Golden Essence
Dance Team
Tuskegee University
Audition Packet
April 2024
Dear Golden Essence Dancer Hopeful,

We are so excited that you are interested in becoming a member of the Tuskegee University Golden Essence Dance Team. Being a Golden Essence Dancer provides women with an opportunity to share a common bond and close relationship with others. Learning what it means to work closely with others and sharing in accomplishments and frustrations are all part of the sisterhood of Golden Essence Dance Team. To be chosen as a Golden Essence Dancer is an honor! To remain an active Golden Essence Dancer, one must maintain a certain level of dance ability, keep in good physical shape, and uphold all guidelines established for the Golden Essence Dance Team.

Being on the Dance Team means being a member of a team, a team that works together and dances together! Leadership of a team is important, and members often have the opportunity to cultivate and demonstrate leadership abilities.

The Golden Essence Dance Team is a proud group. Not only do they provide service to their school with the support of the faculty, administration, and other groups on campus, but they also provide a source of great school spirit to Tuskegee University. Golden Essence Dancers provides a real opportunity for one to exert initiative, leadership, and creativity. When performing before an audience it helps to develop self-assurance and poise.

Commitment and dedication to Golden Essence Dance Team is required of anyone who has the privilege of making the team. Participation in this organization is the highlight of college for many. There will be many good times, some bad times and some glory and recognition, however, a member must conform and make sacrifices. Being selected as a Golden Essence Dancer is an outstanding achievement but is a commitment that must be taken seriously.

We are looking forward to meeting and getting to know you through the audition process. We wish you all the luck in the world and will offer you as much help and guidance through the audition process as possible. Thank you again for your interest and excitement in dancing at Tuskegee University. Good Luck!
To Answer Your Questions...

Who are we?
We are the basketball dance team, and we perform during halftime at the men’s basketball games for entertainment. We are a self-choreographed team, meaning no outside choreographer unless the Advisor brings someone in to choreograph. Our style is hip hop, jazz, funk, pom, and more.

What do I wear?
On the first day of auditions, please wear any comfortable dance clothing (dance pants, shorts, crop tops, sports bras, etc.), and dance shoes (jazz shoes, dance sneakers, or tennis shoes). During virtual and in person audition day, you must wear all black (black dance shorts, black sports bra, black shoes), skin tone tights, bra-length hair or neat bun, and minimal make-up.

How do I know if I’m eligible to be a Golden Essence Dancer?
You must meet these requirements:

1. Be enrolled at Tuskegee University (or have an acceptance letter from Tuskegee)
2. Be in good academic standing with a 2.5 or higher cumulative GPA
3. Be currently insured under a medical policy
4. Be in compliance with all applicable provision of the constitution and bylaws of the team
5. All members must have one letter of recommendation (cannot be from anyone currently associated with the Golden Essence Dance Team)
   - Returning Students: letter should be on official Tuskegee University letterhead
   - Incoming Students: letter must be from faculty at current High School
6. Must complete ALL portions of the application

What are you looking for?
We are looking for general appearance, ability to execute movements well, showmanship, knowledge and memory of the routines, timing, unison, choreographer, and overall dynamic impression. Energy and spirit are by far the most important aspect when performing, so show your personality, give it your all, and most of all have fun! When seeking dancers, we prioritize individuals with great attitudes, a strong willingness to learn, and adaptability.
What are the Expenses?
As a new Members $400.00 and as a veteran $250.00. This is for uniforms and dues, which is non-refundable once deposited in the Golden Essence account.
We will host fundraisers and offer payment plans throughout the summer to assist with expenses.

How much time does Golden Essence Dance Team require?
**Membership:** Your membership as a Golden Essence Dancer is a commitment from the date in which you have been chosen through to the following year. (April 2024 – May 2025)
**Practices:** Golden Essence Dancers strive to have quality practices so we can have quality dances. Practices in the fall will be at least 4 times a week *(subject to change).* Extra sessions will be held as needed; time 6:00 – 9:00pm. We do provide 30minutes of study hall from 6-6:30pm to help maintain grades.
**Performances:** The Golden Essence Dancers have a great responsibility on campus. We perform at all men’s home basketball games. We do special appearances on and off campus. Being a Golden Essence Dancer gives members the privilege to do what dancers do best…. PERFORM!!!! As you will be a pacesetter on campus, you will need to find time to practice, to have fun, to sleep, to study, and to engage in various campus activities. Golden Essence in no way interferes with classes, if you organize your time well!

What are your expectations?
If you are selected to be a Golden Essence Dancer, you will be in the limelight on campus (good or bad), and you will need to act accordingly. Leaders on campus must set the pace both in and out of uniform. You are the “face” of Tuskegee University and Golden Essence Dance Team, and we hold a high standard of being a positive role model to the community as a whole. The fun of being a Golden Essence Dancer will not be fulfilled if you fail in any of these obligations.

*If you fail to uphold the Golden Essence standard as a team your season can be cut short at any time. If you fail to uphold the Golden Essence standard as an individual, you may be suspended or removed from the team.*

What do I need to submit to qualify?
- Application
- Letter of recommendation
- Signed Audition Waiver
- Agreement form
- Unofficial Transcript with CGPA (Returning Students)
- $20.00 Non-refundable application fee (via Cash App $TuGoldenEssence)
- Questionnaire
- Physical Exam Form Signed by Physician (must not be older than 2 months)
- 1 minute audition video
In Person Audition Clinic

1. After virtual auditions are completed, individuals will receive an invitation to the in-person audition.

2. Hopefuls must attend the in-person audition clinic to be eligible for membership. If there is a true emergency or extenuating circumstance, please speak with the Advisor to make alternate arrangements.

