

THE AWARD WINNING
DANCE DESIGN EVENTS
PRESENTS



2025 | 2026

THE AWARD WINNING GROUP
DANCE COMPETITION

WELCOME

Welcome to the brand-new season of That's Showbiz! Following the massive success of our 2024/25 season, we are thrilled to continue with our innovative and inclusive competition format. At Dance Design Events, our goal is to make That's Showbiz the biggest, most inclusive, and fairest group dance event in the UK.

We're always learning, refining, and incorporating feedback to ensure we deliver an exceptional experience for everyone. Building on this success, we are excited to continue with our New Dynamic Qualification system. This streamlined format provides more flexibility and inclusivity, allowing your school to compete in Qualifiers where routines are assessed and if successful placed into one of three Grand Final levels. This ensures every dance group has the opportunity to shine at the level that best suits their skills.

Our commitment to continuous improvement drives us to make this season even better, and we can't wait to witness the creativity, passion, and talent that make That's Showbiz so special.

Our three-tier system also promotes inclusivity, allowing more schools and groups to experience performing at the prestigious Blackpool Opera House.

BLACKPOOL OPERA HOUSE

THREE GRAND FINALS

THAT'S SHOWBIZ SPOTLIGHT FINAL

THAT'S SHOWBIZ ELEVATE FINAL

THAT'S SHOWBIZ PRESTIGE FINAL

WE'RE FOR EVERYONE

WHY THREE FINALS?

The introduction in the 24/25 season of three Grand Finals in That's Showbiz was designed to create more opportunities for dancers of all abilities, from those just starting out to those performing at the highest level of skill and experience. The 2024/25 season has demonstrated how valuable this approach was in offering a fair, inclusive platform for everyone.

By having three distinct Grand Finals, we ensure that dancers compete in an environment that matches their ability. This allows newer dancers to perform confidently while providing a space for the most advanced groups to showcase their talent in a more competitive atmosphere. Every dancer, regardless of experience, can excel and feel challenged in a way that suits their development.

For those at the highest level, this format gives them the chance to perform in a space that pushes their skills to the fullest. At the same time, it ensures that every participant is recognised and celebrated, creating a balanced competition that encourages growth and fair competition across the board.

The three-tier system also promotes inclusivity, allowing more schools and groups to experience performing at the prestigious Blackpool Opera House.

Additionally this season, we're excited to introduce a dedicated section for SEN & SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) groups. To ensure fairness and inclusivity, these groups will be judged within their own section, providing a supportive environment where every performance can shine and be celebrated!

AGE SECTIONS

Please note entry is determined by the age of the dancers on the day of your Qualifier

DIDI KIDZ

Age 7 years & under (25% can be age 8)

MINI KIDZ

Age 11 years & under (25% can be age 12)

KIDZ

Age 14 years & under (25% can be age 15)

SENIOR

Age 18 years & under (25% can be age 19-21)

ADULT

18 & Over

MIXED

Any Age (Must be a mix of at least 2 age sections that do not fit into any other age section)



**FOLLOW US ON
OUR SOCIALS**



@THATSSHOWBIZUK



@DANCEDESIGNEVENTS

GENRES

The competition is split into four main genres, which are as follows:

CLASSIC

Classical Ballet, Character Ballet, National Dance, Lyrical or Contemporary Dance

MODERN

Modern, Jazz, Tap, Musical Theatre, Song & Dance, Cabaret

HIP

Street, Hip Hop, Breaking, Robotics, Commercial Jazz, other Street Styles

OPEN

Any routine that combines any of the above categories or a style of dance that does not fit into any of the above, namely; Acro, Latin, Ballroom, Disco Freestyle, Cheer & Pom

REQUIREMENTS

ENTRIES

No minimum number of entries.

Maximum of 10 entries per Qualifier.

Minimum of 5 performers per routine.

No further restrictions on the use of the 10 routines. They can be entered in any age section and any genre.

TIME LIMIT

Maximum 5 minutes per routine. Please note: there will be no exceptions and music will be stopped by the sound tech at 5 minutes.

ENTERING PREVIOUS ROUTINES

Routines that placed in the previous season's final cannot be entered in this season.

