

OFFICIAL RULES

HEARD MUSEUM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HOOP DANCE CONTEST

Revised: October 2021

Heard Museum
Phoenix, Arizona

NO PURCHASE IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. THIS CONTEST IS NOT OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. TO ENTER OR WIN, YOU MUST BE AN ELIGIBLE ENTRANT (EACH AS DEFINED BELOW).

The annual World Championship Hoop Dance Contest (“Contest”) is recognized as the premier competition for the art of Hoop Dance throughout North America. In 2022, the Contest will take place at the Heard Museum (“Museum”) on Saturday, February 12, 2022 and Sunday, February 13, 2022. These Official Rules have been developed with the input of North America’s leading experts on Hoop Dance to ensure a fair and competitive event and will be posted on the event website at www.heard.org/hoop.

Participation in this Contest constitutes Eligible Entrant's full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of these Official Rules and the decisions of the Heard Museum, 2301 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004 (“Sponsor” or “Heard Museum”), which are final and binding in all aspects of this Contest. These Official Rules must be adhered to in order to be eligible to participate and win cash awards.

I. THE CONTEST EVENT

Eligible Entrants will be required to appear at the Heard Museum on Saturday, February 12, 2022 and Sunday, February 13, 2022, in accordance with the rules outlined in Section VI, in order to enter the Contest. The 2022 Contest will take place at the Heard Museum on Saturday, February 12 and Sunday, February 13, 2022. The Contest will be an in-person event, with an audience in attendance. The Museum may also present the Contest via online channels, which could include Facebook and YouTube.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top scoring competitors in each age division as outlined in Section III: Youth, Teen, Adult and Senior. Tiny Tots entrants will each receive an even share of a \$250 cash award. Tiny Tots will not be judged competitively.

Online registration will be available on the event website at (the “Contest Website”) starting at 12:01am Mountain Standard Time (“MST”) on November 1, 2021 and ending at 11:59pm on February 4, 2022. Sponsor’s computer shall be the official time-keeping device for the Contest. In-person registration will begin at 7:30 am MST on Saturday, February 12, 2022 and end at 8:45 am on Saturday February 12, 2022. **No registrations will be accepted after 9:00 am MST on Saturday, February 12, 2022.**

Eligible Entrants are encouraged to register online on the Contest Website in advance of the competition in order to expedite the registration process. Eligible Entrants who have registered online may pick up their dancer packets during on-site registration. All Eligible Entrants must complete all required fields of the Registration Form in order to be eligible to enter the Contest. This includes providing verification of Tribal enrollment (see Section VI for details on eligibility).

Registration Forms for Eligible Entrants who are under thirteen (13) years old MUST be completed and submitted by a parent or guardian. Once submitted, Heard Museum staff will verify by phone or email (using the phone number and/or email address provided on the Registration Form) that the Eligible Entrant’s registration was completed and submitted by the Eligible Entrant’s parent or guardian. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the Registration Form being rejected.

Registration Forms for Eligible Entrants who are between thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) years of age (or the age of majority in their jurisdiction, whichever is higher) MUST also be countersigned by such Eligible Entrant's parent or guardian to verify the parent's or guardian's consent. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the Registration Form being rejected.

Within three (3) business days of completing the online Registration Form, Eligible Entrant will receive an email confirming verification of Eligible Entrant's eligibility or requests for further information or clarification if necessary. Eligible Entrants registering for the Contest on-site on Saturday, February 12, 2022 will be confirmed on the day of the Contest upon provision of all registration requirements and documentation.

II. ORDER OF EVENTS

There will be a meeting of Eligible Entrants, judges, and staff from approximately 8:45 am MST – 9:15 am MST on Saturday, February 12, 2022 before Grand Entry. Rules will be reviewed and questions regarding the Contest are welcomed during the meeting. **ALL ELIGIBLE ENTRANTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING!** Lineup for Grand Entry will begin immediately following the meeting.

Any grievances must be addressed at this meeting. After the meeting, any complaints must be registered with a \$100 fee in order to be considered. Complaints must be filed with the Arena Director who will consult with judges and staff when a complaint is filed. Any Eligible Entrant who violates these Official Rules will be immediately disqualified from the Contest.

