

2009 Dance Show Application

The annual Caltech Dance Show is the premier dance performance featuring the talents of the Caltech community. Pieces have been submitted by individuals, cultural groups, and campus clubs. The Dance Show has showcased a variety of dance forms including hula, hip hop, ballet, salsa, and many more. We accept submissions of all kinds of dance. Pictures from last year's show are available on the web at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~dance>. We look forward to working with you this year to put on another spectacular show!

Requirements

Each submission to the Dance Show is required to have the following:

1. **Contact Person:** The contact person is responsible for communications between the Dance Show organizers and the dancers in their piece. They are responsible for informing their dancers of the relevant dates and events. They are also responsible for making sure the organizers have required materials like music and lighting cues. This person will also be the "go-to" person during performances and rehearsals. *The organizers are not responsible for your dancers!*
2. **Permission to use choreography:** All submissions must either have permission to use the choreography from the choreographer or use publicly available material. Traditional and cultural dances fall into the latter category.
3. **Caltech Affiliation:** A majority of your dancers must be affiliated with Caltech either as a student, staff, family, alumni, or JPL. Any exceptions must be cleared with the Organizing Committee.
4. **Attendance:** All dancers are expected to attend auditions, tech rehearsals, dress rehearsal, and performances. In addition, a representative must attend the lighting meeting and any additional meetings that may be required. We understand that not all dancers will make all events. However, if a large fraction of your dancers cannot make a particular event, please contact the organizers so that arrangements can be made.
5. **Props & Costumes:** The Dance Show is asking each group to provide their own costumes and, if possible, props. The Dance Show funding situation is volatile as funding for student activities continues to be cut. As such, we cannot provide any funding for new costuming. A small selection of costumes are available to borrow from the Caltech Dance Troupe. Please contact the Troupe at [troupe\[at\]caltech.edu](mailto:troupe[at]caltech.edu) if you wish to borrow costumes.
6. **Time restrictions:** we are asking everyone to observe the following time restrictions:
 - **Solos -Small groups (3 or less dancers): 2:30 minutes**
 - **Groups (4 or more dancers): 5 minutes**

Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis and will be determined by the Organizing Committee.

Demonstration Night

In previous years, we've held auditions, though it has been extremely rare that a group was not included in the show. Since we'd like to provide an opportunity for all dancers to participate, we've changed the audition to a demonstration night. The main goal will be to provide helpful feedback to groups about the in's and out's of performing in the Dance Show. The feedback will vary from general suggestions to specific points regarding music, choreography, staging, or costuming. Previously, most comments have been aimed

to improve the presentation of the piece in Ramo Auditorium, which has an unusual stage. We expect choreographers to work with the Organizing Committee to create the best show possible

The demo will be held in Winnett on Wednesday, March 11 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. While we encourage all our performers to participate, this year the organizing committee may use their discretion in requiring groups to demo their pieces. In other words, performers who have a long history of creating quality pieces for the Dance Show may be excused from the demo. **Expect to perform if you have not previously participated in the Dance Show.** The expectation for the demonstration is that the piece be in a sufficient state of finish that the organizers can be confident that the piece will be polished and ready to perform by the time of the Dance Show. Bringing a costume or coming in costume is a good idea. We also ask that most of your dancers be present. If your dancers can't make the March 11 date, please contact the organizers as soon as possible so other arrangements can be made.

Important Dates

The following are important dates. Please note them in your calendar and make sure your dancers do too! We will be providing more specific times in the future. The latest calendar and information will be available on the web at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~dance>.

- March 6: Applications due
- March 11, 6:30-8:30, Auditions in Winnett.
- Early April: Lighting tutorial and information session. Exact date TBD.
- April 6: Final music cuts and information sheet for program must be submitted
- Week of Show: Ramo Auditorium available for rehearsals. Times TBD
- April 14: Lighting/Tech Rehearsal, Ramo Auditorium (May change due to tech crew availability)
- April 15: Show run through
- April 16: Dress Rehearsal, Ramo Auditorium
- April 17, 18, 19: Dance Show, Ramo Auditorium
- April 18th: Post Show Cast Party, TBD

Application

Applicants are required to provide the following information, preferably in the form of a PDF.

1. Contact Person including an email address, phone number and mail code.
2. Club Affiliation (if applicable)
3. Music titles and artists
4. Choreographers (if applicable)
5. Expected length of piece
6. **Names of all your Dancers or potential dancers****
7. Style of dance (e.g. Hip Hop or Scottish Country Dance)
8. **a cut of your music****

9. A brief description of the piece (~ 75 words or less). Information you may want to include are themes, moods, story line, cultural importance or history, staging including costuming and props.
10. A description of any special technical requirements (if applicable), including unusual lighting or costumes, **any props**, the use of additional AV equipment and so on. Include a specific plan to obtain any equipment necessary. Please discuss the implications these might have for staging (e.g. they'll require additional dark time for transport on/off stage, sweeping of floors, or help from stage hands, etc). The Organizing Committee will use this information when evaluating the ordering of the show.

Submission

Please email your completed application to caltechdanceshow@gmail.com Applications are due by March 6th. Music can be emailed via MP3 or put on a CD and mailed to Judith Mack, Mail Stop 105 - 24: **Please make sure you receive a confirmation email from the Dance Show Coordinators to ensure that your application was properly received and to learn if you'll need to participate in the Demonstration night..**

**Since we're not requiring all participants come to the Demonstration night, we need a sample of your music and the list of all your potential dancers in order to create the order of performance in the Dance Show. These need not be the final cuts of music or list of dancers, but the Dance Show organizers are not responsible for short costume changes if you do not provide us the complete list of dancer names.

If you have questions, please look at our website at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~dance/> or send an email to: caltechdanceshow@gmail.com

Words of Advise-Please read if you're new to the Dance Show

The Dance Show is now entering its 7th year and we've learned a few things that we'd like to share with you. Lots of detailed information will be posted on the Caltech Dance Show website listed above.

- Ramo Auditorium has an unusual shape. Please download the stage dimensions from the Dance Show website to ensure your staging will work in Ramo.
- Remember that you'll be performing in front of an audience. Some folk dances and social dances aren't naturally designed to be performed in this manner so you may need to adjust your staging a bit.
- The audience sits above the stage, so we always tell dancers to look up about ~20 degrees above the horizon. Looking straight will cause your dancers to appear as if they're looking at the floor from the audience perspective. Practicing looking upward will help remind dancers to do so during the performance.
- We will be using the black marly floor again this year. This floor is less slick than wood or linoleum. There will be time rehearse on the marly floor the week of the show.
- Since the floor is black, we've found that wearing significant amounts of black, especially below the waist, makes it difficult for the audience to see the movement of the dancers. Adding a touch of a lighter color can help a lot.
- Groups are expected to create their own lighting design with help from the Tech crew. More information on lighting "how-to" is available on the dance show web page. We're continuing to try to make the lighting rehearsal easier for everyone. *Please us by getting your music to us on time and attend the lighting tutorial.*
- We are limiting lighting cues to just 8 cues this year because of the technical difficulty in doing more. Please keep this in mind when you begin to think about your lighting design.