



2024-2025  
Audition Packet & Application

The award-winning Baker High School Dance Team serves to promote school spirit as part of the visual ensemble within the Pride of Baker Marching Band. The team performs at pep rallies, all varsity football games, various community events, other Baker High School sporting events, and the Baker Dance Department Spring Showcase. The team also competes on the state and national level.

The Baker Dance Team has won numerous “best in class dance team” and superior awards at band competitions. Since 2017, the team has competed on the state level winning several 1<sup>st</sup> place titles for their Jazz and Hip Hop routines. Most recently, the team was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in all three categories (Jazz, Hip Hop, and Spirit Showdown) at the 2024 DTU Alabama State Championship. They also brought home the Grand Champion award and the “most entertaining” award for their hip hop routine.

On the national level, the team won their first National Championship in 2023 with their “hometown traditions” Spirit Showdown routine. This year, the team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Spirit Showdown, advanced straight to finals in Jazz and Hip Hop, and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Jazz and 5<sup>th</sup> in Hip Hop – the highest rankings in these two divisions in school history.

*For the upcoming 2024-2025 school year, the Baker Dance Team will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season!*

Potential candidates for the Baker Dance Team should understand the time and financial commitment required for membership. After auditions conclude in April, practice will begin in May and will continue until auditions take place for the following year – this is a full year commitment! Fall season fees (dance & band) are typically around \$1,500 and Competition season fees are around \$1,500, bringing the total investment for membership to approximately \$3,000. Fundraising opportunities are provided throughout the year to cover the costs of being a member of the team. Fee money covers band requirements (travel, choreography, t-shirt), uniforms and costumes, camp, choreography, registration fees and travel/accommodations.

Baker High School Dance Team  
Coach Kylie Williamson  
251-221-3000 ext. 10021      [kwilliamson2@mcps.com](mailto:kwilliamson2@mcps.com)

## Audition Eligibility

To be eligible for auditions, the following information must be turned in to Coach Kylie Williamson in a sealed envelope with your name printed on the outside by **Friday April 5<sup>th</sup>**:

1. Audition Application
2. Copy of Current Physical
3. Signed Dancer/Parent Agreement
4. \$30 Audition Fee (cash or checks made to Baker High School)
5. Copy of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Report Card

Current Baker students should turn in their completed audition packets to Coach Kylie Williamson in room 306 (back of gym) during OFS or 4th periods only.

Students not currently at Baker may drop their completed packets off to the Baker front office, or mail to:

Baker High School (Attn: Kylie Williamson)  
8901 Airport Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36608

### Candidate Audition Eligibility Requirements:

1. Potential Baker Dance Team candidates must have no lower than a "C" average for one semester prior to auditions. Furthermore, potential candidates must not receive an "E" or an "Incomplete" as a semester grade in any subject for one semester prior to auditions.
2. Potential candidates may not be permitted to audition if they have been placed in retract more than once during the current school year.
3. Potential candidates may not be permitted to audition if they have been suspended from school during the current school year.
4. If a potential candidate is injured or lives out of state at the time of auditions and is registered to attend Baker High School for the upcoming school year, a video audition may be used to document the required skills and technique. A panel of judges will evaluate the dancers video performance and score accordingly.
  - a. For injured candidates, the video must have been filmed within the last calendar year and the material in the video must clearly represent similar skills and technical elements equivalent to the audition material.
  - b. For out of state candidates, videos of the audition material will be provided for you to perform and record your own video. \*Arrangements must be made with Coach Kylie at least one week prior to the first day of auditions. Your video must be available for the judges to watch on the last day of auditions.
  - c. Dancers who need either of these options must communicate with Coach Williamson prior to the start of auditions. No videos or virtual auditions will be approved after Friday April 5<sup>th</sup>.

## 2024-2025 Audition Process and Details

### **Pre-Audition Clinic**

When: Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> (3:30-5:30pm)

Where: Baker Gym

Attire: any dance clothing (jazz and tennis shoes) \*no crop tops

*\*This clinic is not mandatory; however, it is a terrific way to gain information prior to auditions!*

### **Audition Clinic**

When: Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup> (3:30-5:30pm) and Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup> (3:30-5:30pm)

Where: Baker Gym

Attire: solid black tops and bottoms (no logos or writing), jazz shoes, tennis shoes, hair worn neatly off face

*\*Both days are mandatory to be eligible for Friday's audition. Candidates will learn all required audition material.*

*Both clinic days are closed to the public.*

### **Auditions**

When: Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> (3:30 – until finished)

Where: Baker Gym

Attire: Solid black ankle length leggings, solid black top (no crop tops), performance hair & makeup

*\*All candidates will audition in front of a panel of judges. Formal auditions are closed to the public and all dancers must remain on campus until the conclusion of auditions.*

### **Audition Expectations**

Baker Dance Team members are well-rounded, advanced level performers in Jazz, Hip Hop, and Game-Day (pom) styles. Strong technique, performance quality (facial expression and projection) are incredibly important, as well as flexibility, memorization, rhythm, strength and stamina, and overall execution of movement.

