

Catch It!



INSIDE (click on title to jump to page)

SAVE THE DATE: iTwirl21

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO
KNOW ABOUT THE 2021
NATIONALS AND FESTIVAL**

2021 STATE CHAMPIONS

THE TRUE MEANING OF WINNING



United States Twirling Association

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Facebook



CHECK OUT NEWS AND PHOTOS ON
USTA'S FACEBOOK PAGE AND TWITTER
AND INSTAGRAM FEEDS!

SAVE THE DATE!

iTwirl21



Mark your calendars for iTwirl21, an exciting, in-person educational expo for athletes, coaches and parents coming up on **Saturday-Sunday, October 9-10 in White House, Tenn.**

iTwirl21 will feature some of the best instructors, coaches and choreographers from across the country and around the world, teaching classes in rolls, contact material, aerials, multiple batons, stationary and traveling complex material, individual and group choreography, sports psychology, college twirling and more!

Watch your email and USTA's social media for announcements about clinicians and classes coming soon!



NATIONALS 2021



The United States Twirling Association (USTA) is proud to present the 2021 U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships and Festival of the Future, July 6-10 at the Ocean Center in beautiful Daytona Beach, Florida.



We are jumping for joy to be twirling together again, after an unprecedented year of sadness, strife and separation, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please read on for more information about health and safety procedures, schedules, communications and more. In

addition, please make sure you are checking your email and following USTA on social media to get the latest and greatest information, including:

- ▶ Special emails
- ▶ USTA News & Views, a monthly newsletter for all USTA members
- ▶ USTA Inside Loop, a monthly newsletter for USTA Professionals
- ▶ A special U.S. National Championships website, coming soon
- ▶ USTA's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter feeds
- ▶ Special Zoom meetings for coaches and parents
- ▶ And more!

NATIONALS 2021

2021 U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships and Festival of the Future Schedule

The 2021 U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships and Festival of the Future schedule was revised after the cancellation of the IBTF Qualifiers for this year.

USTA's Board of Directors, Director of Operations and national staff members have spent countless hours developing both the original and revised schedules.

In order to protect the health and safety of athletes, coaches, judges, staff and parents, several modifications have been made to the schedule, including:

- ▶ No Foundation events will be offered during Festival of the Future. It was not possible to maintain social distancing for those events.

- ▶ Some National events will be held in the Ocean Center Exhibit Hall instead of the Ocean Center Arena, to allow adequate warm-up and competition space.

2021 U.S. NATIONAL BATON TWIRLING CHAMPIONSHIPS & FESTIVAL OF THE FUTURE

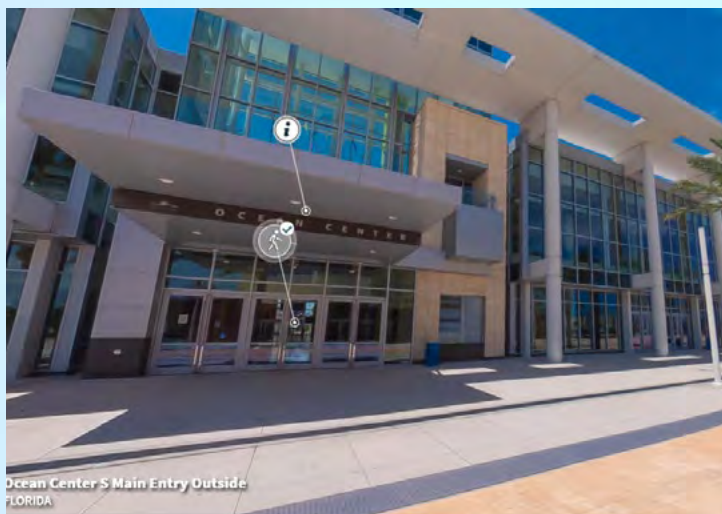
CATEGORY	EVENT	LOCATION
TUESDAY, JULY 6		
PreTrials	<i>Music tests for FS Qualifying Rounds Compulsories, Short Program, FS Qualifying Rounds</i>	Ocean Center Arena Note: Compulsories will be held in Ocean Center Ballroom
WEDNESDAY, JULY 7		
PreTrials	<i>Music tests for Finals; Finals, Awards All Athlete of the Year events</i>	Ocean Center Arena
THURSDAY, JULY 8		
U.S. National Championships	<i>Opening Ceremony, 2-Baton, 3-Baton, Artistic Twirl - Jr., Sr., Adult</i>	Ocean Center Arena
	<i>2-Baton, 3-Baton, Artistic Twirl - Pri., Juv. All Artistic Twirl Pairs - Pri., Juv., Jr., Sr.</i>	Exhibit Hall - Court 1
Festival of the Future	<i>2-Baton, 3-Baton, Artistic Twirl, Artistic Twirl Pairs</i>	Exhibit Hall - Court 2
FRIDAY, JULY 9		
U.S. National Championships	<i>Strut, Solo - Jr., Sr., Adult; Duet - Jr., Sr. Collegiate Event, Finals Show</i>	Ocean Center Arena
	<i>Strut, Solo, Duet - Pri., Juv.</i>	Exhibit Hall - Court 1
Festival of the Future	<i>Strut, Solo, Duet</i>	Exhibit Hall - Court 2
SATURDAY, JULY 10		
U.S. National Championships	<i>Trios, Teams, Corps, Artistic Groups</i>	Ocean Center Arena
Festival of the Future	<i>Trios, Teams</i>	Exhibit Hall - Court 1

