



YAGP • Providing Scholarship Auditions and Performance Opportunities

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YOUTH AMERICA GRAND PRIX - A Brief Overview-

Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) is the world's largest global network of dance. It fulfills its mission of dance education through scholarship auditions, master classes, alumni services, educational and outreach activities, performances, and films.

Mission Statement: *To support and develop world-class dancers, ages 9-19, of all economic, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds by providing scholarship auditions, performance and education opportunities, and by serving as the global network of dance, connecting students, teachers, schools, dance companies, dancers, and audiences.*

Some of Youth America Grand Prix's significant achievements are:

- Since 1999, YAGP has awarded over \$3,000,000 in scholarships to the world's leading dance schools.
- Over 50,000 dancers have participated in YAGP's workshops, scholarship auditions and master classes worldwide.
- Over 300 YAGP alumni are now dancing with 80 companies around the world, including American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Paris Opera Ballet, The Royal Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, and Washington Ballet, among many others.
- To identify promising young dance talent, YAGP conducts auditions in 15 cities in the United States and in Belgium, France, Italy, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Japan, among others.
- YAGP's bi-annual *Job Fair* is a special audition program giving YAGP participants and alumni a chance to be seen and hired by the directors of the world's leading dance companies.
- YAGP's *Emerging Choreographer Series* provides an opportunity for upcoming choreographers to present their work to the international dance community. The series has featured Camille A. Brown, Marcelo Gomes, Adam Houghland, Susan Jaffe, Justin Peck, and Derek Hough, among others.
- YAGP's educational Gala series, *Legends In Dance*, celebrates artists who have helped shape dance history. Honorees have included Ballerina Assoluta, Natalia Makarova, Peter Pestov, and Vladimir Vasiliev.
- In 2005, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recognized YAGP's contribution to international dance education with a membership in UNESCO's prestigious Conseil International de la Danse (CID).
- In 2007, YAGP became the first organization in the 50-year history of Italy's prestigious Spoleto Dance Festival to present performances by dance students.
- In 2009, YAGP broke the Guinness World Record for the most dancers simultaneously standing "en pointe".
- YAGP aims to develop new audiences by bringing dance into mainstream culture. In 2010, it became the subject of *First Position* - an award-winning documentary which followed six YAGP participants on their journey to YAGP's New York City Finals. In 2013, YAGP produced "*Ballet's Greatest Hits*" – a filmed Gala performance showcasing excerpts from six of the most beloved classical ballets. Narrated by Nigel Lythgoe, the film combines live performances with exclusive behind-the-scenes interviews with dancers, historical background and rare archival footage.