



General Information

Middle School Dance Auditions

- All students interested in Apex Arts must complete an online application [here](#).
- All applicants must complete an audition to be considered for the program.
- Audition appointments will be automatically scheduled by the application system. Please plan accordingly.
- All applicants must pass the auditions and meet academic requirements to be eligible for the lottery.
- All students expressing interest in Apex Arts are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of previous training or experience level.

Dance Audition Components

A Dance audition consists of:

- **Prepared Phrase:**
 - Select one phrase to learn and perform at the audition. Select the phrase that best matches your interest and ability level. No preference is given to certain phrases, so select the one that you will be most successful learning and performing.
 - Be prepared to perform the selected prepared phrase at the time of the audition without instruction.
 - **Access the required choreography options here:** [Option 1](#) [Option 2](#) [Option 3](#)
- **Audition Prompt: Learn New Choreography at Audition**
 - During the audition, students will learn two short choreography phrases that will incorporate weight transfer, balance, jumping, and full body coordination.
 - These will be performed live at the time of the audition (virtual or in-person).

- [Here](#) is one of the two phrases that will be taught at the audition. This is to show an example of what will be done at the audition and give students an opportunity to prepare for success. Applicants are not required to learn the phrase for the auditions.
- **Interview**
 - Be prepared to discuss your interest in Apex Arts, your portfolio, and potential as an artist.
- **Attire for In-Person Auditions and Video Submissions**

The following guidelines are provided for all dancers submitting audition materials for Apex Arts. Guidelines are in place to support every dancer's safety, health, and comfort. Students are not adjudicated based on their apparel.

- **Attire Option 1:** A leotard (any color) and pink/black/skin-tone tights
- **Attire Option 2:** Solid color leggings with a fitted tank top or t-shirt
- **Attire Option 3:** A fitted tank top or t-shirt with solid color jazz pants, joggers, or athletic shorts

Dancers are required to either be barefoot or to wear dance shoes; dancing in socks presents a safety hazard and is not permitted. Hair should be pulled back away from the face and neck and secured neatly, jewelry is not permitted, and makeup if worn should be simple.

Scoring Criteria

You will be scored on the following criteria for each piece:

- **Ability to Pick up Choreography:** Able to grasp and reproduce 80-100% of movement material learned prior to and during the audition. Preparation for audition is executed by learning **one** of the three phrases prior to the audition.
- **Body Alignment:** Consistently able to demonstrate the ability to stand in various positions while maintaining a vertical spine and proper rotation of the legs.
- **Balance and Control:** Consistently able to demonstrate stability through the transfer of weight and by engaging abdominal muscles.
- **Performance Quality (Dynamics and Energy):** Consistently able to approach movement phrases with energy, rhythm, and embodied stage presence.
- **Professionalism:** Fully engaged in the audition process including performing, watching, and learning.

Middle school applicants must score at least an average score of 6 on their audition AND meet academic requirements to be eligible for this program.

Recommendations for Preparation

- Visit www.aacps.org/apexarts for more information about Info Sessions, Workshops, applications and auditions.
- See your school counselor for assistance with the application or for more details about the academic requirements.
- Select a Prepared Phrase that best suits your experience level and ability.
- Practice the Prepared Phrase to ensure you have them memorized and can perform them without instruction.

- Practice the specific techniques that will be part of the audition so that you are able to perform with confidence, energy, and embodied stage presence.
- Get feedback from teachers about your performance, techniques, and video quality. Ask questions about the prompts if you are unclear about what is being requested.
- Practice for the interview by speaking with various people about your interest in Dance
- Review the scoring criteria so that you know how your performance will be assessed.
- Contact the Apex Arts Office with any specific questions you may have.
- *Si necesita una explicación en español de los requisitos, llame a José al 410 533 4815*