



Dear Prospective HDC Member,

Thank you for your interest in Hamilton Dance Company. In the interest of building a strong and technically accurate program, we have auditions to come to a consensus of your ability to be a member of this competition and performance company. HDC believes in having a positive and respectful reputation on campus and in the community, it will provide you with the opportunity to build on your performance skill set, build lasting relationships, and be involved with your school.

Hamilton Dance Company's members are required to:

- ❖ Be enrolled in Company dance at Hamilton, performing in two concerts, one first semester, one-second semester.
- ❖ Perform in assemblies, Homecoming football game, and charity events.
- ❖ Participate in the UDA Summer Camp or UA Jazz Showcase
- ❖ Compete in some possible competitions: AZ State Comp, UDA, USA, WCE, and local competitions.
- ❖ Attend our after-school rehearsal on Wednesday from 230-430, Fridays from 2:30-430pm, rehearsals the first week of fall and second week of winter breaks, and as needed rehearsals.
- ❖ Maintain a positive attitude, work to create a warm and encouraging class, a fun but disciplined rehearsal environment, maintain a positive image for Hamilton High School on and off campus, maintain appropriate grades, and to work to be the best you can be for yourself and the company.

Audition Requirements

HDC looks for members that possess more than just strong technique and performance qualities. You will be required to submit a Dance Questionnaire, transcripts, and headshot. You must wear all black and your hair should be pulled back into a clean ponytail. Bring shoes that will best assist you with doing a contemporary and hip-hop piece. Your dance questionnaire, headshot, transcript and permission slip are due on or before the first day of auditions.

The audition will consist of two center combinations and several technical elements listed on the scoring sheet provided, and a solo of your own personal choreography. You will perform for the judges the last two days with cuts and callbacks. Your solo piece should consist of the things you can bring to HDC. It can be any style of dance that showcases your talents best. Your solo should be a maximum of 1.5 minutes. Please know that if we do not have enough members for both a junior and senior company, we will have one company.

Schedule

March 4

4:30 – 6pm: Sign in, turn in paperwork, warm up on own, Skills Review, Jazz and Hip-Hop Combo

March 6

4:30-7pm First evaluations, Perform Skills, Jazz, and Hip-Hop Combo

March 7

4:30-6pm Final cuts, Perform Turns, Both Jazz and Hip-Hop Combo, Solo Choreography, posting of Hamilton Dance Company 2024-2025 by March 8 at 9pm

<http://www.cusd80.com/Page/83071>.

Good luck, and above all else relax, smile, make some friends, and have fun.

Best regards,
Mr. D.



HDC Audition Application

Please return this permission slip, dance questionnaire, headshot, and transcripts on the first day of tryouts.

Prospective Members Name _____

Instagram Account Name _____

Cell number _____

ID Number _____

Current Grade Level _____

Permission Slip

I understand that my child has expressed interest in becoming a member of the Hamilton Dance Company, and I give my child permission to audition for the company. I understand if my child was a member of the team the previous year this does not guarantee a placement on the team. Judges select the team, and their decision is final.

Behavior Contract Agreement

I, and my child, have read and agree to abide by the behavioral contract that was sent home with my child listing the requirements for membership in the company.

Costume Usage Agreement

Hamilton Dance Company will be providing most costumes to dancers. The dancer will sign for costumes that they have received. This will be an understanding that if the costume is lost, stolen, or damaged while in the custody of your child, that you and your child will be responsible for the replacement, repair, or cleaning cost of said costume. Notification will be sent to Hamilton Administration and you through US mail.

Financial Agreement

Hamilton Dance Company will require members to have warm up jacket (\$190 estimate), backpack (\$85), and team clothing (\$340). If you already own a jacket and backpack you do not need to purchase these. We will travel to UDA Summer Camp or U of A Jazz Showcase (\$450 estimate). The team will be traveling to either UDA, USA, DTU nationals and that cost should be around \$1600 estimate. Fees for Nationals will be due in August \$240, September \$240, October \$240, November \$240, December \$240. Fee for company clothing etc. will be due at the end of April when designs and selections have been made. Company members will also be responsible for Hip Hop costume, competitions, and travel fees to be determined. The team will have the opportunity to travel to Hawaii over spring break and that cost should be around \$2000 if you choose to attend. By signing this you agree to the financial requirements of the company.

