

Spotlight Dance Cup General Information & Rules 2012

Please read the following information carefully. Failure to comply with these rules could result in point reduction penalties or disqualification.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Visit your “My Spotlight” page for all important information, including schedules, invoices, music labels, directions, and more.
- A \$20.00 registration fee is assessed per studio/independent; however, is waived if total invoice exceeds \$1,000.
- Changes made after the closing date will be charged a \$20.00 fee.
- If a routine performs “out of order” as a result of a special performance time request or change, the placement award will be presented during the regularly scheduled awards ceremony for the applicable age group/division, unless awards have already been presented for those routines. In which case, the placement award will be presented at the next regularly scheduled awards ceremony. Special requests or changes are subject to the \$20 per routine fee.
- Spotlight will issue refunds of overpayment 7-10 days AFTER the event.
- No entry fee refunds or credits will be issued.

REGULAR CATEGORY GUIDELINES

- Gymnastic/acro moves are limited to 3 in all categories except in Acro Dance, Student Choreography, Open, Pom/Drill & Production which allow unlimited moves. A round-off is considered an acro move unless used as a pass preparation. Acro moves performed in unison by two or more dancers are considered one acro move. Consecutive moves by different dancers are counted separately.
- Lip sync and vocalization are permitted in all categories.

Acro Dance – Acrobatic moves incorporating dance choreography.

Ballet – Classical ballet technique.

Folkloric – Ethnic styles – Clogging, Hawaiian, Irish, Spanish, etc.

Hip-Hop – Street dance, free-style, funk, pop ‘n lock, etc.

Jazz – Traditional jazz technique.

Lyrical – Dance that expresses the lyrics of the music.

Contemporary – Contemporary dance with an emphasis on modern movement & technique.

Musical Theatre – Broadway, novelty or theme-based.

Open – Any style or combination of dance forms. Anything goes!

Pointe – Classical pointe technique.

Pom/Drill – Drill team style, with or without poms.

Song & Dance – Contains live singing & dance choreography throughout the piece. No pre-recorded vocal melody line is permitted in the music. However, backup vocalizations are allowed. Two hands-free or handheld wireless microphones will be provided upon request.

Student Choreography – The student must choreograph the entire routine of any style with no assistance from an instructor. No repetition of music or major dance combinations from other routines entered by your studio. Routine may be performed as a solo, duo/trio, or group. Performance by the choreographer is optional.

Tap – Any style of tap work & technique.

SPECIALTY CATEGORY GUIDELINES

Vocal – Vocal performance of any genre. May include limited choreography but must be at least 75% vocal. No pre-recorded vocal melody is permitted on the music. However backup vocalizations are allowed. **Two hands-free or handheld wireless microphones will be provided only. Regular category guidelines for time limits apply. (ex: Vocal Solo – 2:45)** Vocal category entries will not be competing with dance entries for overall awards. In order to tie outside audio equipment into Spotlight’s sound system, 2 weeks advance approval

must be obtained from our Technical Director and viability and quality is not guaranteed.

Triple Crown & Studio Achievement - Prestigious awards designed to showcase your studio’s most outstanding performances. Simply choose 3 of your studio’s best routines from the same group size and from any category, as follows: (**NOTE:** Novice Gems, Future Gems, Specialty & Adult Divisions are not eligible.)

Triple Crown – FOR SOLOS - Enter 3 solos from the same or different dancer(s) within the *same division*—Petite, Junior, Teen or Senior. Awards presented in each Division.

Studio Achievement – FOR DUOS/TRIOS & GROUPS

DUOS/TRIOS – Select 3 duos/trios from any category, but from *different divisions* – Petite, Junior, Teen, or Senior.

GROUPS – Select 3 groups of any size (small, large, or line) from any category, but from *different divisions*—Petite, Junior, Teen, or Senior. **EX:** Junior Small Group, Teen Large Group, Senior Small Group.

Studios are encouraged to enter multiple combinations. The highest scoring combination of solos in each Division will be presented the Triple Crown award. The highest scoring combination of duos/trios and the highest scoring combination of groups will be recognized as the best of the best with the coveted Studio Achievement Award.

