



The Dance Society
of Malaysia

27th TDS Dance Competition 2026

Rules & Regulations



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Event Introduction

01

Penang Regional (Classical Ballet Solo Elimination Round only)

Date: 29th March 2026

Venue: One Theatre Hall, Straits Quay Pulau
Pinang

Kuala Lumpur Regional (Classical Ballet Solo, Contemporary Solo & Duo/Trio)

Date: 3rd - 5th June 2026

Venue: Shantanand Auditorium, Temple of Fine
Arts, Kuala Lumpur

Finals

Date: 6th & 7th June 2026

Venue: Shantanand Auditorium, Temple of Fine
Arts, Kuala Lumpur

Our Mission

The Dance Society of Malaysia's (TDS) main aims are to raise the standard and awareness of dance, especially ballet, in this country while at the same time providing a platform for talented young dancers to showcase their talents.



Objectives

- To search for talented dancers who are genuinely dedicated to excel in dance with classical ballet training (or trained in classical ballet).
- To provide an opportunity for dancers to meet their peers and strive both for technical excellence and high artistic standards in a friendly atmosphere.
- To pave way for dancers to achieve a successful career in dance.
- To identify and select dancers to represent TDS locally and abroad.

Eligibility

- Competitors must be a member of The Dance Society of Malaysia.
- Competitors must be a Malaysian citizen.
- Competitors must be within the age group under Categories stated.
- Tutor(s) of Competitors must be a member of the Dance Society of Malaysia
- Recipients of the 1st Prize under Ballet Solo category in the previous TDS competitions are NOT ELIGIBLE to compete in the same category again, but are eligible to compete in the next category.
- Competitors must be present at all times required including Masterclass and coaching. Attendance must be strictly adhered to.
- Competitors who are not allowed to compete:
 1. Those who have signed a contract with a dance company.
 2. Those whose contracts with a dance company have lapsed.

Categories

Classical Ballet Solo

Category	Age	Year of Birth	En Pointe / Demi Pointe
CAT 1	18 - 21 yrs old	2005 - 2008	En Pointe
CAT 2	15 - 17 yrs old	2009 - 2011	En Pointe
CAT 3	13 - 14 yrs old	2012 - 2013	Demi Pointe / En Pointe
CAT 4	11 - 12 yrs old	2014 - 2015	Demi Pointe
CAT 5	9 - 10 yrs old	2016 - 2017	Demi Pointe

*Age of competitor must comply with the age group as stated above.

Contemporary Solo

Category	Age	Year of Birth
OPEN	18 - 25 yrs old	2001 - 2008
ADVANCED	15 - 17 yrs old	2009 - 2011
INTERMEDIATE	13 - 14 yrs old	2012 - 2013
JUNIOR	11 - 12 yrs old	2014 - 2015

*Age of competitor must comply with the age group as stated above.

Categories

Duo/Trio

Category	Age	Year of Birth
16 & ABOVE	16 - 25 yrs old	2001 - 2010
UNDER 15	10 - 15 yrs old	2011 - 2016

If a group consists of competitors of different ages, the age of the oldest competitor will determine the group's category.



Entry Fee

Membership Fees

- All competitors must register as a TDS member before submitting registration for TDS Dance Competition.
- Membership fee as below:
 1. Junior Annual Membership fee (below 18 yrs old): RM30.00 per year
 2. Adult Annual Membership fee (18 yrs old & above): RM60.00 per year
 3. Lifetime Membership: RM480.00
- Tutor(s) of competitors must be a TDS member.
- Annual membership is valid for the duration of the calendar year, from January 1st to December 31st.

Ballet Solo

- Registration fee of RM 450.00 (inclusive of 1 Compulsory Masterclass) for each Category.
- Additional fee of RM 150.00 (inclusive of 1 coaching session) for all qualifying Finalists of each respective Category to be paid immediately upon announcement of results in order to participate in Finals.

Contemporary

- Registration fee of RM 450.00 (inclusive of 1 Compulsory Masterclass) for each Category.

Duo/Trio

- Registration fee of RM550.00 per piece.
- Participants may attend Ballet and Contemporary Masterclasses for an additional fee of RM130.00 per person per class.

