

COMDANCE

GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF DANCE



PROSPECTUS



A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF DANCE AWAITS

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INTRODUCTION

COMDANCE is one of the world's leading dance organisations.

Our technically strong, innovative, developmental and educationally based syllabi have produced many of today's leading artists and teachers.

Our members have a supportive training system that strongly values the method and practice of teaching. A COMDANCE experience provides career opportunities ranging from professional dancer, to accredited, internationally recognised dance teacher or studio owner.

For studio owners, COMDANCE gives you the resources, tools and networks to build and promote your business. As part of a wide-reaching international dance community, we help our members promote their dance studios to thousands of potential new students. Being part of the COMDANCE family can work wonders for your studio.

WE WORK FOR YOU!

Advocacy, education, business support and marketing expertise are all on offer to studio owners.

HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE SAM MOSTYN AC GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

FROM OUR PATRON

As Patron of COMDANCE, I am proud to support its work to elevate and promote excellence in dance education and performance, and to inspire a lifelong love of movement and artistry.

Dance enriches our lives in ways beyond movement itself. It is a celebration of creativity and expression that connects us across generations, cultures, and communities. As a pathway to confidence and resilience, dance teaches focus and teamwork, and nurtures imagination.

COMDANCE has fostered these qualities in teachers and studios around the world since 1933. Through the innovative syllabi and teacher training it offers today, COMDANCE gives dancers of all ages the opportunity to learn and grow as artists, and to find the joy of belonging in community.

As your Governor-General, I have promised to put care, kindness and respect at the core of everything I do, and to celebrate their resonant place in the heart of Australian life. COMDANCE makes a unique contribution to developing imaginative, confident and compassionate dancers who bring care, kindness and respect to sharing their creativity as teachers, performers and collaborators. I am delighted to be part of the COMDANCE community, and to support its commitment to the joy of dance.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

WELCOME TO COMDANCE

Thousands of dancers, dance teachers and studio owners around the world have joined our global community of dance.

From our beginnings in Australia in 1933, to our presence today across four continents worldwide, we proudly celebrate both our heritage and the vibrant new generations who continue to shape and be part of our story.

We are committed to providing the highest quality technical training in dance while fostering spaces where creativity, individuality, and connection can flourish. Our programs are designed not only to inspire dancers but also to support educators and studio owners with the tools, mentoring, and connections they need to thrive.

Innovation is at the heart of who we are. From our early days as the Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dancing (CSTD) to the diverse program of education, performance, and events we deliver today under the banner of COMDANCE, our focus remains on empowering dancers and studio owners to move through life and business with confidence and joy.

As a membership organisation, your success is central to our mission. We continually evolve our syllabi and training programs to reflect an industry that never stops moving, while connecting our members to leaders across finance, business, marketing, social media, child psychology, and safe dance practice. Our goal is to

ensure you and your students feel supported, engaged, and inspired at every step of your journey.

No matter which syllabus you choose - Classical Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Latin American, or Theatrical Arts - every program is built on our core philosophy of Education, Empowerment, Encouragement, Expression, and Excellence.

These values are our commitment to you and guide everything we do.

We warmly welcome you to share in a journey of discovery, growth, and joy as part of the COMDANCE global community of dance.

Diane Gepp
COMDANCE President
B.Ed, Dip. Teach, CSTD, Theatrical,
Classical, Tap, Highland



EXPRESSION | ENCOURAGEMENT | EXCELLENCE | EDUCATION | EMPOWERMENT



TEACHING MEMBERS

WE RECOGNISE PRIOR LEARNING AND TRAINING. ASK US ABOUT PATHWAYS TO BECOMING A COMDANCE TEACHER.



STRUCTURE, SYLLABI AND SUPPORT

A COMDANCE teacher never enters the studio to teach alone. You are part of a global network of experienced and dedicated teaching members. A community you can be proud of, moving alongside you.

COMDANCE teachers have access to our syllabi, teacher training programs, peer mentoring and our supportive staff. We give you the tools to teach with confidence, engaging your students and yourself in class every time you step foot in the studio.