GROUP SIZES

SMALL GROUP

Minimum 5 dancers
Maximum 11 dancers

LARGE GROUP

Minimum 12 dancers
No maximum

CHAPERONE RATIOS

DANCERS 5 & UNDER

1 chaperone : 5 dancers

DANCERS UNDER 10

1 chaperone : 8 dancers

DANCERS 11 & OVER

1 chaperone : 12 dancers

PRE PAYMENT REQUIRED

All of our events must be pre paid. Please adhere to payment due dates on invoices. If you have an outstanding invoice on the day of your event you will not be able to take part in the event and will be refused entry.

QUALIFICATION & AWARDS

As we head into the Qualifiers, we're excited to share a glimpse of the awards we provide for our talented performers. The competition day at the Qualifiers brings the same familiar, vibrant atmosphere you know and love, complete with a range of awards to celebrate and recognize the incredible talent on display.

At the end of the Qualifiers, during the presentations, we will be recognising outstanding achievements in several categories:

Highest Marks in Each Genre in Each Age Section:

Celebrating excellence across different dance genres within each age group.

Best Small Group in Each Age Section:

Highlighting the exceptional teamwork and artistry of smaller dance groups.

Best Costume from the Entire Qualifier:

Recognizing creativity and innovation in costume design that captivates and enhances performances.

1st – 4th Place Overall in Each Age Section:

Recognising the highest-scoring routines, showcasing their exceptional skill and artistry.

QUALIFYING AWARDS

Judges will evaluate each routine to determine which ones qualify for the three finals: Spotlight, Elevate, and Prestige. Qualification will be based on both the performance of the routine and the level it has been allocated to. Routines will be assessed on a range of criteria, and only select routines in each level of criteria will earn a spot in one of these prestigious finals. When competing in the finals, this structure ensures a fair and inclusive competition, allowing all skill levels to showcase their abilities against others at their level.

YOU COULD BE A 2026 CHAMPION



£3000 IN CASH PRIZES



THE QUALIFIERS

5TH OCTOBER 2025 | ALDERSHOT

11TH OCTOBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

12TH OCTOBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

26TH OCTOBER 2025 | MANCHESTER

1ST NOVEMBER 2025 | SCOTLAND

2ND NOVEMBER 2025 | SCOTLAND

15TH NOVEMBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

16TH NOVEMBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

All those qualifying award recipients from the Qualifiers will progress to one of the three designated finals—That's Showbiz Prestige Final, That's Showbiz Elevate Final, or That's Showbiz Spotlight Final.

Schools can enter multiple qualifiers, but each school is limited to a maximum of 12 routines per final.

**TSB
SPOTLIGHT
FINAL**

**TSB
ELEVATE
FINAL**

**TSB
PRESTIGE
FINAL**

BLACKPOOL OPERA HOUSE

24TH JANUARY 2026 | SPOTLIGHT FINAL

25TH JANUARY 2026 | ELEVATE FINAL

1ST FEBRUARY 2026 | PRESTIGE FINAL

ENTRY FEES

QUALIFIERS

£10

Per dancer per entry

GRAND FINAL

£20 - One Final

£30 - Two Finals

£40 - Three Finals

Per dancer regardless of how many qualifying routines



TICKETS

QUALIFIERS

£16-£20

General Admission
(venue dependant)

£10-£12

Concession
(venue dependant)
(Under 16s & Over 65s)

GRAND FINALS

General Ticket Prices:

£28 - One Final

£35 - Two Finals

£45 - Three Finals

Concession Ticket Prices:

£21 - One Final

£27 - Two Finals

£34 - Three Finals

NEXT STEPS

STEP ONE - REGISTRATION

Submit a registration form with £10 deposit per entry to secure your place. Registration opens 10th February 2025, you'll receive the link to the registration form in your inbox. Make sure you're on our waitlist as those on the list will get priority access!

