Svoboda Dance Festival Association Syllabus

FESTIVAL DATES: Thursday, April 15th to Sunday April 18th, 2027

LOCATION: The Dekker Centre for the Performing Arts

#1 - 623 Carlton Trail, North Battleford, Saskatchewan.

AGE ENTRY DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31, 2026

1. CATEGORIES:

Solos

Duets

Small Groups (3 – 6 dancers)

Large Groups (7 + dancers)

2. TIMING:

Time limits have been set as follows:

Solos two (2) minutes

Duets two (2) minutes

Small Groups four (4) minutes

Large Groups five (5) minutes

Timing begins at the first movement of the dancer and ends when the dancer poses or exits the stage. Any dance that exceeds the allotted time limit may be ineligible for scholarships but eligible for pins, at the discretion of the Festival Executive.

*****PLEASE NOTE:** A quick note about encores - If a dancer, duet or group is being encouraged by the audience to do an encore they must complete the original dance and leave the stage so that the dance falls within the regulated time limits for that dance. Once the dance is complete and **all dancer(s)** have left the stage, the dancer(s) can then come back onto the stage and complete an encore for the audience. If **all of the dancer(s)** do not leave the stage following the original dance, and they continue to dance through an encore they will receive a time penalty.

3. AGES:

a) The age of the contestant shall be considered as of December 31, 2026.

b) Novice Solo/Duet: dancers **must** be in their first year of Ukrainian dance instruction irrespective of age.

c) Novice Group: at least 50 % of the dancers must be in their first year of Ukrainian dance instruction.

d) Age categories for solos and duets:

Novice (Any age)

5 years, 6 years, 7 years…17 years

18 years and over

e) The age category for a duet will be determined by the average age of the two dancers as of Dec. 31, 2026.

f) The age category for group dances will be determined by the average age of all of the dancers, rounded to the nearest full age (ex. 11.8 years = 12 years = 11/12 years age group).

g) Age categories for group dances:

Novice (any age)	5 – 6 years	7 – 8 years
9 – 10 years	11 – 12 years	13-14 years
15 – 16 years	17 – 18 years	Adult

4. FEES:

- Solo $ 15.00
- Duets $ 30.00, $15.00/dancer
- Small Groups $ 12.00/dancer
- Large Groups $ 12.00/dancer
- Choreography $ 12.00/dance

5. ENTRIES / PAYMENT:

An online entry form on our new website www.svobodaukrainiandancefestival.com will be available to register dance entries this year. **Registration will open November 15, 2026 and close January 15, 2027.**

*Cheques or money orders should be made payable to Svoboda Dance Festival Association.

* Etransfer to svobodafestival@gmail.com

a) THERE WILL **BE** NO REFUNDS ON CANCELLATIONS.

b) For any change or schedule requests for entries after registration closes will incur an additional $5.00 per change / move request fee. Including – missed entries, change to region, dancers names or any approved schedule move requests.

6. SCHEDULE SPECIAL REQUESTS:

Please note that we will try our best to accommodate schedule requests. Special requests will only be reviewed after the first draft has been sent out and they will be subject to the $5.00 schedule request fee per request as above if approved. We appreciate your understanding.

7. MUSIC:

a) A professional sound system is provided for the competition.
b) Participants must bring their own music backstage.
c) Music is only to be played by instructors unless other arrangements are made in advance with the executive.
d) Music Connection will be available in the practice room

8. **NO COACHING** is allowed during performances. Any coaching will result in disqualification.

9. CHOREOGRAPHY CLASSES / PERFORMANCE:

a) A dance entered in a choreography class will be adjudicated for the choreography only and not for the performance.
b) Anyone who wishes to have the same dance adjudicated for the performance must enter the dance in the applicable performance category. Thus, the dance will have to be performed twice.

10. PINS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

a) Dancers are awarded gold, silver or bronze pins according to the mark awarded by the adjudicator for their performance.

Gold - Mark of 90 – 100

Silver - Mark of 80 – 89

Bronze – Mark of 75 – 79

A minimum mark of 80 must be achieved in order for a scholarship to be awarded.

In the event that the adjudicated marks result in a tie (either between two dances or multiple dances) within a dance classification, then the adjudicator reserves the right to determine a sole winner of the scholarship for that dance classification, at his/her discretion.

b) Dance instructors and adult group entries with an average age of 18 years old or greater are eligible for pins only, but not scholarships.

c) In the choreography classes, the pins shall be awarded only to the choreographer(s) and not to the dancers.

d) Dance instructors may enter dances for adjudication only. Please contact the Festival Committee if interested at svobodafestival@gmail.com.

e) Instructors are responsible for notifying their students regarding awards presentations. Most awards will be mailed out after the competition concludes.

11. The Festival Committee is not responsible for any injury incurred during the Festival.

12. NO CAMERAS, VIDEOS, I-PADS, OR CELL PHONES are allowed in the audience during competition.

13. PLEASE NOTE THAT NO DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE DEKKER CENTRE THEATRE AT ANY TIME.

14. CLASSIFICATIONS for entries - THESE WILL BE ON THE ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR YOU.