

NZAMD MEDAL AWARDS

Introduced in 1999, the NZAMD Medal Awards are available for Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Hip Hop Contemporary, Musical Theatre and the NZAMD Group Award

WHAT ARE MEDAL AWARDS?

Medal Awards, particularly at the Junior levels, are aimed at encouraging students to perform, allowing them to dance in front of an audience, in a fun and non-judgmental atmosphere, and to lead them towards the examination system. Performance is important at all levels.

Currently awards can generally be gained at three levels with each having three categories - Bronze, Silver and Gold. Candidates may sit more than one Medal Award per session.

Jazz, Tap, Ballet & Hip Hop medals are available in Junior, Intermediate & Senior Awards
Contemporary & Musical Theatre medals are available in the Intermediate & Senior Awards
The Group Award is only available at one level

JUNIOR MEDAL AWARDS

Junior Awards need not be taken in succession.

Junior Awards may be taken in pairs if the same music and dance is being used.

There is no marking range at this level. All Junior candidates who pass their Medal Award will receive 'Congratulations' on their report card.

Only **one** dance is required from each candidate, for each Medal. Any dance may be performed.

Timing - Dances at the Junior level must be **no more than 1 minute** in length.

INTERMEDIATE MEDAL AWARDS

These are suitable for students 9 yrs of age and over.

Intermediate Awards **must be taken in succession**, beginning with the Bronze.

Dances must be performed one at a time.

Each student is assessed on ability for age. i.e. a 10 year old sitting Intermediate Bronze will be marked differently from a 15 year old doing the same level.

Report cards at these levels will be marked by the examiner with one of the following:

Merit, Merit Plus, Excellence, Excellence Plus

Intermediate Bronze requires one dance. Any dance can be performed including the dance used for an exam.

Silver and Gold require two contrasting dances, one of which may be the exam dance.

Timing – Dances at Intermediate level should be **no less than 1 minute and no more than 1.5 minutes**.

SENIOR MEDAL AWARDS

Senior Medals **must be taken in succession.**

These may be taken after completing the three Intermediate Awards, however candidates at Elementary examination level may omit the Intermediate Medals and begin at the Senior Bronze Medal.

Again, each student is assessed on ability for age.

Dances must be performed one at a time.

Report cards at these levels will be marked by the examiner with one of the following: Merit, Merit Plus, Excellence, Excellence Plus

Senior Bronze, Silver & Gold require **two contrasting dances**, one of which may be the exam dance.

Timing – Dances at Senior level should be **approx. 2 minutes in length.**

Where 2 dances are required they must show good contrast in style, tempo and performance e.g. one dance fast, the other slow or lyrical.

MUSICAL THEATRE MEDAL AWARDS

This is an individual award, and students may enter the Musical Theatre Award at a Bronze, Silver or Gold level in the Intermediate and Senior awards.

All conditions are as the Intermediate and Senior Awards shown above, and will also be graded in the same manner as other Intermediate and Senior Awards.

Dances can be any genre as long as applying to the style & era of the musical chosen and, when two dances are required, with contrasting styles to show the versatility of the dancer. Both dances may be from the same musical OR two different shows.

At the beginning of their presentation the student is required to give a brief narration, explaining the storyline and style of their chosen musical(s) and how their character fits into it

The vocals may be sung, or lypsync will be accepted, and one verse and one chorus may be sufficient.

GROUP MEDAL AWARDS

This new Group Award is also part of the Medal Awards programme, however there will be only one Award - rather than different levels.

A minimum of 4 students must be used in a Group, but students may enter more than once if they wish.

One dance only will be required and may be in any discipline e.g. a Hip Hop crew

The Group Award will be graded in the same manner as other Medal Awards i.e. Merit, Merit Plus, Excellence, Excellence Plus and one report card will be given. All students in the group will receive a medal.

COSTUMING

Some costuming or 'dress-up' is encouraged, but is optional.
Make up and accessories may be used.
These all add to the sense of fun and performance intended with these Medal Awards.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS

Students are presented with their medals by the examiner on the same day as their performance.
A report card will be completed by the examiner and returned to the teacher.

TEACHER REQUIREMENTS

Entries must be completed on the correct forms:

Jazz -	Yellow forms	Tap -	Green forms
Ballet -	Lavender forms	Hip Hop -	Light grey forms
Contemporary -	Pale Lemon forms		

COMPLETING THE ENTRY FORMS

The following abbreviations should be used when defining the Medals on the entry form:

JB = Junior - Bronze	JS = Junior - Silver	JG = Junior - Gold
IB = Intermediate - Bronze	IS = Intermediate - Silver	IG = Intermediate - Gold
SB = Senior - Bronze	SS = Senior - Silver	SG = Senior - Gold

PREPARING A TIMETABLE

Time must be allowed for the performance, examiners writing time, and the presentation of the Medals.

- A general rule is to allow 3 minutes per student, with a break of 10 minutes after each group to allow for the Presentation of the Medals. However **extra time must be allowed for the second dance in the Intermediate & Senior Medals.**
- Sufficient time must also be allowed for any Group entries.
- If there is an audience an extra 5 minutes may be needed to allow for the Parents to enter and exit the studio.
- Please adjust your timetable to cater for candidates performing two dances or sitting more than one Medal Award.

If you have a large number of students entered for the Medal Awards they would usually be presented in groups of 10 to 15.

Students must be ready 30 minutes before their anticipated dance time.

AUDIENCE

An audience is also encouraged, to enhance the sense of performance and to build the dancer's confidence. Seating must be provided for the audience, and they should be placed away from the examiner. Students are also encouraged to support their fellow candidates by watching their performance.