Print Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent/Guardian E-mail _____

Parent Cell Phone _____

Print Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Score _____

Day 1 Scoring Sheet

Judge # _____

Dancer's # _____

Category	Comments	Possible Points	Score
Double Right Pirouette		5	
Triple Right Pirouette		5	
Double Left Pirouette		5	
Triple Right Pirouette		5	
A La Seconde Turns – 7 into a double Right		10	
Kip Up		5	
Head Spring		5	
Aerial		5	
Leap Combo		5	
Jazz Combo			
Technique		10	
Memory		5	
Overall Appeal		10	
Hip Hop Combo			
Technique		10	
Memory		5	
Overall Appeal		10	
Total Points Possible		100	

Judges Placement Recommendation

Beg	Int	Adv	JCo	HDC
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

<p>Total Score All Days _____</p>
--

Score _____

Final Scoring Sheet

Jazz Combo		10	
Hip Hop Combo		10	
Jazz Turn Combo		10	
Dancer's Solo			
Technique (Proper technical execution of dance skills being shown)		20	
Originality (Use of original movement, phrases, spacing, and musical interpretation to tell a story to an audience)		10	
Performance Quality (Use of facial expression, movement quality, intensity, dynamics to help draw an audience member into the piece.)		10	
Musicality (Ability to translate the music's highs, lows, backbeats, accents, and timing to help drive the choreography forward)		10	
Overall Impression (Judges overall impression of you as a dancer to include your technique, performance quality, choreography, and general presence as a dancer.)		20	
Total Points Possible		100	



Company Contract

Hamilton Dance Company proudly represents Hamilton High School as the performance and competitive dance company on campus. The company performs at homecoming half-time, dance shows, assemblies, competitions, and other performance venues. Members must not only have the desire and dedication to give their best effort during each practice and performance, but they must also serve as exemplary students in behavior and academic achievement.

No student is required to be a member of this company; therefore, participation is considered a privilege and an honor. It is therefore imperative that students and their parent/guardian understand the contract and rules.

1) Purpose of the company

- a. Promote and uphold school spirit.
- b. Represent Hamilton High School by providing entertainment at games, assemblies, shows, competitions, or other performance events.
- c. Encourage leadership qualities and develop life-long social skills of company members.
- d. Provide opportunities to develop and increase self-confidence and promote consistent academic performance.

2) Requirements/Eligibility

- a. Company dance must take priority over other extracurricular activities and jobs. Conflicts must be discussed with the coach asap.
- b. Members must attend all required activities, such as practices, performances, competitions, and fundraisers, unless the dancer is ill or has a family emergency. Failure to attend a mandatory event will result in a demerit. Seven demerits will result in a dismissal. Unless otherwise noted, all events are considered mandatory.
- c. A demerit can take place for the following reasons (but not limited to):
 - I. Not following guidelines listed in the contract.
 - II. Unexcused from an event
 - III. Not in attendance prior to a performance (call time)
 - IV. Bad attitude/disrespect or talking back to Mr. D.
 - V. Poor grades
 - VI. Using inappropriate language
 - VII. Inappropriate behavior during school or at events

Demerits are tracked by the coach and any member can find out their current standing by asking the coach.

- d. A company member may only miss a total of 7 events (this includes leaving early, arriving late, family emergency, illness, or any other absence as one) throughout the entire company season unless prior approval has been given by the coach. If you know you will be absent from an event, you must give a 3-day written notice. The instructor will reprimand company members who miss more than 7 events.

