



Welcome to
Unity Dance Challenge
South Coast 2025

DATES:

20th-21st September, 2025

VENUE:

Bateman's Bay High School

ADJUDICATOR:

Poppy Donaldson

Solos - \$35

Duos/Trios - \$40

Competitor Fee - \$45 per dancer

(Inclusive of 2 spectator day passes, separate to competitor)

REGISTRATION VIA <https://www.canberradancecollective.com/unity>

ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 25TH, 2025

*NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED WITHOUT FULL PAYMENT / *NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED

COMPETITION RULES

AGE

1. Competitor age is taken from 1st January 2025
2. Proof of age must be available for each competitor
3. Duo/Trio entry is to be entered strictly at the age of the eldest competitor
4. Improvisation sections use the following age categories, of which may be combined based on the number of entries in a section:

Mini – 5-6yrs

Junior – 8-9yrs

Pre-inter – 10-11yrs

Intermediate – 12-13yrs

Pre-Senior – 14-15yrs

Senior – 16yrs+

ADJUDICATORS

5. The adjudicators decisions are final. Competitors, studio directors and family members are not to approach the adjudicators table at any time
6. No competitor can repeat/restart a routine over the age of 10 years
7. No communication is to be had between adjudicator and competitor, teacher or studio owner for the duration of the competition. If any competitor or competitor's parent/carer, teacher or studio owner attempts communication, it will result in an immediate disqualification

COMMITTEE

The Canberra Dance Collective committee reserves the right to:

8. Accept/reject any entry
9. Combine, split or cancel any section
10. Appoint a substitute adjudicator
11. Make the final decision on any issues that arise that are not listed in the rules

ENTRIES

12. Refunds will not be given once entries are received unless sections are cancelled or evidence of injury is provided from a doctor or physiotherapist. All refunds are up to the discretion of Canberra Dance Collective.
13. All entries are to be received by 25th August, 2025 unless event is sold out before this date
14. Late entries will not be accepted **under any circumstances**
15. As of the closing date, changes will not be made to existing entries. This includes adjustments to restricted/open entries due to placing since the time of entries.
16. Full payment must be received at the time of registration
17. Entries can be completed via the 'Unity' tab at www.canberradancecollective.com
18. Duo/Trio routines will compete in the same section

19. The committee must receive a minimum of **three entries per section** in order for section to run individually. In the event that there are less than three competitors, sections may be combined. This includes sub categories (small and large troupes). Canberra Dance Collective will list the original category that each competitor has been entered into for the adjudicator to consider.
20. By entering Unity Dance Challenge, you agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the syllabus. This includes the use of photography and videography for advertising and marketing on behalf of Canberra Dance Collective. If you do not wish to have photographs or videos taken of you or your dancer at the event, please contact Canberra Dance Collective via email prior to the event.

COMPETITORS

21. Failure to attend at the time of your entered section will result in a disqualification from the section and no refund for entry
22. Dancing en pointe is not permitted for competitors 10 years and under
23. Only one parent per dancer is permitted in the changing spaces to assist their dancer with costume changes. Canberra Dance Collective encourages parents to hold a WWVP card (free for a volunteer type) and have this on their person on competition days. There is strictly NO photography permitted in changing spaces and/or backstage. Anyone found to be taking photos in these areas will be in breach of the Canberra Dance Collective child safe policy and will be banned from Unity Dance Challenge for a minimum of 12 months.
24. Competitors perform at their own risk. Canberra Dance Collective and Unity Dance Challenge do not accept any responsibility for injuries that are obtained whilst at the competition, backstage, in the dressing rooms or performing spaces.*
25. Canberra Dance Collective and Unity Dance Challenge do not accept any responsibility for broken or stolen property (performer or spectator).
26. No rehearsals in hallways, dressing rooms or on stage at any time
27. Competitors must check in with the stage manager/runner two routines before competing. Once checked in, performers are to compete in the order in which the program lists the section
28. Solos, duos and trios are only permitted to perform once in each section. If a competitor would like to compete more than once, we encourage them to consider competing up an age group or in the Open-Any Style category.
29. All performers and spectators will show respect and courtesy to all CDC and Unity staff at all times. Any attendee who does not follow these rules will be asked to leave the competition. That same courtesy is expected to be extended to fellow competitors and spectators in line with our events values and ethos.
30. Strictly NO photography/videography to be taken either in the theatre or dressing rooms at any time. Doing so may result in a ban from Unity Dance Challenge for up to 12 months.
31. Competitor fee only needs to be paid once per performer. The \$45 competitor fee includes 2 x spectator day pass. These passes are valid for one day only and can be used as either a day pass or a section pass. Once used, the passes become invalid and spectators will be required to purchase additional entry passes for the remainder of the competition.

*Canberra Dance Collective will provide a Tarkett floor for the event to reduce the risk of injury on the dance surface.

MUSIC AND PROPS

32. All music will be received electronically via Music Uploads, this platform will close 1 week prior to the start of the event.
33. No back up vocals are permitted in song & dance, song & tap, classical or demi character sections.
34. All music needs to be uploaded in mp3 format
35. Props must be prepared off stage and not whilst another competitor is on stage. Props are to be safely and promptly positioned prior to, and removed after, the competitor performing.
36. All props are the responsibility of the competitor. The safe and appropriate transportation and placement of props on the stage is the responsibility of the competitor.
37. The use of props during a performance is at the risk of the competitor. Canberra Dance Collective will not assume responsibility of any injury caused in this way.