We believe great teaching is going one step further and we foster life-long learning by providing you with professional development and networking opportunities, workshops, conventions and knowledge seminars all year round, both in-person and online.

Our internationally recognised syllabi and qualifications cover all major dance genres including Classical Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Latin American, or Theatrical and Performing Arts. They give you an excellent structure and framework on which to base your classes and keep your students motivated. Allowing you both to experience the sheer joy of dance.

We are constantly evolving so there's always something new to learn with COMDANCE, both for you and your students!

EXCELLENCE, LOYALTY AND GROWTH

COMDANCE is a globally respected brand with a reputation for excellence that has been developed over 90+ years as a dance membership organisation. Being a COMDANCE studio gives you instant credibility and recognition within the global dance industry, and in your local community.

At COMDANCE, your studio's success is important to us. We know the challenges of running a studio, and we're here to support you. Our studio owners enjoy access to tailored education packages, practical resources, and marketing platforms that make building and sustaining a profitable business that much easier.

Our highly skilled examiners make examinations a positive and rewarding experience for your studio. Dancers leave feeling proud, as well as motivated and inspired to continue their dance journey with you - creating long-term loyalty, retention and growth for your business.

As part of our global community, your studio is promoted to thousands of potential students every year. We are passionate about connecting families with high-quality teachers and ensuring every person has the opportunity to experience the thrill of dance and the COMDANCE community.

STUDIO OWNERS

ACCESS A WIDE RANGE OF SYLLABI WITH A SINGLE MEMBERSHIP.



DANCERS

CONTINUE YOUR DANCE JOURNEY BY JOINING OUR TEACHING PROGRAMS AND DISCOVER CAREER PATHWAYS THAT OPEN DOORS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE NEXT STEP IS YOURS

We believe every dancer should be empowered to create their own dance journey.

With COMDANCE, you'll discover more than just different steps, styles and routines - you'll uncover the confidence, creativity and the resilience that being a dancer instils and grows from the inside out. Dance gives you energy, purpose and joy. It challenges your body, inspires your mind, and makes your heart soar. Most of all, it's a space where you can truly be yourself while striving towards who you dream of becoming.

With a wide range of genres to choose from including Classical Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Latin American, or Theatrical Arts - you can explore, experiment, and find the styles that move you most. And when you're ready - with our incredible network of studios - you can take your passion further with performances, exams and competitions.

Every journey looks different. Some dancers take their training into the spotlight, others into the studio as teachers, while many carry the discipline, creativity and confidence they've gained into completely different life choices. Whatever your path, the lessons you learn with COMDANCE will stay with you for life.

Your dance story begins with a single step...

Make it with COMDANCE and join a global community of dance.



“ I have always valued my COMDANCE training. Not only did it give me solid technique, but it helped nurture my performance confidence, gave me great body awareness and also gave me a greater understanding of the education of dance in all styles.

COMDANCE syllabus is engaging and motivating and moves with the ever changing times. It has been an important foundation in my dance life. ”

Kelley Abbey
Australian Actress, Singer, Choreographer and Dancer.

COMDANCE EXAMINER

“ Supporting students through their dance journey is the reason why I am a COMDANCE examiner.

COMDANCE offers clear assessment criteria in every syllabus, ensuring consistency and making for a rewarding experience not just for the dancer but for me as an Examiner. Visiting each new studio and seeing dancers grow in confidence, develop their technique and artistry, and celebrate their achievements in the studio, on stage and in their teaching careers, makes this a rewarding career.

Being a COMDANCE examiner is both a privilege and a responsibility, and I take great pride in upholding the integrity and high standards of the COMDANCE syllabus while seeing the next generation of dancers and teachers grow and develop. ”

Carolyn Gilby, COMDANCE Examiner



A REWARDING CAREER AS A COMDANCE EXAMINER

Examiner training is open to teachers with extensive experience and a proven record of successful results across a range of genres. By invitation of the Executive Committee, selected teachers are offered the opportunity to undertake this specialised training.

The decision to train as a COMDANCE Examiner opens the door to national and international travel, providing the opportunity to experience diverse countries and cultures, while delivering a consistent and high-quality COMDANCE examination experience across our global community.

