



2014 – 2015 GVSU LAKER DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS

Grand Valley State University

Proud winners of two National Championship titles, the Laker Dance Team is a group of talented, athletic women who perform at all home football and basketball games! When they are not performing they are busy practicing, conditioning, fundraising and making special university and community appearances. They compete annually at NDA summer camp in Louisville, Kentucky and NDA Nationals in Daytona, Florida.

As we continue to expand and develop our program, we are seeking dancers with a serious work ethic, positive attitude and strong technical background. Spirit and personality are a plus as we represent our university and support Laker Athletics!

Enclosed in the following packet, you will find information regarding tryouts and what to expect as a member of the Laker Dance Team. Please feel free to email us with any questions you may have at gvsulakerdanceteam@gmail.com

Best of luck!

Coaches Rael Orao and Katy Nyenbrink

What To Expect As A Member of The Laker Dance Team

- Members of the Laker Dance Team are expected to represent GVSU as role models of athleticism and academic excellence!
- **This is a year long commitment!** We meet monthly in the summer and practice consistently from September- April. Tryouts for each upcoming season are held in early May.
- A \$100 deposit made to the team upon joining. Upon completion of the season, team members will receive their \$100 deposit back.
- **Out of pocket expenses ranging from \$500-600.** *Some of these expenses will finance clothes and costumes that will be worn throughout the year and kept by each individual.
- Required sponsorship fundraising
- LDT summer weekends (one weekend per month, includes team bonding, fundraising, and practice) *Out of town members may stay with local members
- NDA summer camp in Louisville, Kentucky
- Approximately 1 fundraiser per month during the school year
- Approximately 1-2 school/community appearances per month (both mandatory and volunteer based)
- Practice 3 days a week until February and a minimum of 4 practices a week beginning in March until Nationals in early April.
- Conditioning/ working out with the team (part of practice time) or on own 1-2 days a week
- Performing at 5 home football games
- Performing at 9-10 home basketball games
- ***The possibility of being an alternate for Nationals.** NDA rules allow a maximum of 20 dancers per routine, meaning you may compete in none, one or two routines. Alternate decisions will be at the discretion of the coaches and will be discussed in detail with the team. Final decisions will be made as the year progresses.
- NDA Nationals in Daytona Beach, Florida (April 8-12, *5-6 day trip)

2014-2015 LDT Dates

***DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. You should expect that dates will be added and communicated as they become known.** The following is an outline based on our commitment schedule from the 2013-2014 season.

Laker Dance Team Tryouts: May 9-10

LDT Summer Weekend: June 20-21

LDT Summer Weekend: July 25-27

NDA Summer Camp: July 31-August 2

LDT Summer Weekend: August 15-16

LDT Golf Outing Fundraiser: August 16 *Tentative date*

LDT Practice: August 20

Football Schedule

Saturday, September 13

Saturday, September 27

Saturday, October 11

Saturday, November 1

Saturday, November 8

Basketball Season

*1-2 games per week

*No practice during Finals week

EXTRA Practice: December 12-13

EXTRA Practice: January 4

GV Spring Break March 1-8

EXTRA Nationals Practice

March 8,15,22,29

April 5, 6

NDA Nationals: April 8-12

*Season ends after Nationals

Tryout Information

Location: GVSU Recreation Center- South Gym

Date: May 9-10, 2014

Schedule:

Friday, May 9	
3:30-4:00pm	Registration
4:00-7:00pm	Warm-up & Tryout Material Learned

Saturday, May 10	
8:30am-12pm	Tryouts (Specific groups/times will be assigned on 5/9)
1:30-4:00pm	Callbacks (Participants will be notified via text/email)
7:00pm *Approximately	Mandatory Team Meeting

TRYOUT INCLUDES:

- One, three part routine consisting of jazz, pom and hip hop
- A technical skills portion including various leaps, jumps and turns.
- Demonstration of flexibility (splits)
- Callbacks by invitation on Saturday, May 10.

