

# Dances With Owls 2013

## *Eligibility*

**Amateur - Amateur Events** are open to all amateur dancers. There are no age group distinctions (youth, collegiate, and adult amateur dancers all compete in the same events).

**Mixed Proficiency/Pro-Am Events** will be available at the **Newcomer level only**. A more advanced amateur or professional can partner with a less experienced amateur in these specific events, though only the amateur dancer will be judged.

**Formation Teams** must consist of amateur members only. Please email us directly ([abeer.javed@rice.edu](mailto:abeer.javed@rice.edu)) if you would like to enter your team in the competition.

## *Fees and Registration*

### *Competition: November 2*

Competitor Type	Online Registration Fee	At Door Registration Fee
Rice University Student	\$0	\$10
Non-Rice University Student	\$25	\$35
Non-student Adult	\$35	\$50

The competition fee covers participation in all competition events. Online registration will close at 11:59PM Wednesday, October 30.

### *Master Class / Welcome Dance: November 1*

Attendee Type	Fee
Student	\$5
Non-student	\$10

For both the competition and the social the night before, **students must present valid student ID at the door** to receive the student rate. This applies as well to competitors registering online: each is expected to bring their student ID at the day of the event.

**Number Deposit:** Leaders must either deposit \$5 or a valid ID in order to pick up their number. These will be given back upon return of the number.

**Only cash will be accepted at the dance social and competition.** No credit cards or personal checks will be accepted. However, withdrawals can be made at the Chase ATM in front of the event venue.

# *Master's Workshop / Welcome Dance*

Our Friday night workshop will be taught by Olga Richardson. Paul Richardson (British National Latin Champion, Blackpool Professional Latin Finalist), who was originally set to host the workshop, had a last minute clash of commitments that precluded his attendance. His wife (and dance partner) Olga Richardson kindly agreed to fill his place. The entry fee is \$5 with student ID (cash or check at the door), or \$10 (non-students) and includes the workshop and a dance social. Prices remain the same if you are unable to attend the workshop and only come to the social.

## *Location*

Both the competition and the workshop will take place in the Grand Hall of the Rice Memorial Center (also known as the Student Center). For directions to the venue, check: <http://studentcenter.rice.edu/>

## *Schedule*

### **FRIDAY, November 1**

Master Workshop / Welcome Dance 7:00 – 10:30 PM

### **SATURDAY, November 2**

Registration Opens	8:30 AM – 9:30AM
Warm Up	9:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Session One	10:30 AM – 1:30PM
	Country Western American Smooth International Standard Gold-Open level Multi-dances
	Awards
Break (lunch) and Open Dancing	1:30 PM – 2:30 PM
Session Two	2:30 PM – 7:00 PM
	Social Dances American Rhythm International Latin Open level Formation Teams Team match
	Awards

**This schedule is tentative and subject to change.** All times are approximate. Events may run earlier or later than the tentative schedule, and will not be delayed if they run earlier. Competitors should be ready to dance 30 minutes before their event, and must be registered before they compete.

A more detailed schedule of heats will be posted the day of the event.

## *Competition Event*

Participants in each event will dance simultaneously to music selected by the DJ. Unless there is only one pair of competitors in an event, there will be no events requiring solo exhibitions.

### **Country Western**

Beginner	Cha/W/2S/P/ECS/ WCS	(single dance categories)
Intermediate/Advanced	Cha/W/2S/P/ECS/ WCS	(single dance categories)

### **American Smooth**

Newcomer	W/T/F	(single dance categories)
Newcomer Pro-Am	W/T/F	(single dance categories)
Bronze	W/ T/ FT/ VW	(single dance categories)
Silver	W/ T/ FT/ VW	(single dance categories)
Gold	W/ T/ FT/ VW	(multi-dance category)
Open	W/ T/ FT/ VW	(multi-dance category)

### **International Standard**

Newcomer	W/T	(single dance categories)
Newcomer Pro-Am	W/T	(single dance categories)
Bronze	W/T/FT/VW/QS	(single dance categories)
Silver	W/T/FT/VW/QS	(single dance categories)
Gold	W/T/FT/VW/QS	(multi- dance category)
Open	W/T/FT/VW/QS	(multi- dance category)

### **American Rhythm**

Newcomer	C/R/ECS	(single dance categories)
Newcomer Pro-Am	C/R/ECS	(single dance categories)
Bronze	C/R/ECS/B/M	(single dance categories)
Silver	C/R/ECS/B/M	(single dance categories)
Gold	C/R/ECS/B/M	(multi-dance category)
Open	C/R/ECS/B/M	(multi-dance category)

### **International Latin**

Newcomer	C/R/J	(single dance categories)
Newcomer Pro-Am	C/R/J	(single dance categories)
Bronze	C/R/SA/P/J	(single dance categories)
Silver	C/R/SA/P/J	(single dance categories)
Gold	C/R/SA/P/J	(multi-dance category)
Open	C/R/SA/P/J	(multi-dance category)

### **Social Dances**

Beginner	Merengue / Bachata / Argentine Tango / Salsa	(single dance categories)
Intermediate / Advanced	Merengue / Bachata / Argentine Tango / Salsa	(single dance categories)

## ***Proficiency Levels***

To be eligible to compete in a Newcomer division, both partners must have started dancing ballroom no earlier than **January 1st 2013**. Additionally, if one or both partners placed in the top 3 of Newcomer division in a different competition, it automatically disqualifies them from entering the Newcomer division again; they must enter Bronze division or higher.

