



THE ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY GUIDELINES AND CONSTITUTION

Director, Dianne Maroney-Grigsby

Assistant Director, Princeton McCurtain

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the GSU Orchesis Dance Company. We know that you will put forth your best effort to become an active and professional member of this organization.

I. Membership Selection/Participation

1. This organization/members shall be open to all students meeting reasonable established organizational qualifications, and such qualifications shall not be based on race, age, religion, national origin or physical disabilities, except in cases where physical condition are bona fide qualifications.

There are 3 categories within the company.

- A. Company member - You are a returning member or you were selected based on your summer audition video.
- B. Apprentice - (understudy) Your audition video showed potential.
- C. Walk-on - No walk-ons will be accepted after the month of September each school year.

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2. You are allowed to participate with the Orchesis Dance Company for 4 years during your undergraduate matriculation and 2 years graduate school.

3. **Academic Requirements**

G.P.A. equal to or better than 2.0 per semester Only full-time students may participate.

4. **Field show selection**

Dancers deemed ready, must audition for the game each week. You will be graded on your knowledge of materials, execution, showmanship, appearance and technique.

The Director or assistants may require a performing member to re-audition for Field Show at any time.

5. **Concert Participation**

The Director shall make casting decisions and is responsible for all production matters.

Company members and apprentice dancers will be cast in the role where they are needed, but should understand that they will not be used in every performance.

Walk-ons will be considered based on skill.

Dancers must accept the roles assigned to them, since they are assigned with consideration for the level of development and specific capabilities of the dancer, and the requirements of the overall production.

All dancers not selected should understudy. Choose a part if one is not assigned.

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6. Captain

The captain should represent the company in all aspects:

Technical ability to execute field show choreography as well as concert.

Ability to choreograph

Can lead a company warm up

First to arrive and the last to leave

Display leadership qualities

Sense of style for deciding what costume to wear

Picturesque appearance in her costume

7. Regardless of period of time for which student has been accepted in the Orchesis dance company, they must remain consistent with the aims, policies and purposes of the Orchesis constitution and Grambling State University.

The Director has the authority to suspend any dancer whose behavior or attitude causes a bad reflection on the Company.

II. Responsibilities and Prohibited Practices for Student Organizations

*SPECIAL NOTE: YOU ARE NOW ON A UNIVERSITY LEVEL. NO ONE WILL CONSTANTLY REMAND YOU OF YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES. IF YOU MISS A PRACTICE AND NO ONE IS INFORMED, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE INELIGIBLE FOR AUDITIONS. WE DO NOT ACCEPT EXCUSES AFTER THE FACT. NO EXCEPTIONS. WE OPERATE AS A PROFESSIONAL COMPANY.

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Successful organizations abide by specific guidelines. Members of our program must adhere to the following:

* Dancers who violate rules will be penalized.

1. Responsibilities of Dancers

A. Attendance

Practice Monday - Friday. Be prepared to practice overtime if necessary.

Be prepared for Special weekend practices (To Be Announced).

Dancers are required to attend all weekly practices unless they have a valid explanation.

All absences must be approved by the Director or Assistant(s).

Dancers must be punctual; for all classes, practices, and performances as scheduled unless previously excused.

Each individual is to arrive **15** minutes prior to scheduled practice time for personal warm- up.

Unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the Company.

Dancers are responsible for keeping themselves informed on times and places of classes, practices and performances.

Dancers must complete a full dance year, August - May. No exceptions.