Examiners undertake a comprehensive two-stage training process. Under the guidance of a current member of the examination panel, candidates are initially mentored as Grade Examiners before being allocated their first examination tour. Following the development of experience in this role, examiners may be invited to complete the second and final stage of training.

The flexibility to indicate availability makes this pathway particularly well suited to teachers who wish to continue running their own studios while contributing to the broader COMDANCE community.

As ambassadors within the community, COMDANCE Examiners also play an important mentoring role, supporting teaching members to refine their practice and enhance student examination outcomes.



OUR COMMUNITY

UNITY IS AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY



WE WELCOME YOU TO BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

As one of the world's leading dance organisations, we regularly host workshops, professional development courses, Conventions, events, scholarships, awards and moments for our global dance community to come together in person or online.

Whether you are seeking further training, mentoring, or the chance to perform, with COMDANCE you are encouraged to embrace being part of a supportive, connected and thriving membership.

Dancers and educators all over the world are moving alongside you in your journey through dance.

We love to see our members and their students come together to share their passion for dancing and dance education and grow together.

Images from MOVE OUT LOUD Contemporary Professional Development workshop in collaboration with the Ministry of Education in Singapore, facilitated by Teacher Lordfai from Bangkok Dance Academy.



In all my years of attending CSTD courses here in Singapore, today's workshop has been one of my absolute favourites. Besides learning the new skills of creative play designed by Lordfai, I feel this is the first time I have had so much interaction with fellow teachers in our community.

I loved very much how she brought us together and designed exercises that allowed for us to be so open and vulnerable as people. No inhibitions on the activities at all.

It's so valuable to me as an educator. I really appreciate your efforts. ”

Ms Shanti Gomes from Jitterbugs Swingapore





THE JESSE RASMUSSEN TAP SYLLABUS

Created by Jesse Rasmussen in collaboration with COMDANCE, this represents a bold new chapter for tap dance education. Designed for today's dancers and teachers, this world-class syllabus blends the timeless foundations of the golden era with the energy, style and innovation of contemporary tap.

“ The landscape of tap dance is evolving, and it's important to provide a resource that reflects current trends and techniques. ”

Jesse Rasmussen

Built across 10 progressive levels and featuring over 250 exercises and structured building blocks, the syllabus offers a comprehensive and clearly mapped training pathway. Each level has been carefully designed to develop strong technical foundations while simultaneously nurturing performance quality and artistic individuality. From foundational steps to advanced combinations, every element works to create confident, versatile and expressive tap dancers.

Technique, performance and creativity are given equal importance, ensuring students are not only skilled but also dynamic performers. With exciting and challenging routines, ensemble work, improvisation tasks and jamming exercises, students are encouraged to explore their own voice and develop a genuine connection to the art form.



GRADES

JR Tap Level Primary
JR Tap Level 1
JR Tap Level 5

FROM 2026...
JR Tap Level 2
JR Tap Level 3
Dorothy Gladstone Award

EXAMS

Examinations are available in all levels as they roll out in all markets.

NEW TAP SYLLABUS

PRESS PLAY

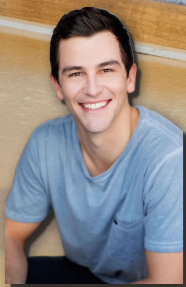


TO WATCH

TAP

“The incredible foundation provided by the syllabus has aided my progression into my professional career. I will always appreciate my COMDANCE training.”

Thomas Lacey, Dance Academy, 'Grease The Arena Experience' and 'Strictly Ballroom - The Musical'



PRESS PLAY



TO WATCH



TRADITIONAL TAP SYLLABUS

Our foundational tap syllabus was created by Miss Sandra Breen OAM with assistance by Janine Tirant and Sharee Stirling. Other contributing choreographers include Jack Chambers, 'Krocket' Forster, Keith Hawley, Chris Jordan, Renie Ann Martini OAM, Kristy Macdonald, Shannon Atkins, Jomel Purtill and Paul Davies.



This tap syllabus is a user driven program and is flexible to your teaching style.