- e. The first time a dancer is unexcused (not reaching the instructor 3 days prior) from an event (assembly, show, rehearsal, or other performance) they will be given a verbal warning.
- f. For dancers to be eligible to perform in games, assemblies, competitions, shows, or other events, they must maintain appropriate grades. Dancers must receive a D or better in all classes to be considered eligible, and grade checks are done at the end of each grading period. Grade checks will be pulled weekly for those students who are not consistent with their academics.
- g. **Membership on the team does not guarantee placement on the competition team.** If you were on the competition team the prior year, this does not mean you will be on the competition team the following year. Continue working on skills to hopefully maintain your team status.
- h. Consuming or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs is grounds for immediate removal from the company as well as school disciplinary action. Going anywhere with anyone without express permission from the instructor during an off-campus school related function is grounds for removal from the company.
- i. Please be aware that your social media is also a representation of you and the school. Your posts should adhere to the standards of this contract. You will provide your coach access to your Instagram.
- j. **Judge's scoring sheets will be available to students for viewing only. No information will be given to anyone about another individual's audition or point placement. Team number is based on a natural break in point total.**
- k. Being on company one year IN NO WAY GUARANTEES PLACEMENT ON THE COMPANY FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR. All members must audition in the spring and injured dancers can audition for the team through video. The only exceptions are incoming students from other schools, districts, or eighth grade students not knowing about the audition. Company is a year class and new members will not be accepted second semester. In addition to ability, each company member's cooperation, effort, grades, and attitude will be considered. Judges will choose the company, and their decisions are **FINAL**.

3) Rehearsals

- a. Wednesday 230-430pm and Friday 230-430pm.
- b. Students choosing not to be in a dance that is voluntary do not need to come to rehearsal that week. Opening and closing numbers are not voluntary numbers.
- c. If you miss one rehearsal you will be removed from that number, or if you are the choreographer your dance will be removed from the show line up. Only exception is prior approval has been given to a dancer/choreographer.
- d. If you walk out of a rehearsal, you will be removed from that number.
- e. If the choreographer feels that their piece is being hindered by a dancer(s) inability to pick up and maintain steps, and the instructor agrees, that student will be removed from the piece.
- f. If a choreographer is not prepared to teach their piece it will be removed from the show line up.
- g. It is the responsibility of dancers to practice dances outside of class time for memory. This includes over breaks.
- h. The instructor will choose the dancers for any audition only piece.
- i. Formations (dancer placement) will be chosen by the choreographer. The instructor can move dancers in a piece at any time based on memory, ability, and effort. All choreographed moves and music are subject to change by the instructor without explanation, and these decisions are final. The instructor reserves the right to prohibit a member from performing if it appears that he/she is not performance ready. This is not open to discussion and all inquiries will not be responded to.

Hamilton Dance Company Skills

- Strong jazz, contemporary/lyrical, hip-hop technique
- Outstanding performance, style, and use of dynamics
- Choreographic and Improvisational ability
- Retention
- Triple or more Pirouettes
- Turning leaps/jumps (stag, spin disc, etc.)
- Side, center, and switch leaps
- Flexibility
- Advanced Fouette and A la seconde turns
- Arabesque/extensions
- Kip up, head spring
- Aerial

Fees

Costs for the company for the year range average between \$1970-\$2400. This includes team jacket, backpack, clothing for class, competition uniforms, camp, and nationals fees. This information is based on this year's cost based on a new team member.

Returning members may not owe the same amount for Team Attire, Mr. D will let you know what the lower amount will be.

All fees will be sent out in a parent email in April. Parents will also be notified about what competitions we may be doing for the following year.

Nationals Costs are offset by fundraising, so your willingness to assist is greatly appreciated.

Hamilton Dance Company Audition Checklist

- Read Audition Requirements
- Complete Audition Application
- Parent and Dancer Signatures
- Dance Questionnaire
- Attach Head Shot

- Transcripts
- Create Original Solo Choreography

Hamilton Dance Questionnaire

1. Why do you want a spot on this team?

2. Which style of dance do you think is your strongest and why?

3. Why should a dancer be responsible for maintaining good grades?

4. What is one thing you could add to this organization?

5. What are your strengths?

6. What are your weaknesses?

7. How would you feel if you got caught doing something you knew went against the dance team rules? What would you expect to happen to you?

8. How would you keep yourself motivated during the season?

9. If we do not have enough members for a junior company, would you commit to Hamilton Dance Company?

10. How can dancers best represent their school and student body?