You will be judged on the following skills (Right and Left sides):

Toe touch

Saute Chat (Split Leap)

Switch Leap

Leap in Second (Side Leap)

Chaine Open (Flying disk/Turning Second)

Double Pirouette

Triple Pirouette

Quadruple Pirouette (*Right side only)

Ala Seconds (Turns in Second) A minimum of (2) 8 counts (*Right side only)

Chaine Jete (Calypso)

Leap of Choice

Optional Skill of Choice (Tumbling, Aerials, Tricks etc)

Right and Left Splits

Center Splits

WHAT TO WEAR:

Dance apparel of your choice (hair pulled back) on Friday, May 9. **BLACK** sports bra/dance bra top with **BLACK** shorts/leggings/performance pants (hair pulled back) on Saturday, May 10. Please bring appropriate dance shoes!

WHAT TO BRING:

- A completed waiver form
- A signed policy form
- A copy of your GVSU acceptance letter (1st year athletes only)
- Class schedule for the 2014-2015 academic year (current GVSU students only)
- A personal letter of intent (What you can bring to the team, goals, strengths, description of dance background)
- \$25 non-refundable tryout fee (Cash or checks to Laker Dance Team)
- A photo (face clearly visible) or headshot (4x6 or 5x7)

****If you need to request a specific time for your audition on Saturday, May 10, please make a note next to your number when you sign in on Friday, May 9.**

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND LAKER DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS 2014-2015: Video Submission Information

Although we **STRONGLY** encourage a live audition, there is another option! You may submit a video audition that must be **received no later than Wednesday, May 7.**

WHAT TO WEAR IN YOUR VIDEO SUBMISSION!

Black sports bra/black dance bra top with black leggings or shorts, hair pulled back.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR VIDEO SUBMISSION!

Please include the following skills (Right and Left Sides)

Toe touch
Saute Chat (Split Leap)
Switch Leap
Leap in Second (Side Leap)
Chaine Open (Flying disk/Turning Second)
Double Pirouette
Triple Pirouette
Quadruple Pirouette (*Right side only)
Ala Seconds (Turns in Second) A minimum of (2) 8 counts (*Right side only)
Chaine Jete (Calypso)
Leap of Choice
Special Skill of Choice (Tumbling, Aerials, Tricks etc)
Right and Left Splits (Face Perpendicular to camera)
Center Splits

****3 separate routines OR 1 routine with 3 sections including the following:****

- 30 seconds of jazz
- 30 seconds of pom
- 30 seconds of hip hop

WHAT TO SEND ALONG WITH YOUR VIDEO SUBMISSION!

- A signed policy form
- A copy of your GVSU acceptance letter (first year athletes only)
- Class schedule for the 2014-2015 year (current GVSU students only)
- A personal letter of intent with description of dance background
- \$25 non-refundable tryout fee (Please don't send cash, check can be written to Laker Dance Team)
- A photo (face clearly visible) or headshot (4x6 or 5x7)

SUBMISSION OPTIONS:

Upload your video/s to YouTube and email us the link! Paperwork and payment must be received by Wednesday, May 7.

Put together a DVD and mail it in along with your paperwork and payment. Must be received by Wednesday, May 7.

Mail to:

Laker Dance Team
C/O Kathryn Nyenbrink
10778 Buchanan
Grand Haven, MI 49417

POLICY FORM

By signing below, you are agreeing that you have read and understood all expectations and obligations as outlined in this document. If you are chosen as a member of the Laker Dance Team you will be committed to participating in every aspect of the team.

The Laker Dance Team does not discriminate on the basis of race/ethnicity, color, national origin, sex or disability, and acquiring a position on the team is based solely on the score one has attained by attending tryouts.

In the event of dissolution of the Laker Dance Team, I understand that all debts and liabilities must be paid before the return of my \$100 deposit made to the team upon joining. Upon completion of the season, team members will receive their \$100 deposit back.

X _____ (Prospective Laker Dance Team Member) _____ (Date)