

# NSU DEMON DAZZLER AUDITION PACKET



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# WHY NSU DEMON DAZZLERS?

## SCHOLARSHIP

Fall and spring scholarships of \$1200/semester are awarded to members plus out-of-state fee waivers for all out of state students that are selected. These awards can be combined with other scholarship awards. Second year members that continue on the line will be awarded \$1400/semester, third and fourth-year members will be awarded \$1600/or more per semester. Officer positions are subject to more per the director's discretion.

## PRESENCE

The Demon Dazzlers serve as the official dance line for Northwestern State University. Performing for NSU Demon pep rallies, football, volleyball, and basketball games; the Demon Dazzlers blend different styles of movement to produce a unique style of precision-jazz dance that sets this team apart from all others. During the fall semester, the Demon Dazzlers serve as an auxiliary unit of the "Spirit of Northwestern" Marching Band, accompanying them to various marching festivals, guest appearances, and football games both at home and selected away games. Dazzlers are also involved in the production of NSU's Annual Christmas Gala and the Lady of the Bracelet Scholarship Pageant. In the Spring, Dazzlers perform at Prather Coliseum for Demon Basketball games, NDA Nationals in Daytona, Fl, and other community events. Members serve as ambassadors of Northwestern State University while participating in many different service projects on campus and in the Natchitoches community.

## PRESTIGE

As a member of Demon Dazzlers, you will join a sisterhood of tradition that dates back to the 50's as the first Dance line at NSU was formed, called the *NSU Mademoiselles*. The name later changed to *Cane River Bells* in the 70's, and in the late 80's, they once again changed the name to what you now know as the *Demon Dazzlers*. These collegiate dance team members are as diverse as the dance styles they present, representing many different states and regions.

# WELCOME

## TO THE INFERNO

If you're looking for a team rooted in tradition, spirit, and technical foundations, you've come to the right place! There's nothing like taking the field at Turpin Stadium with the SoN for the first time. It's a rush of a lifetime you will not soon forget.

Being a Demon Dazzler is an honor and privilege. Dazzlers represent the University with grace while upholding the most strenuous schedule. Learning to balance school, practice, work, and other extra curricular activities will be challenging, but our members continue to successfully meet those challenges.

As an alumni, I know what it takes to be a Demon Dazzler and I will work tirelessly with its members to make the transition to a collegiate team a success. It is an honor to direct the NSU Demon Dazzlers.

"To thee, our Alma Mater, Loyalty!"

*Fork Em' Demons!*  
*Brandi Chasteen*



# ELIGIBILITY

**Candidates who wish to tryout for the Demon Dazzlers Dance Line must meet the following minimum qualifications:**

1. All candidates must plan to enroll at NSU and participate as a full-time student and member in both fall and spring semesters.
2. If the candidate is an incoming freshmen or transfer student, the candidate must complete the regular admissions application process including having an official transcript sent to NSU by current high school or University.
3. All candidates must have a 2.0 cumulative and current grade point average to be eligible for auditions and must maintain a 2.0 grade point average in all academic work while enrolled at NSU.
4. All candidates must have completed *and* passed a physical exam by a medical physician within the past year.
5. All members must enroll in a dance class per semester (Ballet for first year members if available in fall).
6. All candidates must have sufficient physical fitness, endurance, strength, and skills to perform the requirements set for this team. Although there is NO minimum weight requirement, *members will be required to maintain their audition appearance throughout the season to ensure uniform availability.*

# REQUIREMENTS

## REQUIRED MASTERY OF SKILLS:

- Demonstrate strong skills of ballet and jazz foundation
- Triple/Quad pirouettes on left and right
- Two consecutive eight counts of a la seconds
- Changing spot second turns
- Variations of second turns
- Right and left leaps and pop jetes
- Switch leaps and variations of switch leaps (traveling from right and left entrances)
- Switch arabesque
- Leap in second, Russian from standing position
- Capezio/Firebird
- Calypso
- Chaine Disk
- Battements in all directions
- Leg extensions (right and left)
- Leg holds & leg hold turns
- Safety falls
- Right, Left, & Center splits
- Array of floor movements- (shoulder rolls, floor jete, etc.)

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS: (STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)

Including but not limited to: Aerial (front and side), rolling tinsica (spider), front/ back walk over, inside leg hold turn, headsprings, kip-ups, any inversions (illusions), flexibility and high range of motion in legs and back.