Enjoy set dances for each grade, or for teachers who like direction or prefer their own choreography, create your own routines. The syllabus includes graduated exercises, amalgamations and dances suited to the target age group.

Students are examined in sets (up to four) with exercises danced in canon and both amalgamation and dances performed solo.

Some of Australia's leading tap choreographers have contributed routines to the upper levels, providing a wide range of styles, technique and important industry relevant skills.

GRADES

Foundation Grade
Junior Grade
Grade One
Grade Two
Grade Three
Grade Four
Grade Five
Dorothy Gladstone
Grade Six
Grade Seven
Grade Eight
Grade Nine
GOLD CROSS

Teachers' Certificate
Teachers' Diploma

EXAMS

Examinations are available in all levels.

CLASSICAL BALLET

CLASSICAL BALLET

Our Classical Ballet Syllabus is based on the principles of Technique, Musicality and Artistry and has been at the heart of COMDANCE's training since our inception.

The Classical Ballet Syllabus is thoughtfully designed to support and inspire dance teachers at every stage of their journey. It provides a clear, progressive framework that gives you the confidence to build strong technical foundations in your students, while nurturing musicality, artistry, and a genuine love of ballet right from the start.

Each level is carefully structured for consistency and clarity, making lesson planning efficient, enjoyable, and highly rewarding. The natural scaffolding of the syllabus allows you to guide your students step by step as they develop strength, coordination, and expressive performance skills with ease and assurance.

Importantly, the syllabus is inclusive and forward-thinking, with dedicated work for male dancers and a comprehensive pathway that supports long-term development. Whether you are nurturing recreational dancers, preparing students for examinations, or guiding aspiring professionals, it offers seamless progression right through to teaching qualifications and exciting career pathways.

GRADES

PRE-BALLET

Primary - Grade 6
Dorothy Gladstone

FOUNDATION GRADES

Grade 2 - Grade 6

MAJOR GRADES

Sub Elementary
Elementary
Intermediate
Advanced
Classical Premiere (by invitation)
Martin Rubinstein Award
Teachers' Certificate

EXAMS

Examinations are available in all levels with performance exams for Premier Danseur

“ I'm incredibly grateful for the strong foundation COMDANCE provided me. I especially valued my examination experiences, which helped build my confidence and discipline. This solid training prepared me to move into full-time study and later continue my development at the Australian Ballet School. I am now working as a professional ballet dancer in Poland. ”

Nathan Claridge Ballet Lodz part of Teatr Wielki w Lodz



Beautifully crafted music by Michael Brett brings every exercise to life, enhancing musical understanding in a way that is both engaging and accessible for you and your students alike.

Michael Brett, Pianist
Classical Ballet Syllabus

PRESS PLAY



TO WATCH

HIP HOP - NEW SYLLABUS

Keep students engaged, entice the recreational dancer and provide something for everyone in your studio with our diverse range of Hip Hop.



Fresh Flava

Fresh Flava was created for COMDANCE by Nelle and Tilly Hokianga.

Fresh Flava is a combination of technical Hip Hop with pop locking, breakdance and grooves.

The syllabus is conducted in a fun, relaxed and engaging manner that keeps students of all ages involved in dance classes. Students enter in groups of up to 8 at a time and get the opportunity to choreograph their crew's own interpretations.

Party Steps

Party Steps has been developed for COMDANCE by Arna Singleton.

Arna Singleton has been an active community member in the Hip Hop scene in Melbourne and across Australia for many years, having trained with many pioneers and originators of the genre.

The Party Steps Hip Hop series assists on further development of knowledge on foundation and grooves presented in a fun and vibey way.



“ I dance to move my audience and inspire my fellow dancers.”

Eden Zerk



New School

Kai Tai McDonald and Divine Our Destiny bring you the New School syllabus. Kaitai is one of Australia's young and developing entertainers. He has been touring Australia since he was 17, supporting acts including Justice Crew, Timomatic and Redfoo and performing to crowds of over 30,000 people.

His group Divine Our Destiny has received accolades throughout Australia with the release of their debut single 'Moments'.



