2027 DANCE AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS:

Students will participate in a two-hour dance technique class, including ballet and modern dance/contemporary, as their audition. Candidates are asked to warm up on their own in the studio before the audition begins. The studio will be open to you at 1pm prior to class beginning at 1:30pm. After the two-hour technique portion of the audition, students will be asked to talk briefly (interview) with the adjudicators to determine each dancer's interest, commitment, ambitions, maturity, and ability to positively contribute to a creative community of dancers, each with their unique talents, styles, and abilities.

The ballet portion of class will include pointe work for female dancers. For dancers less proficient or less comfortable on pointe, please communicate with the Audition Coordinator before the audition begins for modifications to be addressed. Male dancers will be asked to demonstrate jumps and turns while the female dancers are changing shoes.

Female dancers should wear a solid-colored leotard, pink or skin-toned tights, ballet shoes and no leg warmers or shorts. Male dancers should wear black tights and ballet shoes. Hair should be properly secured off the neck, preferably in a bun. Male dancers may wear either a leotard or a fitted white T-shirt as long (as it looks professional) and black tights. No leg warmers, sweatshirts, or baggy plastic pants, please. All dancers will be asked to dance barefoot for the modern/contemporary portion of class. It is advisable for each dancer to wear tights that can be converted easily. Students must perform at an intermediate or advanced level and must demonstrate a high level of sustained interest and involvement in dance.

DANCE STUDENTS OPTIONAL VIDEO AUDITION

(please note that an on-campus/in-person audition is preferable)

Applicants are encouraged to work with their dance teacher/school counselor and include the following in their recorded audition tape:

1. An introduction by the applicant
2. A short ballet barre, center adagio, petite allegro combination, and pointe combination to include turns, jumps, and releves.
3. A contemporary combination
4. And the following questions to be answered and recorded in the audition submission:
    a. How does it make you feel to dance? (Or…Why do you want to dance?)
    b. What interested you in applying to the TN Governor's School for the Arts?
    c. What are you hoping to gain from this experience, if selected?
    d. How does dance fit into your life in the next 5-10 years?
    e. Do you feel you can succeed in this intensive 3-week summer dance environment, training and performing with other young artists?
    f. Have you participated in ballet or dance intensives in the past and if so, which ones? Were these valuable experiences for you? Why or why not?

Applicants are welcome to contact Audition Coordinator and Dance Division Chair, Laurie Merriman, at lmerri@ilstu.edu with any questions.