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN PRIORITY WAITLIST](#)

STEP TWO - THE DETAILS

Once registered you'll receive an email with details of what we require from you and when. This includes:

- Entries Form (this is where you tell us how many dancers you're bringing and the details of your routines)
 - Ticket Order Form
 - Dance iDDEntity registration info
- Dancer and chaperone register (this is so we can apply for licensing and comply with fire regulations)

STEP THREE - INVOICE/PAYMENT LINK

You'll receive your invoices for entry fees and tickets. These will have due dates included, please stick to these dates as all our events must be pre-paid. Please note if you have any outstanding invoices then you will not be able to attend.

STEP FOUR - MUSIC & BIO

We'll get your music from you and also a bio with photos to feature in our programmes.

STEP FIVE - SHOWTIME

You'll receive your arrival time & running order, then it's showtime!!



QUALIFIERS

5TH OCTOBER 2025 | ALDERSHOT

11TH OCTOBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

12TH OCTOBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

26TH OCTOBER | MANCHESTER

1ST NOVEMBER 2025 | SCOTLAND

2ND NOVEMBER 2025 | SCOTLAND *

15TH NOVEMBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

16TH NOVEMBER 2025 | ELLESMERE PORT

FINALS

BLACKPOOL OPERA HOUSE

24TH JANUARY 2026 | SPOTLIGHT FINAL

25TH JANUARY 2026 | ELEVATE FINAL

1ST FEBRUARY 2026 | PRESTIGE FINAL

THE AWARD WINNING GROUP DANCE
COMPETITION

VENUES

SCOTLAND

MUSSELBURGH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MUSSELBURGH

EH21 6AA

ALDERSHOT

PRINCES HALL

HAMPSHIRE

GU11 1NX

ELLESMERE PORT

ELLESMERE PORT CIVIC HALL

ELLESMERE PORT

CH65 0AZ

MANCHESTER

FORUM CENTRE

WYTHENSHAW

M22 5RX

BLACKPOOL

OPERA HOUSE

WINTER GARDENS

FY1 1HU

FAQS

How will the judges determine which Final the routines qualify for?

Our aim is to maintain consistency in judging throughout the entire Showbiz Qualifying season by having the same panel of judges. However, in cases where this isn't feasible due to judges' availability and other commitments, please be assured that we have implemented a stringent marking criteria. This ensures that regardless of the judging panel, all judges will be evaluating performances against the same set of standards.

The introduction of the new format is designed to address the natural variations in standards that may occur from one heat to another. By employing this approach, our judges can accurately assess and place each qualifying group into the appropriate level of competition for the Grand Final stages. This system guarantees that every group competes against others of similar skill and experience, offering a fair and exciting competition experience for all participants. We understand the importance of fairness and strive to provide an equitable platform for showcasing talent at every stage of That's Showbiz.

If my group places first, does that mean they will automatically qualify for the top level Prestige Final?

No, securing the first-place position does not automatically guarantee qualification for the highest level, Prestige Final. While achieving first place is a remarkable accomplishment, our competition emphasises fairness and considers multiple factors.

The standard of qualifiers and age sections can vary, and the ranking alone may not reflect the specific marking criteria required for each level of the final. Our goal is to ensure that each group competes in a final that aligns with their skill level and performance quality. Therefore, even if a group secures the top spot, their qualification for the Prestige Final will depend on meeting the specific marking criteria set by the judges for that level.

We encourage all participants to give their best performances, and our judging system is designed to assess various aspects to determine the most fitting final for each group.

FAQS

What if some of my groups qualify for different finals?
Will we have to attend more than one final?

While we encourage you to attend the final that corresponds to the level your groups have qualified for, we understand that logistical challenges may arise, especially if your school has multiple groups qualifying at different levels.

You have the option to level up if you choose to attend a higher-level final than the one your group initially qualified for. However, it's important to note that your groups originally qualified for the higher finals cannot level down.

Additionally, please note that each school can qualify for a maximum of 12 routines per final, so if your school has multiple groups, you may need to consider how many routines are entered into each final.

To assist with planning, here are the dates for the finals:

- Spotlight Final: Saturday 24th January 2026
- Elevate Final: Sunday 25th January 2026
- Prestige Final: Sunday 1st February 2026

When will we find out which final we have qualified for?

The anticipation of discovering your allocated final adds to the excitement of That's Showbiz! Rest assured, you won't have to wait long to find out.

