

The Mercury News

Youth America Grand Prix dance showcase coming to San Mateo



Cienna Cocilova, 9, performs her contemporary dance. She placed sixth in contemporary, fifth in classical at the Youth America Grand Prix regional semi-finals at Dominican University Performing Arts Center in River Forest, Ill., on Thursday, Feb. 2, 2017. (AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh)

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A showcase for dancers ages 9 to 19 next week in San Mateo will determine who goes onto the Youth America Grand Prix event in New York City.

The competition Feb. 16-19 is one of 28 regional semifinals in the annual series, including eight overseas. Hundreds of dancers try out at each event, competing in classical and contemporary categories in three age groups.

The photographs above are from last week's semifinal in the Chicago area.

The San Mateo event, at the city's performing arts center, has a waiting list for competitors. Information: yagp.org.