

# Dirty FEET

OUTBACK DANCE FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE

*7th to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026*

LONGREACH CULTURAL & CIVIC CENTRE

The 2026 Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival (DFODF) will bring five vibrant days of workshops to Longreach from 7-9 July, offering a full daily program for dancers aged 3-17 years across a variety of genres including lyrical, hip hop, acro, contemporary, jazz, ballet and our much-loved Tiny Tot Dance Club.

The workshop series will conclude with an informal showcase performance, celebrating the growth and creativity of each dancer. Following this, three days of exciting dance competition will run from 10-12 July, giving students the chance to take the stage and shine.

Dirty Feet is a unique opportunity for young regional dancers to train with highly regarded industry professionals, develop their technique, explore new styles and perform in a supportive and inclusive environment. The 2026 program also includes private coaching sessions, allowing students to further personalise their experience.

With a rich blend of education, performance and connection, Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival inspires children of all ages and abilities to move, learn and grow their love for dance.



# DIRTY FEET OUTBACK DANCE FESTIVAL 2026

Longreach, QLD | July 7-12, 2026

The Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival is back in 2026, bringing together dancers from coast to country for six incredible days of movement, learning, performance and connection. Held in the heart of the outback in Longreach, this event is open to dancers of all ages and levels. Featuring leading industry teachers, inspiring workshops and a dynamic three day competition.

The festival will run from Tuesday 7 July to Sunday 12 July, with three days of workshops and three days of competition, plus a Thursday night showcase for workshop participants. Whether you're a beginner or a pre-professional, Dirty Feet Outback Dance festival offers a high-energy, supportive space to challenge yourself, grow your skills and celebrate dance.

## **Workshop Dates:**

Tuesday 7 – Thursday 9 July 2026

Location: Longreach Civic Centre & Studio Spaces

Who Can Attend: All dancers, ages 3 to 17

## **Pricing & Age Groups:**

Minis (3-5 years): 3 half days of classes - \$120

Styles: Dance Club (Jazz, Ballet and dance games), Acro

Juniors (6-8 years): 3 full days of classes - \$300

Sub-Seniors (9-12 years): 3 full days of classes - \$300

Seniors (13-17 years): 3 full days of classes - \$350

Styles: Ballet, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Lyrical, Contemporary, Acro, Body Conditioning, Specialised Extension Training, Leaps/Turns/Kicks

## **Flexible Options:**

Day Pass: \$120/day

Single Class Pass: \$25/class

## **Evening Showcase:**

Thursday 9 July, 6:30PM

Celebrate the talents of workshop participants. Closed to the public.

NOTE: Black dance wear required.

Approximate Workshop Schedule (subject to change based on demand):

Tuesday 7 July – Thursday 9 July

8:30 AM – 3:30 PM (Juniors to Seniors)

## **Competition Dates:**

Friday 10 – Sunday 12 July 2026

Solos, duos/trios, small groups and troupe sections

Sections across all age divisions and genres

## **Important Information:**

Limited spots available – early registration is encouraged.

Register for workshops ONLY online via [branchesperformingarts.dance](https://branchesperformingarts.dance) from 21st May 7:00pm.

Register for workshops and enter in the competition via Comps-Online from 21st May 7:00pm.

All registrations closing 15th June, with the final program of events released following the closure of registrations.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

E: [reception@branchesperformingarts.dance](mailto:reception@branchesperformingarts.dance)

# DIRTY FEET OUTBACK DANCE FESTIVAL TEACHING FACULTY



**AMY TINNING**  
Event Organiser  
Branches Performing  
Arts Principal  
Ballet, Jazz,  
Contemporary

Originally from rural Queensland, Amy has trained and performed extensively from a young age throughout; North Queensland, Central Highlands, the Darling Downs, Sunshine Coast and the Gold Coast. Prior to being accepted into Edith Cowan University, where she recently graduated with a Bachelor of Performing Arts from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). She has had exposure to a wide variety of genres; classical ballet, Russian/Polish character dancing, Jazz, Hip-hop, Tap, Kung-fu, Yoga, Pilates, Silks, Contact Improvisation, Chinese movement, Capoeira and Acrobatics. Throughout her training, she has attended dance intensives at; Brent Street, Australian Dance Performing Institute (where she was awarded a full scholarship), Queensland Youth Ballet (became a member of the touring company in 2005), Australian Ballet School, Prudence Bowen Atelier (offered a position in full-time training program), Expressions Dance Company, Sydney Dance Company and Australian Dance Theatre.