3. If at any time throughout the audition process a potential dance team member displays a negative or disrespectful attitude, the captain(s) of the Golden Essence Dancers reserve the right to alert the Advisor. Despite the scores given, such a display of misconduct can and will affect membership eligibility.

4. Saturday morning, Final Audition Day. Please do NOT be late as this will result in a 5-point deduction from each judge on your overall scores!

5. The decisions of the new members are final.

6. Once the new members have been chosen, the new members will be announced.

7. New member will be notified of the date and time of their first practice.
Golden Essence Dance Team 2024
Audition Schedule
Location TBA

Fri., April 19, 2024
6:00 – 6:30pm
6:30 – 6:45pm
6:45 – 8:00pm
8:00 – 8:15pm
8:15 – 9:00pm
9:00 – 9:10pm

Location: TBA
Check-In
Warm-up & Stretch
Learn Audition Routine
Break
Learn Audition Routine
Question/Dismissal

Sat., April 20, 2024
11:00 – 11:15am
11:15 – 11:45am
11:45 – 11:50am
11:55 – 12:50pm
12:50 – 1:00pm

Location: TBA
Warm-up and Stretch
Review Audition Routine
Groups Are Announced
Practice with group
Questions

Saturday, April 20, 2024
5:00pm – 5:30pm
5:30pm
6:30pm
8:30pm

*Numbers assignments. PLEASE BE ON TIME!!! Being late will result in Automatic (5) points deduction on your Score! *Warm-up & Stretch*

First round, Choreographed Routine
Second round, Individual Routine
Scores will be Talled. Call-backs

Final decisions will be announced
Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

Cell #: __________________________________________________________

DOB: _________ Classification: ___________ Major: _____________________

Instagram/Tiktok/Twitter: ____________________________________________

List previous dance experiences/training with time frames (i.e. Highschool Dance Member 2019-2022):

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

List any other extracurricular activities that you are currently involved in for the 2024-2025 year:

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Please return this form to the provided link (Audition Information) by April 6, 2024, along with:

- Letter of recommendation
- Signed Audition Waiver
- Agreement form
- Unofficial Transcript with CGPA (Returning Students)
- $20.00 Non-refundable application fee (via Cash App $TuGoldenEssence)
- Questionnaire
- Physical Exam Form Signed by Physician (must not be older than 2 months)
- 1 minute audition video

If you have any question, please contact
**Golden Essence Dance Team**

**Audition Questionnaire**

Please answer each question in its entirety.

1. Why are you trying out for Golden Essence Dance Team? ____________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. What three characteristics do you feel are most important for dancers to possess?
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. How can a dancer best represent their school and student body? ____________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________

4. What would you do if a member of your team had a very bad attitude? problem? ____________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________

5. What would you do if you had a problem or a problem with a person on the team? __________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________

6. On your previous team what is one thing that you found enjoyable? ____________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Mrs. Martin (mmartin@tuskegee.edu) or Mrs. Ingram (jingram@tuskegee.edu)
Golden Essence Dance Team
Audition Waiver

The undersigned is aware of and acknowledges the risk associated with participation in dance activities, including but not without limitation, the risk of catastrophic injury, paralysis and even death. It is the undersigned’s desire to participate in a dance clinic and to audition for the Golden Essence Dance Team. The undersigned I assumes all risk of injury associated with said clinic and tryouts, and specifically agrees to indemnify and hold free and harmless Tuskegee university, its agents and employees, including without limitation to the Golden Essence Dance Team captains, advisor and all other members of the Department of Athletics staff at Tuskegee University, from any and all claims or causes of action arising out of her participation in said clinic, no matter what the cause. The undersigned further acknowledges and certifies that she is at least 18 years of age.

Signature: ________________________________________________

Date: ____________________________________________________
Golden Essence Dance Team Agreement

I, ___________________________________________________________,

Please Print

Have read and understand all of the information enclosed in this packet. I fully understand the expense, time and discipline that would be required of me should I be selected as a Tuskegee University Golden Essence Dancer. I am responsible for knowing all of the rules of golden Essence and the Audition process. I know that I am responsible for adhering to all of the said regulations and provisions of the information provided me through the packet and by current Golden Essence members. I understand that results are impartial and final. I agree to accept the final decision of the Judges regarding the selection of the 2024-2025 Tuskegee University Golden Essence Dance Team...... NO DISPUTES. I understand that my commitment to the team is from the day in which I have been announced a member of the Golden Essence Dance Team through to the end of the dance season (April 2024 – May 2025). I also realize that in order to audition for the Golden Essence Dance Team, I must turn in this contract, a completed application, letter of recommendation, signed Participation wavier, Physical Exam Form, Signed By Physician, Transcript with CGPA (if applicable) and $20.00 application fee, and audition video.

______________________________________________________________  ______________________
Signature                        Date

Please return this and all other required paperwork on the first day of auditions. AUDITIONS
CINICS ARE April 19, 2024 – April 20, 2024, LOCATION is TBA. PLEASE BE AT LEAST 10 MINUTES
EARLY FOR CHECKIN THANK YOU!