Interpretive – Music will be assigned (approximately one minute) based on the dancer’s choice of dance style (tap, jazz, lyrical or hip-hop). The dancer will listen to the music approximately 15 minutes prior to the performance time. **Overall winner will be awarded in all Divisions!**

Teacher/Pro – Any teacher or professional dancer may perform in this category. A teacher/pro is defined as one receiving payment for their choreography, performance, and/or instruction, but not student teachers ages 19 years or less. All dance styles are permitted and may be performed by a solo, duo/trio, group, or line. **Teachers or professionals are not permitted to dance in the regular categories,** with the exception of the Adult Division and Productions, wherein 1 teacher is permitted to perform in a Small Group, Large Group, or Line. The Teacher/Pro entries will be scored separately and will not be grouped with other Adult Division entries for overall awards.

Production – This category is for your show spectacular and **must be theme-based.** It may contain multiple ages, levels, dance forms, props, stage sets, or special effects--20 dancer minimum.

Photogenic – Submit one recent photo taken within the past 12 months. **8x10 photos recommended, but no smaller than 5x7 accepted.** The Photogenic award will be presented during each division’s solo awards. Therefore, all photos must be submitted 1 hour prior to the award ceremony. Do not mail photos to the Spotlight office. If 3 or more entries are pre-registered from male competitors, a Mr. Photogenic will be awarded. Head or full body shots, in color or black and white are allowed. Any number of additional photos may be submitted. **Print your name, age, studio name and phone number on the back of each photo.** Winning photos from each Regional will be retained and automatically qualify to be entered in our Championship Finals for the National Photogenic Title. Winners may be featured in Spotlight’s Future brochures, ads and programs. Photogenic entries will not receive score sheets. It is the responsibility of the entrant to retrieve any non-winning photos from the Spotlight Boutique prior to the end of the Regional event. Spotlight Events, Inc.

is not responsible for the return of any photos or for any photo that is misplaced, lost or damaged.

SPOTLIGHT TITLE COMPETITION

Regional Eligibility – Compete for the prestigious title of Miss or Mr. Spotlight! Novice Gems or Future Gems dancers are not eligible to compete for Title. 2011 Titleholders are ineligible to compete in 2012 unless moving to a new age Division, but may compete in subsequent years or in another city or event. The same person cannot hold the title in more than one city or event in the same year.

National Finals Eligibility – See Nationals rules section.

Scoring – The total solo score of 300 points possible is added to the Title score of 150 points possible to determine the overall winners. When multiple solos are entered for Title, the highest solo score is used. **Contestants must adhere to the following. Non-compliance in any way will result in a 5-point penalty per infraction.**

- **Solo Dance Routine** – The solo is one competed in any regular category/division of our competition except specialty categories and Novice Gems or Future Gems Divisions. Multiple solos by the same dancer may be entered for Title for an additional fee.
- **Biography** – Contestants will recite a bio that includes **only** name, age, city, state, studio, and teacher. The bio can be phrased in any fashion; however, only the specified information can be given. No singing permitted.
- **Question** – Contestants will be asked one of four questions on stage. Contestants may retrieve a copy of the questions from the Stage Manager **NO MORE THAN ONE HOUR** prior to the Title competition.
- **Dance Combo** – Dancers will perform a 15 second or less dance combination. Over time limit penalties will be assessed, if applicable.
- **Attire** – Basic active dancewear must be worn and any type of dance shoe is permitted. I.e. Leotard and tights, jazz pants or dance shorts and simple top, etc. **No costumes permitted and no embellishments of any kind are allowed on the attire including but not limited to sequins, rhinestones, nail heads, glitter, etc.** No props allowed. Rhinestone jewelry is acceptable.

DANCE DOWN – An invaluable experience to all dancers! This category simulates an audition wherein all entered dancers will be taught a short jazz combination by our dance down instructor. The dancers will perform the combination in groups. Through the judges' process of elimination, the top 4 dancers will qualify as members of the Spotlight Elite at our 2012 National Finals. Dancers will be divided into two age brackets for the Dance Down--8-12 & 13-19. Dancers must enter based on their age **AS OF THE DAY** the Dance Down is held. Tickets may be purchased at the Spotlight Boutique at the event. Regional tickets are \$12 and National tickets are \$15. Regional winners must purchase a ticket to participate at Nationals.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Novice Gems & Future Gems Divisions - The skill level of a Novice Gems or Future Gems dancer is modest. Dancers with more advanced skills should enter the next division; advanced skills include but are not limited to fouettes, switch leaps to center, triple pirouettes, pull-backs, wings, etc. These entries are based on the honor system. Please be fair and honest with your dancers' placement. Any routine found to be ineligible may be disqualified or bumped to the proper division at the Show Director's and/or Judges' discretion. Novice Gems and Future Gems soloists may not enter multiple solo divisions.

