

**Archbishop
Mitty
High School**

**Royals Dance Ensemble
Handbook**

The AMHS Royals Dance Ensemble is an advanced dance ensemble with an emphasis on performance. The ensemble will consist of students who are enrolled at Archbishop Mitty High School, grades 9-12. Some of the featured performances for the Royals may include: home football games, school rallies, home basketball games, dance recitals, and Royals showcases. The Royals will gain a professional essence of dance by building advanced level performance skills and proper dance technique. Each member will display respect, professionalism and positive group support. As an AMHS Royal, each dancer will represent Mitty as a just, faith-filled and respectful leader both on and offstage.

In order to become a member of the AMHS Royals Dance Ensemble, each applicant must go through an extensive audition process which includes:

- Completion of the Royals audition form and signed parent/student contract
- Two day audition workshop
- Performance of audition dance(s)
- Callbacks

Once chosen and accepted as an AMHS Royal, each dancer will be expected to follow the expectations detailed below, and the Archbishop Mitty High School Mission Statement. In addition, once their year contract is up, all AMHS Royals members will be required to re-audition for placement in the group for the following year.

Expectations

It is expected that by accepting a position on the AMHS Royals Dance Ensemble, each member will represent Archbishop Mitty High School and the Royals name with pride and respect in a positive manner.

It is expected that each AMHS Royal member will:

1. Attend all classes and rehearsals.
2. Attend all performances and scheduled events.
3. Be prepared with all homework assignments, costumes, projects...etc.
4. Be respectful, punctual and responsible in class, rehearsals and performances.

Goals

1. Build advanced level performance skills.
2. Apply proper dance technique and better enhance personal dance training.
3. Work together as an ensemble, both in class and in performance.
4. Gain a professional essence of dance as both an art form and an athletic sport.
5. Create a positive learning environment in the classroom and on stage.

Grading

Grading is based on:

1. Daily participation and attendance.
2. Wearing proper dance attire during class/rehearsal.
3. Attendance at all rehearsals, performances & events.
4. Completion of homework assignments, projects & written reviews.

Class Meetings/After-School Rehearsals

The AMHS Royals will meet as a class during the regular school day. On Day Two during an A Week, Royals class will be extended till 3:30pm. Additional summer rehearsals are scheduled before school begins.

Performances

Mandatory performances for the AMHS Royals will include, but are not limited to: varsity football games, varsity basketball games, rallies, winter and spring dance recitals, Open House, and the Black and Gold Gala. It is our expectation that a student's attendance at these sessions is a priority and that any appointments, events, and outside studio time will be arranged around the AMHS Royals schedule.

Excused absences from scheduled performances will only be granted under extenuating circumstances, and will only be considered if the student gives notice (by email) to the instructor at least two weeks before the performance. The instructor will then reply (by email) to the student with his or her decision on the proposed absence. If a student misses a performance because of illness, family emergency, or an approved excused absence by the instructor (see above), the student may complete a biographical paper assigned by the instructor to make up the missing points. Unexcused absences will result in a zero for the performance with no opportunity to make up the points.

Added Performances/Rehearsals/Workshops

Students may also be asked to perform in additional events on campus, as well as have guest instructors come out to teach choreography, or workshops. Students will be given

sufficient notice by the instructor. Any unavoidable conflicts to these additional events must be cleared immediately with Mrs. Rhodes in order to not impact your grade.

Off-campus Performing Policy/Dropping The Class

Students who are enrolled in a performance-based class or who are participating in one of our co-curricular productions in the cast, orchestra or crew, may not audition for or perform in any other high school's performing arts event. If a current member of a performance-based class or production decides to voluntarily terminate his or her contract and commitment early, or is terminated from the ensemble by the director or administration, the student is subject to receiving an "F" in the course and not be able to re-audition for a spot in any AMHS ensemble.

Retreats

The Performing Arts department sees great value in the retreat offerings provided by Campus Ministry and encourage students to participate; however it is expected that students in a performance-based group will make their best effort to not schedule retreats during a previously announced performance or critical rehearsal, as indicated by the instructor. If you have already signed up for one of these retreats, please contact your instructor and Campus Ministry to make the necessary adjustments.

- October 12-14, 2019 - Quest
- January 27-29, 2020 - Kairos
- February 17-19, 2020 - Kairos

Additional Costs

1. Dance uniforms/AMHS Royals apparel-pricing varies
 - new members~\$650
 - returning member ~\$70
2. Competition costumes ~\$150

