

USA  
International Ballet Competition

Jackson, Mississippi



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**2002 USA International Ballet Competition Announces Medalists**

Jackson, Miss., June 28, 2002 – The USA International Ballet Competition came to a magnificent climax during its last round of competition with 23 dancers receiving medals, scholarships and cash awards.

Senior Division Medalists are:

Women's Senior Gold Medalist – Wu Haiyan, China

Men's Senior Silver Medalist – Li Jun, China

Women's Senior Silver Medalist – Sarah Lamb, USA

Men's Senior Bronze Medalist – Mikhail Ilyin, Russia

Women's Senior Bronze Medalist –Katia Carranza, Mexico

Medalists in the Junior Division are:

Men's Junior Gold Medalist – Joseph Phillips, USA

Men's Junior Silver Medalist – Danny Tidwell, USA

Women's Junior Silver Medalist – Sarah Kathryn Lane, USA

Men's Junior Bronze Medalist –Yudai Fukuoka, Japan  
Jiao Yang, China

Women's Junior Bronze Medalist – Sang Yi Han, South Korea

**- more -**

### **Add One/ 2002 USA IBC Medalists**

Along with medals, cash prizes are given ranging from \$500 to \$8,000.

Special awards and scholarships were given to:

Best Senior Couple- Eve Andre and Sergei Upkin, Estonia

Pointe Magazine Choreography Award- Wang Yuanyuan

Robert Joffrey Award of Merit- Emi Hariyama, Japan

Jury Award of Encouragement- Female: Agnieszka Szymanska, Poland  
Male: Troy Schumacher, USA

Heinz-Bosl-Ballet Foundation Scholarships- Keigo Fukuda, Japan  
Michelle Carpenter, USA

Dance Magazine Scholarship- Eun Ji Ha, South Korea

WorldCom Scholarship- Zhang Jing, China

Jury Awards- Melissa Hough, USA and Ashley Canterna, USA

No gold medals were awarded in the men's senior division and the women's junior division.

"With every USA IBC, we see an intense level of skill and artistry among dancers," said Sue Lobrano, executive director, USA IBC. "We're known for setting the benchmark for world-class competition and our international jury did a great job selecting winners for 2002."

To celebrate the presentation of the USA IBC honors, an Awards Gala will be held Saturday, June 29 at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by the Capezio Encore Gala, a concert featuring the medal winners on Sunday, June 30 at 7:30 p.m.

"Having competed in the USA IBC, many successful careers will be launched, contracts awarded and dreams fulfilled," added Bruce Marks, USA IBC Jury Chairman. "Whether or not dancers go away with a medal, we truly believe that the process is the prize at the Jackson competition."

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## **Add Two/2002 USA IBC Medalists**

“The past two weeks have been great. The IBC has given me the opportunity to work on my contemporary dancing and to learn from the other wonderful dancers participating in the competition,” said Emi Hariyama, Japan, and winner of the Joffrey Award of Merit. “The USA IBC allows me to network and meet very important dance people without having to travel to many different locations.”

In the tradition of sister competitions in Moscow, Russia, and Varna, Bulgaria, the USA IBC is the official international ballet competition of the United States designated by a 1982 Joint Resolution of Congress. For additional information on the 2002 USA IBC call 601.355.9853 or visit the official Web site at [www.usaibc.com](http://www.usaibc.com).

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**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Please visit our Web site at [www.usaibc.com](http://www.usaibc.com) to download medalist pictures (300 DPI/J-peg or Tiff file, 2 meg), and view dancer profiles.

**VRN of medalists available on the morning of June 28. MediaLink to send notifications with coordinate information for satellite feed or contact the USA IBC Media Operations Center for more details, 601.355.9204.**