

Laguna Beach High School  
625 Park Avenue  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651



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## 2020–2021 LBHS Dance Company Auditions

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 30th, 4:30–8:30pm

**WHERE:** LBHS Dance Room

**WHAT TO WEAR:** Dance attire, any color (layers/sweats for hip-hop only)

**WHAT TO BRING:** Proper shoes for dance styles, water, positive attitude & ENERGY

### **Application Deadline is Friday, May 22nd by 3:30pm.**

On the day of the audition, please arrive at least 15 minutes before the audition begins. Check-in will be right outside the dance studio. You are expected to check-in no later than 4:25pm & then stretch and warm up on your own. You will receive a number and have your picture taken. You will learn two different combinations, perform each combination in a small group, and be evaluated by a panel of judges.

**Audition results will be posted by Tuesday, June 2nd on the LBHS website under the [Performing Arts Dance Page](#). Please allow at least 24 hours after results are posted to contact the Director with any questions. Results will be posted by NUMBER!**

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### **AUDITION SCHEDULE**

*\*Subject to Change\**

4:00–4:25pm	Check-In & Warm-Up
4:30–5:30pm	Learn Hip Hop Combo from David Slaney II
5:30–6:15pm	Perform Hip Hop Combo for the Judges
6:15–6:45pm	Dinner Break
6:45–7:45pm	Learn Jazz Combo from Amanda Cathey
7:45–8:30pm	Perform Jazz Combo for the Judges

## ABOUT THE DANCE COMPANY COURSE

The Dance Company is a yearlong course open to all 9th–12th graders that meets during the bell schedule. The course is UC approved and may count for Physical Education or Visual & Performing Arts credit. The course is an extra offering in the Career Technical Education Pathway, and students are held to pre-professional standards for technique and performance.

## PURPOSE & MISSION

The purpose of the LBHS Dance Company is to demonstrate dance as a positive vehicle for individual growth and expression, to represent our campus and community in a variety of performance environments, to promote school spirit, and to serve as a platform for college and career readiness.

The mission of the LBHS Dance Company is in line with the mission of Laguna Beach High School: to maximize learning for every student in a supportive and caring environment to ensure that upon graduation, all students are ready for college, career, and global citizenship. Specifically, the Company will highlight the art of dance as a tool for creating a meaningful educational experience. Students may have personal goals of high artistic achievement, improving dance ability, learning effective time management, developing strong communication skills, implementing healthy fitness and nutritional practices, building strong core values, and forming lifelong relationships.

## COMMITMENT LEVEL

The Dance Company is a participation based course. Students are expected to attend class regularly as well as participate and perform in three pep rallies, two dance concerts, and the Patriot's Day Parade. All practices for these performances take place during the bell schedule. Occasionally, there are after-school rehearsals or performances associated with these performances, and schedules are always given in advance. The current Year At a Glance is available [here](#) for your reference.

## ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

Before an applicant may audition, they need to submit a completed application form, a copy of their unofficial transcripts, and proof of athletic clearance.

- Applicants must be **academically cleared** with a minimum 2.0 GPA that's verified by a copy of their unofficial transcripts. Turn in the copy of your transcripts as part of your completed application form.
- Applicants must be **physically cleared** as outlined by the LBHS Athletics Department. All information, directions, and paperwork required for athletic clearance can be found online at <https://lbhs.lbusd.org/athletics/athletic-clearance>. **PHYSICALS MUST BE VERIFIED WITH A STAMP FROM A MEDICAL DOCTOR (MD)**. Hard copies are not required since this part of the application is all online. Mrs. Fratzke will screen all applicants through the Athletic Clearance portal and you will receive an email if you are cleared.

- Applicants must turn in an **application form** to Mrs. Fratzke in the dance room by the deadline (Friday, May 22nd by 3:30pm). Application forms are available online at the [LBHS Performing Arts Dance Page](#) or you may pick up a copy in the dance room.

## **FAQ ABOUT THE AUDITION**

### ***When are the auditions for the Dance Company and who can apply?***

There will be two opportunities to audition - one in May and one in August. Both auditions are closed to the public. All currently enrolled Laguna Beach High School students as well as incoming freshmen are expected to audition for the Dance Company in May to better serve their scheduling needs. The August audition is reserved for new/transfer students along with anyone who did not qualify in May and wishes to tryout again. To audition for the first time in August is not in a student's best interest since a majority of the Company is selected in May.

### ***How many dancers are invited to the Dance Company?***

Generally, 15-25 students are invited to the Dance Company. This number varies every year based on how many students show up to audition and the range of scores. Any applicants who try out in May may choose to audition again in August along with applicants who were not cleared. All applicants will start with a clean slate, learn new combinations, and be scored through the same process. Those applicants who qualify for the Dance Company in May do not have to attend the August audition.

### ***If I am currently on the Dance Company, do I have to audition again?***

Yes. As part of the Career Technical Education Pathway, the Dance Company course strives to prepare students for dance in college or as a career.

- If a dancer chooses to go on and study dance in college, they will most likely be screened each semester for their skill level and proficiency in the styles required for the Dance Major. This is to ensure that dancers are attending class regularly, progressing in skill level and ability, and demonstrating a committed and strong work ethic that is necessary for the growth and quality of the entire dance program.
- If a dancer chooses to go on and study dance as a career either commercially or within the Broadway or concert dance world, they will have to audition for each role, gig, project, performance, etc. that they are interested in. No one is ever guaranteed a spot, and it's important that we start to teach our young dancers about these realities to better prepare them for career options after high school.