NATIONALS 2021

What you need to know about the Ocean Center

PARKING:

- ▶ Parking is available for \$10 per day in two surface lots and one parking garage adjacent to the Ocean Center.



Ocean Center Main Entry from Peabody Street



Ocean Center Main Entry from Earl Street

ENTRANCE AND EXIT:

- ▶ Enter and exit via the concourse doors between the Arena and the Exhibit Hall off of either Peabody Street or Earl Street.
- ▶ NO STROLLERS ARE ALLOWED.

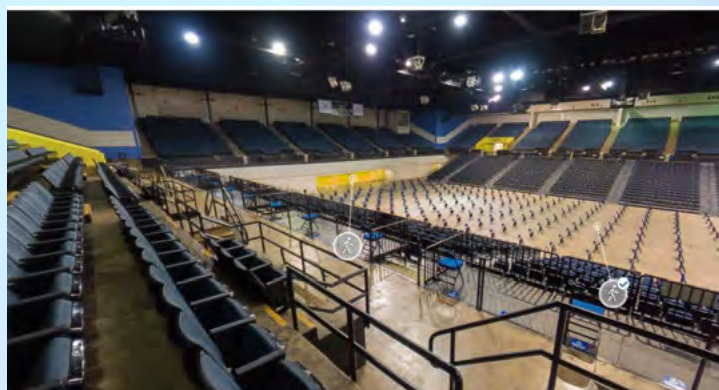


MASKS AND FACE COVERINGS:

- ▶ Per USTA insurance requirements, masks or face coverings must be worn while inside the Ocean Center.
- ▶ Athletes DO NOT have to wear a mask or face covering while competing or warming up on the competition floor or in the practice areas.
- ▶ Athletes must wear a mask or face covering at all other times while in the Ocean Center.

CONCESSIONS:

- ▶ No outside food or beverages are allowed in the building.
- ▶ No food or beverages are allowed in the stands.
- ▶ Concession stands will be open in the lobby/concourse.
- ▶ Food and beverages must be consumed in the dining areas in the lobby/concourse.



Ocean Center Arena Seating

SEATING:

- ▶ No food or beverages are allowed in the stands in the Arena or the Exhibit Hall.
- ▶ Please maintain social distancing while in the Ocean Center Arena, Exhibit Halls or lobby.

NATIONALS 2021

EXHIBIT HALL COURTS 1 AND 2

- ▶ Some National events will be held on Exhibit Hall Court 1 while Festival of the Future events are held on Exhibit Hall Court 2.
- ▶ The Exhibit Hall courts are not wood floors but rather “sport court” floors.
- ▶ The Exhibit Hall ceiling is 32' high.

PRACTICE AREAS:

- ▶ There are practice areas for each competition space: the main Arena, Exhibit Hall Court 1 (National Events) and Exhibit Hall Court 2 (Festival of the Future events).
- ▶ Only athletes competing in the current event are allowed in each practice area, and access to each practice area will be based on set number.

- ▶ Athletes DO NOT have to wear a mask or face covering while competing or warming up on the competition floor or in the practice areas.
- ▶ Only one coach per athlete will be allowed in the practice areas.
- ▶ NO TWIRLING IS ALLOWED IN THE LOBBY, CONCOURSES OR HALLWAYS.



