



Preparing for College Dance Team Auditions

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Many high school dancers aspire to become a part of a college dance team. There are some important things that you will want to consider before deciding to audition for a college dance team.

Before setting your sights on being on a certain team, take time to learn what the team is about. If the team works with the band a lot, and if that is not what you are interested in, perhaps that team is not for you. Conduct a little research on each team to see what the teams focuses most of their time on, and what is the most important to that team. In doing so, you will probably stumble upon what styles of dance they perform which will give you an idea of what styles you may be asked to perform at auditions. Try to find copies of the team's performances. Pay attention to the technical skills executed in those routines and strive to perfect those skills because you may see them again when you audition. Try to find a team whose style fits you and you are more likely to have fun on that team.

After you have looked into what team or teams you would like to audition for, you will most likely need a head shot of yourself. Find a photographer that you think will capture you well on film and get a fair few copies of this photo, because more than likely you will not get it back. Give yourself an ample amount of time to have the pictures developed and so you can pick the one that you think is the best.

Before you audition, be sure that you have already applied to the school. This is one thing that some teams require before the audition date. Some teams will turn you down at auditions if you have not been accepted into the school first. This could be a big mistake and could potentially ruin your chances of making the team.

Some teams will require an interview. This is probably the only time that you will be able to shine without anyone else around you. Be sure to let your personality through and give truthful answers, watch that you do not spit out a generic answer because you think that is what the judges and coaches want to hear. Be yourself and let your personality come through, while staying composed and professional. Make sure that you speak clearly, slowly, and loudly enough so the judges and coaches do not have to decipher what you said. Most importantly- be yourself!

One more way to prepare for the audition is to attend a clinic before the audition if the team offers one. Clinics are a huge opportunity to get to know a lot about the team, and to know what you really need to work on individually before the actual audition. It will also give you a chance to not only dance next to people that could potentially be on your team. Strive to blend in with the dancers who may have already been on the team. Figure out what will make you stand out, but what will help you blend in. Be aware of your strengths and weaknesses and find a way to mask your weaknesses and to highlight your strengths. Most importantly, come prepared for the auditions and stay confident!