

DANCE TROUPE



STAR SEARCH STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Star Search Talent Display has been designed to:

- Encourage the development of soloists and groups in music and dramatic arts.
- Provide a goal that will help motivate soloists and groups to work towards becoming their best in their chosen artistic fields.
- Provide opportunity for performance, giving additional motivation for development of skills through participation on both local corps and divisional levels.
- Help soloists, groups and leaders to focus on doing their best to glorify God by developing the talents He has given them and then using their skills to bring a message and a blessing to those who listen.

It is hoped that corps officers and leaders will help the young people in their endeavors to develop their skills by providing them opportunities to share their talents throughout the year at the corps. The Star Search program is not meant to relate to one or two special weekends. Rather, it is meant to help in the development of the quality of the arts for worship at the corps on a regular basis.

It is further hoped that officers, leaders, parents and other adults involved with young people in Star Search will keep the goals of the program in proper perspective. Children love to excel and show that they are good at something. Because of this, a climate of friendly competition can motivate them to work towards a goal. It can also provide them with a safe arena in which to learn how to support one another, regardless of the outcome of a contest. Whether a child receives a high score or a lower score, they should still see and feel the positive support of those around him or her and receive encouragement from them to continue to work hard to develop their talents and gifts. Disappointment that is enveloped by sincere love, support and encouragement soon disappears. It is mostly when disappointment is surrounded by anger, bitterness and disparaging words, especially by the important adults in the child's life, that the child will want to focus on failure, place blame or stop trying. Of course, it is realized that a few children will be at a stage in their lives where the pressure of standing up and performing is too stressful for them. It is recommended that those children be allowed to avoid participation in Star Search until they get through that stage naturally or can be assisted through it by caring adults and peers.

It should also be noted that Star Search provides opportunities for other life lessons. Even if a child does not go into an artistic performance profession where they would be required to perform a solo, he or she will almost definitely have to stand before a group and present a paper or make a speech or give a presentation. Star Search can help in the development of self-assurance and confidence. It can help a child to understand the importance of proper preparation and of presenting themselves in a positive way. Those in groups can learn the importance of working together with others toward a common goal – that each part of a group can make a contribution to the overall presentation of the whole group. We are taking part in the development of our future leaders. These lessons can help to enhance their gifts and talents and give them extra possibilities for success. Too many of our children have too few opportunities to learn these lessons and receive positive reinforcement as they learn.

Whether it is against ourselves or another, competition is a part of our lives. Even in Salvation Army groups, not everyone can sit first chair in a section of the band or sing the solo in the songsters or win the Bible Bowl or earn a place in the Divisional Youth Band or Timbrelists. Not everyone can win a trophy at Men's Camp or become a General's Guard or be in the Century Club. Although our children cannot escape it, they can learn that their own worth does not ride upon their score in any contest. Rather, the contest allows them the opportunity to strive to do something well, to work at doing the best they can do and to see those around them showing an interest in their progress. Each person has something that they can develop and give as an offering to the Lord. Let's encourage participation in every opportunity that provides a way to find and develop the talents the Lord has given. Let's help our children to learn how to be gracious and supportive of each other, learning at an early age the proper response to the use of their own gifts and the gifts of others as taught by the Apostle Paul in Philippians 2:3 & 4:

*"Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast; but be humble toward each other, never thinking you are better than others. And look out for each other's interests, not just for your own."
(Today's English Version)*

If our children can practice this teaching within the context of Star Search and other Salvation Army programming and then start to apply it to every area of their lives – at school, at home and when playing with their friends then their lives will be able to touch and make a positive impact on those around them. When Star Search results are given and score sheets are returned, the children will take their cues from the adults around them. May we not let them down as they try to learn from us.

DANCE TROUPE PARTICIPANT RULES

In the hope that the Star Search program will help corps growth, prospective Junior & Soldiers are both allowed and encouraged to participate. However, it should be understood that these young people are not to be brought in just for this event. They should be attending the corps on a regular basis and tracked towards becoming a Junior and Senior Soldier.

