

Audition Rules & Guidelines

Tooele Valley Academy of Dance

What to wear to an audition

For ladies, a black camisole leotard and pink ballet tights. Skirts, wraps, legwarmers, and any other type of attire are discouraged. For gentlemen, a fitted plain black, grey or white short sleeve t-shirt, black or conservative colored shorts [compression shorts/leggings underneath actual shorts are fine] & thin socks or tights with ballet flats. *Those auditioning only for character roles (roles that do not require dancing) may forego these rules and wear casual clothing.*

Shoes

Ballet Flats are absolutely required. Ladies, pink. Gentlemen, black, white or grey. Ladies who are auditioning for a role that is to be danced on pointe must bring pointe shoes to audition in as well as flats. *Those auditioning only for character roles may wear ballet flats, character shoes or street shoes/heels.*

Hair

Ladies hair must be pulled back away from the eyes. Hair that is long enough should be in a bun or french-twist. Hair that is too short for a bun must still be secured back with a headband and/or bobby pins. Gentlemen should look well groomed & hair should be styled so as to be away from the eyes.

Be on time (that is, early)

Arrive to your audition 30 minutes prior to the stated audition time. You will need this time to receive your number and warm up. Those that are late to the set audition time forfeit the opportunity to participate in the audition.

Upon arrival

You will receive a number. This number is to be worn above the waist, safety pinned onto the front of the leotard [for gentlemen, onto the shirt]. You may then begin warming up in the designated areas. Do not be a distraction. Speak Quietly. Listen for your number to be called. Follow directions. You will be judged on professionalism throughout the audition. Absolutely no talking is permitted in the actual audition room unless directly called upon. Violation of this rule can result in dismissal from the audition.

What to expect

The director will explain and demonstrate what you are to do. If you are confused or have clarifying questions, raise your hand. Make sure to prepare and finish in the manner the director indicates. Know your number so that when it is called, you are ready to move center stage in a quick and orderly manner. After dancing, remain still in your ending pose with your number visible to the judges until the director indicates that you are finished and free to move off the floor.

Dismissal & Call Backs

Due to the nature of our auditions, a set dismissal time is not guaranteed but we will do everything we can to stick to the schedule. Auditioners are welcome to leave after auditioning for the roles they desire. Call backs will occur in the afternoon. Make sure you write the phone number you will be able to be contacted at on the Pre-Registration Form and keep your phone on. In the case of a call back, we will give you 20 minutes to return. As an auditioneer, you are welcome to stay until

1:00 p.m. (and you are welcome to eat lunch/bring a book to read, homework, etc... in the lobby). At 1:00 p.m. we will dismiss any dancers who the judges are not planning to call back. Do not assume that, if you are not called back, you will not be offered a role. Likewise, do not assume that you will be offered a role if you are called back. Callbacks are necessary when the judges feel they have not seen enough of certain dancers to make a decision about a particular role.

Observation by parent/guardians

All of our auditions are closed auditions, meaning that parent/guardians are not invited to observe. They can, however, remain in the lobby with their child(ren).

Respect

Respect yourself and others during and after the audition. This includes being considerate and polite to others, before *and* after the audition. Respect the decision of the judges and the director.

Casting Results

The results of the audition will be posted online and emailed that evening. Be positive with casting results. Not everyone is cast in the role they desire every time, not even professional dancers. Inevitably some will not receive the role they desired. The way you handle the results of the audition is extremely important to the director and the cast at large, especially your peers. Be humble about your successes and your failures. Everyone will have both at some point in life and how you handle the aftermath of auditions speaks volumes about your personal character.

Other Auditioning Tips:

- Audition for as many roles as you are able and willing to receive. Be clear on your audition paperwork if you are not willing or able to commit to any certain role.
- Look out to the audience when auditioning a movement or combination.
- Never draw attention to your mistakes. Mistakes are a part of performing and how you “cover up” your mistake will indicate to the judges how professional a performer you are. Do not make any audible noises during an audition. Do not ask to repeat a combination or movement.
- The way you audition is likely the way you will perform. The judges are looking for the best all-around performer for each role. This includes not only how you execute a movement or combination, but how well you express yourself & generally perform. A neutral face full of energy and ease is the best auditioned expression. This can be difficult to achieve for some dancers. Keep tension out of your neck. Make dancing look effortless. Remember to try your best and have fun!!

NOTE: The deliberation of the judges will be confidential. Do not ask the director why you were or were not cast in a particular role. Instead, ask yourself how you can learn from the audition. Many factors can determine whether/why a particular dancer receives a particular role. In some cases height or body type are considered, even hair color.