

JAZZ CATEGORY | EXPLANATION



A Jazz routine can encompass any range of jazz movement including traditional jazz, commercial jazz, musical theater, jazz funk or stylized hard-hitting jazz. Movement is crisp and/or aggressive in approach and can include moments of softness while complementing musicality. Emphasis is placed on style, body alignment, extension, control, uniformity, technical elements, and communication.

PRESENTATION

Communication Judges will credit: genuine use of projection, confidence, expression and emotion to convey and maintain mood and emotion of intended style/story/concept through both facial expression and body energy.

Suitability Judges will credit: fulfillment of the genre per the category description; and suitability for family viewing.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Composition of Movement Judges will credit: how well the movement creatively explores the music; the unique structure of routine, concept, musicality, and full-body movement. The purposeful inclusion of elements that avoid dominating the piece; individual and small group work supporting a balanced use of all dancers.

Staging Judges will credit: how the choreography utilizes the stage and how the dancers are presented on the floor; the structure of challenging formations and seamless transitions. Incorporation of original and surprising visual effects within the movement developed through use of creative floor work, group/partner work, level changes, opposition, etc.

Degree of Difficulty Judges will credit: difficulty of the routine considering both movement and elements/skills (does not reflect execution); overall level, pace, and intricacy of movement such as footwork and direction changes. Appropriate utilization of team's ability level.

EXECUTION

Movement Proficiency Judges will credit: the individual dancer's ability to exhibit the presented style of genre effectively and continually throughout the routine; the dancer's understanding of correct posture, body placement, control, strength, alignment, and extension.

Dynamics of Movement Judges will credit: movement in terms of intensity, musicality, strength, and velocity.

Elements & Skills Judges will credit: demonstration of (not difficulty of) correct approach, execution and completion of elements such as, but not limited to: leaps, turns, lifts, partnering etc.

Synchronization Judges will credit: how well the team dances together as a group, rather than the execution. The ability of the team to maintain accuracy, clarity and control along with uniformity and commitment to the style and interpretation of movement as a group.

Spacing Judges will credit: the ability of the dancers to use spatial awareness to position themselves correct distances between each other in and throughout all formations and transitions.