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS – GROUP & AGE RESTRICTIONS

There are 2 levels of participation for Sacred Dance Troupes. Sacred Dance Troupes must consist of at least 4 members. Level A troupes are restricted to ages 6 to 14. Level B troupes are restricted to ages 6 to 21. If any member of the troupe is age 15 and up, that troupe may participate in Level B only.

As with all Star Search categories, a group that receives a 1st place rating for two consecutive years must take a year off from participating.

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS – UNIFORM

Standard Junior Soldier uniform is required for all Junior Soldier participants. Senior soldiers may wear senior soldier uniform. They may substitute epaulet shirts with epaulets instead of tunics if they prefer. Official Army hats/caps are not required for any participants.

Prospective junior and senior soldiers may wear the standard junior soldier uniform with the exception of the official "S" which is not permitted until enrollment.

Sacred dance participants will not be required to wear uniform **WHILE** performing. However, it is expected that they will be in uniform when they are not performing or waiting to perform. It is not necessary that they be dressed in black. Adjudicators will be looking for clothing to be neat, becoming, modest and not distracting.

Participants will be required to return to proper uniform following their performance and will be in uniform for the Awards Ceremony.

REFER TO THE FOLLOWING PAGE OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE JUNIOR SOLDIER UNIFORM STANDARD.

JUNIOR SOLDIER UNIFORMS

BOYS

JUNIOR SOLDIER PIN AS A
TIE TACK, ON OR
ABOVE LEFT POCKET

BLUE "S" ON COLLAR

NAVY BLUE TIE

TAILORED WHITE SHIRT

NAVY BLUE DRESS PANTS

NAVY BLUE SOCKS

BLACK SHOES



GIRLS

BLUE "S" ON COLLAR

JUNIOR SOLDIER PIN AT NECK AS
A BROOCH OR ON LEFT SIDE
OF BLOUSE

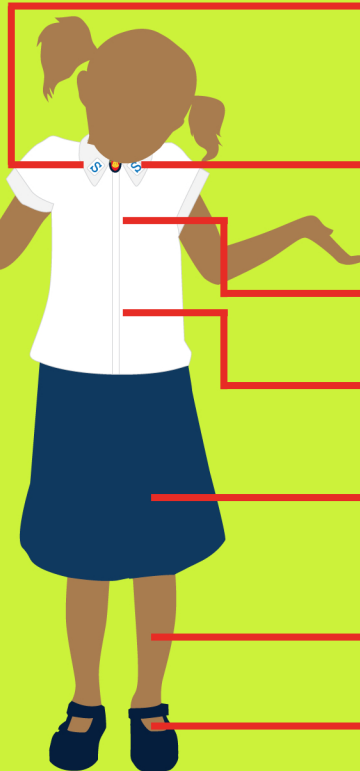
NO TIE

TAILORED WHITE BLOUSE

NAVY BLUE SCHOOL-TYPE
SKIRT OR JUMPER

NAVY BLUE SOCKS OR TIGHTS

BLACK SHOES



PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS – MUSIC

The instructions for the competition are posted by the Territorial Music Department on the Star Search page of the website at <http://www.music.use-salvationarmy.org/starsearch/index.html>. Please make sure you read them carefully. Participants will be required to purchase their own music for their own use.

The music in MP3 format will need to be submitted to the Territorial Music Department by the Divisional Music Director for the group selected as the divisional representative for the Territorial Finals. The Territorial Music Department will be responsible for having the music available for the Territorial Finals event so groups will not need to bring their own music to that event.

TAM CONSERVATORY SCHOLARSHIPS

One participant who is 14 years of age or older in a group who receives the highest score in the Dance Troupe Level B category will receive a scholarship to the current year's TAM Conservatory. This individual will be chosen by their corps officer and group leader to represent their group at the TAM Conservatory.

ADJUDICATION

Every effort should be made to make sure that adjudicators are not related to, or instructors of, any of the young people participating in their performance category. It is recommended that Salvationists from neighboring divisions, other Divisional Music Directors, Territorial Music Department Staff, local school band directors and teachers, etc. be used whenever possible. We recommend that the DYS or spouse not be used and that corps officers be avoided, particularly when they have groups participating.

