

# ***DANCE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS***

2024/25



# WHAT TO DO?

An audition is required for admission to the Dance Major in the School of Theatre and Dance. In the 2024-2025 Admissions Cycle, we will offer in-person, virtual, and video submission options. Students should apply to both JMU and the School of Theatre and Dance separately and register for an audition.

## 1. Apply to JMU

Apply to JMU using the [Common App](#). Once you have listed JMU as one of your schools and have listed your intended major, a portfolio section will open in the JMU portion of the Common App. That will link you directly to JMU's SlideRoom application, where you can submit your artistic application and upload your portfolio of work to be reviewed by our faculty.

## 2. Register for a Dance Audition

## 3. Apply to School of Theatre and Dance on Slideroom





# SLIDEROOM



Dance Major applications to the School of Theatre and Dance are submitted through [Slideroom](#) along with the following materials:

- **Headshot:** Photo of yourself
- **Resume:** including any relevant artistic experience. For instance, we are interested in where you have studied dance, what types of dance you have trained in, musicals and dance competitions you have been involved in, teaching experiences, and any other artistic experiences you have had (acting, visual art, lighting design, stage managing, costume design).
- **Unofficial Transcript:** from high school or, in the case of transfer students, BOTH college and high school.
- **Personal Statement:** Please discuss why you want to join the School of Theatre and Dance at JMU. This essay should focus on how you think the BA degree with a major in Dance will help you meet your academic and professional goals. Your essay will be used in conjunction with your audition for admittance to the program and scholarship consideration. Please limit your response to 1000 words or less.
- **Dance Videos:** Please upload the requested supplementary videos to Slideroom.

*Please submit your [Slideroom](#) application at least 9-days prior to your audition.*

### IN-PERSON APPLICANTS

On-campus auditions include multiple genres of dance. Additionally, you are welcome to submit an OPTIONAL video (not to exceed 90-seconds) of you performing a dance genre that is NOT ballet or modern/contemporary. You will need to record and submit videos electronically through SlideRoom.

Submit dance videos no later than **9 days** before the audition day. Please bring ballet shoes.

### VIRTUAL APPLICANTS

The live virtual audition will engage multiple genres of dancing. To streamline this audition process, please download and learn the ballet and modern combinations which you can find [HERE\\*](#). Then, upload videos of you performing these combinations to your Slideroom portal. We want to see how well you embody the combinations and your level of technique. You will perform these combinations **live via Zoom** during the Virtual audition and submit videos of you performing these combinations to your Slideroom portal. Submit dance videos no later than **9 days** before the virtual audition day. If you would like to showcase a preferred genre that is NOT ballet or modern/contemporary, please add a clip of you performing this additional genre (not to exceed 90-seconds).

**\*Ballet and modern combinations for Virtual Applicants can also be accessed at: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9DEcVFbSQJbwkMCvS\\_8owEf1TMnKXg8Q](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9DEcVFbSQJbwkMCvS_8owEf1TMnKXg8Q)**

### VIDEO SUBMISSION APPLICANTS

If you are unable to join us for either an in-person or virtual audition, please follow the directions above for Virtual applicants and upload videos of you performing the ballet and modern combinations provided via the YouTube link. You may also submit an optional 3rd video in a style of your choice. In addition to completing your portfolio and uploading your videos, please upload a 30-second video of you responding to the following prompts...

- Why are you interested in James Madison University
  - Why are you interested in JMU Dance
  - What are your goals and how do you plan to use your JMU degree to achieve them?
- This option requires your Slideroom portfolio to be completed by **February 8th, 2025**.

### OFF-CAMPUS APPLICANTS

If you have already auditioned for the program at an off-campus location AND have been accepted via email, you need to complete a Slideroom portfolio. Please upload one video of yourself in any style of your choosing, so that we have a record of you in our system. Additionally, you should complete all of the elements of the portfolio including a photo, resumé, unofficial transcript, and personal statement. Please be sure to indicate, when prompted, that you have already auditioned and specify where that took place.





# IN-PERSON AUDITION DAY

We will host an audition day at JMU's Forbes Center facilities including the following:

- **9:00am:** Arrival and sign-in at the Forbes Center Interlude Lobby; continental breakfast for prospective students and families in studio 1298, warm-up space available in studio 1299.
- **9:30-11:15am:** Audition Class in 1299
- **11:25am-12:25pm:** Informational meeting, question and answer session with the dance faculty in studio 1270.
  - Showing by dance majors in Virginia Repertory Dance Company.
- **12:30-1:45pm:** Individual interviews for prospective students with dance faculty in their offices located on the second floor. Your interview slot will be assigned on the day of your audition. Please wait in the upstairs lobby to be called for your interview. Optional Tours of Wayland Learning Community will follow the interviews. You are free to go after your interview if you do not want to tour Wayland.

***Be yourself and have fun. Remember that we want you to do your best!***

**Questions?** Contact Tara Lee Burns, Dance Recruitment Coordinator at [burnstl@jmu.edu](mailto:burnstl@jmu.edu).

We aim to host inclusive and accessible auditions, portfolio reviews, and interviews that allow all participants to engage and share fully. To request accommodations please contact [burnstl@jmu.edu](mailto:burnstl@jmu.edu).



# VIRTUAL AUDITION DAY

We will host a virtual audition on Zoom including the following:

All listed times are in Eastern Time.

- **9:00-9:30am:** We invite you to view videos of JMU Dance performances at your leisure.
- **9:30-10:15am:** Dance workshop led by dance faculty. The dance faculty will teach different phrases for you to learn for you to get a taste of what we offer.
- **10:15-10:25am:** Ten-minute break for you to hydrate and prepare for the informational sessions that follow.
- **10:25am-12:00pm:** Information session with dance faculty followed by JMU Student Dance Q&A.
- **12:15-2:30pm:** Be prepared for a one-on-one interview to discuss your past experience in dance with one of the dance faculty members. Schedule a 15-minute interview in advance.

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# OFF-CAMPUS AUDITION

We will audition and accept students into the dance program from off-site auditions. If you have auditioned for the program at an alternate location (festival, masterclass, etc.), please follow the instructions below.

- If you have already auditioned AND received an acceptance email from JMU Dance, please complete the following steps...
  - Complete a Slideroom portfolio by following the directions above and indicating where you auditioned for the program.
  - Apply to the university – if you have received an artistic acceptance to the dance program, you will still need to apply to the university for academic acceptance.
  - If you have already auditioned for the program, you DO NOT need to complete a Slate Registration. You will only need to apply to the university and complete a Slideroom portfolio.

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