



Education

Guidelines for Participation

In The Spotlight Dance Festival 2020

Virtual Dance Fest



The Gili Dancers

Welcome

In The Spotlight Virtual Dance Fest is an online performance event for NSW Department of Education schools. The festival promotes dance education to engage students in rigorous and comprehensive syllabus-based learning in primary and high schools. Each performance displays the passion, skills and creativity of students and teachers as they explore the art of dance. The In The Spotlight Dance Festival website will host the Virtual Dance Fest and through this platform we can all connect our schools, dance programs and talented students. This will be a wonderful celebration of dance in public education.

Coordinating teachers can submit work into two categories:

1. Dance Performance

This category is for dance ensembles; filmed in a school hall, dance studio (no stage lighting) or performance space (including the use of stage lighting).

2. Dance Film

A dance video / film with at least one dancer. Consideration given to the performance setting and use of technology to manipulate choreographic ideas.

Dates

Virtual Dance Fest dates:

Term 4, week 9 & 10: Monday 7 – Friday 18 December 2020

Google Form submission due date:

Term 4, week 6: Friday 20 November

COVID restrictions

Adhering to the latest infection control advice, schools are to ensure their dance ensembles remain within their relevant cohort (i.e. class, year group or stage) to limit the mixing of students between cohort groups. If these restrictions are lifted we will update the advice on our website.

No participation fee!

In The Spotlight Dance Festival Website

www.inthespotlightdancefestival.com.au

Criteria for inclusion

In The Spotlight Virtual Dance Fest will present a high standard of dance performance and choreography. There will be no auditions or assessment feedback provided, unless inappropriate.

Syllabus Outcomes

Choreography must reflect an understanding of the basic compositional structures and choreographic processes taught in the curriculum. Choreography should use the Elements of Dance (space, time, & dynamics) as the basis for generating movement to communicate the concept/intent or theme. Thought should be given to variation of these elements.

Choreographers

- Items can be produced by NSW Department of Education teachers, students currently enrolled at the school or Non-DoE choreographers. The item must be original work created and developed as a part of an ongoing program within the school.
- It is the responsibility of the coordinating teacher to ensure that Non-DoE choreographers integrate these guidelines within their choreography.

Integrity

The overall choices made by the choreographer should be age appropriate and suitable for the skill level of the dancers. This is essential when selecting the theme/intent, music, costume and movement choices.

Content

- Sensitivity should be displayed in the treatment of themes such as romantic relationships, depression, suicide, racism, sexism, drug and alcohol abuse etc. If these themes are explored by senior students, they should be treated in an abstract context rather than representational. These themes are not suitable for primary or junior secondary students.

Length of item

There is no limit on the length of the item. Please note the maximum file size for uploading the video is 1GB.

Number of items

There will be no limit on the items submitted per school.

Safe Dance Practice

In The Spotlight Dance Festival committee endorses safe dance practices. Care should be taken so that potentially harmful activities are excluded. Unsafe dance practices will not be accepted. Choreographers need to cater for the skill level of their students and be aware of these potentially dangerous activities:

- full neck roll
- splits
- sustained forward flexion or back arches
- quick and repetitive plies
- falling/landing on knees rather than lowering down to the floor
- unstable or under-rehearsed lifts or weight bearing movements
- heavy/unsafe landing techniques

Movement

- Movement should reflect the concept/intent or theme to communicate the meaning of the work.
- Movement content of the item should be appropriate to the age, skill and level of development of the students.
- Movement should explore the elements of dance using shapes, space, levels, formations and dynamics. Large amounts of repetitive movement should be avoided; such as blocks of unison choreography in lines.
- Movements of a mature and sexual nature such as chest and pelvic thrusts, running hands down the body and straddling chairs will not be accepted.
- Where a student choreographer is involved, the supervising teacher is responsible for checking the appropriateness of the movement content.
- Avoid using 'tricks' that do not have any relevance to the theme or intent of the work.

Costume, hair and make-up optional:

If costumes are not possible the committee suggests students wear black dance attire:

Girls: black, full or $\frac{3}{4}$ length tights with leotard or singlet

Boys: black t-shirt and shorts

- School sports uniform may be an option.
- Costumes must be suitable to the age, gender and movement of the dancer.
- Sensitivity should be shown to the body shape of the dancers. Undergarments should not be seen when dancers are performing in costume.
- Midriff, cut-away tops, plunging necklines and high-cut leotards are not acceptable.
- Costume, hair and make-up should support the concept or theme of the work.
- The committee reserves the right to withdraw any item if costumes, hair and make-up are unacceptable or culturally inappropriate.

Music Suitability

- Music and lyrics help communicate the intent of an item, your music choice should be appropriate and support the intent / theme of your work.
- Music must be legally purchased on behalf of the school with your principal's acknowledgment of the purchase.
- Music should be selected and screened carefully with the school principal endorsing both song choice and song lyrics.
- Songs with inappropriate lyrics or intent will not be accepted.