Dancers should be able to execute the following technical skills:

*Grande Jete/Saut de chat*

*Leap in Second*

*Surprise Leap*

*Reverse Leap*

*Switch Arabesque*

*Calypso Leap*

*Turning Disc*

*Multiple Pirouettes*

*A la seconde Turns*

*Grande Battements*

*Kip Up*

*Front Headspring*

Candidates will be evaluated on a maximum of 3 progressions and 3 routines. Progressions may include any of the technical elements listed above. The three routines will be in the styles of Pom/Kick, Jazz, and Hip Hop. All routines will be performed in front of a panel of judges on Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Call backs may necessary if the judges wish to see a dancer again to eliminate a tie or a large gap in scores. Judges may request to see any individual routine again, as well as the progressions taught during the clinic days. All candidates are required to stay until auditions are complete.

Dancers selected for the 2024-2025 Baker Dance Team will be released no later than 9pm Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> on the Baker website and the Baker Dance Team's social media pages (facebook & Instagram).

## 2024-2025 Baker Dance Team

If you are selected for the 2024-2025 Baker Dance Team, a new team meeting will be held on **Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm** in the Baker Gym. A team member packet will be given at the meeting that will outline all requirements of dancers and parents, fundraising opportunities, summer schedule, and a tentative competition schedule. All 2024-2025 dance team members and at least one parent is required to attend the meeting. A \$300 deposit will be due at this meeting.

*Here is an outline of what to expect from your year as a team member...*

### **May - July**

Practices and workouts will begin May. The team will not meet in person during the month of June. The last two weeks of July are reserved for a week-long team camp, and a week-long full marching band camp.

### **August - November**

During the school year, dance team members are enrolled in a class with Coach Williamson to rehearse during school hours. Additional rehearsals include Mondays (until 4pm) for technique, and full band rehearsal on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons (3pm-5pm).

The team performs at pep rallies, and with the Pride of Baker Marching Band at all varsity football games (home and away), two marching band competitions (typically on 2 Saturdays in October), and the Dawes Christmas parade.

Competition choreography is set by guest artists who travel from out of town. Two weekends will be reserved to set choreography between the months of August – November. We typically reserve a Friday evening, a full day Saturday, and half day Sunday.

### **November – February**

The team will attend a DTU regional/state competition in January (typically last Sunday in Jan.) and DTU Nationals on February (13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>) in Orlando, FL. Additional rehearsal days for competition season remain the same (Mondays until 4, Tues/Thurs until 5). Saturday and Sunday rehearsals will be scheduled in the months of December, January, and February. The team will practice during Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks.

### **March- May**

After nationals, the team will choreograph and prepare routines to be performed in the Baker Dance Department's spring showcase (typically held in April). Auditions are held in March/April – every current team member must re-audition every year. Technical training and workouts will continue through the month of May.

### **Fees**

A fee payment schedule will be given at the team meeting. Fees will be divided into smaller payments beginning in April and must be paid in full by November.

### **Expectations**

Baker High School Dance Team members are ambassadors of our school and are expected to follow all school rules and behave appropriately, maturely, and responsibly- always. Academics should be a priority for all Baker Dance Team members. A dancer should be able to balance schoolwork and a busy dance schedule, as well as personal responsibilities.

Baker High School Dance Team  
2024-2025  
*Dancer/Parent Agreement Form*

Dance Team Candidate Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

I, the parent/guardian of the above-named candidate, have read all information presented in this audition packet. I acknowledge the time and financial commitment involved in this team. I understand that a panel of judges will score my child accurately and fairly during auditions on Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>. I also understand and will follow the appropriate chain of command (Coach first, then Principal) if I have a concern or question regarding the Baker High School Dance Team's audition process.

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

As a candidate for the 2024-2025 Baker High School Dance Team, I have thoroughly read the audition packet and understand what I will be evaluated on at auditions. I also understand the role that academics and behavior/discipline play into whether I am allowed to audition or not. Throughout the audition process, I understand that I must be dressed correctly, on time, and present for all 3 days of auditions. I also understand that not everyone who auditions will make the team. The team will be selected based on the averaged scores of three judges. There is not a set number of dancers that can make the team, it is truly based on the largest break in the judges scores.

Dance Team Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



2024-2025 Audition Application

Dancer Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Current School \_\_\_\_\_

Your Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Your Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Names \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

List ALL of your social media handles:

Why do you want to be a member of the Baker Dance Team?

Describe your dance experience (training, companies/teams, etc.)

What qualities do you feel make a strong team?