



YAGP Soloists Information - 2024/2025

Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) is the world's largest student ballet competition. They award over \$250,000 annually in scholarships to dance students worldwide.

In early 2025, AIM will take a small group of dancers to a YAGP competition on the East Coast. This group will be coached by our Director of Ballet, Ms. Kristina Grant.

We are excited to provide this opportunity for our AIM (24/25) levels 3, 4, & 5 ballet students within the following YAGP categories:

- Senior Age Division: 15 - 20 years old
- Junior Age Division: 12 - 14 years old
- Pre-Competitive Age Division: 9-11 years old

Auditions will be held at AIM in Studio A on May 17th at 5:00pm.

Dancers should wear a black leotard and pink tights and have ballet flats and pointe shoes (if on pointe), with their hair in a high ballet bun. Please bring an 8x10 headshot to the audition.

Audition Schedule:

The studio will open at 4:00pm for an independent warm-up in studio B.

Registration will begin at 4:30pm

Auditions will begin at 5:00pm

Rehearsals

YAGP variation rehearsals will begin with an individualized private session to set the variation in August and culminate with the YAGP competition on the East Coast in January/February. ~At this time dates and cities have not been released for 2025.

YAGP dancers will have their private choreography session in late summer.

Requirements:

1. YAGP soloists must take the max of Ballet, Pointe (as applicable), and Lyrical available for their level in the summer and fall. If you are interested in a Contemporary/Open entry, you must take our summer Contemporary Jazz class.
2. YAGP soloists must attend their late summer choreography intensive and rehearsals with Kristina Grant each week from September to the date of the competition.
3. YAGP soloists must either buy or rent a professional quality tutu or costume appropriate for variation to be performed. Tutu must be approved by Kristina Grant. Depending on the route you take you can expect to spend between \$150-\$600+. More details will follow after the auditions.
4. YAGP soloists are encouraged to take all master classes available for their level during the YAGP weekend.
5. Any missed rehearsal sessions must be made up before the competition - time permitting.

Contemporary/Open Dance

YAGP offers the option to compete in Contemporary/Open Dance: This category includes any “open solo” variation that is not taken from the YAGP “Classical Repertoire List” and features a different aspect of the participant’s skill and versatility as a dancer (it cannot be classical variation). Additional ballet and/or contemporary solos will be permitted based on request and staff/dancer schedule allowance.

Fees

Classical Variation with Kristina Grant - \$1,515

Contemporary Solo choreographed by Brianna Ryan - \$1,240

Contemporary Company Solo Performed at YAGP - \$315

Q&A:**How many years of ballet training should I have to audition for this opportunity?**

Ideally, you would have a minimum of 4-6+ years of ballet training.

Can I take the variation and contemporary piece to more than one YAGP competition or other competitions?

We may approve you to compete with your YAGP solos at additional ballet competitions, Miss Kristina must be available to travel with you. You will have the option of taking your variation to conventions of your choice.

How many dancers will be selected for a YAGP soloist spot?

We are planning for 4-8 but we won't know for sure until after the auditions.

Why is the number of spots available 4-8?

At this time this is the number of soloists Director of Ballet, Kristina Grant, and studio owners, Erin & Andrew Umphrey know can be provided everything they need from AIM to be successful, without sacrificing the quality of rehearsals.

Do I have to be a current AIM student to audition?

Yes.

Can I choose the classical variation I learn for YGAP?

YAGP has rules and regulations regarding the variations that we must comply with. Ms. Kristina Grant will choose your variation with your input. She is dedicated to finding a piece for each dancer that will let them shine!

What if I qualify for the YAGP Finals?

We suggest everyone become familiar with the rules and regulations of YAGP, including how to qualify for Nationals. If your variation obtains a score of 96:100 or higher and therefore qualifies for Nationals, AIM staff will help you prepare should you decide to compete.

What if I have additional questions?

Please email Ms. Kristina Grant at DayProgram@ArtistsinMotionPA.com

For AIM Performance Company Members:

Please note that if you are an AIM Performance Company member, we will not schedule a competition that conflicts with the YAGP competition. We cannot guarantee there won't be conflicts with other competitions. Any conflict must be resolved in favor of the Performance Company.

Can I be a member of the AIM Performance Company and a YAGP soloist?

Yes. We welcome dancers to audition for both if they feel they are able to meet the commitments of both opportunities.

If I am a Performance Company Soloist can I compete with my variation and open dance at Performance Company Competitions?

With the Company director, owner, and Ms. Grant's approval. Please note, that you will be responsible for all related fees and may be required to have additional rehearsals.