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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## PRACTICAL EXAMS BEGIN FOR HSC DANCE STUDENTS

975 students will take their Higher School Certificate (HSC) Dance Performance exams from 4 to 16 August.

Tom Alegounarias, President, Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES), said Dance is one of several HSC courses that have a practical component as part of their HSC exam.

"While the HSC written exams commence in October, students with practical exams start their HSC in August and September.

"This is an exciting time for the students and will be the culmination of many hours of hard work," Mr Alegounarias said.

Developed by BOSTES, the HSC Dance syllabus fosters a students' intellectual, social and moral development, as students learn the skills of dance, how to perform and create dances, and the ability to critically analyse and make judgments about dance.

In the practical exam, students have a core performance and present a core composition. A Major study in Performance provides students with the opportunity for in-depth study where they are able to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills of dance technique, as it is applied to dance performance in the context of safe dance practice.

"The HSC Dance course represents far more than the performances that will be examined over the next two weeks.

"Students completing the course will have accumulated an in-depth knowledge of the composition of dance and an appreciation for the variety of dance styles and expressions around the world," Mr Alegounarias said.

This year the following courses require a practical exam or submission of works as part of the HSC exam:

- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- English Extension 2
- Industrial Technology

- Languages (except Classical languages and Background Speakers courses)
- Music (all courses)
- Society and Culture
- Textiles and Design, and
- Visual Arts.

For more information on the HSC Dance syllabus visit http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus\_hsc/dance.html