Grand Entry for the Contest begins promptly at 9:30 am MST on both days of the Contest. Competition begins immediately following Grand Entry. Eligible Entrants must participate in Grand Entry on each day of the Contest in order to participate. Participation will be verified by Eligible Entrant numbers, which are provided in the registration package.

Following Grand Entry on Saturday, elimination rounds will begin for Youth, Teen, Adult, and Senior Division Eligible Entrants. **All Eligible Entrants will be called in random order regardless of registration order.**

The order and timing of competition rounds may vary based on event circumstances or as judges deem necessary and appropriate. The expected order of competition is as follows:

Day 1 – Saturday: First Rounds, All Divisions

Tiny Tots Division (0-5 years): All Eligible Entrants dance simultaneously. Awards given at end of round.

Youth Division (6-12 years): All Eligible Entrants will dance in groups of two or more. 5 minute limit.

Teen Division (13-17 years): All Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 5 minute limit.

Adult Division (18-39 years): All Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 7 minute limit.

Senior Division (40+ years): All Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 7 minute limit.

Day 2 – Sunday: Second and Final Rounds, All Divisions

Youth Division (6-12 years): 2nd & Final Rounds. Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 5 minute limit.

Teen Division (13-17 years): 2nd & Final Rounds. Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 5 minute limit.

Senior Division (40+ years): 2nd & Final Rounds. Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 7 minute limit.

Adult Division (18-39 years): 2nd & Final Rounds. Eligible Entrants will dance individually. 7 minute limit.

Depending on the number of Eligible Entrants or other relevant factors, judges have the discretion to determine that a Second Round in any division may not be required.

The rankings and winners of Final Rounds will be announced at an award ceremony following the completion of the competition for all divisions. Eligible Entrants whose ranking qualifies them for a cash award may pick up their prize in the Heard Museum's Dorrance Education Building following the award ceremony.

III. COMPETITION PROCESS & SCORING

Five judges evaluate the Eligible Entrants during the competition. Each judge is required to provide a score for each of five judging categories (see section IV, "Judging Criteria"). Within each of the five categories, scoring will be based on a ten point scoring system. **One** is the lowest score given and **Ten** is the highest possible score that can be awarded by a judge in a particular category. The maximum possible score from each judge is 50, and the total maximum possible combined score from all five judges is 250.

Round 1 – 250 possible points

Tiny Tot Division – Open category – no scores awarded

Youth Division – The top **six** Eligible Entrants advance to Round 2

Teen Division – The top **six** Eligible Entrants advance to Round 2

Adult Division – The top **ten** Eligible Entrants advance to Round 2

Senior Division – The top **six** Eligible Entrants advance to Round 2

Round 2 – 250 possible points

ALL FINALISTS BEGIN WITH A CLEAN SCORE CARD. Points will not be carried over from Round 1.

Youth Division – The top **three** Eligible Entrants advance to Final Round

Teen Division - The top **three** Eligible Entrants advance to Final Round

Adult Division - The top **six** Eligible Entrants advance to Final Round

Senior Division - The top **three** Eligible Entrants advance to Final Round

Final Round – Championship Round – 250 possible points

AGAIN, ALL FINALISTS BEGIN WITH A CLEAN SCORE CARD. Points will not be carried over from Rounds 1 or 2. Final rankings will be determined during this final round of competition.

Youth Division – The top **three** finalists will compete to determine final rankings

Teen Division – The top **three** finalists will compete to determine final rankings

Senior Division – The top **three** finalists will compete to determine final rankings

Adult Division - The top **six** finalists will compete to determine final rankings

Songs for Eligible Entrants will rotate between the Northern and Southern drums for the first two rounds. You may select either the Northern or Southern drum in the final round or Eligible Entrants can elect to provide their own singer.

Points and Score Sheets

The Score Sheets for each round represent the total tallies of the judges' scores for each division and are considered public information. Each Eligible Entrant may view his or her score after each round. Eligible Entrants are not allowed to view individual judges score sheets.

