

Lakehead Festival of Music and the Arts

2026 Dance Awards & Scholarships

THUNDER BAY SOCIETY OF BALLET AND DANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

THUNDER BAY SOCIETY OF BALLET AND DANCE ALL- AROUND SENIOR DANCE AWARD:

Ella Towell

THUNDER BAY SOCIETY OF BALLET AND DANCE ALL- AROUND JUNIOR DANCE AWARD:

Audrey Harrison

ALL-ROUND SENIOR DANCE AWARD RUNNER-UPS:

Leah Boczek, Katie Tofinetti, Mya Sousa, Georgia Axent, Juliana Santin, Addison Kaukinen

ALL-ROUND JUNIOR DANCE AWARD RUNNER-UPS:

Lainey Maunu, Brooklyn Dykstra, Belle Bobrowich, Emily Taylor, Stella Hodder, Emma Papa

~ SENIOR SOLO ~

POINTE: 1st place – Addison Kaukinen <> **2nd place** – Kailin Walter

DEMI-POINTE: 1st place – Mya Sousa <> **2nd place** – Kailin Walter

JAZZ: 1st place – Leah Boczek <> **2nd place** – Georgia Axent

TAP: 1st place – Mya Sousa <> **2nd place** – Alaina Jason

CHARACTER: 1st place – No Competitor <> **2nd place** – No Competitor

LYRICAL JAZZ: 1st place – Georgia Axent <>; **2nd place** – Ella Towell

CONTEMPORARY: 1st place – Katie Tofinetti <>; **2nd place** – Ella Towell

ACRO: 1st place – Addison Kaukinen <> **2nd place** – Jayla Lathem

HIP HOP/FUNK: 1st place – Grace Papa <> **2nd place** – Milania Figliomeni

OPEN: 1st place – Leah Boczek & Katie Tofinetti <> **2nd place** – Alex McKay

NATIONAL: 1st place – Evangeline Sawchuk <> **2nd place** – Graziella Aegard

MUSICAL THEATRE: 1st place – Maya Clausen <> **2nd place** – Rebecca Hansen

~ JUNIOR SOLO ~

POINTE: *1st place* – No Competitor <> *2nd place* – No Competitor
DEMI-POINTE: *1st place* – Ramarah Kavalchuk <> *2nd place* – Emma Papa
JAZZ: *1st place* – Audrey Harrison <> *2nd place* – Emily Taylor
TAP: *1st place* – Lainey Maunu <> *2nd place* – Stella Hodder
CHARACTER: *1st place* – Eilyn Spooner <> *2nd place* – Emilia Noyes
LYRICAL JAZZ: *1st place* – Lainey Maunu <> *2nd place* – Adara Cassie
CONTEMPORARY: *1st place* – Audrey Harrison <> *2nd place* – Tatum Niskala
ACRO: *1st place* – Brooklyn Dykstra <> *2nd place* – Belle Bobrowich
HIP HOP/FUNK: *1st place* – Locklyn Guerard-Davis <> *2nd place* – Lydia Facca
OPEN: *1st place* – Brooklyn Dykstra <> *2nd place* – Caleb Miller
NATIONAL: *1st place* – Arden MacLeod <> *2nd place* – Competitor Not Eligible
MUSICAL THEATRE: *1st place* – Alia Minnella <> *2nd place* – Olivia Stover

~ 19 & OLDER SOLO SCHOLARSHIP ~

1st place – Avery Marshall, Jazz
2nd place – Darrah Beebe, Tap

~ 6 & UNDER SOLO SCHOLARSHIP ~

1st place – Emmaline Spry, Jazz
2nd place – Competitor Not Eligible

~ SENIOR DUET/TRIO ~

1st place – Addison Kaukinen (Not Eligible), Katie Tofinetti (Not Eligible) & Noelle Milani,
Open Trio, 18 & Under
2nd place – Ayla Busch & Ella Towell (Not Eligible), Open Duet, 14 & Under

~ JUNIOR DUET/TRIO ~

1st place – Emily Taylor & Emma Papa, Acro Duet, 12 & Under
2nd place – Brooklyn Dykstra (Not Eligible), Hannah Welsh, Contemporary Duet,
10 & Under

Definitions: “Competitor Not Eligible” = Competitor exceeded scholarship limit. “No Competitor” = No participants in this category.

