limits” in the Rules & Regulations below)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS/FEES

All solo/duo/trio/quad competitors are required to pay a \$25.00 registration fee. This will enable access for the competitor as well as guests into the theatre auditorium/back stage areas with no extra door entry charges on solo or duo/trio/quad competition days only.

On troupe weekend only, a door entry fee will be charged for all patrons entering the auditorium. Paying patrons will have priority access to the theatre and only if there is room available, competitors may enter the theatre for viewing. Competitors may be asked to leave the auditorium if required. Entry prices will be provided closer to competition dates.

CATEGORIES

Jazz
Neo Classical/Lyrical
Classical Ballet
Contemporary
Tap / Street Tap
Theatrical (Song & Dance/Song & Tap)
Hip Hop

RULES & REGULATIONS

- All Competitors enter and perform at their own risk.
- All sections are open to Amateurs, Full time dance students and Professionals
- Competitors are only to appear once in any one section, including troupes.

ENTRIES

- ❖ Entries will close on Sunday 30th June, 2019. No late entries will be accepted.
- ❖ Entries are non-refundable unless there is evidence provided to support an entrants' withdrawal from competition (eg, medical certificate). Entries will not be refunded due to schedule conflicts or change of mind. Enter at your own risk.
- ❖ Competitors will be denied any requests to perform in other age group sections other than the age group the competitor is qualified to perform in.
- ❖ Entries for Novice/Open categories are taken from the date entered. For example, if at time of entry you are a Novice, you will remain novice, even if placed in another competition after entries have closed.

AGE LIMITS

SOLOS/DUOS/TRIOS/QUADS/CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- ❖ Age is to be taken as of the 1st of January 2019.
- ❖ *For example: If competitor is 10 as of the 1st of Jan 2019, they will qualify for 10 & Under 12 Years age group.*

TROUPES:

- ❖ Average Age - The ages of each troupe member are to be added together and divided by the number of troupe members. Upon entry, a list of all troupe members and DOB's is to be provided. The average age will determine the age section into which your troupes will qualify for.

For example:

16.5 = 16 years = to be entered into Under 17 Years Troupe category.

10.5 = 10 years = to be entered into Under 13 years Troupe category.

In addition to the above, there is only a maximum of 2 performers permitted per troupe that may be one year older than the age group section entered. If 2 eldest performers are older than 1 age group, the MPAC organizers reserve the right to move the entry up to the next age group category.

For example:

Under 6 Years eldest can be 7 – maximum 2 members / if 8 years old, will be moved up to next age group.

Under 8 Years eldest can be 9 – maximum 2 members / if 10 years old, will be moved up to next age group.

Under 10 Years eldest can be 11 – maximum 2 members / if 12, will be moved up to next age group.

Under 13 Years eldest can be 14 – maximum 2 members / if 15, will be moved up to next age group.

Under 17 Years eldest can be 18 – maximum 2 members / if 19, will be moved up to next age group.

DATES AND VENUES

- ❖ The dates provided for MPAC 2019 are secured with the venue provided and may be subject to minor changes. MPAC reserves the right to add or delete competition dates or move location due to unforeseen circumstances and entries will not be refunded.
- ❖ An outline of solo weekends / troupe weekend will be provided with secured dates. Specific age groups cannot be confirmed until entries have closed.

EISTEDDFOD SCHEDULES/PROGRAM:

- ❖ A schedule of events will be provided to all entrants within 2-3 weeks of the entry closing date. This will be emailed out to the addresses provided upon entry. A copy will also be made available on the MPAC website – www.mpacdance.com.au
- ❖ A program will be provided to all entrants within the 2 weeks leading up to day one of competition. This will be sent via email only.
- ❖ Once the program has been published, no changes can be requested.
- ❖ The MPAC Organizers reserve the right to combine/eliminate or amend sections based on the entries received.
- ❖ The MPAC Organizers reserve the right to make amendments to programming after being published, if required.
- ❖ The MPAC Organizers do their utmost to factor in other dance events held in Melbourne on the same dates of competition and will schedule accordingly. Not all schedule conflicts can be avoided, therefore all competitors/schools are to enter at their own risk.
- ❖ If the eisteddfod is running early, it will not run any earlier than 1 hour ahead of time. Please allow sufficient time for preparations. The MPAC organizers will not have the ability to respond to emails/facebook messages regarding timing of the event during the eisteddfod.

PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES - SOLOS:

- ❖ All dance sections (solos and troupes) must contain 80% dance quality.
- ❖ A novice solos section is for competitors who have not placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize at any competition in the category of sections he or she is entering.
- ❖ An open solo section is for competitors who have placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize at any competition in the category of section he or she is entering.
- ❖ The competitors are responsible to appear in the order they have been programmed. If the competitor misses their number, they may appear at the end of the section for a critique sheet only. If it is at the fault of the festival, the competitor will be allowed to compete as per normal.
- ❖ If a competitor commences an item and stops during the performance, they will be provided an opportunity to perform at the end of the section for a critique sheet only. If there is a technical difficulty with music, the competitor will be provided the opportunity to re-perform with no penalties.
- ❖ Theatrical sections consist of either a Song & Dance or Song & Tap solo/troupe performance.
- ❖ Theatrical sections (Song and Dance/Tap sections) should have 50% song and 50% dance.
- ❖ Theatrical sections (Song and Dance/Tap sections) should have NO vocal backing.
- ❖ Jazz Improvisation sections:
 - Competitors to wear any black leotard, black jazz shoes and black ¾ leggings if required. Hair accessories permitted.
 - Competitors to hear song selection once prior to performing on stage.
 - Competitors to perform for 1.5 minutes.
- ❖ Any style section:
 - Competitors may perform a routine in any of the below listed categories:
Jazz, Neo Classical, Lyrical, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Acrobatics.
- ❖ On stage presentations will be for the following sections only: U6 sections and Championship sections only.
- ❖ Only teachers and competitors are allowed backstage – excluding sections for under 10 years, where a parent is permitted.
- ❖ Protests are to be made in writing to the organizers within 10 minutes of the completion of a section. A fee of \$20.00 applies and will be forfeited if the protest is deemed frivolous.
- ❖ No rehearsal is allowed on stage at the anytime throughout the festival. If performers are caught at any time, they will be disqualified instantly.

PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES - TROUPES:

- ❖ Troupes must have a minimum number of 5 performers.
- ❖ Competitors are only to appear once in any troupe section.
- ❖ No troupe rehearsal is allowed on stage at the anytime throughout the festival. If performers are caught at any time, they will be disqualified instantly.

TIME LIMITS:

All Solo/Duo/Trio/Quad sections	3 minutes
Theatrical (Song & Dance/Tap) sections	4 minutes
Jazz Improvisation	1.5 minutes
Jazz/Classical/Contemporary Championships	3.5 minutes
Tap Championship	4 minutes
All Troupe sections	5 minutes

MUSIC GUIDELINES:

- ❖ Competitors are to be responsible for their own music. Please ensure any CDs/Devices are clearly labeled.
- ❖ CDs / Ipods / Ipad / Laptops are permitted. No USBs will be allowed.
 - CDs : Please do not use re-writable CDs (CD-RW).
 - CDs : 1 track per CD. Please avoid having multiple tracks on a CD.
 - Devices : Please ensure any ipods/ipads handed in are unlocked and volume is up to highest level.
 - Devices: Please ensure to have any ipods/ipads on airplane mode.
- ❖ MPAC holds no responsibility for damaged CDs. It is strongly advised to have a backup CD or device readily available.
- ❖ Music must be checked in at the Music Check-In desk back stage 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the section competitors are performing in.
- ❖ Tap sections must have no “tap dance” sound effects.
- ❖ Theatrical sections (Song and Dance/Tap sections) should have NO vocal backing.