Urban

Eden Zerk has captured the fun, freedom and attitude of Urban style Hip Hop.

Eden has an impressive resume: she won a scholarship at Millennium Dance Complex in Los Angeles, was overall division Hip Hop champion at the World Championships of Performing Arts in Los Angeles 2014 and won 1st place with The Home Base at Dancers Paradise in Cancun, Mexico 2018. She also has vast experience teaching both in Australia and New Zealand and continues training with Laurence Kaiwai and Colette Eagle.

PRESS PLAY



TO WATCH



CONTEMPORARY



JASON WINTERS CONTEMPORARY

The Jason Winters Contemporary Syllabus - An ethos of training that employs a blend of concert/commercial dance. Employing systems and methods found in Yoga, Modern and Jazz movements, Classical training, and athleticism.

“ I absolutely love it. It reflects incredible depth and versatility across all aspects of contemporary dance, and soulfully encourages both students and teachers to explore movement in meaningful, inspiring, and creative ways.”

Fiona Bourne, Star Factory

Appealing to dancers from any movement background or none at all, this syllabus has its foundation in Yoga and breathwork, for a heavy emphasis on the connection between mind and body.

Students are encouraged through 6 Levels of exercises and choreography, that fuses multiple styles into a single comprehensive system of physical and mental growth. Play with balance, floor work, fall and recovery, and improvisation as students learn to use their body in a variety of ways.

This syllabus demonstrates the body's ability, through the proper intake of oxygen combined with the JWCS technique, moving us progressively forward and upward in the evolution of our journey as a dancer.

GRADES

Foundation
Levels 1 - 3
Dorothy Gladstone
Levels 4 & 5

Teachers' Certificate
Teachers' Diploma

EXAMS

Examinations are available in all levels.

“ Starting the COMDANCE Home of CSTD Contemporary Syllabus at the age of 11 opened my eyes to how breath could play such a huge role in movement. The freedom to explore within the syllabus allowed me to discover more about my unique dance style and learn to feel comfortable in my own body. The syllabus showed me how contemporary comes in many different forms and does not have clear boundaries. Journeying through the Contemporary syllabus, I experimented and pushed the limits of my self-expression through dance, deepening my love for the art form.”

Emilia Klein, age 18,
Jitterbugs student and assistant teacher.



PRESS PLAY



TO WATCH

LATIN AMERICAN

“ Learning my craft under the guidance of COMDANCE has helped me become the performer I am today. From examinations which helped me learn the basics of technique and style, all the way to performing multiple times a year at either a COMDANCE convention or competition, it gave me the confidence to perform on stage. Being able to attend any audition or work on any project knowing that I have a solid, well-rounded technique in all major styles of dance, provided by COMDANCE and their incredible faculty, is beneficial while working in NYC. ”

Matthew Pashley-Roland Dancer, New York



LATIN AMERICAN

Latin American is defined by its rich history, ever evolving style and diverse cultural influences. Dancers are treated to dance styles that are challenging and full of flair, rhythm and passion, developed for COMDANCE by Carmelo Pizzino.

There is no better way to study Ballroom Dancing than with one of the COMDANCE Awards Streams.

With several streams of study available across a range of faculties there is a wide variety of possibilities studios can select from the youngest dancers to aspiring teachers.

The syllabus teaches all Latin styles including Cha-Cha, Rumba, Samba, Jive, Paso Doble. From set curriculum single student assessments for the school system, to teacher assisted studio choreographed presentations, there is something for every studio and every student.

Each style is carefully broken down into simple steps and combinations, with every grade featuring a short routine designed to build confidence, technique, and performance skills.



GRADES

Pre Stream

Bronze, Silver, Gold Sash

Streams 1

Teacher Assisted Dance Performances

Stream 2

Independently Executed Dancing Exams

Post Stream

Rhythm Star
Dorothy Gladstone Award
Les Newman Award
Supreme Award

Teaching Stream

Student Teacher
Associate and Licentiate

EXAMS

Examinations are available in all levels.