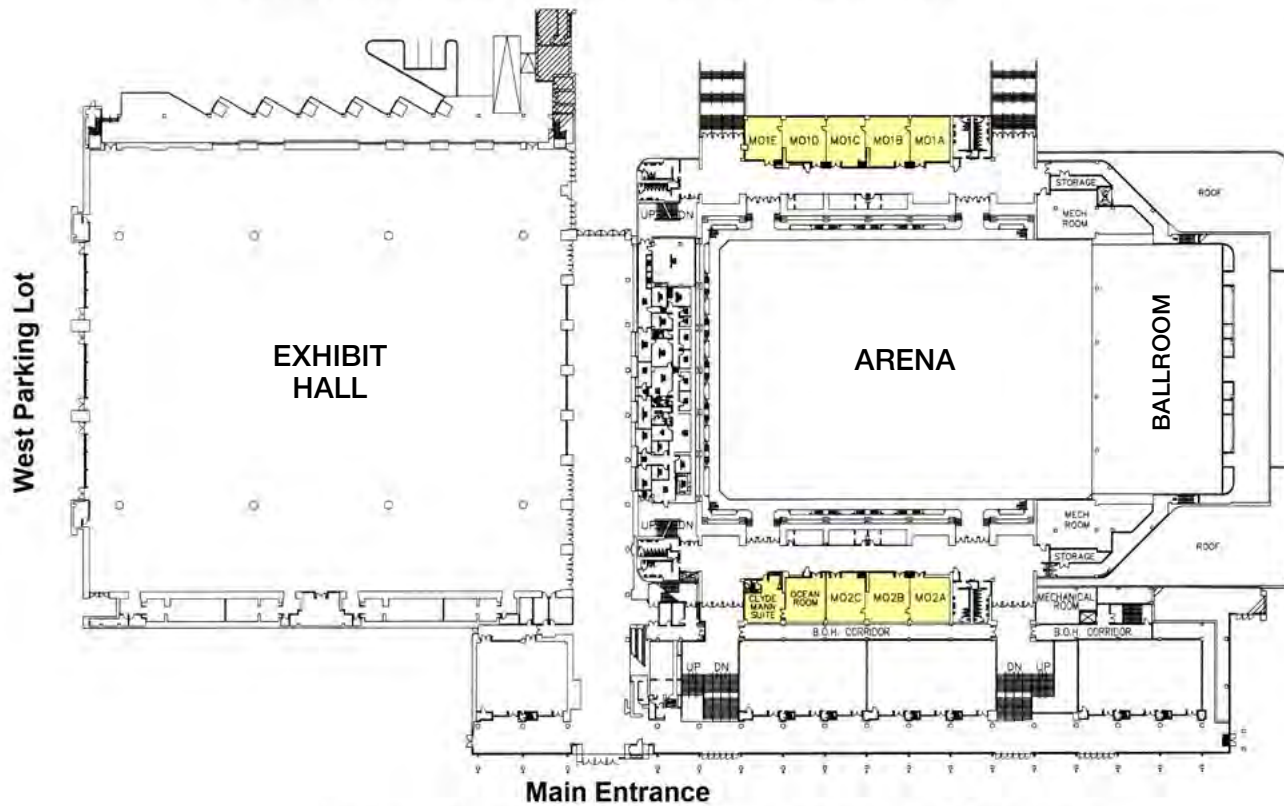
[Take a virtual tour of the Ocean Center here!](#)

OCEAN CENTER

Dayton Lagoon Water Park

Parking Garage

Earl Street side of Ocean Center (North side entrance)



Peabody Street side of Ocean Center (South Side Entrance)