Competitors may dance in two consecutive proficiency levels for the same event. Acceptable combinations of levels are:

- Newcomer and Bronze
- Newcomer Pro-Am and Bronze (for amateur in the Pro-Am)
- Bronze and Silver
- Silver and Gold
- Gold and Open

Mixed-proficiency (Pro-Am) events will be judged separately. The less experienced amateur (the one being judged) may **not** enter both the Pro-Am and regular Am-Am events within the same level of proficiency (e.g. Bronze). This does **not** apply to the higher-level partner (the "Pro") who may dance their regular Am-Am events independent of the Pro-Am entries. So, for example, a competitor may dance in Gold, Open, and as a "Pro" in Newcomer Pro-Am within the International Latin style.

Competitors who have accumulated proficiency points on the USABDA, Collegiate, or NDCA circuits are requested to abide by those categories. By registering for the competition all competitors certify that they are eligible to compete in their chosen events.

## ***Formation Team Rules and Regulations***

### **Registration Regulations**

Teams must pre-register, please contact Abeer Javed ([abeer.javed@rice.edu](mailto:abeer.javed@rice.edu)) to do so. Teams must be amateur-only in order to compete. Dancers on the team must all be registered for the competition in general, even if they are not competing in any other single-dance or multi-dance event. Each team must have a minimum of four couples on the floor in order to compete.

### **Performance Regulations**

Teams may perform a maximum of two routines. Music and routine may not exceed 5 minutes in length. The length of music and routine must be specified at registration, as well as the style(s) of dance to be incorporated into the routine.

Currently, all formations will be judged together. There is no division between Smooth/Standard and Rhythm/Latin.

Props are permitted and costumes are highly recommended.

### **Music Regulations**

The team captain or coach must provide the DJ with music for the routine by 10AM on Nov.2 and make sure that it works with our speaker system. Music may be provided in the form of a flash-drive, iPhone, iPod, or laptop. Team captains/coaches are responsible for ensuring that the DJ has the music at the time of the performance and for having someone present during the performance to tell the DJ when to press play.

## ***General Rules***

### **Costumes**

No costumes are permitted at the Newcomer level. Costumes are permitted for other levels. (see Dress Code section for more information)

### **Lifts**

No lifts will be allowed at any level. Competitors must keep one foot on the ground at all times.

## **Dips and Drops**

Dips are permitted at silver level and above. Drops are not allowed at any level.

## **Props**

Props are not permitted. Exceptions: Formation teams, country western (hats only, Bronze level and above)

## **Awards**

The top 6 couples in AM/AM single dance categories will receive ribbons.

In Bronze Mixed Proficiency/Pro-Am, the top 6 competitors in each single dance category will receive one ribbon.

In Gold and Open multi-dance events couples will be ranked for all dances in the event. Then the top 6 overall couples will receive ribbons.

## **Syllabus Steps**

**All categories, other than Open division, will be closed syllabus events.** Any steps from a nationally recognized syllabus will be accepted. This means competitors can always dance syllabus steps from lower levels but are not allowed to dance higher level syllabus steps in lower categories. For example Silver steps are not allowed in the Bronze level. Newcomer and Bronze levels must dance the Bronze syllabus. **Dancing higher level steps than the category allows may result in disqualification from the event/competition.**

## **Dress Code**

Costumes are not permitted at the Newcomer level, and they are not required for any level. Jeans are not considered proper attire (except for Country Western events), but will not be a reason for disqualification.

## **Suggested Attire for Competitors without Costumes**

### International Standard Events

Leads: Dark slacks and white button up collared shirt, optional tie and vest.

Follows: Leotards with wrap skirts, cocktail dresses, long full skirts, jewelry is optional

### International Latin Events:

Leads: Dark slacks, black or white collared shirt, black T shirt with no logos or black turtleneck

Follows: Similar to Standard dress code. Shorter skirts or dresses are acceptable.

# *Team Match*

The team match will consist of the following four dances:

Cha Cha  
Slow Waltz  
Tango  
Swing

On the day of the event, each college will sign up four couples, one per dance. There are no proficiency levels within the team match, so colleges will select their best couple for each dance. The couples will compete against one another, get ranked, and the college with the aggregate highest score will be crowned the champ.

# *Miscellaneous*

## **Liability**

All competitors compete at their own risk. Rice University and the Rice Ballroom Team cannot accept liability for any injuries sustained by persons attending this competition. Rice University and the Rice Ballroom Team are also not responsible for any theft of articles left in the competition venue

## **Campus Map and Parking**

Paid parking is available in the Central Campus Garage and West Lot 1 (see campus map: <http://www.rice.edu/maps/>). Do not park on the Inner Loop road.

## **Accommodations**

New this year we are able to offer some overnight accommodations! Collegiate competitors seeking accommodations should contact as soon as possible, as space is available on a first come first serve basis.

## **Contact**

For competition questions, comments, and concerns, please contact the competition coordinator:

**Abeer Javed** ([abeer.javed@rice.edu](mailto:abeer.javed@rice.edu))