Amy has been the proud studio owner and Principal Teacher of Branches Performing Arts for the past decade. Her studio delivers premium quality training to students in person across the North West Qld region, along with students nationwide who train through Branches Performing Arts Distance Dance program delivered via Zoom. Over the past decade the studio has experienced growth in both student numbers and teaching faculty comprised of 11 leading industry professionals who deliver high quality style specific dance classes to all ages. In 2023 Amy was awarded, Australian Performing Arts Teachers Association, Teacher of the Year.



**NATASHA KOVACS**  
Hip-Hop, Senior  
Jazz & Ballet

Natasha has been performing since a young age, originally from QLD where she studied under that auspice of Dianne McLellan securing both her CSTD Student Teachers in Jazz and Tap and completing her Advanced 2 in RAD Ballet.

In her training years she moved to Sydney where she studied full-time at Brent Street Studios obtaining a Cert IV in Performing under direction of Cameron Mitchell, Caroline O'Connor, Kelley Abbey, Marko Panzic and many more. She then went on to study a BA of Music majoring in Music Theatre at the Australian Institute of Music where she learnt from some of the best in Australian Music Theatre, these included Tia Jordan, Penny Martin, Jennifer Murphy, Tyran Parke and many more. It was here she secured the role of Mimi Marques in their production of Rent under direction of Tyran Parke and musical direction of Greg Crease.

As a performer she has toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra under direction of Deb Graham and the Peppa Pig Live World Tour, however some of her other notable performances would include: Bonnie Lythgoe's 'Cinderella' and 'Peter Pan', Queensland Ballet 'Strictly Gershwin' Season, Singing Support Act for Australian Idol contest Emily Williams, Strictly Ballroom Musical Workshop under direction of Baz Luhrmann, Soloist within Sally Hare's 'Girls on Tap', Extra within Australian Feature film 'Goddess' and the Australian season of Australia's Next Top Model, Featured dancer for Britney Spears choreographer Andrea Fuentes in LA's Carnival, ABC's Dance Academy Season 2, Featured dancer within the Young Talent Time series, she has also performed at multiple high end corporate events such as Sony and Universal Anniversary, Ramsay Health Car Benefit, Save Our Sons Gala and many more.



**HANNAH GRONOLD**  
Acro. Jazz & Ballet

Hannah Gronold first began dancing at just 18 months old before shifting her focus to gymnastics throughout her primary school years. In 2020, she returned to dance through the Distance Dance program with Branches Performing Arts, where she quickly developed into a dedicated competitive dancer and committed ballet student, successfully completing her Royal Academy of Dance training through to Advanced 2.

Prior to graduating from Branches Performing Arts in 2025, Hannah spent three years running the Barcardine in-person studio on behalf of BPA, developing a passion for teaching and regional dance education. Hannah was recently accepted into the prestigious Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts Bachelor of Dance program, where she is now training full-time across a broad range of disciplines including classical ballet, contemporary, choreography, repertoire, dance anatomy, music, dance history and teaching practices. She has also recently completed her AcroArts Level 1 certification.



**GABRIELLE MILLEN**  
Lyrical, RAD RTS Ballet,  
Dance Club

In 2023 Gabrielle joined our Distance Dance program teaching faculty. Gabrielle has built her dance knowledge upon the solid foundations of RAD ballet. She is a passionate dance educator who is RAD registered. With many years experience teaching in person and online, Gabrielle teaches a number of our Distance Dance classes: Tiny-Tot's, RAD Ballet, Lyrical/Contemporary & Body Conditioning. Gabrielle is an award winning choreographer and passionate dance educator with a natural aptitude for teaching dance.

# ADJUDICATOR



*Danielle Gerrard*

Danielle Gerrard is a highly accomplished dance educator, choreographer, adjudicator, and former international performer, bringing over seven years of teaching experience and more than six years of professional performance experience across the United Kingdom and Europe. Her extensive background spans classical ballet, contemporary, jazz, tap, musical theatre, and acrobatics, supported by a strong foundation in both technical training and artistic development.

Danielle's professional performing career saw her touring internationally with cruise line productions throughout Europe and the United Kingdom, alongside performing in contemporary productions including Duodecor in London. In addition to her performance career, she has spent over a decade choreographing and coaching competitive soloists and troupe routines across Australia and the UK, with students achieving outstanding success at competitions, examinations, and industry opportunities.

She is a registered teacher with the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD), Comdance Australia, and Acrobatic Arts, and is also a registered mentor with the Royal Academy of Dance, guiding trainee teachers through their teaching qualifications. Danielle has worked alongside esteemed organisations including Queensland Ballet and The Australian Ballet School's rural outreach programs, and continues to prepare students for examinations, eisteddfods, competitions, and professional pathways through her own studio, BalletX Australia. Her students have gone on to receive prestigious opportunities, including invitations to programs with The Australian Ballet, reflecting Danielle's strong focus on both technical excellence and performance quality. Alongside her studio work, Danielle owns and directs Take2 Talent, a boutique agency representing dancers and actors for professional performance opportunities within the entertainment industry.