Ties and Tiebreakers

Tied scores in Rounds 1 and 2 do not need to be broken, unless the tiebreaker would determine which of the tied Eligible Entrants would advance to the next round. When tied scores must be broken to determine which Eligible Entrant will advance, the lowest judge's score will be dropped and the scores will be recalculated. The Eligible Entrant with the highest aggregate score based on the four highest scores will be considered the winner of the tie-breaker. Should the scores remain tied after dropping the lowest score, the judges will convene and select the winner of the tie-breaker via secret ballot – each judge will vote for one Eligible Entrant.

In the event of tied scores during the Final Round of competition, the tie must be broken to determine the final rankings. The tie will be broken using the same method described above, except when a tie is between 1st and 2nd place. Should the top-placing Eligible Entrants in any division during the Final Round receive tied scores, the winner will be determined by Dance Off. In a Dance Off, the tied Eligible Entrants will perform again and the judges' scores from the Dance Off will determine the final rankings.

Cash Prizes

Cash prizes for this Contest will be awarded in the following amount in each competitive division:

Youth Division

1 st Place:	\$600
2 nd Place:	\$400
3 rd Place:	\$250

Teen Division

1 st Place:	\$1,000
2 nd Place:	\$700
3 rd Place:	\$300

Senior Division

1 st Place:	\$3,000
2 nd Place:	\$2,000
3 rd Place:	\$1,000

Adult Division

1 st Place:	\$5,000
2 nd Place:	\$3,500
3 rd Place:	\$2,500
4 th Place:	\$2,000
5 th Place:	\$1,500
6 th Place:	\$1,000

IV. JUDGING CRITERIA

It is important for all Eligible Entrants to remember that the annual World Championship Hoop Dance Contest is a celebration of talent and tradition. The Contest's judges hope that Eligible Entrants will consider their routines from this perspective. Eligible Entrants are encouraged to give careful thought – in attire, personal style, and performance – to the traditions and values represented by this important event. Incorporating contemporary movements that are often “crowd pleasers” (such as moonwalking or motioning to the crowd for applause) are not prohibited, however, they are discouraged. Incorporating non-traditional styles and movements will not add point value to any routine. Judging criteria is based on specific, tradition-based movements, and Eligible Entrants should pay close attention to the five categories below.

Following are the five categories from which Eligible Entrants will be evaluated:

1. Precision:

- a) Each Eligible Entrant must pass through each hoop they bring into the arena at least one time.
- b) Hoops should not unintentionally fall to the ground.
- c) Once a design is complete, it should not fall apart.
- d) Eligible Entrants must catch hoops when they are thrown in the air or spun.

2. Timing/Rhythm:

- a) This is a Hoop “Dancing” Contest. Feet should continuously keep time to the drum.
- b) Eligible Entrant's movement is essential.
- c) Bells, tinklers or deer hooves help the judges assess your rhythm and, therefore, are required.
- d) Transitions between movements should be smooth.

3. Showmanship:

- a) Presentation should be directed to audience.
- b) Degree of difficulty will be taken into account.
- c) If routine is finished and music continues, Eligible Entrants should dance to the end of song.

4. *Creativeness/Originality:*

- a) Points accumulate with more designs.
- b) Points accumulate with designs originated by an Eligible Entrants and not previously presented.

5. *Speed:*

- a) This category is related directly to rapid drum and dance coordination.

Eligible Entrants will be penalized for going over the time limit. There is NO penalty for going under the time limit.

A large time clock will be visible in the arena.

The judges' decision will be final! Good sportsmanship is expected and appreciated.

V. ELIGIBLE ENTRANTS

Proof of Tribal enrollment is required each year to compete in this Contest.

The Contest is open only to individual entrants who are legal residents of, and physically located within, the United States or Canada, and who is a verified member of a recognized Native community that is located in the United States or Canada (each, an "Eligible Entrant"). Directors, officers, and employees of Sponsor or its affiliates, or any other party associated with the development or administration of this Contest, including the immediate family and persons residing in the same household as such individuals, are not eligible to participate in the Contest.

All Eligible Entrants must provide proof of enrollment with a recognized Native community at the time of submission of Eligible Entrant's Registration Form. If a certified Tribal enrollment number or reserve card is not available, a letter confirming Eligible Entrant's affiliation with a recognized Tribe will be accepted. This letter must be on Tribal letterhead and signed by an acknowledged Tribal leader. This is required for all Eligible Entrants, whether or not Eligible Entrant has participated in previous Sponsor Hoop Dance Contests.