Copyright Guidelines

In The Spotlight Dance Festival committee adheres to all copyright laws. Please abide by the following *general* copyright guidelines:

Choosing a song

1. Your school can:
 - perform musical works (i.e. songs) and play recorded music (i.e. sound recordings) as part of their dance performance; and
 - make a video recording of the dance performance and backing sound track or add a backing sound track after the recording has been made, under the [School Event Licence](#). The NSW Department of Education has entered into the [School Event Licence](#) on behalf of all NSW government schools.
2. When playing recorded music, you can use existing commercial sound recordings or recordings of performances made by the school.
3. If you intend to use a commercial sound recording, your school can simply obtain a legitimate copy (eg download a track from an online music store or streaming service such as Spotify, copy from a CD or download from YouTube) and play it as part of your dance performance.
4. You should include the following notice in the video recording of the performance (eg as an end credit): *This recording has been made under a [licence](#) from [AMCOS and ARIA](#) for educational purposes only*'. You should also include the following details of each musical work: title, composer/arranger, artist and record company.
5. It is fine for you to use a song from a [Grand Right Work](#) (eg a musical or opera), but if you want to use more than one song from a [Grand Right Work](#) please contact the [National Copyright Unit](#) for advice.
6. If you intend to use a song by an unsigned artist or a student or teacher at your school, you will need to get written permission from them to use both their song and the recording of that song. If you are not sure whether an artist is unsigned and therefore not covered by the [School Event Licence](#)—see <https://www.apra.com.au/cms/worksearch/worksearch.srvlt>.

Changing the music or sound recording

7. You should not make any changes to the song or sound recording. If you plan to remix, sample or segue sound recordings, you will need to obtain permission from both the record label and music publisher, and this is likely to involve the payment of a fee. [APRA AMCOS](#) or [PPCA](#) may be able to assist you to locate the relevant record label and music publisher. If you plan to make an arrangement, debasement or variation of a song, you will need to obtain permission from the music publisher, and this is likely to involve the payment of a fee. Again, [APRA AMCOS](#) may be able to assist.

Using the video recording of your school's dance performance

8. You can upload the recording of your school's dance performances to a password protected [digital teaching environment](#) for access by students, parents and teachers.
9. All participating schools are licensed under the APRA AMCOS Schools Agreements. Details on these agreements can be found here: <https://apraamcos.com.au/media/customers/Music-Education-Info-Guide.pdf>

Costumes and Choreography

10. You should use original costumes and choreography.

More information

11. For more information please contact the [National Copyright Unit](#).

Submitting video

Video file (for example MP4) to be directly uploaded to google form; no video link required. Please note the maximum file size for upload is 1GB.
First name only of student choreographers thank you.

Dance performance video file name:

DP_School_item name _choreographer/s

Dance film video file name:

DF_School_film name _choreographer/s

Please include the following notice in the video recording of the performance (eg as an end credit):

This recording has been made under a licence from AMCOS and ARIA for educational purposes only. Musical work: title, composer/arranger, artist and record company

For dance performance videos please consider the following:

- Performance location (limited background distractions)
- Quality of video footage and sound

The google form is to be completed via our website Virtual Dance Fest page at www.inthespotlightdancefestival.com.au

Please follow the prompts on the website, this is not exclusive to NSW DoE users; meaning a Non-DoE choreographer can complete this form.

PLEASE NOTE: Once you have started the form, you will not be able to save your progress and exit it. It will not time out, however, if you close the window, it will exit.

For time efficiency there is a downloadable checklist on the Virtual Dance Fest page on our website. It is recommended that you complete the checklist word document so you can copy and paste into the google form.

In The Spotlight Virtual Dance Fest Checklist

SECTION	INFORMATION REQUIRED
Contact details	Name of school
	Operational Directorate
	Principal name and email address
	Coordinating teacher's name, contact phone number and email
	Choreographer's name, DoE or non-DoE employee / student
Dance Performance details	Item name
	Ensemble name
Dance Film details	Film name
Musical Accompaniment	Certification
	Track title
	Artist
	Lyrics google doc link
	Additional tracks
Video file	Video file (for example MP4) to be directly uploaded; no video link required. Please note the maximum file size for upload is 1GB. Dance performance video file name: DP_School_item name_choreographer/s Dance film video file name: DF_School_film name_choreographer/s
Declaration Coordinating teacher	I declare that I have read the In The Spotlight Virtual Dance Fest Guidelines for Participation booklet and worked to create a high-quality syllabus based work, suitable to the age and ability of my students. I warrant that the dance work created is an original work. I give permission for this work to be reproduced by the NSW Department of Education for educational, archival and promotional purposes only. I have completed all sections of this form and included all necessary extra information including song lyrics. I have obtained copyright permission for all music, motion picture soundtracks, sound effects and dramatic dialogue utilised in my work. I have correctly formatted/uploaded and checked that the video provided is correct.
Principal endorsement	I declare I have viewed the video submission in full and can confirm that the song lyrics and dance movements will be acceptable to the school community and will support the values of public education. I approve and endorse the above mentioned dance performance video or dance film for In The Spotlight Virtual Dance Fest.

Student forms

Please download the student form from our Virtual Dance Fest page on our website to be completed by your parents/carers and students. Please collect and retain at your school:

- Student Participation, Consent Deed and Permission to publish form

Password protection

Following your google form submission a password to access the Virtual Dance Fest gallery will be sent to the coordinating teacher.

Important Contacts

To assist schools effectively, please direct your enquiries to:

Area of Enquiry	Contact Person	Contact Details
General Enquiries	Rebecca Devine	E: rebecca.devine1@det.nsw.edu.au
IT Support	Luke Burcher	E: luke.burcher2@det.nsw.edu.au

In The Spotlight Dance Festival Website
www.inthespotlightdancefestival.com.au