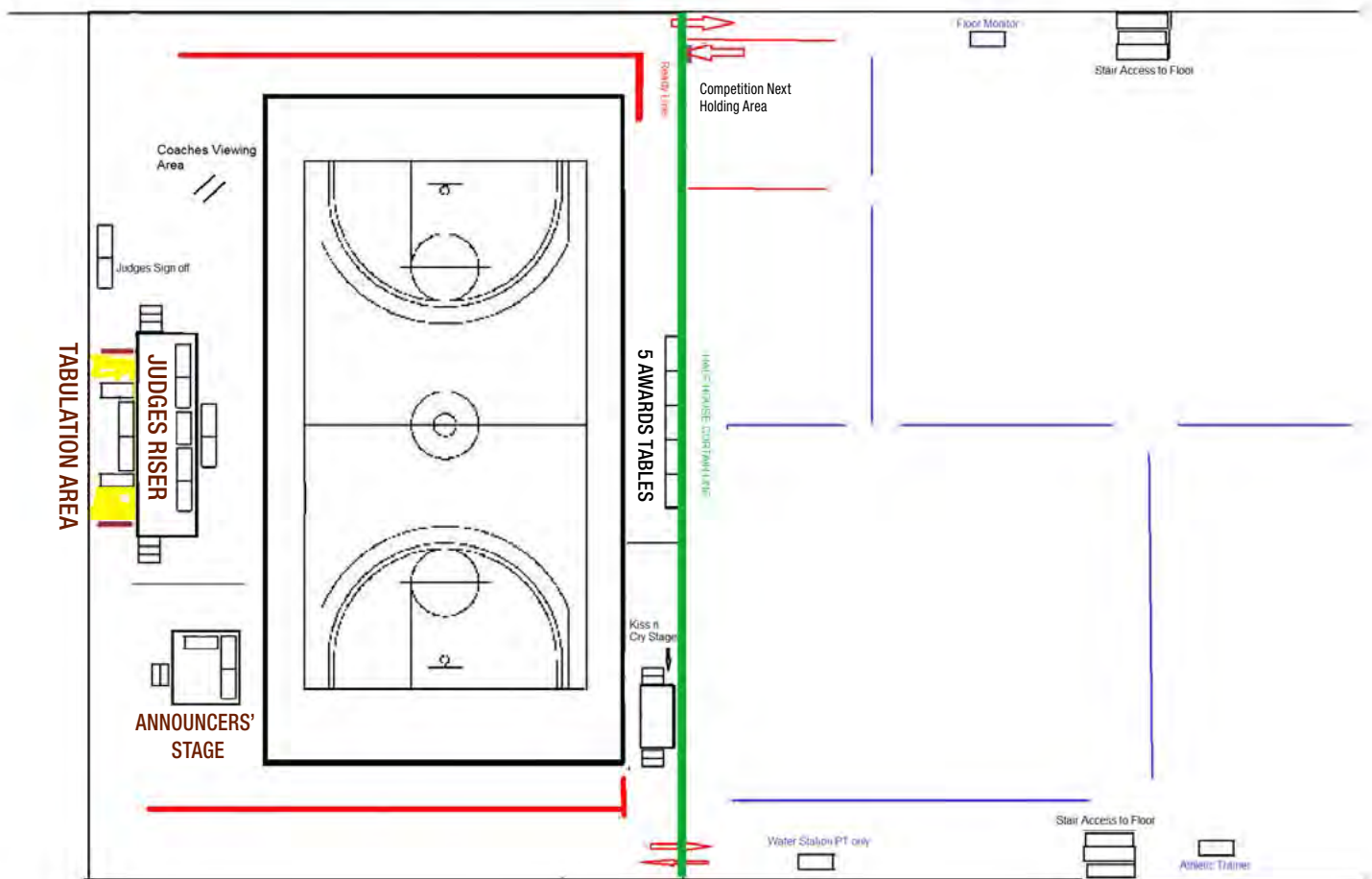
South Parking Lot

PEABODY AUDITORIUM

Atlantic Blvd. side of Ocean center (East side across from Hilton Daytona Beach)

