Dear Friends,

We are thrilled to welcome you to the Youth America Grand Prix 2021 competition season! With this new season comes a new reality to which the entire arts community is adjusting, including YAGP. The health and safety of our participants remains our top priority, and YAGP will continue to follow all guidelines issued by the U.S. government, state and local/city governments, and theater policies.

Please note the following items of importance regarding the 2021 season:

- Participants will be divided into smaller groups spread out throughout each day’s schedule.
- As capacity limits for each venue will be dictated by the theaters and each state’s guidelines at the time of the event, measures will be in place to help control the number of people entering the lobby and other areas of the theater at any given time.
- All Master Classes will be conducted virtually, two weeks prior to each semi-final.
- The Awards Ceremony for each semi-final will be conducted virtually following the competition.
- To assist students who were unable to find professional placement this year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the Senior Age Division will be extended to include dancers age 20.
- While costumes have never been a requirement to participate in YAGP, we wish to further emphasize that students are welcome to compete in basic dance clothing and do not need to invest in costumes for the 2021 season.
- In the event of cancellations due to COVID-19, registrations will be moved to an online competition instead, with any difference in fees refunded.

Further adjustments may be made throughout the season per any new guidelines issued. YAGP will, of course, continue to communicate any such changes or other important information regarding the upcoming season to its participants. In the meantime, we invite you to peruse this Venue Guide for a preliminary timeline and venue information, to assist in planning your schedule and choosing the right semi-final location for you. For those not able to travel this season, we will also have a virtual competition option available – please stay tuned for more information.

**TIMELINE**

Please note that the posted timeline is NOT FINAL and is only meant to give you an idea of how each particular semi-final will be structured. For example, the semi-final usually begins with the pre-competitive category performances, followed by juniors, seniors, and ensembles – though this order may differ in each location. Depending on theater availability and capacity, we may be able to accommodate participants from the waiting list by making adjustments to the timeline and adding an additional day to the competition. In this case, the timeline will state that additional dates are pending. If you do not see any “pending” dates in the preliminary timeline below, it means that the venue has no additional available time and will only accommodate a set number of participants.

The breakdown will be made clear in the final timeline and detailed schedule. The first draft of the updated timeline with a detailed schedule will be posted after the registration cut-off date, about five-to-six weeks prior to each semi-final. The final timeline will be posted 7-10 days before the event.

We strongly suggest that you only finalize travel arrangements after the first draft of the updated schedule has been posted, about five to six weeks before the event.
VENUE
Here you will find details about all semi-final event facilities. The number of seats in the theater can typically be used as a good indicator of the size of the event -- the smaller the size of the auditorium, the more limited the capacity of the event, and vice versa. Semi-finals that take place later in the season usually get more crowded. In all cases, we recommend registering early to ensure participation in your preferred venue.

We look forward to seeing you during the YAGP 2021 season. Please do not hesitate to contact our regional office at regional@yagp.org with any additional questions.

All the best,
The YAGP Team

---

YAGP 2021 Boston, MA

Important Information

About the Venue:
The competition will take place at the historic Strand Theater located in Dorchester, MA, about a 15 minute drive from the Boston International Airport. It's the only large-scale theater in the city located outside of Boston's Theater District. “A lot of the Boston’ rising stars of ’90s came through there,” said Ramona Alexander, Arts and Culture manager and an actress. “It was like the place you had to perform if you were in the arts in Boston.”

Theater:
Theater: Strand Theater
Website: https://kleinlife.org/box-office
Address: 543 COLUMBIA ROAD, BOSTON, MA 02125
Stage size: 40 x 30
Auditorium size: 1400

Nearby restaurants: A variety of options within a short distance from the Theater
Parking: On street parking is available on Columbia Road. Free off-street parking is available in the Ramsey Street Municipal lot. Ramsey Street is located at the intersection of Dudley Street and Columbia Road behind CVS Pharmacy and Payless Shoes. For evening and Sunday shows, free parking is also available in the Citizen's Bank and Santander Bank parking lots. The Citizen's Bank lot is located at the corner of Columbia Road and Cushing Avenue. The Santander Bank lot is located in the rear of the bank at 585 Columbia Rd.

Distances:
Distance from airport to theater: 6 miles, approximately 15 min drive
YAGP 2021 Boston, MA

Preliminary Timeline
(9/1/20)

Friday, March 5, 2021
Competition
Strand Theater
5 PM – 10 PM

Saturday, March 6, 2021
Competition
Strand Theater
10 AM – 10 PM

Sunday, March 7, 2021
Competition
Strand Theater
10 AM – 5 PM

- Registration begins 1.5 hours before your Competition Time.
- Please note this schedule is Tentative and Subject to Change
- The first draft of the Timeline will be posted 5 - 6 weeks before the Event
- The final Timeline will be posted 10-14 days before the Event.