

Prix de Lausanne 2021
Video Edition
International ballet competition

Lausanne, November 20th, 2020: Due to the sanitary situation and related restrictions, the *Fondation en faveur de l'Art Chorégraphique* has had to rethink the usual form of its main event, the Prix de Lausanne. Therefore, the *Fondation* announces the new format for this year's competition: The Prix de Lausanne will exceptionally be a Video Edition with a 9-member Jury present in Switzerland.

Due to the sanitary situation and related restrictions, the *Fondation en faveur de l'Art Chorégraphique* has had to reinvent its main event but its priorities remain the same: providing opportunities for young talented dancers and fulfilling its mission as a charitable foundation. The *Fondation* is therefore pleased to announce that the 49th edition of its Prix de Lausanne, from January 31st to February 7th, 2021, will be a Video Edition.

The event will require only the Jury's 9-member presence on site in Switzerland. Every selected candidate will be able to demonstrate their talent and compete for a scholarship or apprenticeship via video submission and not in person in Switzerland. Classical and contemporary variations, as well as a ballet class, will be evaluated and marked separately. As in previous years, 20 finalists will be selected and judged at the end of the week, before the winners' announcement during the Finals on Saturday, February 6th, 2021. The Prix de Lausanne's Partner Schools and Companies will follow the competition week and will be able to watch the videos privately through our Networking Forum and thus offer their support to all of the 81 candidates. The Prix de Lausanne team is also working on coordinating online classes taught by excellent teachers and coaches for the candidates before the competition begins.

The Young Creation Award, a new competition in search of young choreographic talent and sponsored by the renowned choreographer Heinz Spoerli, will also be held via video. The Prix de Lausanne jury will be able to watch and judge the submitted finalists' choreographies and award the two best young choreographers after the judging on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021. The choreographies will be performed publicly at the Prix de Lausanne 2022.

This year's record participation for the Prix de Lausanne (399 applicants from 43 countries around the world) emphasizes more than ever a need for keeping the art of dance alive. With the support and loyalty from its partners, dance lovers and sponsors, the *Fondation* gives creativity and talent a chance to shine again this year and provides hope for the future.



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The Prix de Lausanne follows the development of future dance talents throughout the year through various activities which culminates into the most prestigious classical ballet competition in the world. The first edition of the competition, designed for 15 to 18-year-old dancers, took place in 1973. Since then, it has become a major annual event in the dance sphere on a worldwide scale, and its goal remains unchanged: to identify, promote and help the best young dance talents around the world. Today, after 48 editions, the Prix de Lausanne is considered the most prestigious ballet competition on an international level and the foundation upholding and organising it has morphed into a wide scale charity, well beyond the initial event. We support the most promising young talents throughout the year through various education and training activities. The Prix de Lausanne allows them to live a unique experience that will serve them throughout their career. As a development partner, we provide them with a healthy environment to reach their full potential. That is why we have developed a vast network of partners to strive for excellence in this exceptional artistic dance field.