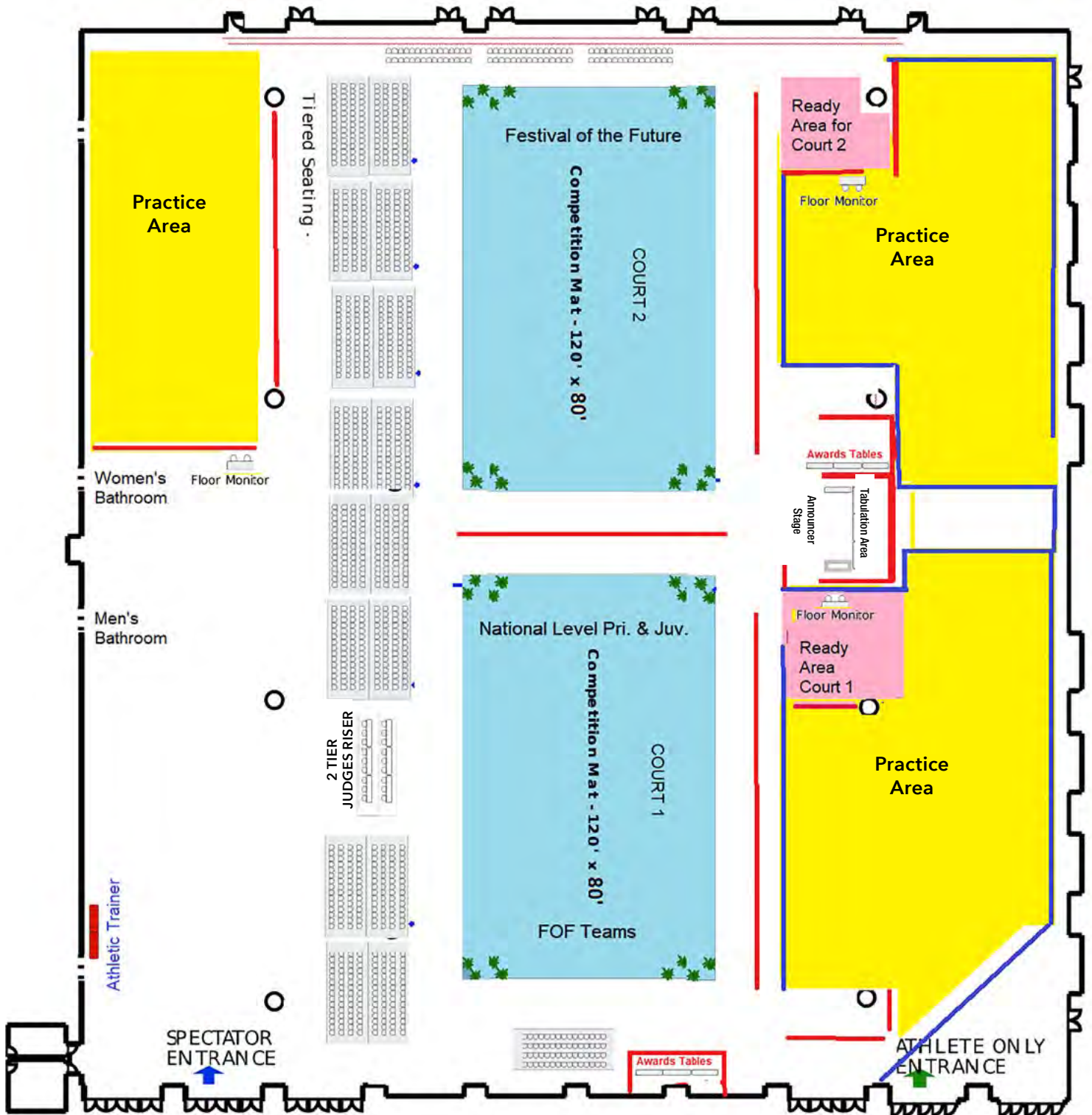
NATIONALS 2021

ARENA



NATIONALS 2021

OCEAN CENTER EXHIBIT HALL



NATIONALS 2021

LEARN THE *UTWIRL* FLASH MOB DANCE!

Put on your *UTwirl* T-shirt and learn the *UTwirl* Flash Mob dance! We'll be performing it several times during Nationals and Festival! It's fun, it's easy and USTA's Corey Kinyon-Cruz and friends do a demonstration and give you step-by-step instructions in this [tutorial video](#)!



BE PART OF THE USTA BENEFACTOR FOUNDATION CASH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The USTA Benefactor Foundation presents cash scholarship awards to athletes at the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships. Based on donations received, cash scholarships are presented to athletes who are competing in the semi-final and final rounds of their individual events and members of eligible first place national groups. Please consider making a donation to support our athletes! Get the Benefactor Foundation donation form [here](#).

The USTA Benefactor Foundation supports the growth and development of USTA and the programs and services it provides to its athletes and other members. Your tax-deductible donation to the Benefactor Foundation provides valuable financial support to USTA, which is 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.



GET YOUR *UTWIRL* T-SHIRT NOW!

We'll be wearing them at Nationals for our Flash Mob Dance! They're \$22, domestic shipping is FREE and you can order them through our *UTwirl* partner Star Line Baton Company. Nationals will be here before you know it, so [order your *UTwirl* T-shirt now!](#)

NATIONALS 2021

COLLEGIATE EVENT IS BIGGEST YET!!

The 2021 Collegiate Event will be the largest in USTA history, with 45 athletes representing 31 universities! What a way to follow-up the craziness of 2020! As a result of the competition being bigger than expected, the Collegiate Event will have TWO ROUNDS this year! Round One will have an A & B Grouping with two different judging panels. The top four athletes from each group will advance to a FINAL ROUND. (That is four athletes from each group.) The eight finalists will compete for the Miller Cup and the title of National Collegiate Twirling Champion! The Collegiate Event Finals will precede the National Individual Event Finals. (All Collegiate Event rounds will be held in the Ocean Center Arena.) Good luck to all of our Collegiate Event competitors!



GROUP A

1. Rachel Benton University of Virginia
3. Wren Williams University of Kentucky
5. Mikayla Schuller Florida State University
7. Sydney Spencer University of Mississippi
9. Kirsandra Welsheimer University of Memphis
11. Leah Mayer University of Colorado, Boulder
13. Kylie Cates Arizona State University
15. Mia Krawczel University of Pittsburgh
17. Mikenzie Juskalian University of Miami
19. Aria Summers University of Kentucky
21. Kasey Rogers East Carolina University
23. Cadence Doms University of Memphis
25. Miranda Proctor University of South Carolina
27. Joanie Coville University of Memphis
29. Penelope Abreu Florida State University
31. Ella Dennis University of Michigan
33. D. Bower Sarra Arizona State University
35. Gina Zarcone University of Massachusetts
37. McKenzie Gomez University of Arkansas
39. Kayli Bull University of Florida
41. Mckenzie Cooke Ole Miss
43. Brianna Tayfel Kansas State University
45. Courtney Detwiler Penn State Altoona