## OTHER CRITERIA:

- Strong leadership qualities
- Charismatic presence/personality
- Confidence & Enthusiasm
- Motivation & Dedication
- Strong Discipline
- Hard work ethic
- Ability to learn and perfect choreography quickly & efficiently

FOR MORE INFO, [CHASTEENB@NSULA.EDU](mailto:CHASTEENB@NSULA.EDU)

# EXPECTATIONS

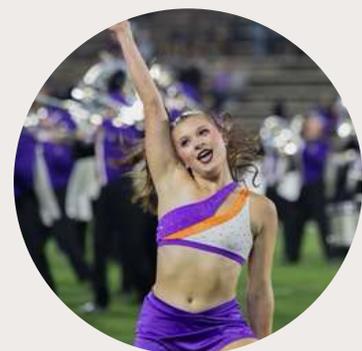
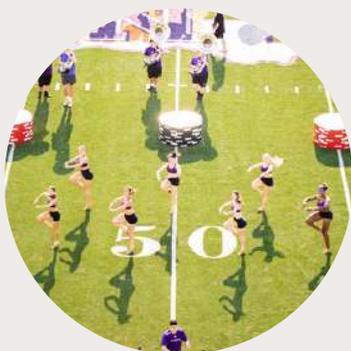
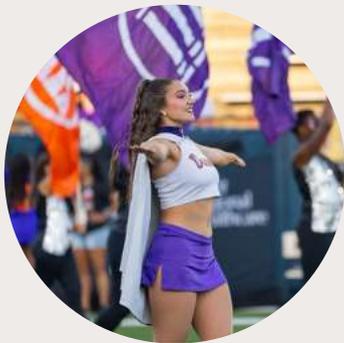
Due to the rigorous demands required of this team, if selected, the candidate must maintain a prescribed level of physical fitness to remain on the team. A required team cardio and workout program will be scheduled at the beginning of the season.

During the summer, Dazzlers are required to attend two (2) home camps in addition to traveling to NDA camp to prepare for the upcoming season. Members will also join the SoN at Band Camp the week before fall semester begins. Attendance at these camps are mandatory for all dance line members. Dates for these camps will be given at the conclusion of tryouts.

Fall Semester: Dazzlers practice *outside* on the SoN Proving Ground on MWF from 3:30-5:30. On TR, Dazzlers are in the studio in CAPA anywhere from 6am to 9:15am. A full rehearsal of the halftime show will be early mornings/early afternoons in Turpin Stadium on game days (depending on game time).

Spring Semester: Dazzlers practice in the studio at CAPA or HHP and prepare for basketball performances/clinics/Nationals, etc.

Points of Accountability system is applied for tardiness, unexcused absences, attitude, preparedness, and dress code.



# AUDITION PROCESS

Dazzler auditions are broken down  
in three phases with cuts after each phase:

## PHASE 1

### TECHNIQUE / ACROSS THE FLOOR

Candidates will start auditions by completing a variation of across the floor and center techniques including walking battements, chaines, piques, turns, leaps, jumps, and acro to showcase their skill, strength, endurance, and flexibility.

## PHASE 2

### JAZZ COMBO

Candidates will learn a jazz combo similar to the Dazzler style performed during a field show that will include technique from phase 1 to perform for the judges.

## PHASE 3

### HIP HOP COMBO

Candidates will learn a hip hop combo similar to what may be used at a pep rally or for field show for the last phase of auditions.

After phase 3, candidates will be given 60 seconds to perform a solo that showcases their personality.

\*Candidates provide their own music.

Then, there will be a final cut before the new team is chosen.

\*Team meeting/uniform fitting will be the day after auditions.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

## IS THERE A FEE?

Yes, audition fees are \$50. Dazzler members are required to pay a fee to purchase practice uniforms, shoes, and some performance costumes. Fee for the season will be announced at the conclusion of auditions. This payment can be paid in full the day of tryouts when you make the team, or in installments with the first payment due at tryouts, and the second due before camp. Cash or checks only. Checks made out to NSU Demon Dazzlers. Team fees will vary year to year depending on the current team's needs.

## WHAT SHOULD I WEAR TO AUDITIONS?

Candidates are required to wear a black hot pant (shorter biker shorts), TIGHTS and black sports bra for tryouts only. No warm-ups, t-shirts, shorts, or cover-ups of any kind will be allowed during evaluations. Male applicants may wear black tank top or fitted dance top with black shorts or leggings. Any type of Jazz dance shoe that you are comfortable in is strongly recommended. Tennis shoes may be used for the hip hop section of auditions. Hair must be secured and away from the face, full performance make-up.

## DO I NEED TO BRING ANYTHING?

\$50 audition fee, a refillable water bottle, dance shoes, completed physical from health care provider, and a positive attitude!

## WILL THERE BE A WORKSHOP?

Yes, we will have dance line clinics before tryouts. These clinics are TBD by Dazzler Director and NSU Staff. Please follow our facebook/Instagram to stay current on Dazzler events. \*You must attend one of the clinics to be eligible for auditions.\*

## WHAT TIME SHOULD I SHOW UP FOR THE WORKSHOP AND AUDITIONS?

We recommend that everyone attending the workshop and/or auditions arrive 30 minutes prior to the scheduled time to register and warm-up/stretch.

## ARE TATTOOS AND PIERCINGS ALLOWED?

Members of the Demon Dazzlers are not allowed to show piercings (except ears) or tattoos during any performances. Body piercings must be removed and visible tattoos concealed with makeup. Bulky bandages or band-aids are not allowed.

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