OUTSTANDING JUNIOR SMALL GROUP:

Art in Motion, Entry #609, "Tribe", Jazz Small Group 12 & Under

OUTSTANDING SENIOR SMALL GROUP:

Fay Gleeson Dance Centre, Entry #603, "Don't Talk", Acro Small Group 16 & Under

OUTSTANDING JUNIOR LARGE GROUP:

Art in Motion, Entry #506, "Baby I'm A Star", Acro Large Group 10 & Under (TIE)

Art in Motion, Entry #588, "Safety Dance", Tap Large Group 12 & Under (TIE)

OUTSTANDING SENIOR LARGE GROUP:

Art in Motion, Entry #159 "Babylon", Acro Large Group 14 & Under

OUTSTANDING SENIOR LINE:

Fay Gleeson Dance Centre, Entry #73, "Jet Set", Musical Theatre Line 16 & Under

OUTSTANDING PRODUCTION:

International Dance Academy, Entry #349, "Elvis", Open Production 16 & Under

"THANK YOU"

to the dancers for sharing your talents with everyone;

to the teachers for your dedication to the art of dance;

to the parents for encouraging your children to reach for the stars;

to the Auditorium staff for their patience and assistance;

and last but not least,

to each of the many volunteers for all your hard work!

It is everyone working together that makes this event a success each year!

"CONGRATULATIONS"

to all participants on your achievements!

~ THERE IS POWER IN KINDNESS ~ unknown

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2026 Dance Awards & Scholarships

AWARDS:

FORT WILLIAM ROTARY CLUB SENIOR BALLETT CUP: Addison Kaukinen

FORT WILLIAM ROTARY CLUB JUNIOR BALLETT CUP: Audrey Harrison

GOLD CUP: Lainey Excell ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre

OUTSTANDING CHOREOGRAPHY AWARD:

Lauren Kopanski: Entry#339 ~ "Smoke on the Water" ~ Art In Motion ~ Large Group

SCHOLARSHIPS:

SYLVIA HORN YOUNG SCHOLARSHIP:

Mya Sousa ~ Art In Motion

DEBORAH DELVECCHIO BALLETT SCHOLARSHIP:

Fiona Mellis ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre

FAY GLEESON DANCE CENTRE SCHOLARSHIP:

Naomi Beyek ~ Spirit of Dance

Kadence Sheppard ~ Dance Dynamics Studio

FAY GLEESON DANCE CENTRE PERFORMING COMPANY FOR EXCELLENCE IN TAP SCHOLARSHIP:

Entry #302 ~ "CAN'T TOUCH THIS" ~ Julianna Santin ~ Art In Motion

ARMAND "CHRIS" KAMPELA MEMORIAL TAP SCHOLARSHIP:

Alaina Jason ~ Dance Dynamics Studio

STANDOUT TECHNIQUE SCHOLARSHIP:

Leah Boczek

LEAD WITH KINDNESS SCHOLARSHIP:

Addison Kaukinen ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre

Millie Marie Boban ~ Spirit of Dance

ART IN MOTION ~ ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP:

Katie Tofinetti

DANCE DYNAMICS TOP JUNIOR AWARD:

Emily Taylor

Entry #569, "Jet Setter", Acro Large Group 12 & Under — Mark: 93.70; Entry #577, "Spice", Open Small Group 12 & Under — Mark: 93.27; Entry #588, "Safety Dance", Tap Large Group 12 & Under — Mark: 94.37; Entry #609, "Tribe", Jazz 12 & Under — Mark: 93.93; Entry #76, "Big Time", Jazz Solo 12 & Under — Mark: 93.80; Entry #600, "Feeling Gorgeous", Acro Duet 12 & Under — Mark: 94.17

DANCE DYNAMICS TOP SENIOR AWARD:

Leah Boczek

Entry #141, "It's Been A Year", Lyrical Jazz Small Group 14 & Under — Mark: 94.37; Entry #159, "Babylon" Acro Large Group 14 & Under — Mark: 96.07; Entry #339, "Smoke On The Water" Contemporary Large Group 16 & Under — Mark: 95.33; Entry #625, "Lucid Dreaming" Jazz Large Group 16 & Under — Mark 95.4; Entry #176, "Fame" Jazz Solo 16 & Under — Mark: 95.7; Entry #502, "The Summer Is Gone" Open Solo 16 & Under — Mark: 95.87

ETHEL MARKALL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Entry #606 "Praying" ~ Dance Dynamics Studio ~ Large Group ~ Mark: 96.2

