

**Thank you for your interest in Bowling Green State University and the Dance Team!**

BGSU dancers perform at all home football games and at all home men's and women's basketball games. In addition to these games, the dancers are required to be at many functions, ranging from *pep rallies* to *alumni gatherings* or *charity events*. Members of the BGSU dance team are excellent ambassadors of Bowling Green State University, the Division of Student Affairs, and the Department of Athletics.

BGSU dancers have traveled to several events in years past, including the GMAC Bowl Game in Mobile, Alabama, the Motor City Bowl in Detroit, Michigan, and the Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho. Each year they travel to MAC tournaments at the Quicken Loans Arena, in Cleveland, Ohio and UCA Nationals in Orlando, Florida! The BGSU Dance Team has been ranked in the top 20 DIA schools for four consecutive years!

Tryouts for the team are April 21, 2012. Incoming freshman or incoming transfer students, who have been admitted to BGSU, as well as current BGSU students, will be eligible to tryout. By having our tryouts in the spring, we will be able to have our team members selected and practicing before fall semester starts providing the squads the opportunity to work together and ultimately is better prepared for the school year's games and events. BGSU will hold spring tryouts on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 at the Student Recreational Center, Dance Room from 12:00PM-5:00PM. If you are selected as a member of the University Dance Team on April 21st, there is a team meeting April 21, 2012 from 6:00PM-9:00PM in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union, room 308.

All squad members selected in April will have mandatory practices during the summer and will attend a mandatory college dance camp in Milwaukee, WI August 2-5. During the fall and spring semesters, practices are held 3 times a week for two to three hours a practice. In addition to practice, all team members are required to participate in a weight training program. Warm up practices are also held prior to each game and lastly, dancers will be expected to participate in scheduled team activities and appearances.

The University Dance Team is financially supported by the Division of Student Affairs. Although there are no scholarships for dance team at this time, dancing at BGSU has many rewards. It is an opportunity to be a part of BG and many athletic events. It is an opportunity to meet people of all ages and to work as a team. Being a part of the BGSU dance team will give you great memories for your college years.

The BGSU dance program is an important program that requires each dancer to make this a priority. Depending on the athletic schedule, dancers will be required to perform at games during a semester breaks, spring break, University scheduled holidays, as well as some national holidays.

Attached you will find more general information regarding BGSU 2012 tryouts. Please feel free to look over this packet and contact me if you have any further questions. Please call me at 419.372.7944 or e-mail me at [ameiers@bgsu.edu](mailto:ameiers@bgsu.edu) GO FALCONS! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR TRYOUTS!

Anne Marie King, Cheerleading Head Coach - Dance Team Advisor, and Jillian Queen, Dance Coach

# BGSU DANCE TRYOUT CHECKLIST

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Paperwork

- Photocopy proof of medical insurance
- A signed acknowledgement waiver\*
- A Completed BGSU Dance Team Tryout Questionnaire\*
- Proof or acceptance to BG and/a copy of your current class schedule
- A copy of your last set of grades
- Headshot Photo of Self (Non-returnable)
- One letter of recommendation

\* Refers to documents that are included in the back of the tryout packet

## Appearance

**As part of the tryout process, there will be an interview session for all new and returning applicants.**

***YOU WILL BE JUDGED ON APPEARANCE SO CONSIDER CLOTHING THAT IS APPROPRIATE AND APPEALING. NO JEWELRY OR PARAPHERNALIA FOR OTHER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IS PERMITTED***

The proper attire for tryouts is as follows: Shorts and a crop top/sports bra. You may wear warm-ups and other dance attire, but you will be asked to remove them throughout the course of the tryout.

## 2012-2013 Dance Tryout Information

Bowling Green State University has one dance team that is composed of 16 members. All members of the dance will perform during football season and basketball season. In addition to the 16 team members, alternates may be selected. All alternates will attend practices, weight training and study tables.

### Tryouts

There are a minimum of two annual tryouts.

- An April tryout where the majority of team positions are filled. The number of spots filled is dependent on the number of persons who meet the minimum criteria, ability and skill level, and potential for improvement. (It is possible that some people who meet the minimum requirements will not make the team. We will only take the top candidates.)

The main purpose of the tryout process is to select the best overall individuals for Bowling Green State University's dance team.

When selecting dancers we are looking for individuals that demonstrate proper technical skills, ability to communicate, experience, confidence, leadership, commitment to the program, and poise. These are the individuals we feel are ready and prepared to contribute to the program immediately.

