

CONTEMPORARY/LYRICAL CATEGORY | EXPLANATION



A Contemporary or Lyrical routine uses organic, expressive, pedestrian and/or traditional modern and/or ballet vocabulary as it complements the lyric, mood and/or rhythmic value of the music. Emphasis is placed on control, expressive movement, dynamics, alignment, use of breath, uniformity, communication and may incorporate purposeful elements and skills.

PRESENTATION

Communication Judges will credit: genuine use and consistency of projection, artistry, confidence, expression and emotion to convey and maintain mood and emotion of intended style/story/concept through both facial expression and body energy.

Suitability Judges will credit: fulfillment of the genre per the category description; and suitability for family viewing.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Composition of Movement Judges will credit: the thoughtful relationship of movement to lyrics or rhythmic values in the music; the artistic interpretation of original concepts and unique full-body movement. The inclusion of small group work supporting the flow and enhancing the overall team dynamic, while displaying a balanced use of all dancers.

Staging Judges will credit: how the choreography utilizes the stage and how the dancers are presented on the floor; the structure of challenging formations and seamless transitions. Incorporation of original and surprising visual effects within the movement developed through purposeful use of creative floor work, group and/or partner work, level changes, and opposition, etc.

Degree of Difficulty Judges will credit: difficulty of the routine considering both movement and elements/skills (does not reflect execution); overall level, pace, and intricacy of movement such as footwork, varied tempos/rhythms within the movement, syncopation and direction changes. Appropriate utilization of team's ability level.

EXECUTION

Movement Proficiency Judges will credit: the individual dancer's ability to exhibit the presented style effectively and continually throughout the routine. The understanding of correct posture, body placement, control, resistance, alignment, and extension.

Dynamics of Movement Judges will credit: the movement in terms of intensity, musicality, texture and nuance of the style.

Elements & Skills Judges will credit: demonstration of (not difficulty of) correct approach, execution and completion of elements such as, but not limited to: leaps, turns, floor work, inversions, lifts, partnering etc.

Synchronization Judges will credit: how well the team dances together as a group, rather than the execution. The ability of the team to maintain accuracy, clarity and control along with uniformity and commitment to the style and interpretation of movement as a group.

Spacing Judges will credit: the ability of the dancers to use spatial awareness to position themselves correct distances between each other in and throughout all formations and transitions.