



Contemporary Scholarships 2026

Convenors: Rebecca Reardon and Sunny Ridoutt

email: contemporary@bpacdance.org.au

Venue: Riverlife Church, 47 Jennifer Street, Seventeen Mile Rocks QLD 4073

Date: Monday 8 June 2026 and Tuesday 9 June 2026

Entry fees (including GST) – from 1 January 2026

- **Junior scholarship** (9-11 yrs) – \$88
- **Intermediate scholarship** (12-14 yrs) – \$99
- **Senior scholarship** (15-19 yrs) – \$110

(age for all candidates is taken as at **31 December 2026**)

For entries registered and paid by 31 December 2025, the 2025 entry fees will apply (Junior \$77 / Intermediate \$88 / Senior \$99)

Registration: www.stardom.com.au Brisbane Performing Arts Challenge Inc (BPAC)

Entries close – 15 March 2026. No late entries will be accepted for BPAC 2026. No refunds or substitutes.

2026 prizes

All scholarships candidates receive a copy of Dancetrain Magazine

Senior Scholarship

Winner – \$1000 bursary + more

Runner Up – \$500 bursary + more

Encouragement Award – TBA

Intermediate Scholarship

Winner – \$500 bursary + more

Runner Up – \$250 bursary + more

Encouragement Award – TBA

Junior Scholarship

Winner – \$250 bursary + more

Runner Up – \$100 bursary + more

Encouragement Award – TBA

The Judge's decision is final, and BPAC will not discuss the results with any candidate, or representative of any candidate.

Scholarships winners must be available to perform at the BPAC Gala on **Saturday 13 June 2026** – failure to do so will result in forfeiture of awarded prizes. Bursaries and prizes are generously donated by BPAC's sponsors. Winners in each age group will receive their prizes after performing at the Gala.

Bursaries must be claimed by **30 September 2026**. Unclaimed prize monies will be forfeited. Please ensure that Scholarships terms and conditions are clearly understood prior to submitting entries. BPAC takes no responsibility for any loss caused by failure to read, understand, and/or accept the terms and conditions of entry.

Convenor information

All queries relating to the Contemporary Scholarships should be addressed in the first instance to the Convenors. The 2026 Contemporary Scholarships Convenors are **Rebecca Reardon** and **Sunny Ridoutt**. Communication with the Convenors is to be sent via email:

contemporary@bpacdance.org.au

Responsibility for all aspects of the scholarships rests with the Convenors, and they are responsible for the acceptance of registration of all candidates. The Convenors may refuse acceptance of registration for any candidate who does not comply with BPAC's registration requirements. Any issues requiring escalation beyond the Convenors will be referred to the BPAC Management Committee for consideration and resolution.

Proof of age

All candidates competing at BPAC for the first time are required to provide proof of age. Registration will not be finalised for new candidates until proof of age has been provided. Once proof of age has been provided for the candidate, it will not need to be provided again in subsequent years.

All candidates must be entered in the correct age group. For the purposes of age groups, the candidate's age is taken as at **31 December 2026** to ensure that all candidates are competing in the correct age range and have equal opportunity against their peers.

Proof of age must be provided within 7 days of the submission of entry, and must be sent to proofofage@bpacdance.org.au **Acceptable forms of proof of age** – a copy of **one** of the below is to be provided:

- Identification page of the candidate's passport (preferred)
- Top portion only of the candidate's birth certificate, together with a recent head shot
- Official student card issued by the candidate's educational school
- Learner Permit/Driver Licence issued by the Department of Transport (for Senior candidates)

Class attire, costumes, and performance content

Commencing in 2026 to assist BPAC in meeting the requirements of the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*, and to provide an enjoyable performance environment for everyone, class attire, costumes, and performance content will be strictly monitored.

Candidates arriving in class attire which does not meet the requirements set out above will be asked to change and will not be permitted to participate until the candidate's attire meets the requirements. This rule also applies to performance costumes for Senior candidates.

Candidates will no longer need costumes for any part of the Scholarship, including Semi-Finals and Finals performances, for both the Junior and Intermediate age groups.