Tryouts are a one day clinic, which include learning new material and the evaluation of technique skills, choreography skills and ability to perform both dance routines and crowd leading activities. **During the clinics, the coaches will make cuts as needed.** All clinic performances are judged and evaluated by the BGSU cheer/dance coaching staff, and others with dance experience. All squad placements are ultimately at the discretion of the cheer/dance coaching staff.

### To Tryout for BGSU University Dance Team:

1. You **must** be enrolled at Bowling Green State University full time.
  2. Earn and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better. (Semester GPA's of 2.5 and lower are subject to attend study tables.)
  3. Must maintain a full time (12 credit hours) enrollment status during the entire duration of the season.
  4. Be in good standing with University, Bursar and Student Discipline.
- Or
1. You must have been accepted to Bowling Green State University.
  2. You must be enrolled as a full time student.
  3. Once a student, you must earn and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better. (Semester GPA's of 2.5 and lower are subject to attend study tables.)
  4. Once you are a student, you must maintain a full time (12 credit hours) enrollment status during the entire duration of the season.
  5. Be in good standing with University, Bursar and Student Discipline.

The requirements below are general guidelines of tryout skills the BGSU coaches are looking for in individuals. These guidelines are not set in stone and may increase/decrease in difficulty at the discretion of the coaches.

- Double and Triple Pirouette
- Side Leap
- Axel turn
- Kick Line
- Pom motion strength
- Fouette Turns a la second
- Barrel leap
- Posture/Poise
- Grande Jete
- Other Skills will be taken into consideration, i.e. Tilt jumps, needle, switch to second, leg grabs, and any skill reflecting flexibility

All squad placements will be dependent upon attitude, effort, skill, and skill progression. Squad placements are not static and are subject to change at any time dependent upon attitude, effort, skill, and skill progression.

### **General Information**

You will need to bring the following items to tryouts in order to be admitted into the gym. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

1. **Photocopy proof of medical insurance**
2. **A signed acknowledgement waiver to partake in any parts of clinics and/or tryouts\***
3. **A Completed BGSU Tryout Questionnaire\***
4. **Proof or acceptance to BG and/a copy of your current class schedule**
5. **A copy of your last set of grades**
6. **Headshot Photo of Self (non-returnable)**
7. **Letter of recommendation (prefer dance instructor/coach)**

\*At the end of this packet you will find the forms for the items listed above.

***These forms must be completed, signed, and turned in prior to participating in any parts of the clinics. AGAIN, if these forms are not completed, signed and submitted, you will not be admitted into the gym or eligible to tryout.***

***ALL CLINICS ARE CLOSED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC!*** All others persons will be asked to leave.

The proper attire for tryouts is as follows: Shorts and a crop top/sports bra. You may wear warm-ups and other dance attire, but you will be asked to remove them throughout the course of the tryout.

### **SUBMITTING TRYOUT TAPES**

BGSU does accept video tape entries if the potential dancer has a conflict with the tryout dates. Try-out tapes must receive prior approval from Coordinator, Anne Marie King. All video taped entries must be received by no later than 04/17/2012 to the following address:

BGSU Cheerleading and Dance  
C/O Anne Marie King, BGSU Cheerleading and Dance Team Advisor  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowen-Thompson Student Union, Office Suite 301Q  
Bowling Green, OH 43403

Any and all tapes received after the deadline date will not be accepted or considered for the 2012 tryout.

All taped entries must also comply with the following guidelines:

1. All tapes must be on a DVD that is clearly labeled with the applicant's name, home address, and phone number. All submissions must be accompanied with a written letter of explanation indicating why the candidate is not available to attend tryouts.
2. All tapes **MUST** be accompanied by **ALL** of the required tryout forms and copies indicated in this tryout document. (refer to check list on page 2)
3. All tapes **MUST** show the following skills, **3 times each**:
  - a. Double and Triple Pirouette
  - b. Side Leap
  - c. Axel turn
  - d. Kick Line
  - e. Pom motion strength
  - f. Fouette Turns a la second
  - g. Barrel Leap
  - h. Posture/Poise
  - i. Grande Jete
  - j. Other Skills will be taken into consideration, i.e. Tilt jumps, needle, switch to second, Leg grabs and any skill reflecting flexibility
  - k. A routine of any kind/ Hip Hop, Jazz, Lyrical, Etc
  - l. one chant with motions
4. All taped entries are expected to wear the clothing that is required as if at the actual tryout.
5. All tapes sent in for tryouts become the property of BGSU.
6. All persons who make the team via taped entry will be notified by phone by no later than April 21<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and will be required to meet with the dance advisor to review the contract, rules, and schedule.