Danielle approaches adjudication with a knowledgeable, encouraging, and well-rounded perspective shaped by her experience across both professional performance and dance education. Her adjudications focus on technical precision, musicality, artistry, stage presence, and performance authenticity, while always providing constructive and supportive feedback designed to inspire and nurture the next generation of performers.

# COMPETITION CONDITIONS & RULES

Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival (DFODF) is open to all dancers from all schools.

Event Dates: Workshops 7th to 9th + Competition 10<sup>th</sup> to 12th July 2026.

## AGE:

- The competitor's age as at 1st January 2026.
- If required, proof of Age must be presented upon request, Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival reserves the right to withhold and prizes until appropriate identification has been provided.
- Dancing 'up an age' will not be permitted. Dancers who have two routines in one style, may enter in their age category in addition to the OPEN category for the style.

## REGISTRATION:

- Entries must be submitted prior to or on the closing date via registering online through [www.comps-online.com.au](http://www.comps-online.com.au)
- Entries open 21st May and close 15<sup>th</sup> June. DFODF reserves the right to close the entries earlier if the entry limit is reached. Enter promptly to avoid disappointment.
- Late entries will not be accepted for any section that is at full capacity.
- All entries must be submitted via Comps-Online in order to be accepted.
- A program will be generated and distributed in a timely fashion following the closure of entries.
- A digital copy of the program will be distributed via e-mail and online.
- DFODF reserve the right to - devise a program as per demand.
- Change the program in anyway, including but not limited to combining and splitting age groups as per number of entries.
- Entries will not be officially accepted until payment is made in full prior to the closure of entries via Comps-Online (using Paypal or credit card).
- ALL entries are non-refundable. Unless the event is cancelled by Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival.
- Competitors are obliged to compete under the name and age submitted at the time of entry.
- Only one entry will be accepted per competitor per section.
- Competitor registration fee of \$35 per dancer will apply.
- FREE entry for all spectators.
- Compulsory \$10 digital program fee applies to all entries.

## DFODF MERCHANDISE

**Boxy Tee**  
**\$45**



Available in Child sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 + Adult XS, S, M, L and XL

Please note that merchandise is available via pre-order only. Limited quantities are produced specifically to order, and excess stock will not be available for purchase at Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival.

DFODF



Pre-order from 21<sup>st</sup> May via Comps Online at the time of entry or the Branches Performing Arts website by 15<sup>th</sup> June 11:59pm.

**Biketard**  
**\$90**

**Long sleeve Tee**  
**\$48.50**



**SOLO** \$30 per routine

**OPEN SOLO** \$35 per routine

**DUO/TRIO** \$40 per routine

**GROUPES** \$60 per routine

**CHAMPIONSHIP** \$90 per dancer

This year, Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival will not be running a bursary section. Instead, dancers will have the opportunity to enter the Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival Championship.

Awards will be presented per age divisions: Mini (3-6 yrs), Junior (7-11 yrs), Intermediate (12-15 yrs), Senior (16+ yrs).

To qualify for the Championship, dancers must:

- Enter the Championship section
- Participate in Everybody Dance Now Improvisation
- Compete in at least three solo routines

A dancer's three highest scoring routines will be taken, and the scores will be combined to determine their overall Championship total.

Only dancers who have officially entered the Championship will be considered for Championship placings.

**COSTUME AWARD** \$50 per dancer

Awarded to dancers who present exceptional costuming that enhances their performance and demonstrates creativity, attention to detail, stage impact and overall presentation.

One overall award across all ages will be presented.

Only dancers officially entered into the Costume Award will be considered.

**IGNITE ARTISTRY AWARD** \$50 per dancer

Awarded to dancers who demonstrate exceptional artistry, performance quality, stage presence, connection and individuality throughout the competition.

Awards will be presented per age divisions: Mini (3-6 yrs), Junior (7-11 yrs), Intermediate (12-15 yrs), Senior (16+ yrs).

Only dancers officially entered into the Ignite Artistry Award will be considered.

**ELEVATE TECHNIQUE AWARD** \$50 per dancer

Awarded to dancers who demonstrate outstanding technical execution, strength, control, alignment, flexibility, precision and quality of movement throughout the competition.

Awards will be presented per age divisions: Mini (3-6 yrs), Junior (7-11 yrs), Intermediate (12-15 yrs), Senior (16+ yrs).