Entry Fee

Important Notes:

1. Payment to be made to: THE DANCE SOCIETY OF MALAYSIA (***Public Bank Bhd A/C No: 3216260903***), and to attach the payment slip with the Registration Form on the TDS Website: www.tdsmalaysia.com.my
2. Entry fees will not be refunded under any circumstances, except for the reason of serious illness or injury, whereby a signed medical certificate or doctor's letter must be produced. TDS will review the evidence and where agreed, will process a refund of 50%.
3. Entry fee will not be refunded except in the event that the competition is cancelled.
4. Registration Form **MUST** be submitted through the website stated above.
5. A confirmation of registration will be emailed to participants within 7 working days after the date of submission.
6. No changes shall be made after the submission of form. Penalty of RM50 will be applied for each change.

Important Datelines

Event	Date
Penang Regional Registration Due Date (Ballet Solo only)	31st January 2026
Penang Regional Music Submission Period	10th February 2026 - 28th February 2026
27 th TDS Dance Competition 2026 Penang Regional Elimination Round (Ballet Solo)	29th March 2026
Kuala Lumpur Regional Registration Due Date (Ballet Solo, Contemporary Solo, Duo/Trio)	31st March 2026
Kuala Lumpur Regional Music Submission Period	10th April 2026 - 30th April 2026
27 th TDS Dance Competition 2026 KL Regional	3rd June 2026 - 5th June 2026
27 th TDS Dance Competition 2026 Final	6th - 7th June 2026

The Committee of The Dance Society of Malaysia reserves the right to make changes to the schedule.

Classical Ballet Solo *(2 stages ~ Elimination & Final)*

- Ballet Solo competitors must perform a variation from the Classical Repertoire List provided on the TDS website.
- Kindly refer to the shoes requirement in the age category chart provided above.
- Performance en pointe is mandatory for all Ballet Solo Category 1 & 2 entrants. Participants who perform using flat shoes or en demi-pointe will be considered ineligible for scoring.
- For all Classical variations, slight modification and/or simplification of the original choreography is allowed.
- Significant changes made to a classical variation may result in point deduction or disqualification.
- All competitors must attend 1x Classical Ballet Masterclass.
- Finalists are to attend a coaching session with the Adjudicator.

For Penang Regional Elimination Round

- Selected participants from the Penang Regional will advance as finalists to the Final in Kuala Lumpur
- No prizes will be awarded during the Penang Regional Elimination Round.
- Penang Regional finalists are to attend the Finalists Coaching Session and Finals in KL on 6th - 7th June 2026.

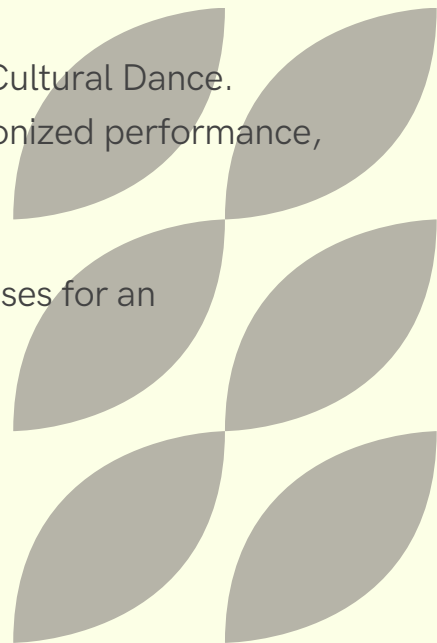
Contemporary Solo, Duo/Trio

Contemporary Solo (1 stage ~ Final)

- For Contemporary competitors, the time limit for the dance is 2.5 minutes.
- Contemporary dance is an expressive performance art form that emphasizes fluid, versatile, and innovative movements by combining techniques from classical ballet and modern dance. It encourages a wide range of movement, floorwork and expression, often rooted in improvisation and personal interpretation. *We encourage own choreography to focus on dance vocabulary, and therefore strongly discourage the inclusion of gymnastics-style movements or acrobatic tricks.*
- Contemporary competitors may choose to perform the solo from the contemporary dance list provided by TDS or use their own choreography.
- All Contemporary category competitors must attend 1x Masterclass.
- Depending on the number of registrations, the Contemporary Masterclass might be combined with another level class.

