Duke Ellington School of the Arts
SY27-28 Audition Procedures – Dance

GUIDELINES

All students must complete an audition in-person. Dance auditions are a mandatory two (2) day process. Failure to attend both days consecutively will result in disqualification. If selected, a third day callback is required.

All auditions are closed to parents/guardians, family members, or peers. If you leave for non-emergencies during your audition, you may be disqualified from completing the admissions process.

If you have any questions, conflicts and/or health concerns, please contact the Admissions Office at admissions@ellingtonarts.org for further assistance.

What We Are Looking For

At Ellington we are here to teach – prior training is certainly valued, but we are first and foremost evaluating your potential and passion for dance. During your audition we will be looking for students who:

- Physically and verbally express their passion for the art of dance,
- Show a strong desire to work diligently on technique,
- Display a willingness to accept feedback and/or positive correction,
- Exhibit flexibility, a natural sense of movement, musicality, an innate ability to follow directions, always maintain a positive attitude and the physique and stamina appropriate for rigorous dance.

What to Wear/How to Prepare

Auditioners for the dance department are advised to:

- Arrive ON TIME for your audition, late arrivals (past 15 min.) may be disqualified.
- Girls (or identifying): Wear leotard (preferably black) and footless tights, bring white socks and ballet shoes., Girls (or identifying) should have a dance belt (supporter-not jock strap)
- Boys (or identifying): Wear black footless tights, white tank top, dance belt (supporter – not jockstrap), regular belt around the waist, wear white socks, and ballet shoes,
- *If you are unable to acquire the clothing described above for your audition, please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org so that we can find alternatives.*
- *Auditioners that identify as non-binary and/or are unsure how to dress, please contact us at admissions@ellingtonarts.org.*
- Hair pulled back, away from the face in a tight bun at the crown of the head and secured with a thin hairnet.
- Remove all visible jewelry (incl. nose, eyebrow, lip piercings etc. & earrings).
- If you have a new piercing, please have the following piercing covered by a small flesh tone Band-Aid.
- NO long fingernails or fingernail and toenail polish.

In addition to the materials sent in for your Ellington application through the My School DC lottery application, you are expected to submit the following:

1. A physical medical form for the current school year or a medical form from your doctor, clearing you for participation in a rigorous dance program.
    - *If you have questions about what you can bring, please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org before your audition.*
2. One (1) 8x10" photographs, One (1) headshot *If you cannot provide photographs, please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org before your audition.*

The Audition Process Itself

For auditions, you will participate in a ballet and a modern technique dance class which also includes strengthening and conditioning.

- Solo choreography and/or dance are not required for this audition.
  You will be assigned to either Group A or Group B – group changes are not interchangeable.
  Auditions are held over a two-day period. You must attend both days one and day two consecutively.
- Selected auditioners will be assigned to Group C, if they are invited to return for the final day.
- If selected to continue the audition process in the callbacks, participation in each session is mandatory to be considered for dance at Ellington.
    a. Failure to attend both days will result in disqualification.
- If you have any concerns related to attendance, contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org.

Have a Successful Audition

- Be confident.
- Be energetic.

Please note 504 and IEP accommodation is available. Please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org with any questions or concerns.