APRA COPYRIGHT:

MPAC complies and holds an APRA licence regarding copyright to music. In accordance with federal statutes, competitors must use original material or have permission from the relevant owners of copyright. The MPAC organizers will not be held responsible for any music copyright infringements.

ADJUDICATOR:

- ❖ The adjudicator's decision is final and all prizes are at the discretion of the adjudicator only.
- ❖ No competitor or teacher who has been taught, coached or advised by the Adjudicator during the 6 months prior to the commencement of MPAC shall be eligible to enter.
- ❖ Any competitor, relative or teacher who approaches an adjudicator before or during the festival will result in instant disqualification.
- ❖ The adjudicator may choose to award honourable mentions in place of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in Novice sections, if they believe the performer is not ready to perform in an Open category section.

DRESSING ROOMS

- ❖ MPAC provides dressing rooms for all competitors and requests that no performers get changed in the toilets. Any performer risks disqualification if they are found not using their allocated dressing room to change.
- ❖ MPAC will not be responsible for lost property or any belongings left in the theatre or theatre dressing rooms. Please ensure to collect all belongings at the end of the competitors performance.
- ❖ Strictly no Photographs to be taken in the Dressing Rooms and or published on Social Media. Please understand that as you may be aware of your actions, others may not be. This rule needs to be strictly adhered to and disqualification will occur if this rule is breached. Photos may be taken in the Foyer in front of the Media Screens and outside in the Courtyard only.

PROPS/CURTAINS/LIGHTING

- ❖ All props for solo/championships/troupe sections are the sole responsibility of the competitors and their teachers.
- ❖ Props must be removed from side stage at the end of any section it is required for and taken home that evening. You must not store your props at the venue.
- ❖ Front of house curtain will be used for Troupe sections and on stage presentations for U6 & Championship sections only.
- ❖ No special lighting effects are used for any sections.

THEATRE AUDITORIUM RULES

- ❖ No food or drink to be permitted into the theatre auditorium.
- ❖ No smoking is permitted on theatre or school grounds. You must be outside building parameters.
- ❖ Children and competitors under the age of 12 are not permitted to sit in the first 3 rows of the theatre unless accompanied by an adult.
- ❖ The MPAC Organizers expect the behavior of both the audience and competitors to be appropriate to the occasion.
- ❖ Areas of the theatre including the auditorium, change rooms, bathrooms and foyers must be clean at all times. Where additional charges are imposed by the venues on the organizers, the charges will be forwarded to the applicable schools or competitors.
- ❖ OH&S guidelines must be adhered to at all times in the dressing rooms
- ❖ NO Cameras, video cameras, mobile phone recordings or phones are to be used in the auditorium. Any offenders will be requested to leave the audience and asked to delete all recordings & footage or risk disqualification of the competitor on stage.
- ❖ If the auditorium is at capacity, you may be refused entry in order to adhere to the theatre OH&S rules. If the venue permits it, a monitor will be set up in the foyer of dressing room.

TEACHER/PARENT CODES OF CONDUCT

- ❖ Teachers and parents are responsible to ensure that they educate those attending MPAC to confirm they are comfortable with all the rules and conduct policies.
- ❖ As a basic child safety measure, all studios along with students must have a fully stocked first aid kit on hand, and when they are attending with more than 10 students are asked to nominate one first aid person for their studio for the day.
- ❖ We encourage teachers to ensure that proper working with children checks are in place for those who require them.

PRIZES

Solos	1 st Place – Trophy 2 nd Place – Trophy 3 rd Place – Medal Honorable Mentions – at the discretion of the adjudicator
Duos/Trios/Quads	1 st Place – Medal 2 nd Place – Medal 3 rd Place – Medal Honorable Mentions – at the discretion of the adjudicator
Championships	1 st Place – Trophy & Prize Money or Vouchers 2 nd Place – Trophy & Prize Money or Vouchers 3 rd Place – Medal & Prize Money or Vouchers Honorable Mentions – at the discretion of the adjudicator
Troupes	1 st Place – Ribbons 2 nd Place – Ribbons 3 rd Place – Ribbons Honorable Mentions – at the discretion of the adjudicator

AGGREGATE POINTS

Solo/Duo/Trio/Quad/Troupe Sections: 1st Place = 5 points, 2nd Place = 3 points, 3rd Place = 1 point
No Championship sections will accrue points.

