

ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2025 NATIONALS

DANCERS APPLY HERE FOR THE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Purpose & Intention Behind THE ID DANCE "Artist of the Year"

- 1. To Celebrate Excellence**
 - a. The award honors a dancer who demonstrates outstanding artistry, technique, and performance throughout the season. It recognizes someone who consistently sets the standard of excellence in both rehearsal and on stage.
- 2. To Acknowledge Growth & Dedication**
 - a. It's not just about talent—it's about passion, perseverance, and the work ethic behind the artistry. The title celebrates personal growth, resilience, and the willingness to push beyond comfort zones.
- 3. To Inspire Others**
 - a. Recognizing one dancer can uplift an entire community. "ID Dance Artist of the Year" serves as a role model for others—encouraging dancers of all ages to lead with integrity, humility, and heart.
- 4. To Reflect ID DANCE'S Values**
 - a. This award highlights the traits the ID Dance values most: creativity, leadership, teamwork, discipline, intention and authenticity. It's not just about being the best—it's about being the most impactful.
- 5. To Strengthen Artistic Identity**
 - a. Awarding this title helps ID Dance spotlight a dancer whose work embodies the spirit and vision of its artistic direction. It becomes part of ID Dance's legacy and story.

Dancer MUST attend the Artist of the Year Event at Nationals. Please see the time and location marked on the Nationals Outline.

AOY APPLICATION FORM WAS UPDATED ON JUNE 5TH, 2025. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED FOR 2025, PLEASE RE-SUBMIT AS NEW QUESTIONS ARE NOW ASKED IN EFFECT FOR 2025 NATIONALS. FORM UPDATED ON JUNE 5TH. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED FOR 2025, PLEASE RE-SUBMIT AS NEW QUESTIONS ARE NOW ASKED IN EFFECT FOR 2025 NATIONALS.

Qualifications include taking advantage of the great opportunities that ID has to offer including but not limited to: participating in the ID Title Competition, master classes, opening number, faculty assisting, dance offs, photogenic & further proving the artists' commitment to the art of dance. Taking advantage of these experiences allows more exposure to the Adjudication Panel for AOY. These experiences offer observance through a different lens amongst each as they are all unique.

Senior age division dancers can nominate themselves up for ID Artist of the Year at Regionals.

Qualifications that must be met are as follows:

- 1. Dancer attends one or more Regional events in a given season.**
- 2. Dancer attends one or more National events in a given season.**
- 3. Dancer is of senior age division (15-18 years old).**
- 4. Dancer does not need to be nominated by a Judge at Regionals, dancer can nominate themselves.**
- 5. Dancer fills out Artist of the Year form**
- 6. Dancer attends and participates in the Artist of the Year Event at Nationals marked on the designated Nationals Event outline.**
- 7. No level requirement for AOY.**
- 8. Dancer will need to pick up name badge when they arrive at the Nationals Event to wear during the Artist of the Year event. See time and location on the Nationals Outline.**

Adjudication:

The Artist of the Year Adjudication Panel will review dancers answers to this form, observe artist at the Nationals Event and during the Artist of the Year session at Nationals. It is important for dancers to actively engage with and interact with others at the Event to demonstrate their impact, work ethic, and intention of leadership. ID Dance is proud to present the 2025 Artist of the Year this season as it is more prestigious, bigger and better than Ever Before. All nominees who participate in the AOY at Nationals will receive their scoresheet posted online on the ID Nationals results page after the event. Please allow at least 5 days for the results to be posted.

Insights of dancer will be collected from Key Voices

A 360° perspective by collecting insights from:

- Competition directors, judges and faculty
- Rehearsal directors, choreographers
- Peers or team coaches
- Self-reflection (the questions on the AOY Form)

Awarded:

Artist of the Year Title and Runner Ups will be awarded at the Solo & Duet-Trio Showdown Awards Ceremony

- **During Group 5 at the Showdown Awards Ceremony - All Artist of the Year nominees should walk out on stage along with a parent/legal guardian representative (dressed in Red Carpet Attire) together on the purple carpet from stage right following Showdown Scholarship Awards. Artist of the Year Nominees & Guardians should lineup backstage with the Backstage Manager during Group 3 awards, unless otherwise participating in the Group 3 awards. Awards time is posted on the Nationals Event Outline.**
- **Top 5 AOY Nominees will be recognized and will be called up to step forward to center to be Awarded a Top 5 Certificate.**
- **AOY Winner will be recognized from the Top 5 and receive Awards. All Nominees & Representatives should remain in spot until after Winner is announced for photos by ID Media.**
- **The AOY Award will be presented in the following fashion:**
- **During the AOY reveal:**
 - **ID Dance will share a short narrative about why this dancer was chosen**
 - **Highlight their growth, character, and contributions. Highlight their alignment with ID Dance's Values.**
 - **Emphasize the honor and responsibility that comes with the title**
- **When EMCEE announces that the final presentation for Artist of the Year is complete, all Nominees & Representatives can remain on stage for pictures & videos.**