Adjudicators are asked to give helpful critique. Hopefully, this will provide some useful tips for improving performance and developing technique. Adjudication will be based upon the specific points listed for each category.

Star Search -Group Dance Adjudication Rubric

Level: _____ **Corps:** _____ **Song:** _____ **Score** (out of 100): _____

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Tally
Message and Expression /25	The choreography did not fit with the style of music or enhance the lyrics in any way. The dancers were not performing with their faces and the message of the song was lost. 1-6 Points	The choreography in some ways worked with the lyrics and style of music. There were moments of clear story- telling but needs more clarification. 7-13 Points	The choreography worked with the lyrics and style of music. The dancers were all expressive, conveying the message. 14-19 Points	The choreography was superbly executed; it worked with the style of music and enhanced the lyrics. The meaning of the song was made clear through the storytelling of the dancers and their expressiveness. 20-25Points	
Technique /20	The dancers had distracting, improper or unsafe technique. 1-5 Points	The dancers had passable technique and alignment. 6-10 Points	The dancers had good technique with only minor exceptions. 11-15 Points	The dancers had close to perfect technique and alignment. 16-20 Points	
Choreography /15 <small>(Tools: Opposition, Levels, Unison, Solos, Cannon and use of whole body)</small>	There was little to no use of choreographic tools. The dance felt repetitive and predictable. 1-3 Points	There was some use of the choreographic tools. Keep working on creating dynamic movement and interesting stage pictures. 4-6 Points	Interesting and unique choreography. 7-11 Points	The choreography was interesting and engaging to watch with fantastic use of many choreographic tools to create a diverse piece. 12-15 Points	
Spacing and Formations /10	Missing clear formations. The formations that were visible were poorly spaced or concentrated in only one portion of the stage. 1-2 Points	Some formations were used but were messy at times. More use of the stage is necessary. 3-4 Points	A variety of formations were clear and complimentary to the song, only minor adjustments needed. Most of the stage was used. 5-7 Points	A variety of perfectly clear and effective formations were performed with precision. The entire stage was utilized. 8-10 Points	
Music Choice /10	The music was inappropriate, an unsuitable length or had some distracting edits. The dancers did not relate to the song. 1-2 Points	The music length was questionable and some musical edits were passable. The dancers connected with the music from time to time. 3-4 Points	The music choice was good overall. The dancers engaged with the song and seemed to enjoy themselves. 5-7 Points	The music choice beautifully relayed a strong message. This song was the perfect choice for these dancers who seemed to love dancing to it. 8-10 Points	
Appearance /10 <small>(Costume, Hair & Makeup)</small>	Costumes were either non-existent, ill fitting, or inappropriate for the dancer's bodies or the piece. Hair and makeup were a distraction. 1-2 Points	Costumes were somewhat appropriate. Hair and makeup were passable with exceptions. 3-4 Points	Costumes were appropriate and fit well. Hair and makeup were almost perfect with only slight adjustments necessary. 5-7 Points	Hair, makeup and costumes perfectly enhanced the piece. 8-10 Points	
Preparedness /10	The piece still appears to be in the beginning stages of rehearsals. More time solidifying and cleaning choreography is needed. 1-2 Points	The piece appears to be rehearsed although major sections are in need of further rehearsal to solidify choreography. 3-4 Points	The piece has clearly had significant time spent rehearsing choreography. Only a few moments felt as though they needed more rehearsal. 5-7 Points	The piece is beautifully rehearsed. All choreography is clean and dancers have clearly worked hard at preparing. Your hard work has paid off! 8-10 Points	

Adjudicator Comments

Things I liked:

Things to work on:

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How to use this rubric:

- Read over the rubric before you begin adjudicating, to familiarize yourself with the system.
- As you are watching the dance, mark the text boxes that best reflect what you observe.
- If you have time, underline specific words or sentences that fit the most.
- There is a range of points allotted to each text box (Ex. **5-10 Points**). Select the appropriate amount of points for each category (row) and write them in the **Tally** column on the far right. Use the neighboring text boxes to help you assign the accurate amount. Keep in mind the maximum amount of points available for each category as stated in the column to the far left.
- In the 'Comments' section, encourage the dancers and give as many helpful tips as possible.