Novice Gems – Dancers ages 19 and under who meet at least 2 of the following criteria: 1) Train 2 hours a week or less; 2) Have had a total of 2 years or less of dance training in any one or combination of dance forms; or 3) First year competitors (1 year is a season of 9 months or more.) Solos, duos and trios must be 100% Novice, and in the case of groups and lines, at least 70% of the dancers must be Novice, and the

remaining 30% can be Future Gems level. No regular division dancers permitted in the Novice Gems Division. A Novice Gems routine may not include feature roles by non-Novice dancers.

Future Gems Division – This division is for recreational dancers (ages 19 and under) who no longer qualify for the Novice Gems Division, but currently train and have trained ***NEW 5 hours** or less per week over the past 3 years (this includes ANY class or rehearsal time). All dancers in any group size must meet these criteria by 100%.

Spotlight Gems Divisions – *Petite* – 8 years and under; *Junior* – ages 9-11; *Teen* – ages 12-14; *Senior* – ages 15-19; *Adult Division* – ages 20 & up.

Age Groups – 4 and under, 5-6, 7-8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17-19, 20-28, and 29+. Enter dancers according to age as of January 1, 2011. For duos/trios and groups, average the dancers' ages to determine the age group. **All decimals are dropped when determining age group.** If protest arises, all dancers must be prepared to provide proof of age. ***Please note:** if a routine contains a dancer more than one division higher than the average age, the dancer cannot be in a featured role in the routine. Spotlight reserve the right to bump the routine to the next division at the discretion of the judges and/or Show Director.

Adult Dancer Rule - Any performer 20 years or older dancing in a solo, duo/trio, group or line **MUST** compete in the Adult Division or Teacher/Pro Division only. They are **NOT** eligible to compete in the regular divisions of Novice Gems, Future Gems, Petite, Junior, Teen and Senior.

Group Sizes – Solo, Duo/Trio, Small Group (4-9 dancers), Large Group (10-19 dancers), Line (20+ dancers), and Production (20+ dancers).

Regional Rates – Solo, \$87; Spotlight Title Solo, \$115; Interpretive Solo, \$60; Duo/Trio, \$102; Small Group, Large Group, Line, Production, \$36 per dancer; Studio Achievement & Triple Crown upgrade, \$10 per routine; Photogenic, \$25; each additional photo, \$15; Dance Down, \$12; Workshop, \$75; extended time, \$20 per 30 seconds; late fee, change fee, and special performance time requests, \$20 per routine. Spotlight Title Upgrade at events, \$48; Photogenic entries at event, \$30 first photo & \$15 each additional photo; workshop at event, \$85 for 3-class pass, \$30 for 1-class pass, and \$20 for observer pass.

Time Limits – Solos and Duos/Trios--2 minutes 45 seconds (2:45); Small Groups--3 minutes (3:00); Large Groups & Lines--4 minutes (4:00); Productions--6 minutes (6:00). Enter and exit the stage within 10 seconds with or without tag. Over time limit penalty, 10 points. Any time limit, including set up and tear down of sets or props, may be extended without penalty for an additional fee of \$20 per 30 seconds or portion thereof based on the following extensions: Solos and Duos/Trios, 30 seconds; Small Groups, 2:00 minutes; Large Groups/Lines, 3:00 minutes; and Productions, 4:00 minutes.

Music – CD or USB Flash Drive are both acceptable options when turning in music. The volume level of the music is at the sole discretion of the sound technician. Each routine should have a backup CD or iPod available, even if original music is on a USB Flash Drive. Music is to be turned in at registration or at the music table at least 5 routines in advance of the performance time to avoid a 5-point penalty. Music may also be turned in the evening preceding subsequent competition days.

USB Flash Drive - Each routine must be labeled as follows: #_routine name_studio code (example: 145_Fever_C). Additionally, music must be in mp3 format and a minimum bit rate of 128.