JAZZ



JAZZ

The Commercial Jazz Syllabus, developed by industry professional Shelle Conroy and Sandra Breen OAM, alongside some of Australia's leading choreographers, reflects the dynamic and evolving styles seen throughout today's commercial dance industry.

EXCITING UPDATE ROLLING OUT FROM 2027!

Students build confidence and stage presence while exploring choreography inspired by music videos, stage productions and contemporary commercial performance.

The syllabus provides a clear pathway from foundational training through to professional development, ensuring both students and educators remain connected to current industry standards and practices.

An update of the syllabus will include choreography from some of the world's leading commercial dance choreographers. Past and future contributors include Danielle Bilios, Marko Panzic, Cat Santos, Lauren Seymour, Zac Brazenas, Mitchell and Euan Fistrovic-Doidge, Jackie Aitken, Bree Tipoki and Gaynor Hicks, whose work spans major musical theatre productions, television, film, international touring artists and global entertainment platforms.



GRADES

Pre Jazz
Junior Jazz
Jazz 1-5 Grades
Dorothy Gladstone
Award
Jazz 6-9 Grades

Shield Public
Performance

Teacher's Certificate
Teachers' Diploma.

Catering for ages 5 years
and up

EXAMS

Examinations are
available in all grades.

“This syllabus is fresh, relevant and directly connected to the professional commercial dance industry.”

Shelle Conroy



PRESS PLAY



TO WATCH

THEATRICAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



THEATRICAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

The Theatrical and Performing Arts Syllabus is an exciting and dynamic program designed to inspire both teachers and students.

Encompassing all performance elements, this syllabus creates versatile performers and encourages every talented individual to develop and exude confidence and charisma on stage.



Easy to follow and highly adaptable, it offers teachers the freedom to tailor classes to suit their unique style - whether enhancing an existing music theatre program or creating a brand-new training pathway.

Incorporating dialogue, song, dance, stagecraft, safe dance practice, musical theatre, and acrobatics, the syllabus delivers a well-rounded and engaging learning experience.

At every level, students actively explore renowned and musicals, developing an affinity and appreciation for this celebrated and much loved artform.

Students progressively grow in confidence, creativity, and personality as a performer throughout their training, whilst building a strong and lasting connection to the performing arts industry.

PRESS PLAY



TO WATCH

GRADES

Pre TPA
TPA A
TPA B
Levels 1 - 6
Dorothy Gladstone
Levels 7 - 9
Theatrical Shield

Teachers Certificate and
Teachers Diploma.

EXAMS

Examinations are
available in all levels.

COME DANCE WITH ME

COME DANCE WITH ME

Come Dance With Me is an innovative pre-school dance enrichment program designed to inspire and entice young children to dance.

“ I enjoy the open plan of the syllabus that I can adjust and change each lesson by picking a different theme for the Surprise Box and at the same time educate the parents with the use of the “Student Passport” which enables the parents to follow their child’s progression.”

Mabel Cheung, Hong Kong

Come Dance With Me gives the teacher key elements to develop the creativity, free movement and mime of the individual child while at the same time, learning, experiencing and exploring what can be achieved. The program is not rigid thus allowing teachers the flexibility to suit the needs and interests of the student on the day.

This pre-school dance enrichment program will give teachers the opportunity to develop the philosophy of our Five ‘E’s – Education, excellence, empowerment, expression and encouragement. The open framework of the program will allow students to focus on experimenting with movement, not perfecting or refining it, which provides an excellent, enjoyable and effective teaching environment.

For the teacher that would like a little more guidance 10 weeks of lesson plans are available. These give you various exercises to each area of development throughout the program and also what props you can use. Information on music choice is also listed. Teachers have commented that this gives them a guide to further developing their own lessons.



Being Becoming Belonging

Creative teachers encourage creative children

This unique dance education program introduces the student to a lifelong love of dance with COMDANCE.



