



SOLO PERFORMANCE DIPLOMA EXAMINATION

Guidelines for Teachers & Candidates

Although Solo Performance Diploma follows on from the Major examinations, it should not necessarily be seen as a continuation of the Grade / Level system. The criteria differs from the previous examinations and is examined likewise.

1 CRITERIA

- Candidates must be 16 years of age by the 31st December, and have completed the three NZAMD Major Examinations in the same discipline as their Solo examination
- the minimum requirement for entry in the Solo Performance Diploma examination is an 'HONOURS' pass mark (or an 'OUTSTANDING' in Hip Hop) in the NZAMD Advanced Two (Jazz), Advanced (Original Tap & Ballet), Level Nine (American Tap) or Level Six (Hip Hop & Contemporary) examinations
- This is a 'stage' examination and therefore entertainment, plus a professional appearance and performance is expected. This includes music, choreography, costuming, grooming, presentation, interpretation, and stagecraft
- A Solo student should be capable of auditioning for the professional stage
- An equal balance of technique and presentation is required

2 TECHNIQUE

Technique needs to be aesthetically acceptable and not detract from the overall professional appearance and performance. A technically near perfect performance with little or no attack, style or presentation is not considered entertainment value and is not a 'PASS'. Neither is a poor technical performance, presented with excellent style, presentation and entertainment value, deemed a "PASS".

3 PASS MARK

To pass this examination, a student must receive 90 marks or above.
The result will be either 'successful' or unsuccessful'.

4 RESITS

A **six month** period must elapse before resitting this examination.
Only two attempts will be permitted.

5 COSTUMING

Dances A and B
Dance C

Stage costume and stage make up appropriate to the discipline
Impromptu - Studio examination uniform

6 LENGTH OF DANCE

Dances A and B

All disciplines - To be no longer than 2 – 3 minutes

Dance C Impromptu -

Examiners choice of music

Jazz, Tap, Ballet & Contemporary - Aprox 2.5 minutes

Hip Hop - Aprox 1.5 minutes

7 EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Dances A and B may be performed in any order, and there must be a complete variation between the styles and rhythms of Dances A and B in all disciplines.

JAZZ SOLO DIPLOMA - 3 Dances

A Lyrical / Contemporary Dance OR Musical Theatre (no singing or lipsync)

B Jazz Dance

C Impromptu

BALLET SOLO DIPLOMA - 3 Dances

A Classical OR Neo Classical pointe dance

B Demi Character / Character / Lyrical

C Impromptu

TAP SOLO DIPLOMA - 3 Dances

A Fast

B Slow, can include Waltz or Latin

C Impromptu

CONTEMPORARY SOLO DIPLOMA - 3 Dances

A Fast / Neo Classical

B Slow

C Impromptu

HIP HOP SOLO DIPLOMA - 3 Dances

A Up tempo and energetic

B Slower smoother movement reflecting the lyrics

C Impromptu

GUIDELINES FOR SOLO PERFORMANCE BEING HELD IN A THEATRE

Teachers who have three or more candidates for Solo Performance Diploma in any one session may use a Theatre for this examination, giving the students the opportunity to perform their dances on a stage.

This is given only as an alternative to holding the Solo examinations in the studio.

No audience is allowed when the examinations are in the studio.

Guidelines are as follows -

- There must be **three or more** candidates
- An audience is allowed, however they must be seated away from the examiner, and preferably in front of the examiner
- The audience must remain silent, especially during the first playing of the impromptu music
- There must be a bell available for the examiner
- Please be aware of providing a hard surface for the examiners writing where it is not practical to set up a table