CDs - Music must be recorded on a single cut CD in a protective case or sleeve. We are not responsible for damaged CDs as a result of submission without individual protective sleeves. Record one routine per CD only and at the appropriate speed, as the sound technician is not responsible for adjusting tempo. CD binders or briefcases will not

be accepted. Each CD must be labeled on the protective sleeve or case with the Spotlight labels, or with routine number, routine name, and studio name and letter. **DO NOT place labels on the actual CD, as they can cause damage to the CD players.**

Music Pickup Procedures - Audio critiques and score sheets will be available online along with your video critiques, accessible through your "My Spotlight" page. Your music, gift certificates and cash awards **ONLY** will be available at the end of the event or after the awards ceremony once your entire studio has finished competing. They must be picked up by an authorized studio representative only and must be checked out from a Spotlight staff member. Spotlight Events is not responsible for music not picked up. A minimum fee of \$15 will be charged for shipping and handling to return music by mail.

Props – Props and/or stage sets are allowed if used as a part of the dance - no fire, knives, weapons, or animals. Motor vehicles cannot be started. Props involving electricity, including colored lights and fog must be UL approved, portable, and self-contained. Special lighting requests are not permitted. Props and stage sets must be set up and removed in their entirety within 1-minute total time, except Productions, which are allowed 3 minutes. Extended time may be purchased for prop set-up and tear-down per our extended time guidelines.

Props can be delivered backstage up to 2 hours prior to a performance and must be removed within 1 hour following the performance. Spotlight Events cannot guarantee storage space for props at the facility and the storage location must be approved by the Stage Manager.

Safety – The safety of competition dancers is paramount at all Spotlight Dance Cup events. A stage manager, Marley floor and first aid kit are provided. Spotlight Dance Cup stresses the importance of safety and executing only those skills, techniques and practices that will not cause undue harm or injury to performers, spectators, or the stage. Do not use or throw props on or off stage that might cause damage or leave a residue, such as liquids, gels, aerosols, glitters, powders, etc. Stage must be returned to its original pre-performance condition within 30 seconds. All props must be free standing and may not be attached to any apparatus or stage rigging. **Choreography that allows any dancer to be physically placed more than 6 feet off the ground of any scenic piece or prop could be considered hazardous.**

In order to ensure the safety of other dancers, staff, judges and audience members, 100% of choreography must be performed within the boundaries of the **provided stage area**. Dancing in aisles, on or around the judges table, jumping off the stage, and/or performing in any other part of the auditorium aside from the stage is strictly prohibited and may be subject to disqualification or penalty. Routines in violation of these noted safety standards will be penalized at the Show Director and/or Judges' discretion.

Performance Areas – We strive to secure high quality theatres and stages of no less than 40 ft. wide by 30 ft. deep. Stages will be covered with a protective Marley surface. For further information about a particular facility, please call our office at 208.939.2015.

Photography and Video Taping – **Cameras of any kind are strictly prohibited**, as in any professional performance venue, in order to abide by copyright law and due to the prevalence of people of questionable nature. Your cooperation with this guideline is appreciated to protect the dancers and the work of the choreographers. As a convenience to participants, a professional videographer and photographer will be at the event and their products will be available for purchase. It is the studio's responsibility to inform their participants of such. No cameras of any type are allowed in the dressing rooms. We have the exclusive right to deny any person(s) or studio(s) access to the competition in any way or any time due to misconduct, misuse, or otherwise. If cameras are found on the premise, Spotlight Events reserves the right to take the media being used, excuse the user from the event, and/or adjudicate the performance only. Further, failure to comply with these guidelines could

result in disqualification of the dancer(s) and/or studio. Additionally, we urge all studio owners, teachers, and especially parents, to help keep our performers photographically safe.

REGISTER ONLINE!!

Registration received exclusively online: www.spotlightevents.com
Absolutely no refunds or credits will be issued.

NOTE: Independent entries will be accepted; however, multiple entries from the same studio must be entered together and submitted as one packet.

1. Royalty Rewards Program – Studio Directors, earn up to 8% rebate as a reward for your loyal attendance. Visit our website to learn more about our Royalty Rewards program! **IMPORTANT: All entries must be submitted online and payment postmarked by the rebate date.** Be aware that if paying by credit card, regardless of Royalty Rewards level, you will receive a maximum 3% rebate. You receive the highest possible rebate amount by registering **online** and paying with a **certified check** by the rebate date. **If payment is postmarked after the rebate date, no rebate will be given regardless of Royalty Rewards level.**

