Thalhe Festival 2027 Rules and Regulations

3.0 - 2027

These Rules & Regulations are intended to ensure a safe, respectful, inclusive, and enjoyable experience for everyone participating in the Thalhe Festival 2027, held September 10–12, 2027, at the Sarasota Opera House in Sarasota, Florida. These Rules & Regulations are issued by Thalhe Festival Foundation, Inc. ("Thalhe Festival Foundation"). By registering for and/or participating in the Festival, participants acknowledge and agree to comply with these Rules & Regulations, the applicable registration terms, and the Thalhe Festival Participant Waiver, Release & Consent Agreement.

1. ELIGIBILITY & FESTIVAL PHILOSOPHY

The Thalhe Festival is an inclusive dance festival created primarily for adult dancers. Dancers are never ranked against one another.

Participation is open to adults 18 years of age and older, regardless of age, level of experience, body type, gender, nationality, background, or ability.

The Festival welcomes beginner, recreational, returning, amateur, advanced, and pre-professional adult dancers.

The Thalhe Festival is committed to creating an environment where adult dancers have access to education, community, artistic experiences, and opportunities to perform on stage without pressure, ranking, or comparison.

2. REGISTRATION & PARTICIPATION

All participants must complete the official registration process and provide accurate and complete information.

Registration for the 2027 Festival is completed in two steps: (1) submitting the official registration form on the Festival website, thalhefestival.com; and (2) paying the applicable package fee through the official PayPal payment link published on the Festival website.

Registration for the 2027 Festival opens in November 2026. The registration closing date will be announced on the official Festival website.

Registration is considered confirmed only after the registration form has been submitted and the applicable payment has been received.

Registration options, performance opportunities, classes, fees, deadlines, and availability are subject to the information published by Thalhe Festival Foundation for the applicable Festival edition.

Registration may close before the published deadline if the Festival, a class, performance opportunity, or other activity reaches capacity.

Thalhe Festival Foundation reserves the right to limit participation or the number of performance entries when necessary due to scheduling, safety, venue capacity, or operational requirements.

3. WAIVER & PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

All registered participants must accept the current Participant Waiver, Release & Consent Agreement as part of the registration process.

Where applicable, accompanying persons, assistants, or caregivers may also be required to acknowledge Festival policies or provide information requested by Festival staff.

Participation may be denied if required registration documents, agreements, or payments have not been completed.

4. FEES, PAYMENTS, REFUNDS & TRANSFERS

Registration and participation fees are those published on the official Festival website or otherwise provided in writing by Thalhe Festival Foundation at the time of registration.

The 2027 packages and fees are as follows:

Package	Early Bird (through April 10, 2027)	Regular (from April 11, 2027)
Class Only	$350	$400
One Performance	$450	$500
Two Performances	$550	$600
Three Performances	$650	$700
Four Performances	$750	$800

All 2027 package fees are paid in U.S. dollars through the official PayPal payment links published on the Festival website. Package inclusions are described on the official Festival website.
Unless otherwise expressly stated in writing, registration and administrative fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.
Refund requests related to documented injury, illness, or exceptional circumstances may be reviewed individually by Festival administration. Approval of any refund or credit is at the discretion of Thalhe Festival Foundation and may require supporting documentation.
Failure to attend the Festival, a class, rehearsal, Open Stage opportunity, performance, Gala, or other scheduled activity does not automatically entitle a participant to a refund or credit.

5. PERFORMANCE ENTRIES
Participants registered for performance opportunities may present solos, duos, trios, or group works according to the options made available for that Festival edition.
Performance styles may include, but are not limited to, Ballet, Neo-Classical, Contemporary, Modern, Jazz, Lyrical, Broadway Jazz, Hip Hop, Ballroom, and other appropriate dance styles accepted by Festival administration.
Participants are responsible for submitting accurate information regarding their performance, including title, music, duration, number of dancers, and any other information requested by the Festival.
Material changes after submission are subject to approval and may not be possible once the performance schedule and technical planning have been finalized.
The Festival reserves the right to determine the final performance order and scheduling.

6. MUSIC & CHOREOGRAPHY
Participants are responsible for submitting performance music in the format and by the deadline communicated by Festival administration.
Participants are strongly encouraged to maintain a backup copy of their performance music.
Changes to music after the submission deadline may not be accepted once technical preparation has begun.
Participants are responsible for ensuring that they have any permissions or rights that may be legally required for the choreography, music, costumes, or other materials they choose to present.

7. PERFORMANCE TIME LIMITS
Unless otherwise approved in advance by Festival administration, the following general time limits apply:

- Solo: Maximum 2:00 minutes
- Duo/Trio: Maximum 3:00 minutes
- Small Group: Maximum 3:30 minutes
- Large Group: Maximum 4:30 minutes
- Classical Pas de Deux: Maximum 6:00 minutes, when applicable

Exceptions must be approved by Festival administration before the event.

8. CLASSES

Classes are an important part of the educational and community experience of the Thalhe Festival.
Participants are encouraged to take advantage of the classes included with their applicable registration.
Participants are responsible for selecting classes appropriate to their experience, physical abilities, and comfort level and may modify, decline, or discontinue any movement or activity they do not feel comfortable performing.
Class schedules, instructors, locations, and capacity are subject to change when necessary.

9. OPEN STAGE & STAGE ACCESS

The Festival may provide scheduled Open Stage opportunities allowing registered performers to become familiar with the performance space, spacing, entrances, exits, flooring, and stage environment.
Open Stage is not a full technical or dress rehearsal unless specifically stated otherwise by Festival administration.
Participants must follow their assigned Open Stage time and all instructions provided by Festival staff and venue personnel.
Stage, backstage, wings, dressing rooms, technical areas, and other restricted spaces may only be accessed when authorized.
Participants must respect all venue safety requirements and may not interfere with technical equipment, curtains, scenery, lighting, sound equipment, or other venue property.

