



**2017**

## **Dance Competition Rules**

Welcome to the very first Anthro Northwest Dance Competition! We hope to make this event one of the most exciting events of the convention, and that requires you! Join us and the other amazingly talented dancers of the community in making the crowd laugh and cheer in our first ever dance competition. We encourage you to sign up and think of this event not just as something to enjoy and have fun with, but also to help create a friendly and creative environment for the community.

### **Sign Up**

To sign up for the ANW 2017 Dance Competition, please fill out this form: <http://bit.ly/2mx2M3P>

You will need to provide a valid email we can contact you at. Online signups will close on November 7th, 2017 at 7:00pm Pacific Time. We **must** have your audio file by this deadline! You will receive a confirmation email that you have signed up and your audio file was accepted.

At-con signups will be conducted 30 minutes prior to the first day of preliminaries. If you want to sign up at the door, you **must** arrive at the prelims room 30 minutes before the scheduled time which is at 5:00pm on Friday in Compass South--**check your con schedule for updates!** You must have a digital copy of your audio with you if you sign up at the door. **Your digital copy must be on a USB stick, SD or miniSD card--Cellphones, media players, CDs, media discs, streaming or other internet services cannot be accepted.** Please show up prepared or we will not be able to sign you up! Once prelims begin, no more signups will be allowed.

### **CATEGORIES**

There will be only one category for all competitors at the competition this year. Groups will also compete against solo acts *unless* more than 3 groups sign up and become finals acts. If there are enough groups, they will have their own category.

## GROUP SIGNUP INFO

Groups should select *one* member to be their lead member. The leader will submit a single signup for the entire group listing all its members and the group's name. All communication about the event will be sent **only to the leader** and it is **their** responsibility to ensure the rest of the group gets this information. A single person may only perform in **one group**. Each person may choose to sign up for either a solo competition or a group competition, but not both.

## Requirements

The ANW 2017 Dance Competition requires that all performers adhere to these rules to ensure that the event is as fair and safe as possible:

- **Costume:** All performers must perform in an anthropomorphic costume, and no other costumes are eligible. At a minimum, that means an animal (or "animal-like species" such as Gryphons, Dragons, etc.) costume consisting of a head/mask which fully encompasses the head, hands, tail, and feet. No skin shall be showing. "Happy Feet" oversize "shoes" are allowed in lieu of feet paws.
- **Audio:** The audio file you use must be in high-quality MP3 format. The file must be named with the following format: DANCERNAME-ANWDC17.mp3 where "DANCERNAME" is the dancer name you signed up with. For Solo competitors, the audio may not exceed 2 minutes in length. For Groups, the max limit is 4 minutes. All audio must be kept to a PG rating. "Radio/Clean cuts" of songs are required.
- **Props:** Props may be permitted at the discretion of the event organizers and will require inspection prior to entry into preliminaries. Large heavier props such as baseball bats, staves, golf clubs, etc. will not be allowed. This is to ensure the safety of the event.
- **Conduct:** All performers are expected to abide by the con code of conduct: <http://antronw.com/attend/rules.html> All activities at ANW are PG / SFW. Performers are expected to set an example for other attendees.

## **Preliminaries**

Dance comp preliminaries will be held at the con on Friday at 5:00pm in Compass South. *Make sure you check your event schedule at the con for the latest information on when preliminaries will be held!* Competitors should arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to their chosen time slot. Prelims are a **closed door** event, only competitors who have signed up online or at the door are permitted. Each competitor may bring one handler with them if desired. Accommodations (fans, water, etc.) will be provided.

### **Prelim Format**

Competitors will be called one by one to perform their full routine in full costume before a panel of judges. Please come prepared with your entire costume, including special clothing and props if needed. If you are part of a group performance, the entire group must be present and ready when called.

### **Prelim Judging**

The panel will consist of multiple judges who are different from those who judge the final competition. They will independently rate each performance and those decisions will collectively determine the performances which will move on to the finals. Factors which may be considered in this decision include but are not limited to:

- How well a competitor *shows* the music with their dance.
- The emotional impact of the dance, often referred to as “energy.”
- The quality of the movements used and how well executed they are.
- The ability of the competitor to dance *with* their costume.

### **Final Allotment**

The dance comp staff will do their best to fill the show for our allotted time slot. Some cuts may be necessary to fit the time constraints. A list of the finalists will be announced and posted prior to the final event. Those chosen must perform the same routine in the same costume as used in the prelims.

A minimum of 2 groups must make it to the finals in order for a group category to be judged. In the event there are not enough groups, a group may be asked to perform a non-competition exhibition showcase instead.

## **Finals**

All finalists should arrive at the “Madison” main ballroom 1 hour prior to the start of the event on Saturday. The event rundown, performance order, and other important information will be given at that time. Finalists will also verify their audio track with A/V during sound checks at this time, and they will be able to warm up and practice. All finalists will be called backstage before the doors open and will be required to remain there for the duration of the event, except when called to the dance floor. The backstage area will have accommodations for costume performers. No handlers are permitted backstage during the event. Volunteers are available to provide assistance backstage.

## **Finals Format**

Finalists will perform their routine according to the rundown which will be in a predetermined order. You will be called during the performance right before yours so be sure you are ready, with your head on at that time. After your performance, the judges will give any comments they have and you will return backstage until the end of the competition.

## **Finals Judging**

Finalists are judged by a panel of multiple judges. They will evaluate each performance individually and their scores will be tallied after the last competitor performs.

## **Judging Criteria:**

- Technique - Demonstration of correct technique within the chosen styles. Use of fundamental dance concepts such as levels, and effective use of the space provided.
- Execution - Quality of the approach to movements used. The degree of body control and awareness.
- Expression - Intensity, energy, emotion, and confidence displayed.
- Musicality - How well the performance illustrates the music. Demonstration of musical mastery beyond the basic beat.
- Creativity - The originality of the routine including interesting or unexpected moves, variety, use of levels, overall flow from one movement to another. Also includes use of the costume itself in creative ways.
- Difficulty - Effective incorporation of difficult moves and transitions, tricks, and other “wow” moments.
- Overall Impression - How well each aspect of the routine works together and how well it connects with the audience and judges.

Each criteria is scored on a scale and tallied for every performance. The top scoring finalists will be announced as the winners for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. In the event of a separate group category, only the 1st place group will be announced. In case of a tie, dancers will face off in a tie-breaker dance battle round where each dancer will have approx. 45 seconds to dance to a predetermined song once each. Judges will simultaneously determine the winner by show of hands.

## **Exhibition Showcases**

Exhibition showcase performances are not considered competitive and will not be scored. They are for entertainment purposes and may be used to kick off the event and/or to give time for scoring sheets to be tallied at the end. They may include judge showcases or entries by veteran community dancers or groups who are invited to do an exhibition performance. Exhibition performances may or may not be included in the final event depending on factors such as total number of signups and time remaining in the event.

## **Questions?**

Please send an email to [dance@anthronw.com](mailto:dance@anthronw.com)

**Good luck! We are excited to see you, dancers!**