GROUP B

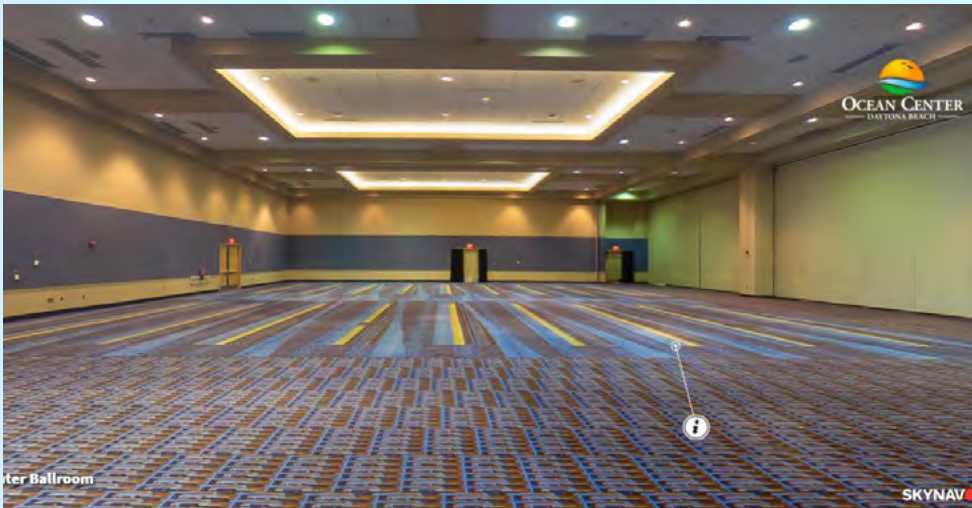
2. Meredith Smith Virginia Tech
4. Anita Ney University of Cincinnati
6. Emily R.C. Cooper West Virginia University
8. Amanda Trujillo University of South Carolina
10. Madelaine Schmidt Northern Arizona University
12. Marissa Pierce Michigan State University
14. Ally Duda University of Georgia
16. Victoria Virostko Florida Atlantic University
18. Laney Puhalla University of Tennessee, Knoxville
20. Aprilynne Gable University of Cincinnati
22. Julia Arciola University of Illinois
24. Amanda Ziehm University at Buffalo
26. Alexa Tamburlin University of Mississippi
28. Caitlyn Sullivan University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
30. Brooklyn Bunish Youngstown State University
32. Josie D'acquisto Baylor University
34. Kaylynn Lambert San Diego State University
36. Katiana Welsheimer University of Memphis
38. Sofia Cano Florida State University
40. JaZee Griffith University of Washington
42. Callyn Marvell University of Hawaii
44. Claudia Swauger North Carolina State University

NATIONALS 2021

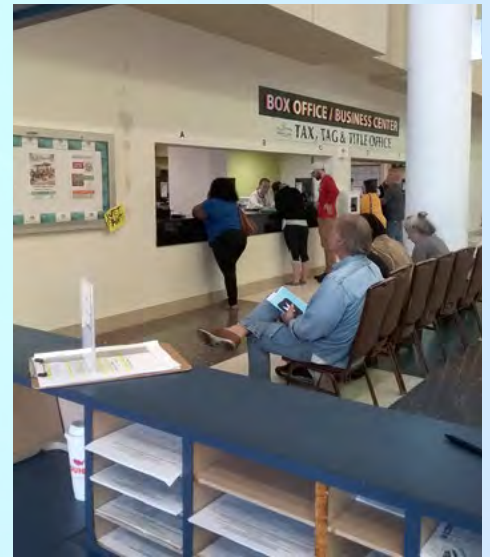
BE A NATIONAL VENDOR, ADVERTISER OR LIVESTREAM SPONSOR!

Put your business front and center at the 2021 U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships! Put your ad in the keepsake National Program Book. Be a national vendor and sell your merchandise to twirlers, parents, coaches, and other twirling fans at the Ocean

Center. Or reach a national and international audience as a livestream sponsor!! Get more information in the *2021 USTA Nationals Vendor Packages info packet* or contact Vendor Coordinator Jennifer Marcus at jennifer@ustwirling.com.