Only dancers officially entered into the Elevate Technique Award will be considered.

## **MUSIC:**

- Must be age appropriate and suitable for a family audience.
- Music for Classical, Demi-Character & Song & Dance must be without lyrics.
- Music must be uploaded via Music Uploads to competitors by 30th June 11:59pm.
- Please provide a back up music option in the form of USB Mp3 file.
- Teachers/parents are responsible for all copyrights of their students music.
- In the case of a technical error in the music causing disruption to the competitor, the music will be stopped and the competitor is permitted to repeat their routine at the end of the section without penalty.

## **ADJUDICATION:**

- DFODF reserves the right to substitute an official adjudicator with any qualified person, in the event of an unforeseen circumstance.
- DFODF officials are the only individuals permitted to converse with the adjudicator during the competition. Sensitivity to this rule is greatly appreciated.
- The adjudicator's decision is final and not open to dispute under any circumstances.
- No reports will be kept following the completion of the competition

## **GENERAL RULES:**

- DFODF reserves the right to alter the program at anytime.
- On the day of the competition competitors must: – check in with DFODF marshal prior to the commencement of the relevant section.

Be prepared prior to the commencement of their section. Once checked in competitors are obliged to remain marshalled in preparation for their section. Organised and prepared to dance in the order in which they appear in the program.

Prepared to be disqualified if they are not present at the time of their scheduled performance.

– If a competitor leaves the stage prior to completing their routine (for reasons other than faulty music) and request to make a subsequent attempt. The competitor may re perform at the end of the section for a report only.

– Only one person per competitor will be permitted backstage and in the dressing room.

– Dressing rooms are not allocated.

– The use of recording devices by members of the audience during the competition is strictly prohibited.

• Protests must be made within 30 min of the adjudication and will incur a \$50 fee, which will be forfeited if deemed unsubstantial.

• All props must be able to be set up and removed within a reasonable time frame. No curtains or blackout provided. Due to limited space back stage competitors must only bring props side stage 2 dancers prior to competing. No props can be stored in the back stage area.

• It is agreed upon when entering this competition that participants, including students, parents, family, teachers and other spectators will not hold Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival/Branches Performing Arts/Longreach Shire Council liable for injuries sustained, illnesses contracted, or loss of property while in attendance or participating in any activity relating to this event.

– All participants and attendees of the festival must abide by COVID Safe Practices in place at the time of the event. Participants and attendees are NOT permitted to attend the event if they are experiencing flu like symptoms. See further details on following page.

## **AWARDS:**

Results will be delivered on stage at the end of each session.

## **MAJOR AWARDS:**

Results will be delivered at the end of the festival at the awards ceremony. Recipients are expected to attend as a show of sportsmanship and respect.

Spirit of the Festival (all dancers eligible): Open to any dancer (3 - 18 yrs)

Highest Scoring routine (all dancers eligible): 4-6 yrs, 7-8 yrs, 9-10 yrs, 11-12 yrs, 13-14yrs, 15-18 yrs

Age division Encouragement Award (all dancers eligible): 4-6 yrs, 7-8 yrs, 9-10 yrs, 11-12 yrs, 13-14yrs, 15-18 yrs

DFODF Championship (entered dancers who meet criteria will be eligible): Mini (3-6 yrs), Junior (7-11 yrs), Intermediate (12-15 yrs), Senior (16+ yrs).

Costume Award (entered dancers eligible): Open to any dancer (3-18 yrs)

Elevate Ignite Artistry Award (entered dancers will be eligible): Mini (3-6 yrs), Junior (7-11 yrs), Intermediate (12-15 yrs), Senior (16+ yrs).

Technique Award (entered dancers will be eligible): Mini (3-6 yrs), Junior (7-11 yrs), Intermediate (12-15 yrs), Senior (16+ yrs).

All awards are at the discretion of the adjudicator, excluding the Spirit of the Festival decided upon by DFODF officials.