EXAMS

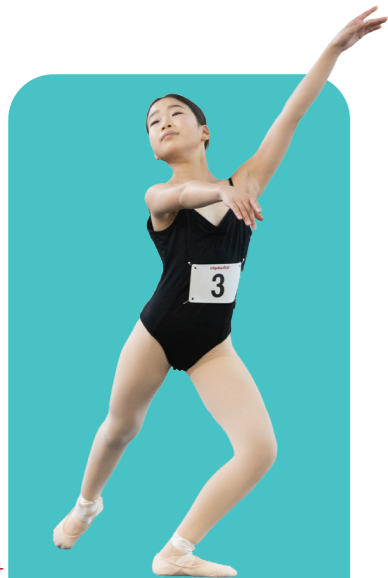
CELEBRATE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Through our comprehensive examination framework and structured assessments, dancers can celebrate their progress with professionally led exams. Our panel of examiners are chosen for their high-level of training and experience, undergoing a rigorous selection process and ongoing quality checks. With a deep understanding of our syllabi and a sincere passion for helping every student succeed, they ensure that every COMDANCE exam is an uplifting and rewarding experience.

From those first steps in the studio to the highest levels of training, our exams are a wonderful way to celebrate your dedication and showcase your unique artistry, technique, and skill. Beyond technical growth, examinations build vital life skills like confidence under pressure and the resilience needed to handle constructive feedback. They also provide a clear sense of achievement, offering dancers tangible milestones that celebrate their dedication and hard work. Our Public Performance examinations and scholarships allow dancers to build vital stagecraft and confidence in front of a live audience of family and friends.

Beyond artistic growth, in Australia, many COMDANCE assessments are recognised for credit toward high school Certificates of Education and nationally recognized VET qualifications in dance. This unique pathway ensures that the dedication shown in the studio translates into tangible rewards.

LOOK TO OUR
YELLOW PILLARS TO
EXPLORE EXAMS IN
YOUR CHOSEN GENRE



“As an educator, I have found the COMDANCE examination system to be an invaluable framework for developing confident, expressive, and technically skilled performers. The structured syllabus offers clear progression, supporting each student’s individual growth while nurturing their artistic potential from their first experiences in our junior levels through to professional qualifications.

The examination process is both professional and supportive, with experienced examiners providing constructive feedback that motivates students and enhances teaching practice. This creates a positive environment where achievement is celebrated and growth is continuous.”

Jayson Smart
COMDANCE Teacher and Examiner



COMPETITIONS

“ What I love most is the incredible respect among teachers, studio owners and competitors. It’s a community built on support, encouragement and genuine connection. From student to teacher, to volunteer and now sponsor, this journey has given me memories, friendships and experiences that I’ll carry with me forever. ”

Maree Floros



BORN TO PERFORM

Born to Perform runs across multiple states in Australia and New Zealand. One of our oldest competitions, we have many perpetual legacy trophies that have been awarded at this prestigious competition since 1937.

“ We have been competing Born to Perform for many years now and it is always our favourite. The vibe of the eisteddfod is very positive and our families love being a part of it. It is also the highlight for our students who end our Troupe season on a high. We couldn’t recommend this competition more highly. ”

The Kick Dance Team

Competitions are where passion explodes into performance, and Born to Perform is the ultimate example. This is where our students and teachers shine, and truly come alive, showcasing extraordinary talent, dedication, and the relentless hard work behind every moment on stage.

Welcoming all ages and all styles, Born to Perform delivers a spectacular, high-energy experience with Solos, Duos, Trios, Quads, and Troupes, alongside prestigious Championships, Repertoires, Scholarships, and Bursaries. With aggregates awarded across every age group, and special awards presented to outstanding dance schools, the atmosphere is electric, filled with anticipation, passion, and the thrill of competition.

Behind every performance are countless hours of training, sacrifice, and determination. Dancers push their limits, captivate the audience, and create moments that leave the stage buzzing long after the music stops. Backed by an enthusiastic live audience, Born to Perform is powerful, inspiring, and truly unforgettable.



COMPETITIONS

COMPETITIONS ARE A FANTASTIC WAY TO BENCHMARK AGAINST THE WIDER COMDANCE COMMUNITY AND HAVE FUN!



APDC

The Asia Pacific Dance Competition commenced in 1999 in Singapore, bringing together dancers from Singapore, Thailand, China and the Philippines.