DANCER MUST FILL OUT THE APPLICATION BY JUNE 25TH FOR MYRTLE BEACH NATIONALS AND JULY 9TH FOR SANDUSKY NATIONALS, LINKED ABOVE, BEFORE THE NATIONALS EVENT IN ORDERED TO BE ENTERED IN CONSIDERATION FOR THE TITLE OF THE ID DANCE ARTIST OF THE YEAR.

WHO SHOULD GO UP FOR ARTIST OF THE YEAR?

DANCERS APPLY HERE FOR THE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

How Do You Know if You Should Nominate Yourself for the ID Dance Artist of the Year?

1. Consistent Excellence in Performance

- a. An artist who brings artistry, power, and presence to the stage every time. A dancer who consistently delivers compelling, intentional performances.

2. Strong Work Ethic

- a. A dancer who gives 100% in rehearsals, takes corrections seriously, and is always prepared. They elevate the room just by how they approach their craft.

3. Leadership & Team Mentality

- a. Someone who uplifts others, leads by example, and supports their teammates. They're respected in the studio—not just for how they dance, but how they act.
- b. This artist understands that you can strive for perfection but accept mistakes along the way. They have awareness of knowing bumps will happen, learning from them, accepting them, and focusing on an overall positive journey of growth.

4. Growth Over Time

- a. A dancer who has made noticeable progress over the season— artistically & emotionally. It's powerful to honor someone who has pushed through challenges and grown because of them.

5. Artistic Identity

- a. Someone who brings something uniquely "them" to their movement. They dance with purpose and connection, not just choreography. Their performances feel real and moving.

6. Embodiment of ID Dance Values

- a. They represent what ID Dance stands for— passion, professionalism, humility, versatility, creativity, authenticity, intention and purpose of community.

This award should go to a dancer who inspires both the audience and their peers—someone whose presence feels meaningful beyond the stage.

Why does ID Dance offer the Artist of the Year Program complimentary to any senior dancers (ages 15-18)?

- The title is earned through hard work, growth, and passion. The time investment and program investment is a testament to the commitment of ID Dance to demonstrate and uphold our core values.
- **To Recognize Dedication, Not Just Talent**
 - This award reflects a dancer's commitment to their craft, leadership, and contribution to the community. It's about who they are and how they show up, how they support their peers.
- **To Set a Standard of Artistic Value**
 - Artistry, character, and impact are what matter most. It celebrates dance as an expressive and community-driven art form—not just a competitive field.
- **To Inspire**
 - When dancers see that the highest recognition is purely merit-based, it motivates everyone to strive for excellence in the right ways—with heart, integrity, and consistency.

Please note for the 2026 AOY Program, dancers will fill out a self reflection form before the Regionals they attend and then before the Nationals Event they will attend. For 2025, Dancers must fill out the only AOY Form available which is linked above. Deadlines will be posted on each form.

ARTIST OF THE YEAR NATIONALS

THE PRESTIGIOUS ID ARTIST OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

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HONOR THE ARTIST OF THE YEAR BEYOND THE AWARD

Honor the Artist of the Year Beyond the Award

1. Acceptance Speech

- AOY Winner will provide a Title Acceptance Speech at Nationals after receiving the Award. This Acceptance Speech will be given at the Solo & Duet-Trio Showdown Awards Ceremony and also to open the Gala on Day 6 for the Group & Line-Production Showdown Awards Ceremony. Dancer must be dressed in gown / suit to open the Day 6 Gala.
- Nominees should have acceptance speeches ready to go before Nationals begins. Acceptance Speech duration should be approximately 0:30-1:00.

2. Mentorship Opportunities

- AOY Winners are expected to provide a 30 minute mentorship zoom meeting with the Petite & Junior National Title Winners Ages 11&Under to inspire, encourage and provide AOY mentoring.
- AOY Winners will be Invited to speak at ID Events of their choice in 2025 or 2026 about their journey.
- Invited to speak at the 2026 AOY Nationals Event encouraging the next generation.

3. Media & Brand Representation

- AOY Winners will be featured in promotional videos, social content, and campaigns.
- Featured on the ID website, email campaigns & the ID X PL Magazine with an exclusive "Meet the Artist" feature. Optional to travel to ID HQ for in-person feature or submit all information virtually on Zoom. Travel must be expensed on own.
- AOY Winners will be highlighted as the face of the next season's audition campaign and/or merchandise.