2. Fees and Charges – Payment in full, completed online entries, studio roster, and a signed Master Studio Worksheet must be submitted for entries to be accepted (US \$ only). Issue 1 check or credit card per studio (no individual checks from parents). Please send payment to Spotlight Events, Inc., PO Box 1697 Eagle, ID 83616. We accept business checks, cashier's checks, money orders, and credit cards. Entry fees paid by credit card are subject to a 3% maximum rebate. **A \$20.00 registration fee is assessed per studio/independent; however, is waived if total invoice exceeds \$1,000. The only form of payment accepted at event will be certified funds and is subject to a delinquency fee. *NEW Spotlight will issue refunds of overpayment 7-10 days AFTER the event.**

NO ENTRY FEE REFUNDS OR CREDITS will be issued. All returned checks will be assessed a \$25.00 fee and no rebate will be given. **Entries are accepted once payment is received. Any payments made after the closing date MUST be made by credit card or certified funds.**

IMPORTANT: Payment not postmarked by the closing date will be considered delinquent and will be subject to a 5% delinquency charge of total amount due (\$20 minimum).

3. Entry Deadline and Closing Date – All entries must be submitted online and payment in full postmarked by the rebate date and in excess of \$1000 to qualify for any discounts or rebates. All others will pay the regular rate and must be postmarked by the closing date. **Only online registration will qualify for a rebate. Entries received by any other means are not eligible to receive rebates of any kind.** In the event that more entries are received than can be accommodated, entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Entries will be accepted based on the **actual receipt date of entries and payment in full**, not the postmark date. Therefore, it is highly recommended that payment be sent via overnight delivery. In addition, if more entries are received than time allows, dancers may be limited to one solo each.

4. Late or Changed Entries – Late or changed entries made after the closing date will be charged an additional \$20 each. Late entries will be accepted up to and including the competition day **only if time permits**, will be charged a \$20 late entry fee per routine, and must be paid by credit card, certified funds, or cash. **Any late entries or changes made to existing entries will not be reflected in the souvenir program or studio group plaques.**

Special Performance Time Requests – Special performance time requests are subject to a **\$20 per routine** special request fee and is assessed at the time the request is made—prior to or at the event. Routines with a special request may be subject to adjudication only. **Intentional manipulation of performance order may result in penalty or disqualification.**

Time Schedule and Registration – You will receive an email notification that your Registration Confirmation packet is **available online on your “My Spotlight” page** approximately 14 days prior to the event. It will include a time schedule, entry numbers, facility directions, invoice and any additional pertinent information. Email notifications will be sent to the email address provided on the master studio worksheet. All Directors (or designees) are required to check in either, 1) 30-minutes prior to the start of the event or, 2) at least 1-hour prior to the scheduled performance time. For your convenience, a music label file will also be uploaded to your “My Spotlight” page online approximately 3 days prior to the event so you can print and affix your music labels at your convenience. **Labels are not available at Teacher Check-In.**

Judging – Spotlight judges are comprised of championship caliber studio directors, professional dance center instructors, and performing dance professionals. Our judges are well trained in multiple genres of dance and are sensitive to the various skill levels represented by the dancers’ differing ages. This mixture of age, breadth of dance experience, and extensive background in performing arts contributes to the diverse range of feedback our judges offer competitors. Every effort is made to provide feedback in five main areas: Technique, Choreography, Age/Skill level, Appropriateness and Performance Skills. A panel of three or more judges will score each routine based on a system of 100 points per judge. The score sheet includes Technique: 30 points; Execution: 25 points; Presentation: 25 points; Choreography: 10 points; and Difficulty: 10 points. Ties will be broken based on 1) highest technique score, 2) highest presentation score 3) judges’ decision. Judges’ decisions are final.

Audio & Video Critiques & Score Sheets - One Video Critique, three audio critiques, and score sheets for each routine will be available on our website. You may access these files by logging in to your studio and accessing your “My Spotlight” page. Audio critiques and score sheets will be available on the Tuesday following your event. Video critiques will be available within 5 business days of the event. Printed score sheets are available by providing written request to the Show Director during studio check-in at the event.

Point Deductions and Disqualification – Over-time limit: 10 points; Entered in wrong category: 10 points; Routines not completed: 10 points; Prop height, exceeding performance boundary or littering rule violation: 5 points; Original or back-up music not turned in on time: 5 points; Out of order performances: 5 points (unless Show Director or Stage Manager approved.); Spotlight Titleholder rule infraction: 5 points; Family Friendly rule violations: 5-30 points; Other rule infraction: 5-25 points; Videography or photography rule infraction and intentional manipulation of performance order may result in penalty, adjudication only or disqualification of dancer(s) and/or studio.

