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 Tampa, FL
Important Information

About the Venue:
YAGP is thrilled to return to the David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, a state-of-the-art facility located in beautiful downtown Tampa, close to many popular restaurants and sightseeing destinations. This is the only venue during the semi-final season that includes a Gala performance, featuring Tampa semi-final participants alongside some of today’s most renowned ballet dancers in the YAGP Gala “Stars of Today Meet the Stars of Tomorrow” at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts. With all competition events under one roof, rehearsal space near the stage and several hotels and restaurants within a few minutes’ walk from the theater complex, this is an ideal location for those who do not wish to drive during the event, and of air travelers, the Tampa International Airport offers many convenient connecting flights from virtually anywhere in the country. Keep in mind, that hotels tend to book up early -- we suggest booking in advance, and adjusting your reservation once you receive the updated draft of the final schedule.

Theater:
Theater: David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts
Address: 1010 North W.C. MacInnes Pl. Tampa, FL, 33602
Website: http://www.strazcenter.org/
Ferguson Hall Stage size: 40’ x 30’
Ferguson Hall Auditorium size: 1,042 seats
Morsani Hall Stage size: 60’ x 45’
Morsani Hall Auditorium size: 2,610 seats
Nearby restaurants: A variety of options within walking distance
Parking: Several options available: $5/day at The Barrymore Hotel Tampa across the street; $7/day at the David A.Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts; $7.17/day if pre-purchased, available after 6 PM Monday-Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday at Novel Riverwalk Garage; Poe Garage; $3/day if pre-purchased at Royal Regional Lot; $7/day if pre-purchased at Rivergate Tower Garage.

Ferguson Hall

Morsani Hall

Studios: The Patel Conservatory, located in the same building as the theaters
Address: 1010 North W.C. MacInnes Pl. Tampa, FL, 33602
Website: [http://www.strazcenter.org/Arts-Education/Patel-Conservatory](http://www.strazcenter.org/Arts-Education/Patel-Conservatory)
Parking: Several options available: $5/day at The Barrymore Hotel Tampa across the street; $7/day at the David A.Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts

Distances:
Distance from airport to theater/studios: 8.5 miles approximately a 15-minute drive
YAGP 2021 Tampa, FL
Preliminary Timeline
(7/10/20)

Friday, January 8, 2021:

Competition
David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts
3 PM - 10 PM (pending)

Saturday, January 9, 2021:

Competition
David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts
9 AM – 6:00 PM

GALA Performance: “Stars of Today Meet the Stars of Tomorrow”
David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts
(pending)

Sunday, January 10, 2021:

Competition
David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts
9:00 AM – 6:00 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.