Any Eligible Entrant who is below the age of 18 (or the higher age of majority in Eligible Entrant's jurisdiction) must have the consent of the Eligible Entrant's parent or legal guardian to submit a Registration Form in this Contest (including the submission of any personal information). By registering for this Contest, any Eligible Entrant who is below the age of 18 (or the higher age of majority in Eligible Entrant's jurisdiction) affirms that they have the required parental or guardian consent.

All Eligible Entrants must bring proof of enrollment at the time of check-in or pre-registration packet pick-up on Saturday, February 12, 2022.

VI. GENERAL RULES

- All Eligible Entrants must participate in Grand Entry on Saturday and Sunday of this Contest. Eligible Entrant numbers will be checked against the registration list to ensure participation.
- Eligible Entrants will NOT be allowed to preset hoop formations or designs before routine begins – this means you cannot preset hoop formations or designs of any kind before you begin your routine. You must have all the hoops you will be using in the arena when you start your routine.
- No taped or mechanical props will be allowed – this means you will not be able to tape your hoops together in any way, shape, or form. You will not be allowed to use streamers, balls, clamps, etc. You will be required to dance using ONLY the hoops you bring into your immediate dance area.

- No eagle whistles – this means you will not be allowed to “blow a whistle” before, during or after your routine. The use of the eagle whistle is considered very sacred to many Native communities and it is the opinion of the judges that the Contest is not an appropriate place to “blow a whistle.”
- No religious prayer – this means you cannot include prayer before, during, or after your dance routine. It is the opinion of the judges that any prayer, ceremony or ritual may not be performed during your routine.
- During the Contest, each Eligible Entrant’s number will be called three times. If you are not in the arena after the third call you will be disqualified. There will be NO exceptions.
- No drugs or alcohol – this means any Eligible Entrant using drugs of alcohol to “enhance” their performance will be immediately removed from the competition and from the grounds of the Heard Museum. Any violation of the above rules will disqualify you from the entire Contest.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

Odds. The odds of winning the Contest will depend on the number of eligible entries received and the Contest winners will be selected based on skills, not at random.

Publicity. By entering the Contest, each Eligible Entrant agrees that the Sponsor (or a party acting on its behalf), may capture photographs, video content, and audio content which includes Eligible Entrant’s name, image, likeness, voice, actions, or other identifying characteristics (collectively, “Content”) as part of the Contest, and each Eligible Entrant agrees that the Sponsor (or a party on its behalf) shall have the right, but not the obligation, to edit, remove, modify, publish, license, print, transmit, display or otherwise use such Content, via all forms of media now known or hereafter devised worldwide, in perpetuity, without notice, attribution or compensation to Eligible Entrant, his/her successors or assigns, or any other entity, except where prohibited by law. Eligible Entrant waives any retained rights of attribution, privacy, publicity, withdrawal, integrity or other moral or personal rights in the entry and other related materials. All entries and other submitted materials become the property of the Sponsor and will not be returned to any Eligible Entrant. If Sponsor requests the Eligible Entrant’s cooperation in promoting the Contest, the Eligible Entrant agrees to reasonably be available for such promotional activities. By accepting any cash prize, each winner consents to the use of his/her name and all accompanying personally identifiable information winner submits, via all forms of media now known or hereafter devised worldwide, in perpetuity, without notice, attribution or compensation (other than the cash prize described herein) to winner, his/her/its successors or assigns, or any other entity, except where prohibited by law.

Privacy. By participating in the Contest, each Eligible Entrant (or if Eligible Entrant is a minor, by Eligible Entrant’s parent or guardian) authorizes the Sponsor to collect, use, process, transfer and store all data provided by Eligible Entrant (or if Eligible Entrant is a minor, by Eligible Entrant’s parent or guardian), including without limitation, personal data, to the United States, Canada, or any location(s) throughout the world that the Sponsor deems necessary, whether within Eligible Entrant’s country of residence or elsewhere, and with such party(ies) as the Sponsor deems appropriate, solely for purposes of administration of the Contest. All information submitted to the Sponsor as part of this Contest will be treated in accordance with the Sponsor’s privacy policy, available at: <https://heard.org/privacy-policy/>.

