

MDAA 2024 SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION RULES

(Revised February 2024)

**INCOMPLETE OR LATE SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

The Candidate auditioning must:

- Be a student currently living in the state of Montana and currently enrolled and consistently attending classes of an MDAA Professional Member whose membership is current.
- Pay a \$30.00 Audition Fee.
- Complete a MDAA Scholarship Audition Form and send it in with the required items by the due date.
- Purchase a two-day pass for the current MDAA Spring Workshop and must have purchased a three-day pass for the 2023 MDAA Fall Workshop. Student may pay the fall fees with the 2024 Scholarship Form.
- Be at least 12 years of age by April 1st of the current year and may not exceed 18 years of age for ballet or 21 years of age for tap, jazz and modern.
 - If a student is also a teacher, gross compensation from teaching must not exceed \$2,000 per year.

If Candidate is under 18, Parent or Guardian must:

- Be familiar with MDAA's Scholarship Rules, process, and follow-up procedures.
- Contact the summer program in a timely manner to confirm program details, i.e., schedule, housing, dates, rules, and safety procedures.
 - If having trouble making contact or communicating with the program, email the MDAA office immediately; montanadanceartsassoc@gmail.com.

Application Process:

- a. A completed **Scholarship Form with required items** must be mailed to the MDAA office, 718 Logan Street, Helena, MT 59601 by postmark deadline of **March 29, 2024**.
 - Scholarship Form must be signed by Parent/Guardian if candidate is under 18 years of age.
- b. Scholarship applications must include a current 5 X 7 black & white or color photo.
 - Photo must be on photo paper.
 - Photo for ballet audition must be in *croise devant*.
 - Jazz, modern and tap photos should be in a full body dance pose appropriate to the discipline.
 - Please put the student's name, address, and discipline on the back side of the photo.
 - Do not send a CD, DVD, or e-mail attachment in lieu of photo as none of these will be accepted.
- c. See additional rules and requirements for Cash Scholarships below.

The Audition Process:

- a. A student may audition in one discipline and may accept only one scholarship. Scholarship winners are decided by the guest faculty in each discipline and not the staff or board members of MDAA. Students pay an audition fee for both In-State & Out-of-State Ballet Auditions if they attend both.
- b. A scholarship may not be awarded if a suitable candidate has not auditioned.
- c. Only students auditioning may take the audition class; only MDAA professional members may observe auditions.

MDAA Scholarship Audition Rules – page 2

- d. Proper attire for audition class and audition photo is as follows:
 - a) No frills or adornments
 - b) Proper hairstyle appropriate to discipline is required
 - c) Female ballet students must wear black leotard, pink tights, slippers; bring pointe shoes to class
 - d) Male ballet students must wear white shirt or leotard, black tights and black or white slippers
 - e) For all other disciplines, the legs must be covered at least to the knee by tights or pants, tops must cover the midriff, and must wear appropriate footwear
- e. All Scholarship Audition classes will include warm-up and combinations. Except for Specialty Scholarships, the candidate does not need to have any prepared exercises or combinations. For Specialty Scholarships, the candidate must come prepared with a short presentation to present to a panel of adjudicators. Presentation to be at least 1.5 minutes and no longer than 2 minutes. Presentation should demonstrate the student's abilities in the chosen discipline.
- f. Scholarship winners will be announced at the MDAA 2024 Scholarship Awards Ceremony on April 7, 2024. Those recipients not in attendance will be notified by email.

Follow-up Process

- a. Those who have been offered a scholarship must return a signed Letter of Acceptance or Refusal to the MDAA office postmarked by **Monday, April 22, 2024**. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify the individual from auditioning for MDAA scholarships for a period of one year.
- b. After accepting a scholarship, the student must attend the program in its entirety, except in the event of documented illness, injury, or family emergency. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify the individual from auditioning for MDAA scholarships for a period of one year.
- c. A Scholarship Evaluation Form, along with a photocopy of a thank-you note to the contributing school or program or MDAA must be completed and returned to MDAA's office no later than 30 days following completion of your scholarship experience. The Scholarship Evaluation Form is available on the MDAA website. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify the individual from auditioning for MDAA scholarships for a period of one year.
- d. Any finalist who does not use his/her scholarship in the year it is offered relinquishes it.
- e. Scholarship awards are not transferable between programs or people. MDAA cannot be held responsible for changes in dates or canceled programs.

Additional Rules and Requirements for Cash & Specialty Scholarships

- a. MDAA cash scholarships may only be used for documented tuition, travel, and lodging expenses for an out-of-state summer workshop.
- b. You must submit a brochure or printed web pages from the out-of-state program you plan to attend, and they must show the dates of the program, schedule of classes, and tuition costs. If the program has an audition requirement, the student must submit a photocopy of their letter of acceptance from that program. Acceptance letters must be submitted by April 5, 2024.
- c. If the awarding of a \$200 scholarship would not make it financially possible for the student to attend their first-choice program, a second program may be submitted for consideration of a \$200 scholarship.

Accepted programs for cash scholarships must meet the following requirements.

- ✓ **Must be an out-of-state program.**
- ✓ **To be eligible for \$1000 or \$750 or \$500 cash scholarships, a student must be attending a workshop with 5 or more days of dance instruction including 3 or more hours of dance classes on each day. Any workshops less than 5 days of instruction are eligible for \$500 or \$200 cash scholarships.**
- ✓ **Must be a minimum of two consecutive days with at least three hours of classes per day for \$200 scholarships.**
- ✓ **The focus of the program must be in the discipline of the audition class (e.g., San Francisco Ballet Summer Program would not be considered for a jazz scholarship).**
- ✓ **Open class situations will not be considered for scholarship funding.**
- ✓ **For Specialty Scholarships, the chosen discipline must be the focus of the program. A program that offers a class or classes in the chosen discipline but does not offer additional training in the chosen discipline would not meet the requirements. Contact the MDAA office if you have questions about a program you are considering.**

If you have questions, e-mail the MDAA office at montanadanceartsassoc@gmail.com or call the MDAA office at 406-442-6519.

Scholarship Application Check List: Please use this checklist to be sure your application is complete.

All Auditions

1. _____ Scholarship Audition Form
2. _____ Payment for Audition Fees; see Scholarship Audition Form
3. _____ Purchase a 2024 MDAA Spring Workshop Student 2-Day Pass by March 29, 2024.
4. _____ 5x7 vertical photo on **photo paper**: full body, ballet in *croise devant*, all others in a dance pose appropriate to the discipline.

If you are auditioning for cash scholarships, please also include the following:

5. _____ Copy of a brochure/web pages from the out-of-state program you plan to attend. **Must show dates of program, schedule of classes, and tuition costs.**
6. _____ Copy of acceptance letter from the out-of-state program you plan to attend if an audition process is required by the program.

Submit all the above in one envelope, and send it to the MDAA office, 718 Logan Street, Helena, MT 59601 by the postmark deadline, March 29, 2024