

## **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 must have a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.3 and include verification of their cumulative GPA (ex: print out from Banner System) with their application.

1. Completed Application Form
2. Signed Waiver of Liability Form
3. Signed Audition Agreement
4. Non-refundable \$25 Application Fee (Electronic Payments Only)
5. Recent Headshot Photograph (non-returnable) (4x6 or larger preferred)

### **Before You Arrive:**

There is a non-refundable \$25 audition fee that should be paid via PayPal. Please send your payment via PayPal as “friends or family” to [aamudivas@gmail.com](mailto:aamudivas@gmail.com). Please indicate the candidates name in the notes section before sending the payment. All payments that are not sent as “friends or family” will incur an additional \$1 processing fee which must be paid on the day of auditions. No checks or money orders will be accepted. Complete the application online at [www.aamuband.com](http://www.aamuband.com) and select “Join Dancin’ Divas”. It is highly important that you read thoroughly, complete and submit this application prior to arriving for the auditions.

### **What to Bring:**

- A headshot photograph. \*\* Photographs will not be returned.
- Signed Waiver of Liability Form ( can be found at [www.aamuband.com](http://www.aamuband.com) )
- Signed Audition Agreement ( can be found at [www.aamuband.com](http://www.aamuband.com) )
- A copy of your most recent transcript (current Alabama A&M students only). Please note that all current Alabama A&M student candidates must have a 2.3 GPA to audition. High school candidates must be accepted by the University before the final audition date. No GPA required for high school candidates accepted into the University.
- Digital device containing the music for your solo.
- Bring lunch, water, and snacks in preparation for a long day.

**\*\*\*Note: Please note that “selfies”, and photos printed on copy paper are not suitable for submission as a headshot. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact us for guidance.**

## **AUDITION PROCESS**

The Dancin' Diva audition process consists of five 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. All five audition components will be conducted in 2 phases. **Phase 1 is the Preliminary Audition and Phase 2 is the Final Audition. Preliminary Auditions will consist of the Technique/Flexibility/Coaching Component, Solo Performance/Coaching Component and the Mini Group Dance Component. Phase 2 consists of the Technique/Flexibility Component and the Field Show Style Group Dance Component.** Candidates should be prepared to spend a full day during Phase 1 auditions. Dancers may wish to bring lunch or a snack to the audition, as breaks between sections will not be long enough to leave the audition site. Also, please note that our auditions are not open to the public; therefore, **family and friends will NOT be allowed to observe the audition.**

## **CLOTHING/ APPEARANCE**

During all group performances, dancers 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. Hair and make-up should be neat, all tattoos must be covered, and all body piercings must be removed. We do have a size limit and it is a criteria at judging during both phases of the audition process. Due to the nature of our uniforms and routine choreography, candidates must be in great physical shape and have lean, toned, and appealing physique. Candidate should be appropriate weight range for their height.

## **SOLO PERFORMANCE**

All applicants must prepare a one-minute choreographed dance in the style of their choice. 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. 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. Please make sure that your music device operates properly and that your music is cued to exactly where it should begin. We recommend a backup CD or iPod should one be needed.

## **TECHNIQUE/FLEXIBILITY /COACHING**

Dancers will be taught and coached on a brief across the floor combination and impromptu dance sequence. The objective is to evaluate their technical ability and assess how quickly the dancer picks up choreography in a rehearsal like setting. **At a minimum**, dancers will be expected to demonstrate the following required skills:

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

## **MINI GROUP DANCE PERFORMANCE**

All applicants will be required to learn a short group dance routine. The objective is to assess how quickly the dancer picks up choreography and how they respond to and incorporate corrections. Judges will be evaluating each dancer's confidence, overall audience appeal, showmanship and projection.

## **CALLBACKS**

Based on the evaluation of each applicant's performance during the preliminary auditions/clinic, a select group of applicants will be asked to return for the final audition round which takes places on or around **June 1-3, 2018**. **All candidates who receive an invitation must be available to return for the final round in June 2018**. All candidates who are invited to the final round will be required to submit two letters of recommendation from individuals that can attest to your character, dedication, time management and team work skills. All letters must be sent via email to [aamudivas@gmail.com](mailto:aamudivas@gmail.com) no later than May 19, 2018.

- ❖ One letter must be from a current or former team/group instructor/coach/advisor
- ❖ One letter must be from a current or former professor, counselor, administrator, or employer

## **TECHNIQUE/FLEXIBILITY (PHASE 2)**

In an effort to evaluate flexibility, agility and technical ability, dancers will be expected to demonstrate the following required and desired skills:

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

## **FIELD SHOW STYLE GROUP PERFORMANCE (PHASE 2)**

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. The objective is to 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.

## **INTERVIEW (PHASE 2)**

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**

Majority of the final audition invitations will be extended following the preliminary auditions so we highly recommend that all prospective members attend the spring auditions if at all possible. The team typically consists of 10-15 dancers; however, the size of the team varies due to the talent level during the audition process. 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 [aamudivas@gmail.com](mailto:aamudivas@gmail.com) .