

MEDAL TESTS

PA DanceSport is offering a special opportunity to its students through its association with the ISTD and USISTD (Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance and its United States branch). These are highly prestigious organizations that train and certify dance teachers and provide them with the tools that they need to serve students better. Medal Testing is one opportunity provided for your learning, growth and enjoyment of Dance.

PA DanceSport will host Lori Woods Gay, Fellow and Examiner for USISTD. She will spend the day conducting Medal Test Examinations and Coaching.

WHAT IS A MEDAL TEST?

A Medal Test is an opportunity for students to be evaluated and critiqued by an independent dance professional—someone other than their teacher. You may test in all of the dances or select only a few, or even just one. The test can be in American or International style and should demonstrate a full standard (i.e., bronze, silver or gold). The test will consist of you dancing with your teacher or partner for one to two minutes of each dance that you've chosen. The criteria will be those elements of dancing normally stressed during your regular lessons—posture, dance position, footwork and techniques specific to each dance (such as Cuban motion, rise and fall, etc.). The Examiner will score each dance and make written comments to guide your future lessons. Your teacher will prepare you for the test and **WILL NOT** recommend the test to you if you are not ready!

WHY DO A MEDAL TEST?

PA DanceSport believes that your journey through dancing should be well planned, with established destinations—*milestones* along the way. The Medal Test is one such milestone. The goal of most students is a specific standard: bronze, silver, gold, American or International. The Medal Test provides the very important, objective, outside evaluation that validates your attainment of that goal. Studying for the Medal Test is enjoyable work! It gives your lessons sharp focus as you scrutinize and practice details that you might otherwise overlook. The Test provides a realistic deadline that will serve to motivate both you and your teacher. Working toward the Medal Test affords many of the benefits enjoyed by competitive dancers, but without the stress of competition and public display. Your Medal Test will be a low-key, private event between you, your teacher and the Examiner. PA DanceSport encourages all of its students to take advantage of this splendid opportunity.