**Ortiz Middle School 2024 – 2025 Dance Audition Requirements**

**Overview**

The emphasis of the Ortiz Middle School Dance Department program is in Jazz, Hip hop, pom, ballet, and modern/lyrical dance. This is in keeping with the audition requirements of most High School dance companies as well as the requirements for other Fine Arts institutions.  Due to the vigorous physical demands of a concentration in dance, students with chronic health problems and/or injuries are not encouraged to apply for the Dance Department program.

**Audition Dates:**Auditions are Thursday, February 1st and Saturday, February 3rd, 2024.  You will choose an audition time during the application process. Audition notifications will be completed by March 1st, 2024. If you receive a callback, you will be required to provide addition information continuing the audition process.

**Length of Audition:** Three hours

**What to bring:** Water, Jazz shoes (or shoes that compliment your audition style solo) and audition dance attire.

**Audition Attire:**

* + **Girls:** Black Camisole Leotard and convertible skin-colored tights, and skin colored jazz shoes. Hair should be nice, neat, and away from the face and neck with no jewelry, bows, or accessories other than bobby pins and/or a hair net.

* + **Boys:** Solid T-shirt with black dance pants or form fitting gym shorts, skin colored jazz shoes or bare feet.  Hair should be nice, neat, and pulled away and secured from the face and neck.

* + **If you do not currently have dance attire, please wear ALL PLAIN BLACK clothing that’s tighter fitting and comfortable. For example, leggings, shorts and a fitted t-shirt, nothing loose and baggy or with distracting designs/prints.**

**What to Expect:**

Our audition begins with a warmup, across the floor combinations and center floor turns. There will be a quick break to transition into the dance composition portion of the audition.  During this time students will showcase a 45 second choreographed solo routine of their choice which highlights their dance skills and ability.  **This is a prepared a solo. Please have choreography and music cut/prepared prior to your audition.**

**Evaluation Criteria:**

* Execution of movement
* Memory
* Coordination and Flexibility
* Musicality
* Performance
* Time and Spacing
* Turn, Jumps, Kicks and Leaps
* Student conduct

**Other Helpful Tips:**

* Do not talk while the instructor is teaching but do ask questions if you need additional clarification.
* Come ready to dance, focused with a positive attitude.
* **NO FOOD, GUM OR DRINK** will be permitted during the audition. Individual Water bottles will be placed in designated place in studio for dancers to use in short break time.
* This is a **CLOSED audition**, meaning only auditionees are permitted to be on campus during this time. Parents can wait in their cars or come back to pick their students up when auditions conclude.
* **NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED IN THE AUDITION STUDIO**.
* Be kind to others, ask questions if needed and most important Smile and Enjoy!
* Always thank the teacher before you leave.

For addition questions please contact Dance Director Ms. Martinez via email [Sierra.martinez@houstonisd.org](mailto:Sierra.martinez@houstonisd.org).

**Dance Interest Form**

First Name: Last Name:

Grade:

Current Attending School:

Why are you interested in Dance? Why is Dance important to you?

What previous Dance experience do you have? If you have been apart of a dance program or team, please list below.

What’s your favorite style of dance?

What current extracurricular activities do you participate in?

What style will your solo be? What song?