

Step and Dance Competition Rules

1. **Eligibility:** The Dance & Step Competition is open to individuals or groups ages 5-17 who are passionate about showcasing their talents in step and dance. Participants must register by **Monday, June 3rd** to secure their spot in the competition.
2. **Categories:** Common categories may include traditional step, hip-hop dance, contemporary dance, cultural dance, and freestyle. Keep in mind this is a family event and **ALL PERFORMANCES MUST BE AGE APPROPRIATE.**
3. **Composition:** Participants are encouraged to choreograph original routines that showcase their creativity, technical skill, and artistic expression. Routines should be well-rehearsed, engaging, and appropriate for a family-friendly audience.
4. **Performance Duration:** Each performance must adhere to a specified time limit, typically ranging from **THREE to FIVE MINUTES** per routine. Participants should time their routines accordingly to ensure they stay within the allotted time frame.
5. **Music:** Participants may choose their own music for their routines, provided that it is suitable for public performance and does not contain explicit or offensive content. Music should be submitted in advance to the competition organizers for approval and playback during the performance.
6. **Attire:** Participants should dress appropriately for their performance, taking into account the style and theme of their routine. Costumes, uniforms, or attire should be tasteful, culturally relevant, and conducive to movement.
7. **Judging Criteria:** Performances will be evaluated based on a variety of criteria, including technique, precision, synchronization, creativity, musicality, stage presence, and overall performance quality. Judges may also consider factors such as originality, storytelling, costumes and audience engagement.
8. **Scoring:** Each routine will be scored by a panel of judges using a predetermined scoring system. Scores may be based on a combination of numerical ratings, comments, and feedback provided by the judges.
9. **Fairness and Sportsmanship:** Participants are expected to conduct themselves with sportsmanship, respect, and professionalism throughout the competition. Any behavior deemed inappropriate, disruptive, or disrespectful may result in disqualification or penalty at the discretion of the competition organizers.
10. **Prize:** A **\$500 CASH PRIZE** will be awarded to top performer or winning team. Other prizes may include trophies, certificates, or other awards.
11. **Additional Information:** Participants should review all rules, guidelines, and instructions provided by the competition organizers before registering for the Step and Dance Competition. Any questions or inquiries regarding the competition should be directed to the following phone number or email address: **585-744-7500** or **blackculturefestival585@gmail.com**

We invite all youth dancers and steppers to showcase their talent, passion, and creativity in this exciting competition at the Black Culture Festival. Let's come together to celebrate the

artistry and diversity of dance in our community! **BLACK IS BEAUTY!**