

2024 – 2025 Ballet Folklorico Audition Requirements

Overview

The emphasis of the Ballet Folklorico program is to preserve the cultural and traditional practices of Mexican and International Hispanic dances. This is in keeping with audition requirements of High School dance programs, Folkloric companies, along with various Fine Arts institutions. Due to the vigorous physical demands of Ballet Folklorico, students with chronic health problems and/or injuries (bad knees, weak ankles, back problems etc.) are not encouraged to apply for the Ballet Folklorico program.

Audition Dates: Auditions are Saturday, February 10, 2024, and Thursday, February 15, 2024. You will choose an audition time during the application process.

Length of Audition: Two hours

What to bring: Creative Concepts packet, Ballet Folklorico Interest form, water, required dance attire

Audition Attire:

- **Girls:** Solid black T-shirt, black leggings, and tennis shoes. Hair should be nice, neat and away from the face and neck. No jewelry, bows or accessories other than bobby pins and/or a hair net.
- **Boys:** Solid black T-shirt, black gym shorts, and tennis shoes. Hair should be nice, neat and pulled away and secured from the face and neck.
- **If you do not have the required attire, please arrive with all black clothing that is both comfortable and like the above-listed attire requirements. All plain black leggings, biker shorts, and joggers are acceptable. No designs, logos, or prints are allowed. Ballet Folklorico shoes will be provided by the Ortiz Ballet Folklorico program.**

What to Expect:

Our auditions will promptly begin with cardio exercises, whole body movement exercises, and timing/pacing exercises. There will be two portions of this audition: Mexican Folklorico and an International portion. During the first half, the instructor will demonstrate a one-minute-long International dance and students will learn and present this piece. The second half will consist of the instructor teaching auditionees a variety of basic introductory footwork to a specific Folklorico song and region.

Please note that auditionees do not need to prepare a solo.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Physique and Body Alignment

- Coordination, Time and Spacing
- Partner work
- Musicality
- Memory
- Rhythm
- Etiquette and Conduct

Other Helpful Tips:

- Do not talk while the instructor is teaching but do ask questions if you need additional clarification.
- Know how to stagger in a line up with one dancer forward and the next back when performing Folklorico sequences.
- Know how to line up chronologically and from left to right unless instructed otherwise.
- **NO FOOD, GUM OR DRINK** will be permitted during the audition. Individual Water bottles will be placed in a designated place in the studio for dancers to use during break time.
- **ONLY AUDITIONEES** are allowed on campus, parents may wait in their car or can come back to pick up students as the auditions conclude.
- **NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED IN THE AUDITION ROOM.**
- Body Language is important Smile and Enjoy!
- Thank the teacher.

For any questions, please email Ms. Vega, Ballet Folklorico instructor, (francis.vega@houstonisd.org) at least two weeks before your audition to make arrangements.