

# 2011 OSU Colorguard Auditions

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### **Does it cost money to be on the Colorguard?**

No! All members are provided with all performance and practice uniforms, shoes, earrings, poles and silks. In addition all members of the Colorguard receive a Music Activity Award of \$1000 during the fall semester. The only purchases required of members during the season are their tights, which run \$15/pair, and their personal beauty products.

### **When and where does the Colorguard practice?**

The Colorguard practices with the Tiger Band from 3:50-5:20 Tuesday-Friday afternoons and on gameday Saturday mornings. In addition, the Colorguard also meets on their own for an hour and a half two evenings a week when there is a home football game.

### **Am I required to register for MUS4250? What if I have a class conflict with MUS4250?**

All members of the Colorguard must register for MUS4250 during the fall semester. Success on the Colorguard requires attendance during Tiger Band and during sectionals. Should you have a class conflict with MUS4250, you must notify the leadership and the Tiger Band Directors as soon as the conflict is known. Class conflicts are handled on a case-by-case basis and are rarely allowed.

### **Are sectionals mandatory?**

Yes. Members will be notified of final sectional rehearsal times well ahead of the semester's beginning. Sectional rehearsals for the Fall 2011 semester are tentatively set for Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 5:40-7:00pm. Members should be prepared to stay until 7:00pm both nights.

Only in extreme cases will a member be allowed to miss or be dismissed early from a sectional rehearsal.

### **Do all members perform at every game?**

The Colorguard holds a standard of excellence in all performances. The Tiger Band typically learns 5-7 new shows a semester, often learning a completely new show in four days. Colorguard members are expected to be attentive, dedicated and hard-working during all rehearsals, without exception. Should a member be unable to master the show or miss a class or sectional rehearsal, that member may be chosen as an alternate for that week. Being an alternate is a one week/one show position and does not mean that the member will not perform again. On the contrary, the

leadership of the Colorguard makes every effort to give all members equal time on the field at pregame and halftime during the season.

### **Who choreographs routines?**

As part of a proud tradition of student leadership in the Tiger Band, the Colorguard captains choreograph all routines (both flag and dance) under the supervision of the Tiger Band Directors.

### **Does LSU have a weapons line?**

We do not have a weapons line at this time. Because of the short rehearsal time we have each week, we prefer to use flag and dance to present a clean, effective and interesting show.

### **I've heard that LSU has a "dated" style. Is this true?**

Not at all. Our halftime twirling style is a modern colorguard style: our work features body movement, work on different planes and challenging sequences and tosses.

With that being said, we take immense pride in performing our "traditional" pregame show each week. The LSU Pregame Salute is more than 30 years old! But don't let the age fool you--the routine is both a challenge to learn and a thrill to perform for 90,000 screaming fans each week!

### **Does LSU have a winterguard?**

We do not have a winterguard at this time. Our focus is on marching band and our season ends with the close of football season in the fall. Members regularly participate in local independent winterguards during the spring.

### **Does the Colorguard accompany the Tiger Band to away games?**

The Colorguard attends away games with the full band (typically one game a year). The Colorguard also attends any post-season bowl games with the full Tiger Band .

### **Is there an appearance standard for members?**

Yes. The Colorguard is a highly visible part of the Tiger Band. The Colorguard performs for more than 100,000 fans each gameday and is regularly seen on national television. Members are expected to maintain their audition appearance (a height-weight proportionate physique) throughout the season, without exception. All members should be prepared to conform to our standard of uniformity in hair and makeup. To see pictures of the Colorguard's hair and makeup, please reference the Colorguard page at <http://www.bands.lsu.edu> or visit the LSU Colorguard page on Facebook.

## **What can I do to prepare for auditions?**

You should be confident in basic flag technique and have a good knowledge of basic dance (baller and jazz) technique. You can also plan to attend one of our preseason workshops ahead of the audition day.

## **How many members are typically on the line?**

The line varies from year to year. Previous lines have ranged from 22-36 members. The line number will be determined by the number of successful applicants on audition day.

## **How many people typically audition for the guard?**

The number of auditionees ranges from year to year.

## **Are there males on the line?**

In the past, the LSU Colorguard was a co-ed organization but today we are an all-female unit.

## **Is previous twirling experience required?**

Yes. The Colorguard season is fast-paced and members who have a background in Colorguard have the most success. Members typically have had at least one year of twirling experience prior to auditioning.

## **I attended the Tigerland Auxiliary and Leadership Camp this past summer and auditioned for the scholarship routine but didn't make it. Will that hurt my chances of making it at this audition?**

No! The judges will only focus on your presentation on audition day, not on any past attempts at auditioning for the line. Many girls (including last year's captain) have made the line in the spring despite not receiving the scholarship the previous summer.

## **I received the scholarship at TALC. What do I do on audition day?**

TALC scholarship recipients participate in the group routine portion of the audition, but are not asked to prepare and present an original routine. The judges will evaluate scholarship recipients alongside all other audition applicants as they learn and perform the group routine. Scholarship recipients are expected to successfully perform the group routine in the spring to earn their spot on the line.

## **What do you mean by “TALC Scholarship”?**

The term “scholarship” is synonymous with “walk-on.” Upcoming high school seniors who attend the Tigerland Auxiliary and Leadership Camp during the summer have the opportunity to audition for the line before their senior year of high school by learning and performing a group routine. The scholarship routine is judged by members of the LSU Band Department and the guard’s student leaders. Those who are selected receive a “scholarship” at camp allowing them to bypass the individual routine at auditions the following April and giving them a spot on the line provided that they successfully perform the group routine at the spring audition.

All applicants are given an even playing field at the spring audition and scholarship recipients do not have an “edge” over any other applicant.

## **Who should I contact if I have questions about auditions or the line?**

Please contact the LSU Department of Bands at [bands@lsu.edu](mailto:bands@lsu.edu) or 225-578-2384.

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