Class and performance attire for Junior and Intermediate age groups

Female identifying candidates

- Monochrome leotard (no school logos) worn with tights
- Appropriate shoes for class and performance

Male identifying candidates

- Unitard or fitted shirt/tank and tights
- Appropriate shoes for class and performance

Class attire for Senior age group

Female identifying candidates

- Monochrome leotard (no school logos) worn with tights
- Appropriate shoes for class and performance

Male identifying candidates

- Unitard or fitted shirt/tank with tights
- Appropriate shoes for class and performance

Performance attire for Senior age group

For the Semi-Finals and Finals performances, Seniors will have the option of wearing a costume that complies with BPAC guidelines, providing they are able to dress themselves without assistance from parents or teachers. No parents or teachers will be permitted in dressing rooms at any time.

Costumes must be conservative in coverage of the candidate's body. Please use the photos below as a guide to the minimum coverage that will be accepted for costumes for Senior performances

Class attire and performance costumes must cover the candidate's body well and maintain their dignity. No mid-riffs. The **minimum** coverage accepted for class attire and Seniors costumes should be determined by the pictures below.



Any queries regarding class/performance attire should be directed to the Convenor.

Any candidate arriving in class attire which does not meet the requirements set out above will be asked to change and will not be permitted to participate in the Scholarship class until the candidate's attire meets the requirements. This rule also applies to performance costumes for Senior candidates.

Performance content for all age groups

In each genre of the Scholarships where they are used, performance choreography, monologues, and music selection must be age-appropriate and meet the standards of public expectation regarding decency and protection of human rights and children's rights.

BPAC has zero tolerance for all forms of exploitation, harm, and/or abuse of children and young people. This includes actual or potential harm (including vicarious trauma) arising from inappropriate choreography or music selection that may be caused to candidates, judges, BPAC staff, and people attending BPAC events.

For children under the age of 16 years, performance content (including monologues, choreography and music selection) that could be interpreted as being of a sexual nature in any way is not permitted. The actual or perceived sexualisation of children is unacceptable in any form and will not be tolerated.

For candidates aged between 16 and 19 years, music selection or monologues containing lyrics that refer to, suggest, or imply, sexual activity will not be permitted.

For candidates of all age groups, music selection or monologues containing lyrics that refer to, suggest, or imply, racism, homophobia, gendered violence or any activity that promotes physical abuse, coercive control, gaslighting, or other forms of emotional abuse will not be permitted.

BPAC reserves the right to disqualify any candidate whose performance content breaches BPAC's requirements. Judges will be required to disregard and not mark the work of candidates whose performance content does not comply with BPAC's performance content requirements.

Scholarship classes

- All Contemporary Scholarships candidates are required to attend a preliminary scholarship class with the Contemporary Scholarships judges.
- **All classes will be held in the Riverlife Church, 47 Jennifer St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane.**
- Candidates are required to arrive **1 hour** prior to their scholarship class to register and warm up for their class.
- Upon arrival, candidates are to report to the registration desk to receive their candidate number and wristband.
- The wristband must be worn for the entirety of the scholarships, including for Semi-Finals and Finals.
- Candidate numbers are required to be worn for the scholarships class only. After the class, the candidate number may be retained as a keepsake of BPAC 2026.
- Candidates must report to the BPAC marshal for their scholarship section in the backstage marshalling area and be ready backstage (or elsewhere as otherwise directed by a BPAC official) **15 minutes** prior to the commencement of the class.
- Candidates are requested to arrive pre-prepared for Semi-Finals and Finals, including having hair and makeup done. Candidates must report to the BPAC marshal and be ready to compete **30 minutes** prior to the commencement of the Semi-Finals and/or Finals.
- All Scholarship classes, Semi-Finals and Finals will be performed in front of an audience.
- No entry will be permitted once the class has commenced.
- Ticket sales for the Scholarship classes, Semi-Finals and Finals will be available for purchase through Trybooking. Further information regarding ticket sales will be released once entries have closed and the final schedule has been determined. No ticket sales will be available at the door.

Selection of Semi-Finalists and Finalists for all age groups

- At the conclusion of the Scholarship classes, a maximum of 20 Semi-Finalists may be selected for each age group.
- At the conclusion of the Semi-Finals, a maximum of 8 Finalists may be selected for each age group.
- **Semi-Finals and Finals will be held Riverlife Church, 47 Jennifer St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane.**
- At the conclusion of the Finals, the judge may select a Scholarship Winner, a Scholarship Runner Up and an Encouragement Award recipient.

Junior Contemporary Scholarship (9-11 years age group)

All Junior Contemporary Scholarship candidates must prepare:

- One **Contemporary solo** (own choice with a time limit of 3 minutes).