10. GALA PERFORMANCE

The Gala is a curated presentation of registered Festival performances and other programming selected or approved by Festival administration.
The Festival determines the final running order, scheduling, transitions, technical requirements, and presentation format.
Participants must be ready and available at the call time communicated by Festival staff.
Late arrival may result in a performance being moved or removed when necessary to protect the schedule and operation of the event.

11. TEACHERS' FEEDBACK

The Thalhe Festival does not rank participants or select winners.
As part of the Festival's educational mission, participating dancers may receive Teachers' Feedback from experienced dance professionals.
The purpose of this feedback is to provide constructive observations, encouragement, and artistic guidance to support each dancer's individual development and experience.
Teachers' Feedback is educational in nature and should not be interpreted as a ranking, a result, or a professional certification.
The format and availability of Teachers' Feedback may vary according to the Festival schedule, performance format, and participating faculty.

12. COSTUMES & APPROPRIATE CONTENT

Costumes are at the discretion of participants unless specific requirements are communicated for a particular activity or group performance.
Music, choreography, costumes, and presentation should be appropriate for a diverse public audience.

The Festival reserves the right to request reasonable adjustments to material that presents significant safety concerns or contains content that is discriminatory, threatening, or otherwise inconsistent with the Festival's mission and environment.

13. POINTE WORK & PARTICIPANT SAFETY

Pointe shoes are not required for participation, and pointe work is open to dancers of any gender.
For safety, dancers choosing to participate en pointe should have appropriate prior pointe training and experience.
Each participant is responsible for recognizing their own physical limitations and choosing appropriate modifications when necessary.
Participants should immediately inform Festival staff of unsafe conditions, accidents, or emergencies.

14. ACCOMPANYING PERSONS, ASSISTANTS & CAREGIVERS

The Thalhe Festival recognizes that some participants may require or benefit from an accompanying person, personal assistant, or caregiver.
Access to classes, backstage areas, Open Stage, performance areas, or other restricted Festival spaces by an accompanying person is subject to Festival and venue policies Accompanying persons must comply with all Festival rules, staff instructions, safety requirements, and credential requirements.
Festival administration should be informed in advance when specific accessibility assistance or accommodations are required so that reasonable arrangements can be made whenever possible.

15. BADGES & CREDENTIALS

Festival badges and credentials are personal and may not be transferred or shared.
Participants, staff, volunteers, instructors, accompanying persons, and other authorized individuals may be required to display their Festival credential to access restricted areas.
Access privileges depend on the type of credential issued.
The Festival reserves the right to revoke a credential if it is misused or if an individual fails to comply with Festival or venue policies.

16. PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO & MEDIA

The Thalhe Festival may designate official photographers, videographers, press representatives, and media professionals to document Festival activities.
Photography, video recording, live streaming, or professional recording by participants, guests, or third parties may be restricted in classes, backstage areas, Open Stage sessions, performances, or other Festival activities.
Any restrictions communicated by Festival staff or venue personnel must be respected.
Thalhe Festival Foundation may photograph or record Festival activities in accordance with the Participant Waiver, Release & Consent Agreement accepted during registration.

17. SCHEDULE & FESTIVAL CHANGES

Participants are responsible for reviewing official Festival communications and schedule updates.
Schedules, teachers, classes, rooms, performance order, Open Stage times, and other programming may be adjusted when reasonably necessary.
Thalhe Festival Foundation reserves the right to modify, relocate, postpone, reschedule, or cancel activities because of venue requirements, weather, emergencies, safety concerns, insufficient participation, circumstances beyond the Festival's control, or other operational necessities.

When a significant change occurs, the Festival will make reasonable efforts to notify affected participants through the contact information provided during registration and/or through official Festival communication channels.

18. PARTICIPANT CONDUCT

All participants, guests, instructors, staff, volunteers, vendors, and accompanying persons are expected to treat one another, Festival personnel, venue employees, and venue property with respect.
Harassment, intimidation, bullying, threatening behavior, deliberate disruption, unsafe conduct, or abusive treatment of another person will not be tolerated.
Failure to comply with Festival rules, venue policies, or reasonable instructions from Festival or venue personnel may result in removal from an activity or from the Festival without refund when necessary to protect the safety or experience of others.

19. ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION & NON-DISCRIMINATION

Thalhe Festival Foundation is committed to fostering an environment of inclusion, dignity, accessibility, and respect.
Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, or other protected status will not be tolerated.
Participants who experience or witness discriminatory, harassing, or unsafe behavior are encouraged to report it promptly to Festival staff.
Reports will be taken seriously and addressed as appropriate based on the circumstances.

20. CERTIFICATES

A Certificate of Participation may be provided to participants as part of the Festival experience.
Distribution procedures and timing will be communicated during the Festival.

21. LIABILITY & ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Participation in dance and Festival activities involves inherent physical risks.
All participants are required to acknowledge and accept the Thalhe Festival Participant Waiver, Release & Consent Agreement during registration.
The applicable Waiver and Release, rather than these Rules & Regulations, governs the assumption of risk, release of liability, emergency medical authorization, and media consent associated with participation.

22. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Participants must comply with the policies and reasonable instructions of both Thalhe Festival Foundation and the facilities hosting Festival activities.
Thalhe Festival Foundation reserves the right to interpret and enforce these Rules & Regulations and to make reasonable amendments when necessary for safety, legal compliance, venue requirements, or Festival operations.
The current version of these Rules & Regulations published by Thalhe Festival Foundation supersedes all previous versions.
By completing registration and participating in the Thalhe Festival, participants acknowledge that they have reviewed and agree to comply with the applicable Rules & Regulations.

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