



AUDITION PACKET 2023 - 2024

AUDITION PACKET

2023 - 2024 Season

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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Spirit Program Mission

The purpose of the Cal Poly spirit program is to support and represent the university by exemplifying and encouraging school pride, spirit, and involvement.

Dance Team Description

The Cal Poly Dance Team (CPDT) can be found on the sidelines at all Cal Poly Football home games and Men's and Women's Basketball home games. The goal of the dance team is to support Cal Poly athletics and entertain the fans. The team performs jazz, pom, and hip hop style dances at Cal Poly games. CPDT also competes in the Jazz division and Game Day division at USA Nationals each year in Anaheim, CA. The team is primarily student run through the team's two captains, along with the help of an advisor. All dancers are full-time Cal Poly students.

Membership Requirements

- Must be accepted and enrolled at Cal Poly prior to auditions. Wait listed students may audition but must inform captains of their conditional enrollment.
- Must be enrolled as a full-time student at Cal Poly, have and maintain a 2.0 GPA, and be in good academic standing with Cal Poly at all times in order to participate.
- Must attend all time commitments listed on the following page.
- Must complete summer workouts and practice requirements.
- Must commit to an average of 15+ hours per week during the season for practice, workouts, games, events, and functions.
- Must be a responsible adult and treat dance team commitments like a job where you are accountable, timely, and disciplined.
- Must possess excellent time management skills.
- Must audition for selection of the Cal Poly Dance Team Nationals squad.
- Must abide by all rules and regulations set by NCAA Division I and the Western Athletic Conference as they pertain to collegiate dance teams.
- Must abide by all Cal Poly student-athlete policies and behavioral conduct standards as they pertain to the spirit program.
- Must abide by all Cal Poly Policies including guidelines set by Residence Life, Student Conduct, Academic Policies, and Housing Operations.
- Must maintain a mature & positive attitude. Be honest, respectful, & dependable.
- Must exhibit appropriate personal conduct, on and off the performance floor.
- Must be willing to learn, accept instruction from advisor & captains, respect all decisions of advisor & captains, and respect the integrity of the program.
- Must possess a strong dedication to academic excellence.

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Financial Obligations

Each member is responsible for a team fee, but we do have scholarships available that members can apply for once officially on the team. Obligations include an all-inclusive team fee of \$750-\$1000, depending on year on team. In addition, new uniforms for the season will run at an additional cost. We never want finances to affect a dancer's ability to be a part of the team, so email us if there are any concerns.

Time Commitment

- Keep up with summer technique and conditioning
- Attend Summer Practice at Cal Poly (dates announced upon making the team)
- Attend all regular season practices and workouts
- Commitment of 15+ hours per week can be expected with practices, workouts, games, appearances, team building, fundraisers, etc.
- Regular weekly schedule includes practice 4 times per week, weekly workouts, and team bonding activities. Exact practice dates & times will be announced at a later time. Missed practices, games, or events are subject to the attendance policy agreement.
- Perform at home football games, away football games as designated, home men's and women's basketball games, the Big West tournament, soccer games, and other Cal Poly athletic and community events.
- Availability for games over Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks.
- Schedule priorities with academics and dance team.

FAQ's

1) *Are returning members guaranteed a spot?*

With the exception of the captains, returning athletes are not guaranteed a position on the team for the upcoming season, so skills and grades must be maintained throughout the year. Each returning member must audition for every season.

2) *Does the team compete?*

Yes, the team competes at USA Nationals in Anaheim, CA each year. The team competes in the 4-year College Division 1 category and Game Day Division. Please see the "USA Nationals" page on our website for more information.

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FAQ's

3) *Are there practices over summer and holiday breaks?*

Each year, practice dates and times vary due to facility availability, camp, and football and basketball schedules. Summer practice is typically 10 days in mid/late August. There are usually basketball games over Thanksgiving break that the team must attend (never on Thanksgiving), as well as throughout Winter Break (Never on Christmas). Team members may be required to return to campus before the break is over for games and practices.

4) *Is housing provided for practices during the non-academic year?*

Students living on campus cannot move into their dorms until WOW, so housing will be provided for new team members by returning team members who live in the surrounding area of campus during summer break and holiday practices.

5) *How much does it cost to be on the team?*

Participation costs vary from year to year but are always moderate. Funding is provided from the University for travel costs to all NCAA sanctioned events for football and basketball. Members cover the costs for uniforms outside from the team fee. Fundraising and team scholarships are available.

6) *Are scholarships offered?*

We offer a few scholarships each year provided to us by our sponsors. However, all members are still required to carry a 2.0 minimum GPA. Anyone not meeting this criteria will need to speak with advisor, Annette Laron-Pickett, prior to tryouts.

