

**To: Chicago area dance ensembles and choreographers**

**From: John Schmitz  
Artistic Producer Dance Chicago**

**Welcome to Dance Chicago, the 22nd annual, oh my God am I too late,  
dance festival.**

**Whew - you are okay. The deadline for applications is extended From  
October 1 to October 20.**

**DC 2016 Schedule  
Athenaeum Theatre, Chicago  
[http://dancechicago.com/performances\\_schedule.html](http://dancechicago.com/performances_schedule.html)**

**Dance Slam 11.5.16  
Future Stars 11.12.16  
Main Stage New Moves 11.8-11.11  
Choreographers' Showcase 12.3.16  
Dances from the Heart 2.11.17, 2.14.17**

**Music Institute of Chicago  
Evanston  
Duke it Out!  
12.10.16 at 10 am and 2 pm**

**Use this application**

**<http://dancechicago.com/artistform.php>**

**Links to works are due 10/20.**

**I will be scheduling all tech times directly. All music files are digital, so make sure I get those files no later than October 31.**

**Make sure that all the links submitted are available to be viewed by me at [dancechicago09@gmail.com](mailto:dancechicago09@gmail.com) and that privacy settings are removed or you give me the viewing password.**

**Updates and notices at  
[dancechicago.com](http://dancechicago.com)**

**Tickets at**

**<https://m.ovationtix.com/dept/1088>**

**Description of shows:**

**Dance Slam 11.5.16**

**In its 20th year, Dance Slam is a dance competition like no other. Instead of the usual group of 3 or 4 judges, Dance Slam involves the entire audience (nearly 1,000 people) voting in three categories:**

**Choreography**

**Technique**

**Production Quality**

**We then add an extra evaluative measure by totaling the three categories.**

**This evaluation is key for crews, companies, and dance schools wanting to know how they are viewed artistically in relation to others doing similar work. Dance Slam can be used as an educational tool for artists, choreographers and directors, seeking input to design their programs or expand their choreography. Dance Slam showcases 450 individual**

artists, making it the largest reservoir of dance talent on one program in Chicago. The artistic quality is the same as other programs, but the focus is different. Dance Slam is not a beginning or entry level event.

This program works best for large ensembles exhibiting short, higher energy works in 3-5 minute range.

### **Future Stars 11.12.16**

Future Stars represents the exposition of works developed for young ensembles by experienced choreographers. Many of the works on this program are dramatic and emotionally transformative. If your school has a number of company levels, this program should be reserved for your most advanced company partnered with your finest choreography.

Many groups on this program also offer different works on Dance Slam. Occasionally works from Dance Slam are also exhibited on Future Stars. This program works best for large ensembles exhibiting sophisticated works in the 3-8 minute range.

### **Choreographers' Showcase 12.3.16**

The focus on this program is the individual choreographer, not the company exhibiting the work. A company may have multiple works on this program, providing the choreographer is different. Usually the Choreographer of the Year is exhibited on this program. The Choreographer of the Year is awarded a \$1,000 grant, supported by the Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation.

### **Main Stage New Moves 11.8-11.11**

These programs are normally run in Studio 2, but this year they are on the Main Stage. Shows are dependent on the applications received, so some showcases may not run. This week also provides an opportunity

for companies to do a stand-alone show or a self-curated showcase. For Stand-Alone shows the costs for companies are reduced, but they must cover rent and Dance Chicago crew charges. Companies then can recover these costs through ticket revenue. Example: InAside Chicago Dance has chosen 11/11 as their program. Contact me directly about these shows. If enough acts make showcased event possible, we will put that together in the normal Dance Chicago way, which means you are not responsible for rent or crew fees.

**Dances from the Heart 2.11.17, 2.14.17**

Dances from the Heart is the pinnacle exhibition of the best of Dance Chicago. This show is frequently toured to Fermilab and other venues. This showcase is not a duet-only show and is not based merely on human romance, but encourages works with a high emotional transformative purpose. The works represent the best works from the festival, curated from all the previous shows plus specially invited guests.

**Music Institute of Chicago**

**Evanston**

**Duke it Out!**

**12.10.16 at 10 am and 2 pm**

**Dress rehearsal: 12.8.16 at 7 pm**

This is our touring event for the season. This is a repeat of a show we created in collaboration with the Music Institute of Chicago in 2009. It involves multiple dance forms: ballet, pointe, contemporary, jazz, tap, hip-hop, ethnic. Two scores: Tchaikovsky and Ellington are presented by live ensembles in a unique exposition of dance and live music. Companies will receive exact tracks of music to create choreography. Both John

Schmitz and Altin Naska will be directing the event. You should express your interest in this show in a separate email to me. Both performances are doing the day, permitted dances contracted for Nutcrackers to be available for their Saturday evening performance.

You must promote your performance.

Dance Chicago will do its best to give you an opportunity to perform.

Please keep all works submitted available to be performed at short notice. The festival is a cooperative marketing event. We expect you to promote your performance as you would a self-produced event.

Once slotted for a show, we will give you a \$9 discount code to use in your marketing and SM posts. In addition we will offer \$10 dancer CODE discount tickets. If tickets are purchased under your assigned code, you get \$4 back on each ticket sold. There is no rebate on dancer discounts. Also, do not expect a COMP ticket. We will not know if comp tickets are available until 8:15 pm on performance nights.