Release and Limitations on Liability. By participating in the Contest, each Eligible Entrant agrees, to the extent permitted by law, to release and hold harmless Sponsor, Facebook, YouTube, and their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, sales representatives, distributors, licensees, agents, advertising and Contest agencies, and all directors, officers and employees of any of the foregoing entities (collectively, the “Released Parties”) from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the Contest, or receipt or use of any prize, including, but not limited to: (a) unauthorized human intervention in the Contest; (b) technical errors related to computers, servers, providers, or telephone or network lines; (c) printing errors; (d) lost, late, misdirected,

incorrect, garbled, or incompletely received entries; (e) errors in the administration of the Contest or the processing of entries; (f) injury or damage to persons or property which may be caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, from Eligible Entrant's participation in the Contest or acceptance, receipt, use, or misuse of any prize; or travel to any Contest-related events; and (g) any claims based on publicity rights, copyright/trademark infringement, intellectual property rights, defamation or invasion of privacy and merchandise delivery. In the event that Eligible Entrant breaches any of these Official Rules, Released Parties shall be entitled to and may seek indemnification, to the extent permitted by law, from Eligible Entrant for recovery of all legal fees, damages, costs, claims and other expenses that may be incurred by Released Parties as a result of the aforementioned breach. Eligible Entrant further agree to release the Released Parties and their designees and assigns from any liability whatsoever, and waive any and all causes of action, for any claims, costs, injuries, losses and damages of any kind arising out of or in connection with the Contest or acceptance, possession, or use of any prize (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees, claims, costs, personal injuries, losses and damages related to personal injuries, death, damage to or destruction of property, rights of publicity or privacy, defamation or portrayal in a false light, whether intentional or unintentional), whether under a theory of contract, civil liability, tort (including negligence), warranty or other theory. Sponsor is not responsible if any prize cannot be awarded due to travel cancellations, delays or interruptions due to acts of God, acts of war, natural disasters, weather or acts of terrorism.

Miscellaneous. The decisions of Sponsor are final with respect to all aspects of this Contest. The Contest and these Official Rules will be governed, construed and interpreted under the laws of the State of Arizona, without regard to choice of law principles. Except where prohibited, each Eligible Entrant agrees that: (a) any and all disputes, claims and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Contest or any prize awarded shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the applicable state or federal courts situated in Phoenix, Arizona; (b) any and all claims, judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with entering this Contest but in no event attorneys' fees; and (c) under no circumstances will any Eligible Entrant be permitted to obtain awards for punitive, incidental, special, consequential or other damages, including without limitation, lost profits. For purposes of these Official Rules, (a) the words "include," "includes" and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the words "without limitation"; (b) the word "or" is not exclusive; and (c) the words "herein," "hereof," "hereby," "hereto," and "hereunder" refer to these Official Rules as a whole. In the event that the operation, security, or administration of the Contest is impaired in any way for any reason, including, but not limited to fraud, virus, or other technical problems, or any condition caused by events beyond the reasonable control of Sponsor that may cause the Contest to be disrupted or corrupted, Sponsor may, in its sole discretion, either: (a) suspend the Contest to address the impairment and then resume the Contest in a manner that best conforms to the spirit of these Official Rules; or (b) award the cash prize from among the non-suspect, eligible entries received up to the time of the impairment. Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any entrant it finds to be tampering with the entry process, the operation of the Contest, to be acting in violation of these Official Rules or any applicable laws relating to the Contest, or in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner, and to resolve all disputes in its sole discretion. Any attempt by any person to undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest may be a violation of criminal and civil law, and, should such an attempt be made, Sponsor reserves the right to seek damages from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by law. Sponsor's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. In the event of any conflict with any Contest details contained in these Official Rules and Contest details contained in any communications from Sponsor or Contest promotional materials (including, but not limited to, point of sale, television and print advertising, promotional packaging and other promotional media), the details of the Contests as set forth in these Official Rules shall prevail.

Sponsor. The Sponsor of this Contest is Heard Museum, 2301 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004. Eligible Entrants shall not use the trademarks of Sponsor or falsely associate themselves with Sponsor during or after the Contest.