7) *Who can I contact for additional information?*

For more information, please contact:

Captains: Sydney Stone and Riley Gotowala at calpolydanceteam.slo@gmail.com

Advisor: Annette Laron-Pickett (cheer coach and dance advisor) at cpstunt@gmail.com

CPDT AUDITIONS

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Registration Information

Please register with the provided google form link. This will be our way to contact you with necessary information.

Link: <https://forms.gle/2H59CA9Lhxm46RaN9>

Audition Timeline

May 18th: Registration Closes.

May 19th: Audition Night: 7:00 - 10:00 PM (Check in between 6:30 - 7:00 PM)

All registered participants will check in after 6:30 PM, prior to 7:00PM. Warm up will begin promptly at 7:00 PM, followed by the teaching of audition routines.

May 20th: Audition Day: 9:00 AM - Mid Afternoon (Check in between 8:30 - 9:00 AM)

Team announced at the end of the audition. Short team meeting to follow.

Audition Specifics

On May 19th, participants can expect a warm up followed by the teaching of 2 audition routines, each around 45 seconds long. Both routines will be auditioned the following day. While there will be no judging, auditionees should still come looking presentable and ready to learn, as this is our first impression of the new team. On May 20th, participants can expect a warm up followed by judged technique across the floor. We will then teach a sideline/cheer combo and audition in small groups. Prior to a lunch break (time will be reported at auditions) we will have the first round of cuts. After lunch, we will quickly review the 2 routines from the night before and then proceed with auditions in a variety of small groups. We may ask you to re-perform the sideline/cheer routine, answer some interview questions, or give you the opportunity to show us specialty tricks. After the team has been chosen, the final round of cuts will be made and the team will be announced. Members should expect a team meeting immediately after the announcement.

Audition Attire

- "Game Day Ready" hair & make-up!
- Form fitting and appropriate dance clothes, leggings, shorts, tank top, etc.
- Feel free to wear bralettes, sports bras, old dance costume tops, etc. if you're comfortable doing so.
- Jazz shoes or half soles and tennis shoes
- Hair should be down & styled (ponytail ok during technique assessments)
- Make sure you feel confident in your presentation! It will show in your audition!

CPDT AUDITIONS

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Audition Routine & Skill Requirements

Participants should anticipate:

- Kicks and tilts
- Leg holds (right and left)
- Leg turns (front and tilt) (right and left)
- Triple pirouettes and as many as you can do
- Turns in second (turn combinations with pirouettes, floats, and front attitude)
- Leaps (must include: front, side, back, switch, calypso, and turning disks)
- Head spring
- Kip up
- Side aerial (either left or right)
- Any additional tricks or skills

Letters of recommendation

These are optional but taken into account. They are due with your printed and filled out audition packet on May 18th (or included as an attachment in your video audition). Recommendations should be from a current coach or dance instructor. If this is not possible, a previous coach or instructor will be accepted.

Letters of recommendation should include the following:

- Role they had in your life and duration of your relationship with them.
- Evaluation of your abilities, character, and contributions, & strengths.
- Summary that explains why they recommend you for the Cal Poly Dance Team.
- Contact phone number and email address for further reference

Video Submissions

Participants must register by 11:59 PM, May 12th to receive audition materials. Audition materials will be sent on May 13th and are to be returned by 11:59 PM, May 18th. The easiest methods we've found are via a YouTube link or a Google Drive link. With either method, please ensure that we will have viewing ability. Along with the link to the video, the completed information packet must be sent to us in PDF form. When editing this document, be sure to insert a headshot and fill out the application questionnaire.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to email us at: calpolydanceteam.slo@gmail.com

HEADSHOT
2023 - 2024 Season

NAME:

Insert Photo Here

APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

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Name:

Age:

Grade (In Fall 2023):

Major:

Cumulative GPA:

Cal Poly Status (ex. committed, waitlisted, etc.):

Questions:

1) Why do you want to be a Cal Poly Dance Team 2023 - 2024 member?

2) How long have you been dancing?

3) What is your competitive dance background?

4) Which of your personality qualities would be most beneficial to the team?

APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

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5) Why is it important for dance team members to be good role models?

6) Do you foresee any limitations to your commitment and dedication to Cal Poly Dance Team? (prior obligations, studying abroad, etc.)

7) On our team, we also highly value the ability to go above and beyond, and to take initiative when others will not or cannot. Describe a time when you took initiative, or went above and beyond what was asked of you.

8) Besides dance, what are your other strengths, hobbies, skills, interests? What makes you a unique individual?