Facility Respect Policy - Dressing rooms, performing areas, workshop areas and audience areas are to be left in the same condition after the competition as before. If food/drink is found on the premise, and/or a parent, teacher or dancer abuses the premises in any way, Spotlight reserves the right to excuse spectators and competitors from the event. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in disqualification of the dancer and/or studio.

Family Friendly Policy – Spotlight Dance Cup is dedicated to providing an environment that is family friendly. We realize that dance is an art form and crosses a broad range of styles and tastes. However, routines, costumes, and music must be age appropriate and suitable for family viewing and we are determined to set a standard and ensure that inappropriate routines are appropriately penalized or disqualified. Choreography, costuming, and/or the use of dance themes such as rape, suicide, murder, sex, domestic violence, anorexia, or other dark undertones chosen and/or presented to competition audiences with a lack of “artistic discretion” is considered inappropriate. Spotlight Dance Cup appreciates the art form, creativity and desire to heighten world awareness of these themes through dance, but deem it inappropriate to present them to audiences that include children of every age. We

recognize that this is extremely subjective and sensitive. Therefore, Spotlight judges and personnel will use their utmost professional judgment to ensure appropriateness while still encouraging appropriate artistic creativity. To ensure that these guidelines are followed, each of our judges has the option of assessing a penalty on any routine they deem not “family friendly.” Please be aware that the routine may be stopped, if necessary. Spotlight Dance Cup urges all studio owners, teachers, and especially parents to keep performances thematically and choreographically appropriate. While there is no perfect solution to this issue because personal discretion and opinions are involved, we are dedicated to take action as we see fit. Protests must be in writing, signed, and received by Spotlight Events Show Director or Event Manager within 30 minutes of the performance in question or at least 30 minutes prior to awards

SCORING, AWARDS, and CASH PRIZES

Adjudicated and Competitive Awards – Each routine will receive a Diamond, Ruby, Emerald, or Sapphire award based on the following adjudicated point system:

Level	Novice Gems Future Gems Petite	Junior Specialty Adult	Teen	Senior
<i>Diamond</i>	264-300	267-300	270-300	273-300
<i>Ruby</i>	255-263	258-266	261-269	264-272
<i>Emerald</i>	237-254	240-257	243-260	246-263
<i>Sapphire</i>	200-236	200-239	200-242	200-245

(Subject to adjustment if deemed necessary by Spotlight Events) There may be multiple Diamond, Ruby, Emerald, or Sapphire awards in any category. A category winner award will be given in each category to the winner with the highest score with two or more routines competing. Each dancer in a duo/trio or group will also receive a recognition award.

High Score Overall Awards – High Score Overall awards* will be given for 1st through 10th place in each division and group size. The same contestant cannot place more than once in the top 10 solo awards. *Minimum numbers of routines are required in each division to award all 10 places. When the minimum requirement is not met a reduction in awards and/or combining of divisions/ group sizes may occur. A representative from the studio must be present on stage during awards to be eligible for Overall Awards. Dancers must be in costume or team uniform during award ceremonies.

Cash Awards – Cash awards and/or gift certificates* will be given for 1st-4th place in the Spotlight Gems Divisions for each group size. Receive up to **DOUBLE THE CASH AWARD** when used toward registration for National Championship Finals 2012! Title winners and overall solo and duo/trio winners will receive gift certificates for the 2012 National Finals. Cash prizes may also be presented for Novice Gems, Future Gems, Specialty Divisions, Adult Division and Studio Challenge Winners at National Championship Finals.

Spotlight Awards – “Spotlight Awards” will be given within each awards ceremony in the following areas: Outstanding Costume, Showmanship, Technical Skill, Choreography, Entertainment, and “A Cut Above”. Spotlight Events will award an undetermined number of Special Awards at the Director and/or Judges’ discretion, including the Sweepstakes and Sportsmanship Awards.

NOTE: Cash awards and gift certificates are the property of the studio and it is the Director’s decision as to the distribution of such.

“Sharing the Spotlight” Scholarship Program – Spotlight Dance Cup would like to recognize individuals (age 19 and under) that excel both on and off stage through our “Sharing the Spotlight” Scholarship Program. The purpose of this award is to honor students that generously donate their time and talents to make a positive impact within their community. Whether it’s their uplifting presence within the studio, dedication to a local charity, or exemplary performance in school, these students exhibit the highest level of work ethic,

motivation, and kindness. Most importantly, they serve as an inspiration through their ability to make everyone around them shine. Winners will receive scholarships, prizes, and Spotlight credit for their studio. Studio Directors or teachers can submit **FREE** nominations by the closing date of the competition their studio will attend including National Finals. An overall winner will be selected at each National Finals from all Regional Winners. Visit spotlightevents.com for additional rules, prize details, and nomination forms.

