**Dance 2021-2022 Audition Information­**

*The Dance Department at DSA requires all students to complete the following steps in order to be considered for acceptance into the program.*

***Please Note:*** *all audition timeline and processes for each major will look slightly different than other majors. Please note carefully the applicable dates and links as you review the information below so you have time to prepare.*

**STEP ONE:**

The online application will open on November 2, 2020 by 1:00 pm and close at **9:00 am** on January 1, 2021. At any point during this online audition application window, you must apply online. We will not take any late applicants after 9:00 am, January 1, 2021.

For this online application – all you are doing is filling out basic information on your child: name, grade, address, parent name, etc. If you have a current DPS student, it will ask for their 6-digit ID. No other preparation/materials are needed to fill out this online application.

Please make sure you work through the entire audition application. You will create an account first. That is ***not*** the audition application. As soon as you create an account, you will proceed to the next step by adding your child’s name, grade, major, etc. **Only completed audition applications will be considered for auditions.** *You should receive an automated email confirmation that you applied. This email will contain your student’s name, grade and major. This is your confirmation that you applied.* If you have any technology issues, please call the school (720-424-1700) and we will work you through the process. You are welcome to call the school to make sure your application was received online. **Students may apply and audition for one major only.**

Please note: Incoming 7th graders will audition for the ***waitlist only****.* Traditionally, the 7th grade is the hardest grade to get into at DSA. Why is that? Our 6th and 7th grade teams are the same size. Unless a current 6th grader decides to leave the school, there is no room for an auditioning 7th grader.

**STEP TWO:**

**Dance Information Night, pre-audition meeting:** A parent or an adult designee for the applicant must be in attendance at the Zoom pre-audition meeting in order to move ahead in the audition process. An adult other than a parent is allowed to stand in the place of the parent in case of emergencies/vacations/work/etc. However, someone must be at this meeting to represent the student and fill out the GoogleForm at the end to indicate your attendance. The student applicant DOES NOT have to attend the meeting but is highly encouraged to do so.

Our Dance pre audition Zoom meeting will be at **6:00 pm on Tuesday, January 5th, 2021. The link for this meeting will be placed on our Dance Department Homepage (dsadance.org) the morning of January 5th and is also available below:**

**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9194789413?pwd=NUVFaUMyUjd2ZlV1UGFib3FacTRSQT09**

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information on the audition process, allow time for answering parent and student questions, and we will provide details about the virtual, recorded audition and live call-backs.More details on this in Step Four below.

**STEP THREE:**

**The District School-of-Choice Form**

If you are a current DPS family and have a Parent Portal account, you will use this login to apply for SchoolChoice online from January 15, 2021 – February 18, 2021. To create a Parent Portal account, go to<https://myportal.dpsk12.org/> and click Create an Account, or if necessary, you can retrieve/reset your password so you are ready to participate in Choice. It does not matter when during the Choice window you apply, so long as it is submitted by February 18, 2021. The exact time Choice closes on Feb 18th is determined/communicated by the DPS Choice Office.

If you are an out-of-district family, you will need to either request a Parent Portal account by Pre-enrolling with DSA and once you have a Student ID (lunch number), provided by DSA, you can create a Parent Portal Account. Be sure to do this well in advance of the closure of SchoolChoice, February 18, 2021. Alternatively, you can simply go to <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/> and create an account. Be sure you get confirmation of your application which is in the form of an email and/or text, whichever you select.

The DPS SchoolChoice form will ask you to rank your top 12 preferred schools within DPS, including charter schools and magnet programs such as DSA. (You do not have to list all twelve schools, and if you are out-of-district and only interested in DSA, then just list the one.) The DPS SchoolChoice online form must be submitted no later than February 18, 2021.

For more information about the new School Choice system, please visit <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/>. Their phone number is 720-423-3493 or you can email them with questions at [schoolchoice@dpsk12.org](mailto:schoolchoice@dpsk12.org)

**STEP FOUR:**

**Recorded Auditions: Due January 18th, Midnight**

We normally have students come to DSA to participate in a live audition master class, consisting of ballet, modern, jazz, and improvisation. Obviously, that isn’t possible this year, so we have tried to develop a system that can work remotely.