- ❖ A troupe aggregate will be awarded to the school with the most points accumulated in troupe sections only
- ❖ A teachers' aggregate will be awarded to the school with the most points accumulated over the entire festival
- ❖ Aggregate trophies will be awarded to competitors who accumulate the most points in their age group
- ❖ Where Aggregate and Perpetual trophies are presented for annual competition, the said trophies may be held by the competitors or school only until the first day the competition commences the following year. Trophies are to be returned in the condition they were presented or a fine will incur
- ❖ Prize money will be offered in all sponsored sections
- ❖ Honorable mentions may be awarded in lieu of 2nd and 3rd placings
- ❖ All prizes are at the discretion of the adjudicator and decisions are final.

CHAMPIONSHIP SECTIONS

- ❖ JAZZ CHAMPIONSHIP: Competitors may perform either a Broadway Jazz or Musical Comedy. No Hip Hop will be permitted
 - The competitor must perform 1 open Jazz solo and 1 other open solo section to qualify for a Jazz championship section
 - A repeat item is not permitted
- ❖ CONTEMPORARY CHAMPIONSHIP: Competitors to perform 1 Contemporary solo
 - The competitor must perform 1 open Contemporary solo and 1 other open solo section to qualify for a Contemporary championship section
 - A repeat item is not permitted
- ❖ CLASSICAL CUP: Competitors to perform 1 Classical Ballet solo (no demi-character solo)
 - The competitor must perform 1 open Classical solo and 1 other open solo section to qualify for a Classical championship section
 - A repeat item is not permitted
- ❖ TAP CHAMPIONSHIP: Competitors to perform a Tap solo consisting of slow and fast tempo
 - The competitor must perform 1 open Tap solo and 1 other open solo section to qualify for a Tap championship section
 - A repeat item is not permitted

SOCIAL MEDIA

MPAC Directors reserve the right to use any photograph or video footage for any promotional and/or training purposes, and agree to having their image published on social media accounts or advertisements controlled only by MPAC Directors.

When engaging in the Melbourne Performing Arts Challenge we ask that contestants and their families, friends and guardians follow our guidelines:

1. **Be Respectful.** Please do not post any content containing personal attacks, hateful language, profanity or explicit material.
2. **Follow the Law.** Discussions about illegal activity, violations of Copyright laws, are absolutely not permitted under any circumstance. Remember these laws are there to protect your child from recording your children without consent. Please follow the *no audience recording rules* for the safety of all competitors.
3. **Protect Your Personal Information.** You Participate at MPAC at your own risk. Please ensure that you don't publicly share your personal information or the information of others.
4. **Value all Members of the Community.** Treat all people equally and fairly and only post encouraging and positive comments. Children of today are being subjected to social media, let's all protect them and adhere to healthy Social Media practices.

PRIVACY

- ❖ You are very important to us and we believe that your business is no one else's. We will not share, sell or trade any of your information with third parties. Your privacy is of upmost importance to us.
- ❖ We do not ask you to publicly supply your email address in any social media forum for us to create a data base.
- ❖ We do not give out any detail about our participants over the phone or via email.
- ❖ If you feel your privacy has been breached, please contact the Australian Privacy Commission to lodge a complaint.

SPONSORSHIP/ADVERTISING

If you would like to sponsor MPAC, please email us at: info@mpacdance.com.au.

All MPAC sponsors will have their business promoted on the MPAC website and on social media platforms.

STALLS AND LOCAL BUSINESS PROMOTERS:

\$100.00 for each weekend.

If you would like to promote your business items or setup and run a stall at any of the MPAC weekends, please email us at: info@mpacdance.com.au