

YSU DANCE MAJOR AUDITIONS

Incoming students who wish to be considered for scholarships and admission to the BFA in Dance must audition at one of the audition dates posted on our audition calendar. There are opportunities to audition both on and off campus. Scholarship and audition forms must be filled out and mailed in at designated times listed on the audition calendar.

An information session will be scheduled on the audition day for students and parents as well as interviews between faculty and auditionees. Please contact Jacque Wheeler for scholarship information at jwheeler@valdosta.edu and Eric Nielsen for dance major information at enielsen@valdosta.edu. All students who wish to major in dance at Valdosta State University **MUST** either attend an admission audition or, in certain circumstances provide a video audition. Prospective students must follow the Audition

AUDITION GUIDELINES:

- 1) We need to see and assess your “dancing” body, so please wear appropriate dancewear to the audition. This can range from leotards and tights to form fitting dancewear. Please no baggy T-shirts or sweats. Bring all your dance shoes (jazz shoes, ballet slippers, pointe shoes, and tap shoes to the audition).
- 2) Hair should be neat and pulled back off the neck. No jewelry should be worn in class.
- 3) You will be provided with a number. Wear it where it is visible to the auditioning faculty and students.
- 4) Be prepared to participate in a two hour technique class. The class includes a ballet barre, and center work, plus combinations in jazz, modern dance, and tap. Pointe work will be included if you are proficient.
- 5) The audition allows the faculty to observe your technical ability, performance quality, potential and adaptability to the change in dance styles. Please do not worry if you are weak in some of the areas, for we will be looking at you from an overall viewpoint.
- 6) If you have any questions after the audition please feel free to talk to us then or during your interview.

Audition Results

We will notify all students of the results by mail. This will usually happen within two weeks of the audition. Those applying for scholarships will also receive notification of their scholarship status by mail. In addition, you may expect to be notified with one of

these three possible decisions: Accepted: You may begin course work as a dance major. Provisional Acceptance: You may begin course work as a dance major but will be required to be evaluated at the end of the year to continue matriculation as a dance major. Not Accepted: An indication that we feel you will not be successful in our dance curriculum at this time. After matriculating at VSU feel free to participate in dance courses in preparation to audition for admission to the degree program at a later date.

Returning students Interested in the dance must audition for admission to the BFA degree in Dance the first week of classes at an audition date that will be posted on the dance and theatre callboards. They will need to fill out an dance major audition form.

VIDEO/DVD AUDITIONS:

Prospective students from outside a 500 mile radius of Valdosta may elect to audition for admission via videotape. Under certain circumstances, they may be submitted with the approval of the dance director. Videos must be received no later than Mar 1 for entrance for the following fall semester. Tapes remain the property of the Valdosta State University Communication Arts Department. The tape should be clearly labeled and include the following:

Ballet: Show center work only. All combinations must be demonstrated on both sides. Adagio Demonstrate balancés, classical line and musicality. Pirouettes: A turn combination demonstrating en dehors pirouettes from 5th and 4th positions and en dedans pirouettes from 4th lunge in passé position. Petit Allegro: A quick jump combination including jeté, assemble and pas de chat. Grand Allegro: A large jump combination including temps levé in arabesque, grand jeté and tour jeté. From the corner: A traveling turn combination including piqué turns and chainé turns.

Jazz: Show an upbeat movement combination no more than 1 minute in length. The study should include isolations, inside and outside turns, elevations and some floor work. It should demonstrate knowledge of complex rhythmic patterns.

Modern: Show a center combination that demonstrates different uses of the torso, level changes, weight bearing on the hands, and parallel and turned out leg alignment. Show a traveling combination in less than a minute that demonstrates large aerial movements such as leaps and jumps with different uses of torso and facing changes. The video should be no longer than 6 minutes and should reflect training to date. At the beginning of your audition video or DVD, please show a still pose of yourself standing in a still pose in first position, arabesque and passé.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Students wishing to be considered for a scholarship must present a short solo in the genre of their choice at the end of the class audition, or on tape for video/DVD submissions. They must also fill out a scholarship application form, send in two letters of reference, a photo and resume. Each applicant will be interviewed in addition to the audition or presentation and should be prepared to discuss career goals.

The interview will also provide an opportunity for the applicant to ask any questions he or she may have concerning the dance program.