

ZDC Shines to the Top

Ziegler Dance Centre's Z Dance Troupe of McAfee recently attended On Stage America Nationals in Atlantic City, NJ. They ended their 2023 season shining bright. The troupe brought back many high awards and were recognized for their talents in all divisions. A few highlights from the week include **ADCC Outstanding Studio of Excellence. This award is given to the studio that amplifies superior excellence on and off the stage.** ZDC was also awarded **Excellence in Ballet** for "You Raise Me Up" and in **Excellence in Musical Theatre** for "Chicago".

Mini (age 6 and under) Novice Division:

- Hip Hop Small group "Fam Jam" won **1st Overall and was chosen to re-compete in the Challenge of Champions in the 12 and under Novice/Intermediate division where they won 2nd Runner up.**
- Ballet Small group "God Help the Outcast" won **2nd Overall and Judge's Special Award "Precious Moments"**
- Tap Small Group won **3rd Overall.**

Petite (age 7-8) Advance Division:

- Audrey Bertagno, of Vernon, won **Petite Miss On Stage America** with her jazz solo "Lone Digger". Miss. Bertagno had to compete in 3 categories which included a Live Interview, Formal Wear, and Dance Performance.

Junior Advance Division:

- Emilia Smaldino, Vernon, won **9th Overall** with her vocal solo "Waiting on a Miracle", as well as, **Judge's Special "Brave and Bold"**
- Alondra Sybesma, Vernon, won **20th Overall** with her lyrical solo "The Rose".
- Brooklynn Sybesma and Alondra Sybesma of Vernon, won **8th Overall** for their lyrical Duo "Foot Prints" as well as a **Judge's Special "Pulling at Heart Strings"**.
- Hip Hop Small Group "The Guys" which is a dance comprised with all Male Dancers won **9th Overall** and were honored with representing ZDC in the Advance 12 and Under **"Challenge of Champions" where they won 4th Runner Up.**

Teen Advance Division:

- Brooklynn Sybesma, Vernon, won **20th Overall** with her jazz "Haunted Heart".
- Lyrical Small Group "Red Ribbon" won **10th Overall.**
- Teen Lyrical Line "Soldiers" won **3rd Overall** and were honored with representing ZDC in the Advance 13 and Older **"Challenge of Champions"**
- Teen musical theatre production "Chicago" won **2nd Overall, Judge's Special "Showstoppers" and were chosen to re-compete in the 13 and Over Challenge of Champion where they are now the "Challenge Champion Winners"**

Senior Advance Division:

- Natalia Arroyo, Vernon, won **Senior Miss On Stage America** with her jazz "I Put A Spell On You" Miss. Arroyo had to compete in 3 categories which included a Live

Interview, Formal Wear, and Dance Performance. Arroyo also won **19th overall** for her lyrical “ Hold My Hand”. Arroyo also won “**Broadway Bound**” award out of all contestants that compete that week.

- Mason Shirhall, Vernon, won 1st Runner Up Senior Mr. On Stage America with his hip hop “Celebration”. Mr. Shirhall had to compete in 3 categories which included a Live Interview, Formal Wear, and Dance Performance
- Makayla Snyder, Franklin, won **20th Overall** with her jazz “Fever.
- Natalia Arroyo and Makayla Snyder, won **Best Student Choreography and Judge’s Special “All the Feels”** with their lyrical duo “Wherever You Go”
- Lyrical Small Group “This Will be the Day” won **6th Overall.**
- Musical Theatre Small Group “Ex-Wives” won **5th Overall.**

The Z Dance Troupe consists of 86 members from the age of 5-18 and is under direction of Peggy Ziegler, Renee Ziegler, Doreen Ziegler, Bonnie Sybesma, Brianna Hughes, Charissa Locher, and Casey Doyle.

For full results and information please visit our web at zieglerdancecentre.com or call 973-209-7709. Ziegler Dance Centre is located on Rt. 94 Viking Village in McAfee.