The Youth American Grand Prix makes a stop in Toronto

Hundreds of ballet dancers - ages 9 to 19 - from Toronto and parts of Canada auditioned for the Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) regional semi-finals at the John Basset Theatre. Throughout the weekend, the students attended workshops, competed, and took dance classes. YAGP awards more than
$250,000 a year in scholarships to send young dancers to leading schools and dance companies to continue their training. Selected competitors will continue on to the finals in New York City in April.

Bridget Miller, from Valentina's School of Ballet in Michigan, watched other dancers before her audition.
A young dancer waited in the wings before her audition.

Dancers during the open stage got a feel for the dance floor prior to their auditions.
Skylark Bainard warmed up in the hallway prior to her audition. "I am getting my mind and body ready to say the things I need to say through my dance," she said.

With hundreds of dancers in attendance one student practiced her routine in a utility area of the theatre.
Well before auditioning Landrie Adams, an 11-year-old from Michigan, checked her phone and hung out with friends backstage. On ballet she said, "I love to feel the music and moving to it is everything."

After her audition Ella Schultz was congratulated by her teacher Cornelia Sampson.
Bronwyn Garratt practiced a grand jete in the wings of the theatre.

A dance teacher watched from the wings as his student auditioned.
Landrie Adams performed her contemporary piece The True Story of What Was.