## **WHAT WE LOOK FOR AT TRYOUTS**

**Motions** - Looking for execution, sharp **and exact arm motions**, and face/voice projection. Applicants must have proper technique, levels, and wrist should not be bent.

**Technique Skills:** ability to adapt to the BGSU dance technique model and still perform skills at a level of excellence. Also looking for candidates who demonstrate consistency in skills and ability.

**Team Precision** - Looking for **rhythm**, smile, **personality**, execution and togetherness in a large group of people. Applicants must be able to both learn material quickly and perform material with ease in a large group with proper timing after a short period of instruction.

**Appearance** – Looking for physical attractiveness, neatness, poise, posture, and physical build. Applicants should present themselves at tryouts how they would present themselves at a game. Hair should be groomed and pulled back out of the applicants face.

**Enthusiasm** – Looking for smile, voice projection, rapport with crowd, eye contact, and confidence. Applicants must be comfortable performing skills and all other materials learned. BGSU tryouts are not about showing the skill, it is about performing the skill with 120% effort and energy, as if in a game situation.

**Personality** – Collegiate attitude, maturity, and a strong work ethic. Applicants must be persons who want to play an integral role in a large program. Applicants must be willing to both give and take, and recognize foremost that, working daily to wear the uniform is only a small part of the deal... achieving success for the privilege of being part of the team is where it's at...every day. Applicants who are only interested in wearing the uniform need not apply.

**Bottom-line: We are looking for very solid, talented, and dedicated dancers; team players with character that can exemplify the core values of the BGSU dance program as well as the University. Please read our team player philosophy below prior to attending tryouts.**

## **What is a Team Player?**

On the most basic level, a team player is someone who can work within a group of people. This group is a number of people greater than one. On a deeper level, a team player is someone who can play a role in the team, to achieve and support the goals set and agreed upon by the team. There are two main aims of the BGSU dance team. One is to invoke positive crowd responses to BGSU athletic endeavors and the other is to represent BGSU as a premier institution of excellence athletically and academically.

In BGSU dance, there are vital members of the team on the field, on the sideline, and on the court. Every member of the team has a very specific role – as a captain, as a dancer, as a performer, as a crowd leader. Every member of the team is vital to the success of the team. If there is one person missing, the team is handicapped. If one person does not perform to the best of his/her ability, the team is handicapped. Egos do not and cannot play any part in teamwork. Egos get in the way, rather than create opportunities to reach our goals.

It is the job of every dancer to ensure that our team goals are met. Every member of the team will have specific roles and responsibilities in view of achieving these goals. True leadership has to have the loyalty of the team. If the team is not loyal or has no respect for the goals or each other, the members of the team will enviably fail.

In every action of the team, the objectives of the dance program (as outlined in the dance contract) MUST be first and foremost. The success of the team relies completely on every member of the team carrying out their roles and responsibilities in line with the direction of the leader. There has to be a 'oneness' of the dance culture. There is no room in the program for anyone who does not share the same cheerleading goals or objectives.

The pleasure of working in an environment where every member of the team is a team player is unparalleled. Before engaging in the BGSU dance process, ask yourself this: Are you a team player? Are your own objectives in line with the rest of the team? Are your team objectives in line with the BGSU dance organization?



# Bowling Green State University Dance Application

(Please type or print)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

SS#: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

College Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## College/High School/Studio/Professional Experience

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Dance Camp/Teaching/Choreography Experience

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

**List of all dance and spirit awards, honors, and any teaching experience with spirit organizations:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**BGSU Dance Application – Essay Section**

How did you find out about dance tryouts?

---

What type of dance performance do you excel at the most?

---

Why did you choose to come to Bowling Green State University?

---

---

---

---

In your own words, define what a precise dance team means to you?

---

---

---

---

What is the most important role of a dancer and spirit leader at BGSU?

---

---

---

---

Please make a short statement of why you would like to be a BGSU dancer and what qualities you have to offer the BGSU dance program. *(This may be done below and on the back of this sheet or on a separate page)*

---

---

---

---

---

---

I certify that all the information within this application is true. I further understand that if this information is incorrect or incomplete I will be excluded from the tryout process.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_