**On Wednesday, January 6th**, **by 10 a.m**. **we will post a GoogleForm link on our Dance Department Homepage.** (dsadance.org) This will also be shared directly to the email addresses you provided to us in our pre-audition exit ticket google form.

This google form will have video links to three videos of DSA Dance Guest Artists teaching ballet, jazz, and modern phrase work.

The auditioning dancer will be given roughly 2.5 weeks to learn the material from the videos, and to record themselves doing the material. The videos of the auditioning dancer will be uploaded directly into the google form.

**On Monday, January 18th, all audition material is due.**

**No** solo dances are performed during the masterclass portion of the audition. Solos will only be seen if the auditioning dancers is given a callback in the final round of our audition process.

**What to bring/how to prepare**

Students auditioning for the dance department MUST be prepared with the following:

* Ladies: pink or black tights, black leotard, and ballet shoes
  + black tights, bare feet, and a leotard of your choice for modern
* Gentlemen: black tights, white tank top and ballet shoes for ballet
  + black tights, bare feet, and a leotard of your choice for modern/Jazz
* Have hair pulled back, away from face in a tight bun
* Remove all jewelry
* Groomed appearance is important
* No gum please

We have tried to be as clear as possible in our instructions within the GoogleForm, so proceeding through should be straightforward, but in case there are questions or technical issues while students are working on the material, you can contact us with questions at [rachel\_oliveryoung@dpsk12.org](mailto:rachel_oliveryoung@dpsk12.org) and [terrell\_davis@dpsk12.org](mailto:terrell_davis@dpsk12.org)

Please note: An audition make-up session will be provided for **emergencies only and are not guaranteed**, please reach out to [rachel\_oliveryoung@dpsk12.org](mailto:rachel_oliveryoung@dpsk12.org) and [terrell\_davis@dpsk12.org](mailto:terrell_davis@dpsk12.org)

Also, if your student requires accommodations for the audition, as written in a 504 or IEP, please provide a copy via email of the 504 or IEP to Assistant Principal Aspen Burkett one week before your student’s audition date. Her email is: [Aspen\_Burkett@dpsk12.org](mailto:Aspen_Burkett@dpsk12.org) **2 07782**

**Other Audition Components:**

Within the Audition Google Form, you will need to include the following:

**1. Letter of Recommendation**

One letter of recommendation that speaks to your work ethic, dedication to the art form of dance, your artistic discipline, your overall level of passion for dance, and information that speaks to the whole student. The letter must **not** be from a family member.

Below is the GoogleForm link for the letter of recommendation. Feel free to forward this link as needed to the teacher of your choice. **The deadline for us to receive the rec form is Monday, January 18th.**

[**https://forms.gle/MkvLMm7TtxuUHzgn8**](https://forms.gle/MkvLMm7TtxuUHzgn8)

**2. Resume with the following sections:**

*(note: some students may not be able to provide information in all sections and that is acceptable)*

*(resume should not exceed one page – front side only)*

* Vital Information (name, address, phone number, grade level, email)
* Dance Education/Training (including your current school and studio)
* Performance Experience
* Summer Intensive Experience
* Choreographic Experience
* Awards and Honors

**3. A Completed Health Survey**

Below is the GoogleForm link for the health survey. **The deadline for us to receive the rec form is Monday, January 18th.**

[**https://forms.gle/F7C3DpDDXukvpfA26**](https://forms.gle/F7C3DpDDXukvpfA26)

**4. Current Headshot**

After uploading your audition videos, you will be asked to upload a recent headshot of yourself. This is only for our records—another way to get to know you—and the photos will not be published anywhere. It does not need to be a professional photograph.

**STEP FIVE:**

**Callback Interviews:** If you have completed the initial registration process in step one, someone from our administrative office will reach out to give you an audition number. After judges have determined scores for the video auditions, **select students will be asked to attend a fifteen-minute Zoom interview and call-back audition.**

**Dancers will perform their prepared solos at this time.**

You will be asked to perform a solo piece in a style of dance that speaks to your artistic ability as a dancer. Any kind of dance is fine – as long as it speaks to your strength.