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IF YOU CAN'T MAKE PRACTICE, CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ONLY:

1. Dianne Maroney-Grigsby (O) 318-274-2201 (H) 318-927-9792

2. Princeton McCurtain (C) 513-767-4173

2. Classroom and Rehearsal Etiquette

- NO JEWELRY ALLOWED IN CLASSROOM
- BE ON TIME!! (15 minutes Early)
- Proper hair - Dancers hair should be able to go in a Bun, and hair **MUST** be neat. Spritz or gel must be used. If you have braids you are still required to have a bun. Short hair must be styled away from face, and not a distraction.
- Proper attire
 - Women: Leotards and Tights are to be worn at all practices along with proper shoes for respective classes.
 - Men: Fitted Joggers/tights with leotard, form fitting tank, or fitted t-shirt. Proper shoes for respective class.
- Make-up: Ladies should have on some makeup (full face not necessary). Do not come to class looking as if you just rolled out of bed.
- No food or drinks that may damage floor or make mess. No gum! Clean up after yourselves, or food privileges may be lost.
- ABSOLUTELY NO TALKING
- Look at and listen to instructor at all times
- Don't pull on leotard (Wear one that doesn't "ride up")
- DO NOT BITE NAILS OR CRACK KNUCKLES IN CLASS
- DO NOT CROSS ARMS OVER CHEST Or HANDS ON HIPS
- DO NOT HIDE IN BACK OF CLASS
- Dance with your group if assigned to a group
- Display positive attitude & body language
- Posture & carriage -- Stand tall
- Be confident but not overly aggressive
- Be open-minded about learning new material

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- Write down new information in your journals
- Be social when time permits
- Be conscientious of noise level before and after class, and in hallways
- Take turns within your group
- Clap at the end of each class
- Thank accompanist and instructors after each class
- Wear Warm-ups or Cover-ups to and from classes
- Nails length should not interfere with dancing. Refer to image below for maximum length



3. **Projecting Positively**

A. Ambassadors of the University

“Representing GSU” involves certain behavioral guidelines. You are to exemplify Tiger pride at all times. Old members should set good examples for new members.

Loud profane language will not be tolerated.
The use of drugs is prohibited and will result in automatic dismissal from the Company.

All Company dancers are required to participate in, and be supportive of, all projects and activities of the Orchesis Dance Company.

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B. Respect for Authority

Obedience is necessary and honorable. Conforming to rules and regulations is an indication of maturity and respect for one's peers.

100% attention to the instructor, in practice, is required as well as cooperation. Positive attitudes should be reflected in your cooperation in practice and performance.

4. **Health Care**

ALL Health Challenges must be report to the Director and/or Assistants before you are allowed to perform with the Orchesis Dance Company

5. **Personal Hygiene**

Unsightly body hair must be removed. Use of deodorants, body sprays, and feminine hygiene products is recommended

Dance-wear must be kept clean.

6. **Appearance**

You should look well proportioned in dance-wear, costumes, etc. and maintain this look throughout the season. We DO NOT have specific height and weight requirements.

A. Appearance for games and performances

Make-up should be applied correctly, in accordance with the uniform prescribed. During a performance make-up must be worn.

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Nail polish worn with uniforms should be "French Tip Clear". Nails must not be too long; length of nails to be determined by the Director or Assistants.

III. Travel Requirements

1. Travel Suit

Black travel suit-skirt, pants, jacket, all white shirt if necessary, and black shoes. Travel suit must be solid black.

2. Football Games Necessities

Proper dancing shoes (jazz boots, white sneakers, character).

Black bra to wear with uniform

Nude capezio clear back bra

Black and white socks.

Two pair of dancing stockings- (Danskin Non Skimmer Toast)

Hair supplies - Hairpins, Spritz, Gel, etc.....

Make-up - Eye shadow, red lipstick, Blush, Eyeliner.

Practice clothes.

Extra clothes

Diamond stud earrings only, No gold jewelry

3. Flight and Travel Etiquette

ABSOLUTELY NO LOUD LAUGHTER, TALKING OR SCREAMING ON THE VEHICLES WHILE TRAVELING Loud noise is irritating to the other passengers and will not be tolerated. Please be considerate of those who are studying and/or sleeping.

DO NOT LITTER THE VEHICLES in which you travel. Leave them as clean as you found them (or cleaner!).

Thank each bus driver when riding shuttles.

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Visit and enjoy everyone -- don't stay in your usual "clique" or groups.

