

Northwestern State University Demon Dazzler Danceline Audition Packet

I. Demon Dazzlers

The Demon Dazzlers serve as the official jazz line for Northwestern State University. Performing for NSU Demon pep rallies, football, and basketball games; the Demon Dazzlers blend different styles of precision movement to produce a unique style of precision-jazz dance.

During the fall semester, the Demon Dazzlers serve as an auxiliary unit of the “Spirit of Northwestern” Marching Band, accompanying them to various marching festivals, guest appearances, and football games both at home and selected away games. During the spring, the Demon Dazzlers provide half-time entertainment for the Demon basketball games and perform various exhibitions throughout the state. During the summer, the Demon Dazzlers also sponsor a dance camp.

II. Membership Selection Process

Tryouts are held during the spring semester to assess the skills and ability of potentially interested candidates. For this reason a three-phase (solo, technique class/audition routine and interview) low stress tryout will be conducted, during which each candidate’s skill level will be evaluated. A short interview with the candidate may be conducted at anytime during any of the phases. Actual attendance to the audition is mandatory; therefore, videos will not be accepted. The tryout dates are as follows:

Date: **Workshop/Audition:** **Saturday 8:30 a.m. - Until**

Auditions are closed to the public, including parents. Only candidates and judges will be allowed in the audition room; however, parents are welcome to sit in on the learning process if they choose.

Minimum Qualifications for Tryouts

Candidates who wish to tryout for the Demon Dazzlers Danceline must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. All candidates must plan to enroll at NSU and participate in both fall and spring semesters.
2. If the candidate is an incoming freshmen or transfer student, the candidate must complete the regular admissions application process including having an official transcript sent to NSU by high school/University.
3. All candidates must have a 2.0 cumulative and current grade point average to be eligible for auditions and must maintain a 2.0 grade point average in all academic work while enrolled at NSU.
4. All candidates must have sufficient physical fitness, endurance, strength, and skills to perform the requirements set below.

Selection Criteria

Members of the Demon Dazzlers Danceline will be based on the following criteria:

Mastery, or the potential to master, the following skills:

- Double and/or triple pirouettes
- Center fouette turns in a continuing second and in turned out passé (positions)
- Split leaps on right and left (legs)
- Switch leaps (traveling from right and left entrances)
- Capezio leap
- Turning Calypso leap
- High kicks
- Safety falls
- Right and Left splits
- Demonstrate skill of dance foundation such as ballet and jazz

Other Criteria

- Strong leadership qualities
- Charismatic presence/personality
- Confidence
- Enthusiasm
- Motivation

Candidates will also be evaluated based upon a routine that is to be prepared in advance of the audition by the candidate. The routine may be to music of the participant's choice and not exceed 90 seconds in length.

If selected, the candidate must maintain a prescribed level of physical fitness to remain on the team.

III. Frequently Asked Questions

What should I wear to auditions?

- Candidates are required to wear a black hot pant (shorter biker shorts), **TIGHTS** and black sports bra for tryouts only. No warm-ups, t-shirts, shorts, or cover-ups of any kind will be allowed during evaluations. Any type of Jazz dance shoe that you are comfortable in is strongly recommended. Hair must be secured and away from the face, full make-up.

What time should I show up for the workshop and tryout session?

- We recommend that everyone attending the tryout session show up 30 minutes prior to the scheduled time.

What are tryouts like? A workshop will be held the day of tryouts.

- Tryouts are done in three phases with cuts after each phase.
- Portion of the tryout dance will be taught at the workshop.

What are practices like?

- Practice is normally scheduled from Monday thru Friday in the evening.
- A required cardio and weight program will be scheduled at the beginning of each semester.

Do you offer a scholarship?

- Fall and spring scholarships of \$1000/semester are awarded to members plus out-of-state fee waivers for all out of state students that are selected. These awards can be combined with other scholarship awards. Second year members that make the line will be awarded \$1250/semester, third- and fourth-year members will be awarded \$1500/semester. Officer positions are subject to more per the director's discretion.

Who can I contact for information?

- For more information you can email the Demon Dazzlers Director, Renee` Oates at scallornw@nsula.edu or 318-564-7916.

some materials are likely to change