Duo/Trio (1 stage ~ Final)

- Genre: Ballet, Neo Classical, Contemporary and Malaysian Cultural Dance.
- Group dances will be evaluated on unified technique, synchronized performance, musicality, and dynamic formation changes.
- Maximum duration for Duo/Trio entries: 3.5 minutes.
- Participants may attend Ballet and Contemporary Masterclasses for an additional fee of RM130.00 per person per class.



Attire & Props

Ballet Masterclass

- Female competitors must wear a leotard in one solid colour with pink/skin colored tights and soft ballet shoes. Leotards with patterns or multi-coloured designs are not permitted.
- Male competitors shall wear white leotard or white T-shirt with black tights and ballet shoes.

Contemporary Masterclass

- Contemporary competitors shall wear white/plain light coloured top and black legging/ jazz pants.
- Bare foot, socks or foot thong are allowed.

Finalists Coaching Session

- Finalists shall wear ballet attire or their costumes for the coaching session.

Elimination Round & Final

- All Competitors are to perform their solo variation in costumes during the Elimination Round and Final.
- Appropriate costume for the Classical variation (min. requirement: long or short tutu for Female)

Props

- Small and light props may be used but must be removed immediately after the completion of the dance. Props must be placed on the stage and removed by dancers only. No water or liquid, fire, powder or fragile objects with sharp edges. Kindly ask the organiser if you require further clarification.
- Competitors shall be responsible for their own props.

Classical Ballet Solo

- Judges will assess the Ballet Solo competition in the following 2 stages:
 1. Elimination Round
 2. Final
- Dates of elimination may not run concurrently with the Finals.
- The judges' decision will be final. No correspondence shall be entertained regarding their decision.

Contemporary Solo and Duo/Trio

- Judges will assess the Contemporary Solo & Duo/Trio competition in the following 1 stage:
 1. Final
- There will be no Elimination round for Contemporary Solo and Duo/Trio session.
- The judges' decision will be final. No correspondence shall be entertained regarding their decision.



Music Submission

Classical Ballet Solo, Contemporary Solo and Duo/Trio

- After registration closes, the link and detailed instructions for music submission will be distributed via email to all participants.
- Competitors are required to submit their performance music via the TDS website within the specified period stated in the 'Important Datelines' section above.
- Late submission or any changes made after the deadline will incur an administrative charge of RM50.
- Performance music submitted must be in MP3 format.
- Please ensure all performance music submitted is of high quality. Recordings should be free of background noise, clapping, or any other distractions.
- All music, costumes and performances must be age-appropriate. Choreography and lyrics containing suggestive content, profanity, violence or any form of offensive or inappropriate material are not permitted under any circumstances; may result in deduction of marks or disqualification.



Prizes & Special Awards

Classical Ballet Solo Contemporary Solo & Duo/Trio

Prizes shall be awarded in the form of trophies, medals, certificates, or cash prizes, as determined by the placing and category.

Specific details and other special awards and scholarships will be outlined in the Awards and Special Award column, which will be officially published on the Dance Society of Malaysia's website.

Special Awards

More scholarships will be announced soon. Stay tuned.

The judges reserve the right to withhold any awards or prizes if performances do not meet the required standard.



Conditions

- Award winners are obliged to send a write-up of their experience with photos attached for the TDS newsletter.
- Prizes may not be awarded if candidates do not meet the required standards.
- Recipients of awards or scholarships are responsible for their own accommodation and travel expenses, whether within Malaysia or abroad.
- Candidates selected to represent TDS in an official capacity may be granted partial sponsorship, with the terms and amount to be determined and confirmed by TDS.
- All Special Awards shall have a ONE YEAR validity period from the date of the finals, unless otherwise stated by the sponsors.
- **Disclaimer:** By submitting your registration, you consent to photos and videos being taken and used for social media and publicity purposes, without the need for further notice or permission. Official photos and videos of the performance will be produced and made available for purchase.



Disqualification

- Applicants will be disqualified if:
 1. Applicant does not follow the Rules governing the competition
 2. Application form is falsified in any way.
 3. Application and enclosures are not submitted by the closing date.
 4. Competitor is LATE or ABSENT for the masterclass, competition and/or coaching.
 5. Tutor of competitor is not registered as a TDS member.
 6. Late payment for Registration/Finals.
 7. Applicant has made significant changes to the classical variation.

The Committee of The Dance Society of Malaysia reserves the right to make changes to the Rules and Regulations without notice.