# SECTIONS

Tiny-Tots Any Style (5 Years & Under)  
Classical Ballet Solo (6 Years & Under)  
Classical Ballet Solo (7 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (8 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (9 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (10 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (11 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (12 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (13 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (14 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (15 Years)  
Classical Ballet Solo (16 - 18 Years)  
Junior OPEN Ballet Solo (7-11 Years)  
Senior OPEN Ballet Solo (12-18 Years)  
Junior OPEN National Character Solo (7-11 Years)  
Senior OPEN National Character Solo (12-18 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (6 Years & Under)  
Demi-Character Solo (7 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (8 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (9 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (10 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (11 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (12 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (13 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (14 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (15 Years)  
Demi-Character Solo (16 - 18 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (6 Years & Under)  
Tap Solo any speed (7 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (8 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (9 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (10 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (11 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (12 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (13 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (14 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (15 Years)  
Tap Solo any speed (16 - 18 Years)  
Junior OPEN Tap Solo (7-11 Years)  
Senior OPEN Tap Solo (12-18 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (6 Years & Under)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (7 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (8 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (9 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (10 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (11 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (12 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (13 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (14 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (15 Years)  
Up-Tempo Modern Solo (16 - 18 Years)  
Junior OPEN Up-Tempo Modern Solo (7-11 Years)  
Senior OPEN Up-Tempo Modern Solo (12-18 Years)

Hip-Hop Solo (7 Years & Under)  
Hip-Hop Solo (8 - 9 Years)  
Hip-Hop Solo (10 -11 Years)  
Hip-Hop Solo (12 -13 Years)  
Hip-Hop Solo (14 -15 Years)  
Hip-Hop Solo (16 -18 Years)  
Acro Solo (7 Years & Under)  
Acro Solo (8 - 9 Years)  
Acro Solo (10 -11 Years)  
Acro Solo (12 -13 Years)  
Acro Solo (14 -15 Years)  
Acro Solo (16 -18 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (6 Years & Under)  
Lyrical Solo (7 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (8 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (9 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (10 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (11 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (12 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (13 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (14 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (15 Years)  
Lyrical Solo (16-18 Years)  
Song & Dance Solo (7 Years & Under)  
Song & Dance Solo (8 - 9 Years)  
Song & Dance Solo (10 - 11 Years)  
Song & Dance Solo (12 - 13 Years)  
Song & Dance Solo (14 - 15 Years)  
Song & Dance Solo (16 - 18 Years)  
Own Choreography Solo Any style (7 Years & Under)  
Own Choreography Solo Any style (8 - 9 Years)  
Own Choreography Solo Any style (10 - 11 Years)  
Own Choreography Solo Any style (12 - 13 Years)  
Own Choreography Solo Any style (14 - 15 Years)  
Own Choreography Solo Any style (16 - 18 Years)  
Junior OPEN Novelty/Cabaret (7 - 11 Years)  
Senior OPEN Novelty/Cabaret (12 - 18 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (6 Years & Under)  
Contemporary Solo (7 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (8 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (9 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (10 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (11 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (12 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (13 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (14 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (15 Years)  
Contemporary Solo (16-18 Years)  
Junior OPEN Contemporary Solo (7-11 Years)  
Senior OPEN Contemporary Solo (12-18 Years)  
Junior Duo/Trio: Any Style (7 - 11 Years)  
Senior Duo/Trio: Any Style (12 - 18 Years)  
Junior Group: Any Style (7 - 11 Years)  
Senior Group: Any Style (12 - 18 Years)

Mini Improvisation style unknown (3-6 yrs) 'Everybody Dance Now'  
Junior Improvisation style unknown (7-11 yrs) 'Everybody Dance Now'  
Senior Improvisation style unknown (12-18 yrs) 'Everybody Dance Now'

## OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION & RULES RELATING TO SAFETY:

### **Performance:**

- House curtains will not be drawn and stage lights will not be dimmed in between performances
- If something happens to the music while the competitor is on stage (music skips, or it is the wrong cut etc.), then the competitor is allowed to bow and exit the stage mid performance. They can then perform again later in the section, without being penalised.
- Props can be used, however, it is the entrant's responsibility to place them in the allocated prop area, label them correctly, and bring them on/off stage throughout the competition

### **Safety:**

- Bullying, including inappropriate comments or actions will NOT be tolerated by Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival and will result in instant disqualification, upon investigation
- Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival will not be held responsible for any injuries sustained by any entrant throughout the event
- No harmful agents eg fire, water, smoke etc will be allowed on stage
- Any and all equipment used on the competition premises must be 'tested and tagged' by a certified electrician. This also includes hair straighteners
- Children under the age of 16 are NOT allowed to sit in the first 4 rows of the stage without an adult. This rule WILL be enforced
- Only competitors in the section will be allowed side stage at any time. (This rule does not apply in 5 & Under)
- The competitor will follow all directions and set rules stated by the competition organiser or persons authorised by them and waives any claims for liability against any organiser, (whether an Associate or Individual), participant, official, steward, judge, visitor, employee, or invitee (the "Participants") and releases the participants from all liability that may arise out of the competition, to the competitor. Such liability shall include any personal injury, property loss or damage
- Dirty Feet Outback Dance Festival will have a minimum of one First Aid Officer present at the event, with a first aid kit including ice packs