* This piece may not exceed 1 minute and 30 seconds.
* Students will need to supply their own recorded music, played from their computer.
* Your music can contain lyrics as long as the song is appropriate, clean, and contains no bleeps.
* The solos does not need to be choreographed by the student, but can be!
* Studio routines are acceptable, if you don’t want to choreograph your own.
* You will also be asked a short series of questions at the beginning of your solo.

*\*\*\* The solos should be pre-recorded, and can also be performed live via Zoom. Please plan ahead for both, depending on your technology and internet issues that day.*

We will post this callback list on our Dance homepage (dsadance.org) **on Friday, January 29th, 2021 by Noon.** For privacy reasons, we will **not** be posting the names of students we wish to interview. Instead, we will identify students using their **audition number,** and first and last name initials. Below are the dates and range of times we will be conducting call-backs. Depending on your child’s incoming grade level, please keep that date and time frame free, as it is not possible for us to schedule alternate times for these call-backs. The list will include a specific time and Zoom link for their call-back.

If your audition number does not appear on the call-back list, you will not be able to move on to the next step of the audition; furthermore, we cannot offer you a spot in the Dance Department next year.

**Call-Back Information**

Please note: An invitation to attend the call-backs does not guarantee a spot in the Dance department. Openings are determined by the number of positions available in each grade level, determined by the school administration, as well as scores on the auditions and call-backs.

**January 7th - January 18th: Time to prepare, record, and send in Audition Videos**

**Monday, January 18th Midnight: Audition Videos are Due**

**Friday, January 29th, Noon: Call-Back Numbers are Posted on dsadance.org**

**January 30th, 2021:** **Callbacks for 6th, 7th, 8th grades 9:00 am - Noon**

*(A specific interview time will be assigned to you on the posted callback list.)*

**January 30th, 2021:** **Callbacks for 9th - 12th grades 12:30 - 4:00 pm**

*(A specific interview time will be assigned to you on the posted callback list.)*

*\*\*\* The solos should be pre-recorded, and can also be performed live via Zoom. Please plan ahead for both, depending on your technology and internet issues that day.*

**What Are We Looking for?**

At Denver School of the Arts Classical and Contemporary Pre-Professional Dance Program we are here to teach – prior training is certainly valued, but we are first and foremost evaluating your potential and passion for dance. Denver School of the Arts Dance is also looking for students who express a passion for dance as an art form and not dance for competition. Denver School of the Arts DSA Dance wants dance to be your passion and the most exciting and fun part of your day. During your audition, we will be looking for students who:

* Physically and verbally express their passion for the art of dance
* Show a strong desire to work diligently on technique
* Display a willingness to accept discipline and/or positive correction
* Exhibit flexibility, a natural sense of movement, musicality, an innate ability to follow directions
* Maintain a positive attitude at all times and the physique & stamina appropriate for rigorous dance
* Possess an eager curiosity to learn new dance techniques and a willingness to adapt to new ways of teaching dance techniques they may have already studied
* An open mind to new ways of learning and creating choreography
* Love to work in a group setting in support of a healthy and inspiring creative process

**STEP SIX:**

**The Notification Process**

**Tuesday, February 9, 2021**

All students who audition will be notified by email on February 9, 2021 as to the outcome of their audition (either qualified to attend DSA or not qualified to attend DSA). If you are accepted via the audition process (qualified) and you aren’t accepted anywhere more preferred through the Choice process, you will be in at DSA! If you are NOT accepted at DSA, then the SchoolChoice process will move on to your other choices.

If your child receives confirmation that he/she has qualified for DSA, this does not mean that he/she also has an enrollment “offer”. Students will be assigned to DSA based on their qualification status plus the results of SchoolChoice. If DSA is your top choice, put it as your top choice. Then, if you qualify, it will be a match!

*All students will be notified of their 2021/2022 school assignment through the online system (email and/or text) in late March 2021. This will come from the DPS Office of Choice and Enrollment Services.* The only students who will be considered for enrollment at DSA will be those who successfully qualify via the DSA audition process AND have not received something more preferred via SchoolChoice. If you do not select DSA as your 1st preference school, please know that it is possible that your child may get their MORE preferred choice and not be assigned to DSA.

Thank you for attending our meeting this evening. We look forward to seeing you all at your scheduled audition. Hopefully you’ll be a part of our DSA Dance Family!

Rachel Oliver Young & Terrell Davis :)

Directors of DSA Dance