WORKSHOP INFORMATION/GUIDELINES

Class Levels: One class will be held at Regional events for all dancers ages 10 & up unless pre-registration warrants a division based on age levels (10-13 and 14 & up). Classes may be offered in jazz, lyrical, hip hop, tap, and/or musical theatre. Classes are subject to time availability, minimum and maximum participation requirements, and any other changes deemed necessary. Registration will be permitted the day of the workshop, space permitting, and at the "after closing date" rates. Registration fees are nonrefundable.

Observers & Chaperones: Observers must purchase an observer band, be accompanied by a convention attendee and may not participate in class or take notes at any time. No children allowed unless registered for the convention. Students under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a chaperone. However, admittance into the workshop by the chaperone requires an observer pass.

Workshop Fees: Refer to the Regional and Nationals Rates within this document. **NOTE: Studios will receive 1 FREE teacher or student admission for every 12 paid students at Regional Workshops.**

***NEW - FREE master classes at National Finals!! See details.**

Id Bracelets & Admittance: ID bracelets must be worn at all times and intact for the duration of the workshops. In the case of a lost bracelet, workshop admission will need to be re-purchased. If a wristband needs replaced, the old wristband must be turned in at that time. Spotlight Events, Inc. reserves the right to refuse admittance or to have removed from workshop any person displaying unacceptable behavior as determined by Spotlight Management.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

National Finals Qualification – Dancers receiving the Diamond, Ruby, or Emerald award qualify for National Finals. If a regional dancer qualifies for Nationals, he/she must enter at Nationals under the same studio name, be released in writing by the original studio or re-qualify by video under the new studio/independent. Substitutions of dancers from the original qualifying entry are permitted in all divisions except solos, as long as 50% of the content remains the same.

IMPORTANT: 2011 National Finals High Score TOP 4 winners are ineligible to compete in the Regional and National Finals competitions.

Video Qualification – Studios may qualify additional routines for the National Championship Finals by submitting the routine on videotape with the appropriate entry form and applicable entry fees prior to the deadline. An audio critique, score sheet, and awards will be mailed upon completion of the evaluation.

Nationals Video Qualification Rates – Solos, \$67; Spotlight Title Solos, \$95; Duos/Trios, \$81; Small Groups, Large Groups, Lines & Productions, \$29 per dancer; extended time, \$20 per 30 seconds.

Spotlight Elite— Be a part of the "Spotlight Elite" during the National Championship Extravaganza. Regional Dance Down winners, National Title Competitors and Regional "Top 10" soloists are eligible to participate in this prestigious performance team. **NOTE:** All National Title Competitors and Regional "Top 10" soloists must earn a diamond or ruby for their performance to be eligible. (Dancers must be 8 years of age or older to participate.) Members will perform outstanding choreography with the finest dancers from around the country and taught by leading dance professionals! A \$149 Rehearsal and Costume Fee for Dance Down Winners and "Top 10" soloists will

apply; however, this fee is already included in the registration fee for all National Title Competitors.

National Title Eligibility - Regardless of whether or not a contestant won Title at a regional competition, they must receive a ruby or diamond on their Title solo in order to qualify to compete for the National Title as well as to be a member of the Spotlight Elite. (Minimum age for Spotlight Elite is 8 years old). A Title Winner from 2011 may compete at Nationals 2012 without re-qualifying the Spotlight Title portion if they did not compete at Nationals 2011; however, they must qualify their solo. First solo upgrades to Title will not be permitted at the event for Nationals, but will be permitted at a Regional event.

Extravaganza - The top four scoring routines in each group size/division will be required to re-compete in the Championship Extravaganza on the final day of the national competition for the National Championship titles, including Novice Gems and Future Gems division **groups**. If unable to re-compete, the routine will automatically be awarded the Overall Sapphire Award.