From these humble beginnings, it has grown into one of the most prestigious and sought-after dance competitions on the international stage.

Now open to 18 countries, the APDC unites dancers through regional qualifying events, culminating in an exciting international final. It proudly brings together our international family, celebrating a vibrant and diverse global community of dance.

Presented by COMDANCE – Home of CSTD, the competition is recognised worldwide for its commitment to excellence in dance education. Held annually in the host country's most distinguished theatres, it provides dancers with the invaluable experience of performing in a professional stage environment.

Students compete across the full range of COMDANCE syllabus styles, receiving expert adjudication, awards, and valuable feedback from internationally respected judges.

More than just a competition, the Asia Pacific Dance Competition inspires excellence, builds confidence, and creates unforgettable performance opportunities for dancers of all ages.

“ Participating in the APDC gives our students the opportunity to travel and experience different cultures as well as growing their knowledge in dance. ”

Claire Ng, Malaysia



**CONVENTIONS
WORKSHOPS
SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDS**

**THE COMDANCE
COMMUNITY COMES
TOGETHER ACROSS
MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES
A YEAR.**



MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Exams take dedication but the reward is something truly special.

With COMDANCE, achievement goes beyond the studio. Your school is showcased, your students are recognised, and their hard work is celebrated on a prestigious stage.

Our annual conventions, held in leading performance venues, bring studios together for an unforgettable experience featuring troupe and ensemble performances, and opportunities for standout dancers to perform in a professional theatre setting.

Students can take this even further through our Scholarship Days - an exciting and significant opportunity to turn exam preparation into performance. Working with industry professionals, dancers gain invaluable experience before selected finalists showcase their exam work in front of a live audience and expert judging panel.

With cash prizes, Dance Festival tickets, clothing and footwear vouchers, and complimentary exam entries on offer, the pathway from classroom to stage has never been more inspiring.

Each exam session culminates in a formal celebration, where every candidate is acknowledged and major awards are presented in front of the wider dance community.

This is more than an exam outcome. It's a moment of pride, recognition and inspiration for every student, every teacher, and every studio.



THE LESLIE P. NEWMAN AWARD

Leslie Patrick Gilwell ("Les") Newman OAM, B.Comm., F.A.M.I.
November 29, 1930 – March 12, 2015.

Les Newman OAM was a champion Australian professional ballroom dancer, businessman, and COMDANCE President. In 1996, he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for Services to Dance.

Among the highest honours bestowed by COMDANCE, the Les Newman Award is an esteemed national recognition celebrating exceptional and enduring contribution to the Society.

Les Newman OAM was an icon of Australian Ballroom Dancing and a towering figure within COMDANCE, serving as President for 32 years. His legacy of dedication, leadership and service continues to inspire generations within the dance community.

Nominated by members and awarded in consultation with the Newman family, this distinguished accolade is presented only when a candidate exemplifies the exceptional commitment and integrity for which the award stands. As such, it remains a rare and deeply respected honour within the COMDANCE community.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

2015	Gail Mead	2019	-	2023	Carmel Evans
2016	Lauren Downie	2020	-	2024	Raquel Muia & Sharon Alback
2017	Kerryl Gill	2021	Cindy Watson	2025	Helen Twist
2018	Marilyn Fisher & Jayson Smart	2022	Renie Ann Martini		





MEMBERSHIP

JOIN US TODAY AS A COMDANCE MEMBER

At COMDANCE we believe that dance takes you on a journey.

It can take you on a journey through life, friendships, education and careers or perhaps it takes you around the world. It could be a journey of creativity, discipline, self-discovery, empowerment, persistence or all of the above!

Most importantly, we hope it's a journey full of joy.

We have been part of the journey for hundreds of thousands of dancers, teachers, examiners and studio owners, and we would love to be a part of yours too.

Scan the QR code to become a COMDANCE member.



ARE CSTD AND COMDANCE THE SAME ORGANISATION?

Yes. We have officially been COMDANCE since 1992 and we're now using this new name and identity across everything we do. However, we never want to change the sense of family created by the original Society.



COMDANCE

GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF DANCE

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PROSPECTUS