IV. HOTEL ETIQUETTE

- Show respect to chaperones and other dancers at all times.
- Be considerate to others. Always be kind; NO PUT-DOWNS!
- Absolutely no gossiping about other dancers -- No Negatives!!
- Never use or take anything from others without permission.
- Do not eat food that does not belong to you.
- Put your name on everything with permanent markers.
- Make a list of everything you bring, so when you pack to go home you will know if anything is missing.
- Review daily agenda and prepare for it before you go to bed.
- Lights out at 11:30 PM!! Bed check each evening by Director or Assistant; No talking after lights out – Be considerate of others who are trying to sleep. (Set yourself up for a successful performance by getting a good nights rest.)
- Keep all of your stuff neatly folded in your suitcases.
- Keep dirty clothes in your laundry bag.
- Hang/fold clean clothes up everyday -- do not leave your "things" around.
- Dispose of unused food and trash.
- Keep all make-up and toiletries in your make-up bag.
- Assign "stations" for each dancer to keep their "stuff".
- Do not borrow from others; take everything you will need.
- Assign "shower/bathroom" times for each room.
- Make beds and clean room each AM. Check under bed every day for shoes, etc.
- Use good manners at all times -- (Please, thank you, yes ma'am, no ma'am, etc.)

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- NO ROOM SERVICE ALLOWED.
- Do not charge anything to your room.
- No phone calls (local or long distance) may be made from rooms.

V. FOOTBALL FIELD AND THEATER ETIQUETTE

1. Theatre

When the company has completed its performance, or is waiting to Perform, and as a member of the audience, you must show support and respect for all other dancers performing. No talking during performances.

When entering the theater go to the dressing room, warm up, do not talk, listen for directions. We have ONE “walk through” and

ONE “run through”. If we do not get through our blocking/spacing rehearsal quickly, we will not have time to run our piece.

Be on time. Absolutely no food or drinks allowed in dressing rooms near costumes, or on stage.

Dressing rooms must be left cleaner than you found them.

Backstage etiquette is absolutely imperative “NO TALKING ALLOWED”!!! Professionalism is expected at all times. Be on best behavior at all times. Dancers must wear required stage Makeup. (I will personally check each one of you- DMG).

Use good manners and Please be kind and considerate to other dancers at all times. Think before you speak!

Your performance backstage is just as important as onstage.

Thank the stage hands and backstage crew for their help.

Dancers must return all uniforms the day following a performance.

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2. Game

When in uniform, no excessive talking.

Once in formation, no talking and no waving to spectators.

During Photograph sessions, observe 5 minute overall time limits.

After you take your photo get right back in formation.

When in the stands, do not get up unless you get an **OK** from Assistants.

During a game, it is difficult to smile the entire game; however it is mandatory to keep a pleasant face.

Keep up with all of your belongings

During a game we may have to change on a bus. Keep tights, undergarments and other personal items secure.

We do not have security for personal items when on the field, therefore leave all expensive jewelry, cameras, etc. at home.

DANCERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING VIOLATIONS:

- Improper behavior/conduct
- Not showing respect to fellow dancers, chaperones, or teachers
- Use of profanity
- Use of drugs
- Poor attendance

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DANCERS MUST BEHAVE AS WELL GROOMED YOUNG LADIES AND GENTLEMEN AT ALL TIMES AND REMEMBER THAT YOUR BEHAVIOR (GOOD OR BAD) IS A REFLECTION ON:

Grambling State University
Orchesis Dance Company
Dianne Maroney-Grigsby
Princeton McCurtain
AND Yourselves

THINK before you speak (or act).

Dancers who violate behavior codes will be ineligible for 2009-2010 company and future travels.

ODC will begin holding semesterly evaluations. You will be graded on the following:

Performance, Knowledge and execution of choreography, Stage presence, make-up, hair, costume, classroom and rehearsal etiquette behavior, professionalism, teamwork, cleanliness and neatness of dressing room, etc.

