

## Dancers go toe to toe, competing for scholarships

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Hundreds of Atlanta dancers ages 9 to 19 will be vying for scholarships this week as part of a national competition sponsored by the Youth America Grand Prix.

The non-profit organization is described as the “largest global network of dance,” and draws 7,000 participants to its yearly worldwide dance competition.

Dancers who are successful in the regional semi-finals, held at [Georgia Tech’s Ferst Theatre](#) Thursday through Saturday, will move on to the finals in New York.

Workshops for the dancers in these regional semi-finals will be held [at the Atlanta Ballet headquarters](#). Dancers pay to participate in the

competitions, in hopes of winning a portion of the \$250,000 in scholarships that send them to such schools as the La Scala Ballet Academy in Milan and American Ballet Theatre’s Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School in New York.

Among those participating this week will be 23 students from the [School of the Georgia Ballet](#). Georgia was well-represented during the Lincoln Center gala at last year’s finals, which opened with a performance by [MorningStar Dance Academy of Atlanta](#).



*The Youth America Grand Prix regional semi-finals, to be held at Georgia Tech’s Ferst Theatre this week, should attract hundreds of dancers. Some 7,000 competitors attended last year’s auditions. File photo*



For more information go the [Youth American Grand Prix website](#).

*Hundreds of Atlanta dancers will audition for the Youth American Grand Prix regional semi-finals at the Georgia Institute of Technology this week. Among those auditioning last year were Ellie Wong of the MorningStar Dance Academy of Atlanta, who placed first in the junior division's classical dance category. A dance team from MorningStar went on to perform at the finals in New York City's Lincoln Center last April. File photo.*