CATEGORIES

38. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure competitors are entered into the appropriate section as per the following guidelines:
 - Specially Restricted:** Competing less than 12 months, never placed first, second or third
 - Restricted:** Competing 12 months or more, never placed first OR placed first in the corresponding specially restricted category/section
 - Open:** Placed first in the corresponding restricted category/section in the past
 - Elite:** Placed first in the corresponding open category/section in the last year
39. Category specifications apply to placing in that category/section in any competition, eisteddfod or festival across Australia. This is not specific to the routine, rather the title in general.
40. In the event that sections are combined, competitors may be competing more than the twice allowed per section.
41. For the purposes of Unity Dance Challenge, acceptable genres/routines for the 'Entertainment' category are as follows: Song & Dance, Song & Tap, Acro and Musical Theatre. Adjudicators will be judging based on the 'Entertainment' value of the routines performed. The Open (Any Style) category gives competitors an opportunity to compete an extra routine of their choice. Adjudicators will award places based on the score card.
42. For the purposes of Unity Dance Challenge, routines entered into a 'Jazz No Tricks' section should not include any of the following:
 - a. Gymnastic elements (such as aerials, cartwheels, walkovers, handstands, handsprings or any movement involving inverting the body on the hands)
 - b. Acrobatic jumps or flips (no flips, somersaults or leaps/jumps that require hands on the floor to push off or maintain balance)
 - c. Extreme extensions or balances (Including leg hold turns or heel stretches that prioritise flexibility over jazz technique. No prolonged balances on one leg while the other is extended to acrobatic skill)
 - d. Trick based turns (No turns that incorporate acrobatic elements such as illusion turns or dives. No turns that exaggerate flexibility or floor-supported balance)
43. The 'DanceAbility' category is designed to create a space where every dancer, regardless of their individual challenges or abilities, can shine. We are proud to extend a warm welcome to

our neurodiverse community and to dancers with a range of disabilities from developmental, sensory, neurological, physical and more.

44. All DanceAbility sections will be held specifically scheduled within a designated time block to mitigate potential sensory stimuli. Prior to the start of these sections, lighting and sound levels will be adjusted, spectators will be encouraged to keep noise and movement to a minimum, ample space will be provided for flexible entry and exit points if needed and any support personnel for performers will be allowed to provide assistance with entry/exits and any further requirements during the DanceAbility time.
45. For the purposes of 'Unity Dance Challenge', acceptable genres/routines for the DanceAbility 'Classics' category are as follows: Ballet, Lyrical, Contemporary, Demi-Character. Acceptable genres/routines for the DanceAbility 'Theatrics' category are as follows: Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Song and Dance. If you are unsure which category to enter, please contact Canberra Dance Collective via email at the time of entry.
46. The 'Masters' category is open to dancers aged 18 years and above.
47. Improvisation sections will run as follows: Music will be played once for all competitors and all competitors will compete on the stage at the same time. If there are more than four competitors entered, the section will be divided and dancers yet to compete will be in a holding space where they will not hear the music until called to the stage.
 - a. There will be no adjudication of improvisation sections, however there will be one placing awarded as decided by the adjudicator. All other participants will receive a participation ribbon.
 - b. **Competitors are to wear a plain black leotard to compete in improvisation sections.**
 - c. Music will be provided by Canberra Dance Collective at the time of the competition, there is no Music Uploads necessary for improvisation sections.
 - d. Tap sections will be competed one competitor at a time so that the adjudicator can judge fairly.

TIME LIMITS

48. Solos – 3 mins
Duo/trio – 3 mins

*any performance that exceeds these time limits will be automatically disqualified

SCORING AND AWARDS

49. The adjudicator/s score based on the following criteria:
 - 15 – Technique
 - 15 – Execution
 - 10 – Choreography
 - 5 – Stage Presence
 - 5 – Overall Appearance
50. Adjudication will take place at the end of each section for Solos, Duos and Trios.
51. Scores will be made available via Stardom shortly after the event
52. Voice critiques will be made available via Music Uploads shortly after the event

PROGRAM

- 53. All programs will be published electronically.
- 54. Electronic program will be emailed to the email address listed at registration and posted on the Canberra Dance Collective website
- 55. It is the responsibility of the competitor to regularly check the program listed on the website as this will be the most up to date version. Canberra Dance Collective will endeavour to inform significant changes via email. Some last minute changes may occur due to withdrawals or other unforeseen circumstances.

INJURY/ILLNESS

- 56. Do not attend Unity Dance Challenge if you are feeling unwell or are injured at the time of the event. In the event that a competitor falls ill or injured, a refund of entry fees may be considered by the committee if provided with adequate notice.
- 57. Access to first aid supplies are subject to availability at the event. Each performer should ensure that the appropriate first aid personnel and supplies are organised prior to, and readily available during the event. Canberra Dance Collective will not be held responsible for administering first aid supplies or personnel at or during the event.

CHILD SAFE POLICY

- 58. Canberra Dance Collective and Unity Dance Challenge advocate for child safety, please click the following link to access our Child Safe Policy: <https://tinyurl.com/3kkmk9ac>.

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