Entry #584 "Bring on the Men" ~ Avery Marchall ~ Art In Motion ~ Mark: 96.2

WE SEE SOMETHING IN YOU:

Sage Ogunberu ~ Art In Motion

SANDRA BUFFONE MEMORIAL TAP SCHOLARSHIP:

Entry #375 "Independent Woman", Darrah Beebe – Dance Dynamics Studio

JUNIOR LYRICAL JAZZ SCHOLARSHIP:

Lainey Maunu: Entry #492 ~ "Fake Plastic Trees" ~ Art In Motion

SENIOR LYRICAL JAZZ SCHOLARSHIP:

Carter Pilot: Entry #395 ~ "Ode to a Love Lost" ~ Ignite Dance Academy

SENIOR TAP GROUP:

Entry #197 ~ "Abracadabra" ~ Art In Motion ~ Large Group ~ 16 & Under

MOST PASSIONATE GROUP:

Entry #606 ~ "Praying" ~ Lyrical Jazz ~ Dance Dynamics Studio ~ Large Group ~ 19 & Over

GROUP WITH THE BEST STAGE PRESENCE:

Entry #121 ~ Dive in the Pool ~ Art in Motion ~ Large Group

EVA SACCETTI MEMORIAL NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Entry: #229 ~ Tarantella ~ Beth Deprophetis ~ Le Stelle Alpine

HEATHER APPELL MEMORIAL STAND-OUT DANCER SCHOLARSHIP:

Georgia Axent ~ Art In Motion

HEATHER APPELL MEMORIAL STAND-OUT GROUP SCHOLARSHIP:

Entry #605 "Android Uprising" ~ Art In Motion ~ Large Group ~ 14&Under

DANCE TEAM SCHOLARSHIP

#503 "Burning Up" ~ Thunderwolves Dance Pak

EXCELLENCE IN VISUAL IMPACT:

#339 ~ Smoke on the Water ~ Art in Motion ~ Large Group

BEST OVERALL PERFORMANCE NON-COMPETITIVE: (PLAQUE)

#094 Bright Lights, Bigger City - Mayla Moulson - Connections Dance School

TOP GENRE AWARDS:

JUNIOR

DEMI-POINTE ~ #126 ~ International Dance Academy ~ Brushstrokes in Motion ~ 92.73

TAP ~ #588 ~ Art In Motion ~ Safety Dance ~ 94.37

JAZZ ~ #83 ~ Art In Motion ~ Big Noise ~ 94.47

ACRO ~ #278 ~ Art In Motion ~ River Deep ~ 95.43

OPEN ~ #468 ~ Art In Motion ~ The Witching ~ 94.5

LYRICAL ~ #492 ~ Art In Motion ~ Fake Plastic Trees ~ 94.33

CONTEMPORARY ~ #450 ~ Art In Motion ~ Red Handed ~ 93.9

MUSICAL THEATRE ~ #154 ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre ~ Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat ~ 93.13

CHARACTER ~ #47 ~ International Dance Academy ~ Little Red Riding Hood ~ 90.63

HIP HOP ~ #85 ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre ~ Gas it Up ~ 92.77

SENIOR

DEMI-POINTE ~ #572 ~ Art In Motion ~ Crosswords ~ 94.43

POINTE ~ #39 ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre ~ Raymonda Variation ~ 92.87

AND

#40 ~ Art In Motion ~ The Red Queen ~ 92.87

TAP ~ #408 ~ Art In Motion ~ Hallelujah ~ 95.18

JAZZ ~ #176 ~ Art In Motion ~ Fame ~ 95.7

ACRO ~ #159 ~ Art In Motion ~ Babylon ~ 96.07

OPEN ~ #316 ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre ~ System Override ~ 95.87

AND

#502 ~ Art In Motion ~ The Summer is Gone ~ 95.87

LYRICAL ~ #621 ~ Art In Motion ~ Ashes ~ 95.6

CONTEMPORARY ~ #521 ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre ~ I'll Leave You Words ~ 95.53

MUSICAL THEATRE ~ #73 ~ Fay Gleeson Dance Centre ~ Jet Set ~ 94.6

HIP HOP ~ #139 ~ Dance Dynamics Studio ~ The Search ~ 94.53

SHARED

NATIONAL JR/SR ~ #220 ~ Pedro ~ Le Stelle Alpine ~ 90.13