After all the awards have been announced at the Qualifying Round, you will be informed whether your routines have qualified for one of the three finals—Spotlight, Elevate, or Prestige—and which final your group will be in.

This ensures that you leave the Qualifying Round not only with well-deserved recognition but also with the essential information for your next exciting step in the competition journey.

FAQS

What will the entry fees and ticket prices be if we qualify for more than one final?

Great question! We understand the considerations for participants attending multiple finals. Here's the breakdown:

- Dancers Fees: The standard fee is £20. However, if you qualify and choose to attend two or more finals, there will be a 50% reduction in fees for each additional event attended. This reduction aims to ease the financial commitment for participants showcasing their talents across multiple levels.
- Tickets for spectators are priced at £28 and £21. If you qualify for and decide to attend two or more finals, there will be a reduction in ticket prices for the additional events. We want to ensure that family, friends, and supporters can enjoy the performances without added financial strain. (For exact pricing details, please refer to the fees page.)

We believe this adjustment will contribute to a more accessible and enjoyable That's Showbiz experience.

THE STAGE AWAITS...



PRIORITY REGISTRATION OPENS 10TH FEBRUARY 2025

*GENERAL REGISTRATION OPENS 12TH FEB IF REMAINING SPACE IS AVAILABLE



DON'T MISS OUT! BE READY.



THE SMALL PRINT

1. Your place in the competition is not secured until you have paid the relevant entry fees.
2. If the company is unable to produce the event due to circumstances out of its control, any fees paid will be held as company credit and will be transferred to a future event.
3. In the unlikely event there are not enough entries for a particular qualifier, the producers reserve the right to amalgamate, cancel or postpone any of the confirmed heats.
4. Once registered, you must submit all your paperwork, music, entry fees and other requests by the deadlines given. Failure to comply by the deadline given set by the producer may result in disqualification.
5. You must dance in the age section according to the oldest member in the group. In all sections 25% of the team is permitted to be overage by one year.
6. All music and dance content must be age appropriate and with no explicit language. Any music or content the producers or judges deem inappropriate and may result in penalty points.
7. At the qualifier stage, all groups will be informed of their final qualification after the awards have been announced. The corresponding final your group qualifies for—Spotlight, Elevate, or Prestige—will be determined based on the judges' assessments during the Qualifying Round.
8. Places in the Final are only confirmed when the necessary entry fees and paperwork has been submitted. Until then the producers reserve the right to offer your place to the next highest scoring qualifying group from your original qualifier.
9. If you make it through to the Final you are permitted to make changes to the choreography, title, music, costumes and number of performers.
10. Any groups that progress to the Final must remain in the same age section and genre.
11. The producers are not responsible for any injury caused whilst performing your act. Dangerous stunts, acrobatics, gymnastics, lifts, etc. are allowed but this is done at the performer's own risk.
12. Every routine is subject to conformity with our risk assessment. If the producer believes that a routine poses unmanageable risk to any performers, the producer reserves the right to remove the routine.
13. The use of talcum powder, glitter or any other substance that may prejudice the safety of the stage is prohibited without prior consent from the producer.
14. The producer should be notified of the use of any props prior to the heat.
15. All dancers must be members of Dance iDDEntity and their membership card must be carried with them at all times in case proof of age is requested on the day. Failure to provide proof of age may result in disqualification. Membership cards will be distributed either on or before the qualifier.
16. All minors must be chaperoned by registered chaperones and you must agree to abide by the local LEA legislation. For those unfamiliar with the child performance regulations you will be guided by the producer to ensure you comply with the relevant legislation.
17. Photography, videography or the recording of any kind is strictly prohibited at all events.
18. All events must be pre-paid, failure to do so will result in refusal to attend.

The producer reserves the right to change, remove, amend or update the rules and regulations at any time.

WINNERS

BEST NORTH WEST DANCE EVENTS
COMPANY AWARD 2023 & 2024



DANCE DESIGN EVENTS

A DANCE DESIGN ENTERPRISES COMPANY



/dancedesignevents



@dancedesignevents

@thatsshowbizuk



@thatsshowbizuk

INFO@DANCEDESIGN-EVENTS.CO.UK

WWW.THATSSHOWBIZ.CO.UK