

PRE-REQUISITES:

All High School Seniors and transfer students must be eligible for admission into Alabama A&M University for the Fall semester. **Current Alabama A&M students **who are invited to the final round** must have a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.5 and include verification of their cumulative GPA (ex: print out from Banner System). Proof of acceptance will be required for all dancers invited to the final round.

1. **Completed Application Form:** Complete our online application, which can be found at www.aamuband.org. It is highly important that you read thoroughly, complete and submit the electronic form which should include a link to your unlisted Youtube audition video.
2. **Non-refundable \$50 Application Fee** (Electronic Payments Only)
Please send your payment via **CashApp to \$aamudivas**. Please indicate the candidates name in the notes section before sending the payment. No echecks or other forms of payment will be accepted.

AUDITION PROCESS:

The Dancin' Divas audition process consists of two main components. In order to continue to the final phase of auditions, a dancer must be called back. Callback criteria includes demonstration of prior dance training that has offered an understanding of both technical dance language and body alignment; a high level of stamina and general physical fitness; overall appearance and stage presence; and the physical and artistic potential for success as a Dancin' Diva team member. Audition components will be conducted in 2 phases. **Phase 1** is the Preliminary Virtual Audition (video submission) and **Phase 2** is the Final Audition which will be held in person. Preliminary Auditions will consist of the Technique/Flexibility Component and Solo Performance Component. At a minimum, **Phase 2** consists of the Advanced Technique/Flexibility Component and the Field Show Style Group Dance Component. Please note that all dancers are given equal consideration. The team typically consists of 10-12 dancers; however, the size of the team varies due to the talent level during the audition process.

CLOTHING/ APPEARANCE

During Phase 1, each dancer must be in fitted 2-piece black dance attire that clearly enables the viewer to observe the dancer's technique. **Dancers must wear a black sports bra or crop top, black dance briefs, dance tights, and the dance shoe of their choice.** No skirts, no loose-fitting t-shirts, no leg warmers, and no costumes. Dancers are highly discouraged from wearing attire that is overly revealing or distracting. It is recommended that care be taken to wear attire that is most suitable for your body composition. Hair and make-up should be neat, all tattoos must be covered, and all body piercings must be removed. Tattoos that cannot be easily concealed are prohibited. Due to the nature of our uniforms and routine choreography, candidates must be in great physical shape and have lean, toned, and appealing physique.

(Virtual Audition Video Submission Instructions):

All applicants must prepare a 60-90 second choreographed dance in the style of their choice (no vulgar lyrics). The routine should highlight the dancer's strengths and show them as a performer. The purpose of the solo is to show the candidate's range as well as their ability to project. The solo performance should demonstrate the dancer's artistic qualities and flow of movement. In addition, all videos should include a separate technical skills demonstration (see details below). Only **ONE** video is allowed for each dancer. **All Audition Videos should be uploaded to YouTube and marked**

“unlisted”. Please include the YouTube link in the appropriate section of the online application no later than 8:00am CST on Saturday, March 30th. Please understand that late submissions will not be accepted. Please be sure to state your name, years of dance experience and current school or dance affiliation at the beginning of the video. Videos should be clear and should only include the candidate (no group routines).

TECHNIQUE/FLEXIBILITY At a minimum, dancers will be expected to demonstrate the following required skills within their audition video; if, you have additional technical skills or tumbling you'd like to showcase please feel free to do so. The objective is to assess each dancer's confidence and overall audience appeal, showmanship, and projection.

- *Turns - double pirouettes, a la seconde
- *Leaps - jete, leap in 2nd position, calypso
- *Jumps- toe touch
- *Extensions- right or left heel stretch
- *Splits- Right, Left

Phase 2/Final Auditions:

Based on the evaluation of each applicant's performance during the Round 1 virtual auditions, a select group of applicants will be asked to return for the final audition round. **All candidates who receive an invitation must be available to return, IN PERSON, for the final round in April 2024.** All candidates who are invited to the final round will be required to submit a letter of recommendation from their current dance coach/instructor/sponsor that can attest to their character, dedication, time management and teamwork skills. **All letters must be sent via email to aamudanceauditions@gmail.com directly from the individual making the recommendation, no later than Friday, April 12th.** Please be sure that the prospective dancer's name is included in the subject line. ****Round 2 finalists will be notified no later than Monday, April 1st if they are selected to move on.** If you do not receive notification from a staff member inviting you to Phase 2, we welcome you to audition again next season.

What to bring:

1. A recent 8X10 Headshot Photograph. “Selfies” and full body pictures are **not** suitable for submission as a headshot. *Photos will not be returned.*
2. Liability Form
3. Audition Agreement
4. Proof of acceptance to the University (Incoming **Freshmen Only**)
5. Banner Printout which shows cumulative GPA (**All Current Students Only**)
6. ****All Finalists will receive an email with the required attire for the final audition**

TECHNIQUE/FLEXIBILITY /COACHING:

At a minimum, dancers will be expected to demonstrate the following required and desired skills:

- *Turns - pirouettes: double, triple, fouettes, a la seconde
- *Leaps - jete, leap in 2nd position, calypso
- *Jumps- toe touch, turning disc jump
- *Extensions- right **and** left heel stretch
- *Splits- Right **and** Left

****Dancers will be taught and coached on a brief advanced across the floor combination. The objective is to evaluate their technical ability and assess how quickly the dancer picks up**

choreography, how they respond to and incorporate corrections, and how they function as a member in a rehearsal-like setting.

GROUP PERFORMANCE:

All applicants will be required to learn a field style group dance routine for the final round of auditions. The same routine will be taught to all candidates and ample time will be allowed for review and questions. The panel will be evaluating the applicant's ability to execute the Dancin' Diva style and perform in a group setting. The routine will be performed in groups of two to four. All dancers will be judged on the following: enthusiasm, projection, ability to recall choreography and incorporate showmanship without significantly altering the movements, agility, overall performance, and potential as a prospective Dancin' Diva.

INTERVIEW

The purpose of the interview is to gain insight into the student's character, maturity, poise, sincerity, ability/desire to commit for one full year given the team's rigorous schedule; and help assess their suitability as a prospective team member.

ADDITIONAL INFO

All judges' decisions are final. Questions/concerns related to audition performance **will not** be addressed after callbacks/auditions. For all questions regarding the Dancin' Divas or the audition process, please EMAIL the Auxiliary Coordinator at aamudanceauditions@gmail.com .