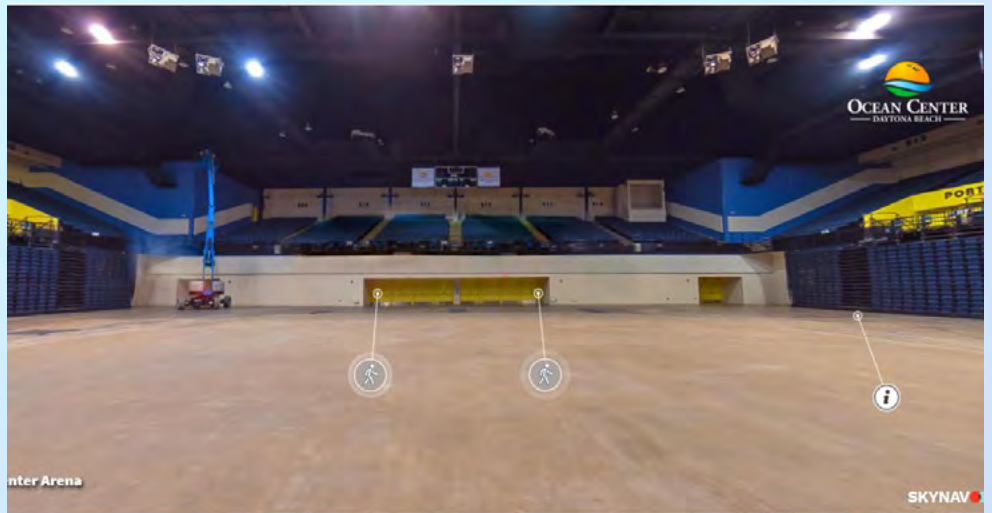
Ocean Center Ballroom where the U.S. PreTrials Compulsories will be held.



Ocean Center Box Office 2 on Concourse for Registration Information



Ocean Center entrance- Main Concourse



Ocean Center Arena

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

USTA needs your help to ensure the smooth-running competition and the comfort and enjoyment of everyone involved in the 2021 U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships and Festival of the Future. Volunteers are needed as lane starters, tabulation runners and monitors for entrances, hallways, dressing rooms, seating areas and practice areas. If you would like to volunteer, please complete the National Volunteer Form.

NATIONAL/FESTIVAL ZOOM MEETINGS

USTA wants to make sure the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships and Festival of the Future are safe, fun and enjoyable for everyone. USTA will hold two Zoom meetings in June – one for coaches and another for parents, athletes and spectators – to help everyone understand the safety policies, schedule, facility layout and more! Be sure to mark your calendars for:

COACHES ZOOM MEETING:

Monday, June 21, 2021

6 p.m. Pacific | 7 p.m. Mountain

8 p.m. Central | 9 p.m. Eastern

Register in advance for the [Coaches Zoom Meeting](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

PARENTS/ATHLETES/SPECTATORS ZOOM MEETING:

Saturday, June 26, 2021

9 a.m. Pacific | 10 a.m. Mountain

11 a.m. Central | 12 noon Eastern

Register in advance for the [Parents, Athletes and Spectators Zoom Meeting](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Staging...just what is it?

Have you ever heard coaches and judges use the term “staging”? Often times, this is where the athlete(s) are positioned on the gym floor (our stage) so that the judges and audience have the best vantage point. Choreographers are very aware of “staging” so as to show off the details of the work to all who are watching.

But did you know the terms we use regarding “staging” are really from the theatre? Yes, it’s true! Take a look at this informative video and get a clear understanding of staging and all the terms that go along with it.

Enjoy!



See the Music, Hear the Dance

I’m often asked, “Who inspires you when it comes to choreography?” Well, I’ve always said that my students that I am setting choreography on always inspire me. They are the “clay” and I can play “sculptor”! But, when it comes to the genius of all geniuses, there is no one even close to the brilliance of George Balanchine, founder of the New York City Ballet. His approach to “speaking through choreography” is unparalleled. His famous quote, “see the music, hear the dance” was a mantra that capsulized his greatness. Line of the body and line of the ensemble was always a component in this man’s brilliance.

[Enjoy this video and learn!](#)



CONGRATULATIONS 2021 STATE CHAMPIONS!



ARIZONA

Julie Fix, Artistic Twirl

Megan Ekstrom, 2-Baton and 3-Baton

Claire Warner, Solo and Strut



COLORADO

Makaela Anderson, Solo and 2-Baton

Byron Anderson, Men's Solo and
3-Baton



INDIANA

Bailey Wyatt, 3-Baton

Ireland Jones, Solo, Artistic Twirl and
2-Baton

Audrey Circle, Strut



CALIFORNIA

Cadence Doods, Solo, 2-Baton and
3-Baton

Josie D'Acquisto, Strut and Artistic Twirl!



FLORIDA

Melyna Vaudrin, 2-Baton and 3-Baton

Ella Earnest, Solo, Strut and Artistic Twirl

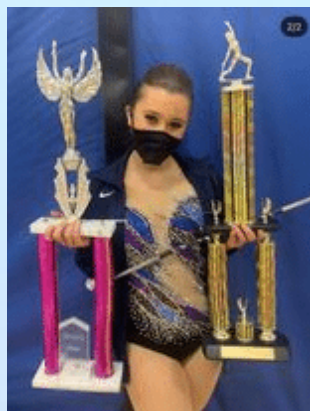


KANSAS

Addy Gurney, Strut

Alexa Leitzel, Artistic Twirl and 2-Baton

Bri Tayfel, Solo and 3-Baton



ILLINOIS

Julia Arciola, Solo, Strut, Artistic Twirl,
2-Baton and 3-Baton

CONGRATULATIONS 2021 STATE CHAMPIONS!