In addition, the composition of the Dance Company is always in flux because seniors are graduating, transfer students are arriving, some students move away, or others cannot commit after all due to other extracurricular, athletic, or academic activities. Every year is an opportunity to re-evaluate the total composition of the Company and to seek the most qualified applicants.

If a student currently on the Dance Company is concerned that they will not qualify for the Dance Company OR they do not qualify after the first round of auditions, then please contact Mrs. Fratzke. An audition is physically as well as mentally and emotionally demanding, and there could be many reasons why a student is unable to perform to their best ability in a high pressure setting like an audition. The more prepared a student can be going into an audition, the better. As always, Mrs. Fratzke is available before and after the audition to support each and every student.

### ***Can I audition with a late or incomplete application?***

No. After the deadline, only those students who are cleared physically and academically will be allowed to audition. Emails will be sent out to confirm an applicant's clearance to participate in the audition.

### ***Where do I turn my application in?***

You are welcome to drop off your application during class, break, or lunch to Mrs. Fratzke. You may also drop off your application to the front office and ask that it be placed in Mrs. Fratzke's box.

### ***Who will be scoring me in the audition?***

A panel of outside judges will be evaluating each applicant in a live audition setting. Judges are hired based on their level of dance education and experience. Judges do not know anything about the applicants, including whether or not they were previously on the Dance Company. The judges are purely evaluating the applicants on technique and performance as seen in the audition.

### ***Why doesn't the Dance Director select the Dance Company?***

Each high school dance program conducts their auditions for the Dance Team level in a different way. For Mrs. Fratzke, hiring outside judges has proven to be the best practice because the students are able to receive objective feedback from professionals. For any students who go on to study dance in college or as a career, auditioning in front of people they do not know is standard. The LBHS Dance Company audition prepares students for this reality and provides them with an opportunity to develop increased levels of self-confidence and resilience. Another value of hiring outside judges is that Mrs. Fratzke gets annual feedback on the quality of the LBHS Dance Program. How the dancers score in a live audition setting provides feedback on the LBHS Dance curriculum and whether or not it is appropriately and effectively preparing our students for dance beyond LBHS.

### ***What will I have to do in the audition?***

The audition will consist of two parts:

- **Hip Hop Combination.** The reason applicants are evaluated in hip-hop is because this is the style that the Dance Company performs in pep rallies. By performing hip-hop, the dancers will be able to show the judges their understanding and ability to apply musicality, energy, and expression in addition to their cardiovascular endurance and agility. Sneakers and loose fitting clothes are recommended.
- **Jazz Combination.** The reason applicants are evaluated in Jazz is because this style is a practical means for the judges to see an applicant's technical skill level, body coordination, strength, and flexibility. Jazz shoes or socks are recommended.

### ***How will I be scored during the audition?***

Judges will be scoring each combination on the following scale:

5 – Elite, 4 – Advanced, 3 – Intermediate, 2 – Beginning, 1 – Below Beginning

A dancer who earns an elite score of 5...

- Demonstrates a strong ability to learn, remember, and execute complex choreography at a fast pace.
- Demonstrates movement with high levels of clarity, physical strength, flexibility, coordination, balance, stamina, and control.

- Demonstrates a strong sense of musicality and rhythm with a clear understanding of transitions and details.
- Demonstrates natural confidence with a genuine & appropriate display of energy and expression.

Judges will be applying this scale to the following categories for each combination:

- *Knowledge & Memory* – knowledge of material and ability to recall movement sequences with seamless transitions
- *Technique* – overall strength, flexibility, agility, coordination, control, and endurance
- *Musicality* – understanding and application of rhythm, timing, and dynamics
- *Overall Appeal* – use of projection, focus, expression, and energy to enhance performance

Total Points Possible for Hip Hop Routine– 20 points (weighted 50% of total score)

Total Points Possible for Jazz Routine – 20 points (weighted 50% of total score)

### ***So, my score is weighted?***

Yes. Part of the scoring process will be to manually tally each judge’s individual scores and then input the information into an excel spreadsheet that is already formulated to weight each combination as 50%. The average of the judges will be calculated so that each applicant has a final audition score between 0-100 points. From there, the top applicants will be identified, and then the judges will make a decision on where to draw the line based on the applicants’ scores.

### ***What if there is a tie?***

If there is a tie on the total score, the judges will refer to the highest scores in technique for the combinations.

### ***Where and when will the results be posted?***

Audition results will be posted by Tuesday, June 2nd on the LBHS website under the [Performing Arts Dance Page](#). Please allow 24 hours after results are posted to contact the Director with any questions. Results will be posted by NUMBER!

### ***Can I see my scores from the audition?***

Yes. After the audition, currently enrolled LBHS students may schedule appointments with Mrs. Fratzke during tutorial to look over their scores. Non-enrolled students may schedule an appointment based on Mrs. Fratzke’s availability. All applicants are highly encouraged to schedule an appointment with Mrs. Fratzke to view their scores and strategize a performance improvement plan for future auditions.

### ***Can I bring my electronic device into the audition?***

No. Current LBHS students who have a locker need to store their belongings, including electronic devices, in the locker room. Students who are not currently enrolled in LBHS may store their belongings in the costume shop.

### ***What if I am an incoming freshmen and I’m not sure if I should audition for the Dance Company or try to be placed in Dance 2?***

The auditions for the Dance Company are **before** the placement exam for Dance 2. If you are at all interested in the Dance Company, you are encouraged to attend the audition. If you do not qualify, you can attend the Dance 2 placement exam which is on Saturday, June 6 from 4:00-6:00pm.