Studio Challenge: All studios that do NOT have at least one group routine competing for the **National Championship Titles** are now invited to be a part of our Championship Extravaganza by competing in our "**Studio Challenge**". The HIGHEST scoring GROUP routine from each qualifying studio will be invited to re-compete during the Championship Extravaganza for the **Studio Challenge Title**. Separate overall winners for the **Studio Challenge** will be awarded

***NEW – Choreographer in the Spotlight** - One finalist from each National Finals will be chosen to contend for the "Choreographer In The Spotlight" award. One choreographer will be chosen from the three finalists to set a piece for Idaho Dance Theatre, by the IDT Artistic Directors. The Choreographer will win **\$2500** and be flown to Boise to set the piece on the company and see it performed LIVE! Idaho Dance Theatre is a professional contemporary company based in Boise, Idaho consisting of 8 members. Therefore, the piece must be of the modern/contemporary genre and be competing as a small or large group (no solos, duos/trios, lines or productions will be eligible for this award). The choreographer chosen may be asked to extend the piece to approximately 5 minutes, if necessary. Idaho Dance Theatre Artistic Directors reserve all artistic rights to any choreography set on the company. For more info about Idaho Dance Theatre, visit www.idahodancetheatre.org.

National Rates – Solos, \$100; Spotlight Title Solo, (first solo) \$250; Spotlight Title Solo (subsequent solo) \$130; Interpretive Solos, \$75; Duos/Trios, \$120; Small Groups, Large Groups, Lines and Productions, \$45 per dancer; Studio Achievement & Triple Crown upgrade, \$12; Photogenic, \$25; each additional photo, \$15; Spotlight Elite, \$149; extended time, \$20 per 30 seconds; late fee, change fee, and special performance time requests, \$20 per routine. Convention Passes: **FREE** with competition registration. Non-competitor fees are 1 class-\$30; 2 class-\$50; 3 class-\$65; 4 class-\$80; 5 class-\$90; 6 class-\$100

Miscellaneous

- Teachers may not enter the stage or prompt dancers during their performance. Violations may be subject to penalty. (6 and under may be assisted with on-stage lineup only.)
- Smoking and drinking are prohibited on any part of venue property.
- Solicitation or advertising of any kind is prohibited.
- Teachers and performers **only** allowed backstage.
- Same gender parents and teachers only allowed in dressing rooms.
- One studio representative is required to check-in with the Stage Manager at least 3 routines prior to their performance. Failure to do so may result in the number being skipped and penalized.
- Spectators are to enter and exit the theater in between routines only.
- No re-performances allowed unless a technical failure occurs.
- Spotlight will not schedule performances any earlier than 7:00 am on any day. Additionally, every effort will be made to schedule the last entry to perform no later than 10:30 pm.

- Spotlight reserves the right to add additional days or to cancel or extend any competition as a result of the number of entries received, or to make any changes in the event of circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation, entry fees will be refunded to the payer or transferred to another competition site, as desired by the studio.
- Spotlight reserves the right to refuse service to anyone, disallow any performance, or remove individuals from the premises for any reason deemed appropriate.
- Spotlight Events, Inc. is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items, and is not responsible for injury, damage or loss to any person or property during participation in any event, nor is their promoters, directors, principals, agents and employees. They are not liable for injury, damage, or loss that may be caused by any act or omission of any of them.
- Photographs, recordings, taping or filming of participants by any and all Spotlight staff members or members of the press become the property of Spotlight Events and may be used for future publicity.
- Food, beverage, or gum is not allowed in the performing areas, dressing rooms, workshop areas or audience. Dressing rooms, performing areas, workshop areas and audience areas are to be left in the same condition after the competition as before. If food/drink is found on the premise, Spotlight reserves the right to excuse spectators and competitors from the event. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in disqualification of the studio.
- Good sportsmanship is expected from all participants, teachers, and spectators. Applause and cheering are encouraged. However, screaming, heckling, calling out of studio or dancer names is strongly discouraged as it is a distraction to our judges. Poor conduct in this area may result in penalties or disqualification.
- To help offset room rental costs, the hotel room rates listed may include a rebate or commission credited to the hotel master account of Spotlight Events, Inc.
- Warm up and practice in the dressing areas or backstage, as no rehearsing is allowed in the public areas of the facility.
- Admission is free of charge. Concessions, merchandise, programs, souvenirs, trophies, and awards will be available for purchase.
- Spotlight Dance Cup welcomes both National and International dancers, and will not discriminate based on age, gender, or ethnic origin.
- In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, all disabled patrons are to notify Spotlight Events, Inc., one week in advance if reasonable accommodations are needed.

You will find Spotlight Dance Cup a well-organized, fun, and professional competition. We look forward to your attendance!