4. Professional Development Support

- AOY Winner will be provided with exclusive mentorship programs at ID Dance.
- AOY Winners will be connected with industry professionals for career coaching or networking.
- ID will contact AOY Winners post-Nationals to provide them with these opportunities.

5. Creative Collaboration

- AOY Winner will have the exclusive and exciting opportunity to propose a concept or theme for a future AOY Event in 2026.
- AOY Winners are encouraged to create a video concept or social series sharing their process.

6. Legacy Honors

- AOY Winners will receive a custom banner displaying their name/photo on an "Artist of the Year" Award for their home studio to display. ID will ship this Award to the AOY Winner.
- AOY Winners are invited to present next year's winner. AOY Winners are encouraged to attend the AOY 2026 Crowning Ceremony to pass on the crown.
- AOY Winner will be added to the ID Headquarter's Wall of Fame and name will be engraved on the legacy award of the ID Artists of the Year.

ID DANCE IS HONORED TO PRESENT THE ARTIST OF THE YEAR —ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE AND MEANINGFUL TITLES WE AWARD. THIS RECOGNITION REFLECTS NOT ONLY EXTRAORDINARY TALENT, BUT A DEEP COMMITMENT TO ARTISTRY, GROWTH, LEADERSHIP, AND PASSION. IT IS AN HONOR RESERVED FOR A DANCER WHO TRULY EMBODIES THE HEART AND SPIRIT OF OUR BELOVED, ID DANCE COMPETITION PURPOSE, PASSION AND COMMUNITY.

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THE PRESTIGIOUS ID ARTIST OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

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SCORING

Category	Description	Score (1-10)
Artistic Excellence	Technique, performance quality, stage presence, and emotional connection.	
Work Ethic	Consistency, preparedness, effort, and receptiveness to feedback.	
Leadership & Attitude	Supports peers, demonstrates maturity, and sets a positive example.	
Growth & Development	Visible improvement over the season in skills, confidence, or artistry.	
Embodiment of Company Values	Represents the company's culture, mission, and integrity.	
Creativity & Expression	Brings individuality, authenticity, and storytelling to their movement.	

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**ARTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINEES WILL
EXPERIENCE PRESTIGE AND OPPORTUNITY
AT NATIONALS 2025!👑**

ALL NOMINEES WILL RECEIVE EXCLUSIVE
ACCESS TO THE ADMA COLLEGE
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, WITH A TOTAL
SCHOLARSHIP POOL VALUED AT \$500,000 —
AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT
THEIR CONTINUED ARTISTIC AND ACADEMIC
JOURNEY.

ARTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINEES ARE THE
ONLY DANCERS TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY
TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE ADMA
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AT ID
DANCE NATIONALS.

AT OUR NATIONAL EVENTS, ID IS PROUD TO
OFFER OVER \$500,000 WORTH OF
SCHOLARSHIPS TO AMDA IN EITHER NEW
YORK OR LA. SCHOLARSHIPS ARE: \$70,000
OR \$50,000 THAT CAN BE USED TOWARDS
AMDA'S UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM, OR
HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR THOSE YOUNGER STUDENTS WHO ARE
EXPLORING THEIR OPTIONS FOR DANCE
AFTER HIGH SCHOOL.

ID'S EXCITING ARTIST OF THE YEAR
PROGRAM WILL SERVE AS A SCOUTING
GROUND FOR AWARDING AMDA
SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALL ARTIST OF THE
YEAR NOMINEES WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR
SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

ID JUDGE, GABRIEL ASH, SERVES AS AN
AMDA LIAISON AND WILL BE PERSONALLY
ASSESSING EACH ARTIST OF THE YEAR
NOMINEE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE
REST OF THE ARTIST OF THE YEAR JUDGE
PANEL. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT EACH
UNIQUE ARTIST BRINGS TO THE STAGE NEXT
WEEK IN SANDUSKY AND ENCOURAGE ALL
OF YOUR SENIOR (AGE 15-18) DANCERS TO
PARTICIPATE TO GAIN VALUABLE
PROFESSIONAL AUDITION EXPERIENCE.

EACH NOMINEE WILL ALSO WALK THE ID
RUNWAY WITH THEIR PARENTS, CELEBRATING
NOT JUST THEIR TALENT BUT THE SUPPORT
SYSTEM BEHIND THEIR SUCCESS.👑

IN ADDITION, ARTIST OF THE YEAR RUNNERS-
UP WILL DELIVER PERSONAL SPEECHES AND
TAKE PART IN INTERVIEWS WITH THEIR
PARENTS, CREATING A HEARTFELT AND
INSPIRING MOMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY
TO WITNESS.💜