KENTUCKY

Harlie Peterson, Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton

Tara Howard, Strut

Austin Peterson, Men's Solo and Artistic Twirl.



MARYLAND

Marshall Sherer, Men's Solo

Emily Cooper, Solo, Strut, Artistic Twirl, 2-Baton and 3-Baton



OHIO

Erienne Leigh Hay, 3-Baton

Tyson McKee, Men's Solo

Kylie Cates, Solo, Strut, Artistic Twirl and 2-Baton



LOUISIANA

Keriann Hollis, 3-Baton

Tara Zielinski, Solo, Strut, Artistic Twirl, 2-Baton



MICHIGAN

Zoe Dotts-Brown, Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton

Kyla Brewer, Strut and Artistic Twirl



OREGON

Hudson Cunningham, Junior Men's Solo

Zoe Yamaguchi, Senior Women's Solo and 2-Baton

Hana Yamaguchi, Senior Strut and Artistic Twirl

Yamaguchi and Yamaguchi, Senior Duet & Artistic Twirl Pairs

Nina Hawley, Junior Solo, Strut, Artistic Twirl and 2-Baton

CONGRATULATIONS 2021 STATE CHAMPIONS!



PENNSYLVANIA

Mikenzie Juskalian, 3-Baton

Danielle Knox, Solo, 2-Baton and Artistic Twirl



TENNESSEE

Alexis Carey, Junior 3-Baton

Jenny Hannah, Adult Solo, Strut and 2-Baton

Sawyer Grammar, Junior 2-Baton

Claire Decent, Junior Solo, Strut and Artistic Twirl

Laney Puhalla, Senior Solo, Strut and 2-Baton

Jayden Deaver, Senior Artistic Twirl



TEXAS

Maggie Chrudimsky, Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton

McKenzie Gomez, Strut and Artistic Twirl



VIRGINIA:

Madison Ramsingh, Solo, Artistic Twirl and 2-Baton

Meredith Smith, 3-Baton



WASHINGTON

Kirsandra Welsheimer, Artistic Twirl, Artistic Twirl Pairs

Katiana Welsheimer, Solo, Strut, Artistic Twirl Pairs

JaZee Griffith, 2-Baton and 3-Baton

Sophia Gomez-Knight and Kendall Griffin, Duet



WEST VIRGINIA:

Kenneth Jones, Men's Solo

Angela Ridenour, Solo and 2-Baton

Thanks, Fred, for all the lessons



Were it not for Fred Miller, I wouldn't be writing this today. Nor would I have been involved in baton twirling to the degree I am now. I learned a lot from Fred and credit him with instilling in me many ideals about the sport and about life, in general. Fred, as a coach and director of the famed Miller's Blackhawks, was VERY competitive, FOR SURE, and the love of competition was always part of his teaching! He had a strong opinion on the true meaning of WINNING and I want to share that with you via an article he wrote many, many years ago.

Thanks, Fred, for all the lessons and I'm proud to pass those lessons on...

Dale White, USTA's Director of Professional Development

The TRUE Meaning of WINNING



By Founding USTA Father, Fred J. Miller

The excitement of preparing for the contest season is in now full swing. During the season all athletes will experience hardship and disappointment as well as a sense of accomplishment and pride. The season displays numerous emotions for everyone involved. Keeping your focus and perspective in this sport is critical for its growth as a whole and more importantly for the growth of the athlete. To understand the TRUE meaning of winning makes the sport a wonderfully rewarding experience for all athletes and coaches.

How do you define WINNING? Is it getting first place? Is it beating your rival? Is it creating such a competitive atmosphere that we focus our energy on other athletes rather than ourselves? These types of questions are definitely a detriment to any competitive career. This is a WIN-LOSE attitude!

So many times, we are encouraged to beat this one or that one rather than concentrate on ourselves. It is important to remember that every athlete works very hard at what they do, and RESPECT needs to be given. The athlete needs to be developed to become confident, responsible and determined. The "real" winners are the athletes who learn and accept qualities such as these and take them into their future. Competition can and should be healthy and educational as it's a stepping-stone of growth for the athlete.

When athletes begin to feel a sense of self-worth and develop positive self-esteem, their attitudes and emotions are in control. They learn to accept disappointment and move on to overcome their obstacles. Hardship is experienced, but their positive outlook keeps them persistent. One has to understand that competition is wonderful when seen through the eyes of education. There will be many times in life when an athlete will be tremendously disappointed. It is at this time several questions should be asked. Have I tried my very best? Do I feel proud inside? Have I grown as a person throughout the situation? Questions such as these will help the athlete develop a WIN-WIN attitude, one that lasts a lifetime.