



The Dance Department at ASFA

The ASFA Dance Department is a pre-professional training program reflective of the 21st century and the call for a more open learning environment. Rooted in research-based kinesiology, the curriculum is grounded in the philosophy of the Revolutionary Principles of Movement (RPM). RPM's inclusive nature creates an empowering setting that amplifies individual voices to become kinetically aware movers and critically thinking dance artists. Multiple dance forms, repertoire and somatic practice round out the class offerings and a registered physical therapist and nutritionist are on staff. Juniors and seniors take a professional dance practicum which includes dance history, composition, a broad survey of the field investigating career and higher education opportunities, and essential elements of production. Senior year culminates in a unique student-created and choreographed performance. <https://rpm.dance>

New Opportunity: AUDITION PREP DAY

Join us at ASFA on Saturday, February 8, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to noon for an Audition Prep Day experience. Come see our studios, meet our faculty and participate in a Mock Audition which will include Ballet, Modern and Improvisation. We will also be available for any questions. Come see what ASFA Dance is about and gain experience and confidence for the official audition. This is a FREE opportunity, but you must sign up in advance. You can sign up at the link below.

LINK: <https://forms.gle/mDRHrAfqFfKv1KZBA>

Application Procedure

To apply to the Dance Department at ASFA, you must be a rising 7th–11th grader.

To complete an application, you must follow and complete STEPS 1, 2, & 3 as outlined on the school's website. If you are reading this document, you should have already completed STEPS 1 & 2. This document instructs you how to complete STEP 3: *Complete & Submit Pre-Audition Requirements*.

Application Deadline: You must complete STEPS 1, 2, & 3 and ASFA must receive all required materials by January 31, 2025.

STEP 3: Complete & Submit Pre-Audition Requirements

Video: Follow directions below in “Making the Video” and submit **on or before the deadline**.

Guidelines for Making & Submitting Pre-Audition Video

Demonstrate each of the movements below. You may use recorded barre accompaniment. Demonstration may be to one side only. Ask your ballet teacher to help by creating level and age-appropriate work. If you have no one knowledgeable to assist you, contact Katie Gordon (kgordon@asfa.k12.al.us) or Wes Chapman (wchapman@asfaschool.org).

When you e-mail the video, in the subject line be sure to include your name, grade level, and department (Dance). Prior to the recorded demonstration and in front of the camera, state your name, age, rising academic grade level and a brief narrative as to why you wish to enter the ASFA Dance Department. Place the camera in a stationary position for barre work so that you are facing sideways in relationship to the camera. For center work, the camera should be positioned down stage, so you present to the camera as if performing for an audience.

Wear appropriate dance attire when you make your video. All dancers should wear leotard, flesh tone tights, close fitting t-shirt and appropriate shoes for each dance discipline. Hair should be securely fastened and out of the face.

Ballet Barre

- battements tendus and dégagés en croix from fifth position
- ronds de jambe en dedans and en dehors à terre and en l'air
- battements frappés
- fondu and développé en croix with balances in retiré and arabesque positions
- grand battement en croix

Center

- adage with développé en croix and demonstration of first arabesque
- battements tendus with pirouettes
- ballet combination across the floor with demonstration of en dedans and en dehors pirouettes
- changements and échappés sautés
- petit allegro with petits jetés and assemblés
- grand jeté and tour jeté entrelacé

NOTE: Dancers may either complete the entire audition in ballet slippers or on pointe. You can also provide a short demonstration of pointe ability after the required center work. Male identifying dancers may also demonstrate additional allegro work, including petit batterie, tour en l'air and grand allegro.

Improvisation

- Document and share a 2-minute dance Improvisation in the dance form of your choice.

How to Upload and Share Videos in Google Drive

From your computer:

1. Visit www.drive.google.com on your computer and ensure you are logged into your Google account.
 - a. If you do not have a Google account, you can quickly create one at www.myaccount.google.com and select "Create Account."
2. Click the "+New" button on the left-hand side and upload your video. If your video file is already uploaded to Google Drive, locate it in your drive's file list.
3. Click on the video file once to highlight it.
4. Right-click on the file name to open a menu of options (desktop).
5. Click "Share" from the options list.
6. In the pop-up window that appears, type in the contact email addresses of the people you would like to share the video with (see emails to share with on the following page).

7. Click "Send."

From your phone:

1. Open the Google Drive app on your phone and ensure you are logged into your Google account.
 - a. If you do not have a Google account, you can quickly create one at www.myaccount.google.com and select "Create Account."
2. Click the "+" circular button on the bottom right and upload your video. If your video is already uploaded to Google Drive, locate it in your drive's file list.
3. Click the "... " next to the video file.
4. Click "Share" from the options list.
5. In the pop-up window that appears, type in the contact email addresses of the people you would like to share the video with (see emails to share with below).
6. Click "Send."

For **DANCE** share with:

- kgordon@asfa.k12.al.us
- wchapman@asfaschool.org
- sblack@asfaschool.org
- mcole@asfaschool.org
- gbarnes@asfaschool.org

IMPORTANT: The pre-audition requirements here in **STEP 3**, along with the information you completed in **STEPS 1 & 2** will be reviewed to determine if you will be invited for a live, on-campus audition on **March 1, 2025**. To learn about the live, on-campus audition requirements, you may continue to read into the next section.

Live, On-Campus Audition Requirements

If you are invited to the live Dance audition, it will occur on **March 1, 2025**, and will include both ballet and modern. It is designed to determine the applicant's current level of dance training and understanding of movement vocabulary, and to evaluate the applicant's musicality and physicality as pertains to the requirements of an immersive dance program. An interview with the applicant will also be conducted by the Dance Faculty.

- Dance applicants should wear appropriate dance attire.
- Female identifying dancers: flesh-colored tights, black leotard, ballet shoes and pointe shoes, if applicable, and no jewelry. Hair should be securely fastened and out of the face.
- Male identifying dancers: black tights, dance belt, white t-shirt, and black ballet shoes. No jewelry allowed.
- Barre work may include but is not limited to: battement tendu, battement dégagé, rond de jambe à terre and en l'air, battement frappé, développé, grand battement.
- Centre exercises may include but are not limited to: adage with demonstration of épaulement and port de bras, pirouettes en dehors and en dedans, balancé and pas de bourrée combinations, piqué turns, chaînées, petit allegro including changement de pieds, échappés sautés, glissades, temps levés, jetés, assemblés, sissonnes, brisés, cabrioles, grand allegro combinations including grands jetés, grands jetés en tournant, sauts de basque, and pointe work.
- The modern technique component of the audition may include center floor modern warm-up exercises, modern combinations moving across the floor and basic modern jumps.

Please note: The criteria for evaluation is dependent on the age of the applicant.

For questions about your application contact

Katie Gordon
205.252.9241
Email: kgordon@asfa.k12.al.us

For questions about specific audition requirements contact

Wes Chapman
Chair, Dance Department
Email: wchapman@asfaschool.org

Any information submitted by mail should be sent to:

Katie Gordon
Alabama School of Fine Arts
1800 Rev Abraham Woods, Jr. Blvd.
Birmingham, AL 35203

August 2024