- When preparing contemporary solos, candidates must ensure that:
 - The time limit must not exceed 3 minutes.
 - Contemporary solos must not be acrobatic or solely trick-based work.
 - Solos must incorporate good use of contemporary techniques (with a variety of steps in the choreography) and must show good use of space and direction.
- **Choreography and choice of music must be age appropriate – it will be the judge's decision entirely to refuse to mark work that is deemed inappropriate.**
- Semi-Finalists will perform their contemporary solo.
- Finalists will perform the same contemporary solo.
- All components of this scholarship will be performed before an audience.

Intermediate Contemporary Scholarship (12-14 years age group)

All Intermediate Contemporary Scholarship candidates must prepare:

- One **Contemporary solo (Contemporary solo 1)** (own choice with a time limit of 3 minutes), and
- One **Contrasting contemporary solo (Contemporary solo 2)** (own choice with a time limit of 3 minutes). The contrasting contemporary solo must have a slower tempo than Contemporary solo 1 and be distinctly contrasting in style, rhythm and direction.
- When preparing contemporary solos, candidates must ensure that:
 - **Both solos are distinctly contrasting to each other in tempo, style, rhythm, and direction. A contrasting narrative is also highly desirable.**
 - The time limit must not exceed 3 minutes.
 - Contemporary solos must not be acrobatic or solely trick-based work.
 - Solos must incorporate good use of contemporary techniques (with a variety of steps in the choreography) and must show good use of space and direction.
- **Choreography, and choice of music must be age appropriate – it will be the judge's decision entirely to refuse to mark work that is deemed inappropriate.**
- **Semi-Finalists** will perform their **Contemporary solo 1**.
- **Finalists** will perform their **Contemporary solo 2**.
- All components of this scholarship will be performed before an audience.

Senior Contemporary Scholarship (15-19 years age group)

All Senior Contemporary Scholarship candidates must prepare:

- One **Contemporary solo (Contemporary solo 1)** (own choice with a time limit of 3 minutes), and
- One **Contrasting contemporary solo (Contemporary solo 2)** (own choice with a time limit of 3 minutes). The contrasting contemporary solo must have a slower tempo than Contemporary solo 1 and be distinctly contrasting in style, rhythm and direction.
- When preparing contemporary solos, candidates must ensure that:
 - **Both solos are distinctly contrasting to each other in tempo, style, rhythm, and direction. A contrasting narrative is also highly desirable.**
 - The time limit must not exceed 3 minutes.
 - Contemporary solos must not be acrobatic or solely trick-based work.
 - Solos must incorporate good use of contemporary techniques (with a variety of steps in the

choreography) and must show good use of space and direction.

- **Please refer to the Performance Attire for Senior age group information above. Costumes must meet an acceptable standard of performance attire – candidates appearing in costumes deemed inappropriate by the BPAC Committee will be asked to change into something more appropriate. Any queries regarding performance attire should be directed to the Convenor.**
- **Choreography, and choice of music must be age appropriate – it will be the judge's decision entirely to refuse to mark work that is deemed inappropriate.**
- **Semi-Finalists** will perform their **Contemporary solo 1**.
- **Finalists** will perform their **Contemporary solo 2**.
- All components of this scholarship will be performed before an audience.

Scholarship winners will be required to perform at the BPAC Gala on Saturday 13 June 2026, to be held at Riverlife Church 47 Jennifer St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane.

Intermediate and Senior winners may perform either their Contemporary solo routine or their contrasting Contemporary solo routine.

General Requirements

BPAC is a safe, supportive environment where all candidates, their families and friends, and the general public are welcomed and treated respectfully.

BPAC is a not-for-profit, community organisation run entirely by unpaid volunteers committed to providing performing arts development opportunities for children and young people. BPAC's volunteers are doing the best they can in frequently challenging circumstances that are often beyond their control and within the tight timeframes required to deliver BPAC as scheduled.

Every person attending BPAC has the right to feel physically, psychologically, and culturally safe. Demonstrated respect for all people is a requirement for attendance at all BPAC events.

BPAC will not tolerate any disrespectful, inappropriate, or offensive language or behaviour from any person under any circumstances. Any person behaving inappropriately will be asked to leave the premises, and the Police will be called to forcibly remove such person/s if required.

For public safety and the protection of all candidates, if any candidate, family member, or associate of a candidate feels unwell on the day of the scholarships, that person or those persons are respectfully requested not to attend the scholarships or to leave the venue immediately upon feeling unwell. The Convenor is to be advised via call or text as soon as possible to advise of the circumstances.