

Dear Markette Officer Candidate,

We are thrilled you are considering trying out for officer! Being an officer can be an exhilarating and exciting experience. There will be many good times, glory and recognition. However you will be expected to conform and make sacrifices. You will keep many long hours, make and support difficult decisions and be a constant example for the team. We tell you these things not to scare you, but to remind you that for everything good- you must work.

Being an officer is an outstanding achievement and great honor; however, it is also a tremendous commitment that must be taken seriously. As an officer, the dedication, commitment and time aspect for Markettes is even more so than a line member. With cooperation, planning and respect, we will get along wonderfully. We are to work together for *the good of the team*. We turn to you for your opinion in many areas, but the decisions we must make are based upon what we feel to be the best for the team. You must, in turn, be the first to support those decisions.

Remember that when trying out for officer, the judges look for more than dance ability. An officer must be a good leader as well as creative and outgoing. The judges will be looking at your leadership qualities, reputation, personality, commitment, dedication, grades, responsibility and overall poise. Most importantly an officer must have HEART. An officer must always have the good of the team in mind. You must be able to put aside any differences and in some cases even friendships when working with the team. This means you must treat everyone equally and fairly. Also, remember that just because you are an officer does not mean that you are "above" the other team members. You are the role model for the team; interact with them and never distance yourself from them. Remember, you will always be scrutinized by some team members. You will be able to earn their respect only by respecting them; as much as you would like, respect cannot be demanded by one's position, it must be earned.

First, we must let you know that our expectations of our officers are extremely high. We expect the officers to always uphold the reputation and regulations of Markettes. We expect the officers to be able to execute all their responsibilities with Markettes and maintain their grade point average. Furthermore, we expect officers to take initiative and not wait to be told what is expected of them.

It is important you understand that as an officer your role is to help the directors in guiding the team to be its very best. You must realize that the directors will have the final say on any matter that regards the Markettes. Just as each team member earned her position on the line, so does an officer with her leadership position. If you place your position in jeopardy by failing to uphold your responsibilities, you can be removed.

A successful year is created by having a confident, compatible and a hard-working group of officers. The entire officer line must sincerely care about MARKETTES. You will have a big job to fill, but we know if selected, you will want to continue to have an outstanding team.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Maddox*

The following outline will familiarize you with the tryout procedure. The decision to tryout should be well thought out. The tryout procedure can be extremely rigorous, both physically and emotionally. There are 8 steps to the tryout procedure:

1. Jazz Dance and Officer Strut
2. Solo Dance
3. Choreograph and Teach Across the Floor
4. Polish Assigned Section of Spring Show Dance
5. Interviews
6. Google Slides Presentation
7. Team Vote
8. Teacher Referrals

### **Jazz/Kick**

#### **What to Wear:**

Black legging and Tuesday practice top  
Shoes: turners for all group dances

**Choreography:** This dance should be similar to this year's officer contest jazz. This dance will be difficult in technique, control and style (the judges will be looking for girls who dance alike, so be precise and conform to returning officers).

**Officer Strut:** Feel free to find your half time videos and learn the officer strut. We will spend a short amount of time going over the strut during the week of tryouts.

### **Solo Routine**

**Solo:** Must be 1 minute in length with a grace period of 15 seconds. You are responsible for your music. Please bring your phone, laptop, iPod etc. on Wednesday April 28 and Thursday April 29. **\*\*YOU MUST CHOREOGRAPH YOUR OWN SOLO!\*\***

**Costume:** No costumes are allowed; you may wear shoes of your choice for your solo.

**Choreography:** You may use your contest solo, **IF** you did your own choreography. You may not hire anyone to choreograph your officer tryout solo. Please do not have current officers or directors watch your solo for critiques either. We want to see **YOUR** creativity since you help with choreography for spring show. If it is discovered that you hired someone to help with your solo you will receive 0 points for the solo category.

### **Across the Floor**

You will choreograph an **ORIGINAL** across the floor combination that is two 8 counts in length. Your combination should have some dance elements that string the choreography together rather than only consist of technical skills. You will teach your across the floor combination to the team one morning the week of officer tryouts and lead the team through your across the floor progression.

## **Polish Spring Show Dance**

Each dance officer candidate will be assigned a short section of a spring show dance to polish and get performance ready. This will allow team members the opportunity to see how each candidate handles being in front of the team and doing the daily duties of a dance officer.

## **Judges Interview**

You will be interviewed by the panel of three judges. Be confident and speak clearly! You can have a normal conversation with them even through the nerves! State your stand on every issue and don't be shy. They will ask you some tough questions regarding any concerns personally, with grades, character, weekend activities, etc. Be honest and let the judges get to know YOU!

## **Senior Officer Interview**

The week of officer tryouts your outgoing senior officers will conduct an interview. This will allow you an opportunity to practice and receive feedback.

## **Google Slides Presentation Outline**

The officer Google Slide presentation is designed to see how well you can follow instructions, pay attention to small details, show your creativity and let the directors, judges and team know more about you.

All of these qualities are utilized by the officer line on a daily basis!

Please follow the guidelines below:

- I. Google Slide Presentation – you must create a Google Slide presentation to answer all of the following questions. You may choose one of themes that Google provides OR you may do a plain white presentation. You must use a font that is easily readable. We want to see your creativity in your spring show ideas (theme and songs). Costumes and songs must be hyperlinked in the presentation so directors can click the link and automatically access costumes and listen to music.
- II. The first page of your presentation should be your name and a photo of yourself.
- III. The second slide of your presentation should be your introductory page, this should include your name, your grade level for next year, previous leadership positions you have held and the office you desire. Please write a small summary as to why you should be selected for the officer position you desire (you may use a 2<sup>nd</sup> slide for this if necessary)
- IV. Your next slide should have a list of ALL of your merits and demerits.

- V. The next slide should contain a photo/print screen of your grades from Skyward. You need to attach a copy of your current grades that displays the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks, 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks and current grade in your classes.
- VI. Spring Show: Create a spring show theme and title for spring show; ex. "Cloudy with a Chance of Markettes." Then provide the following information for the following dances:
1. Opener
  2. Veteran Dance
  3. Rookie Dance
  4. Glow Stick
  5. Contest Team Jazz
  6. Contest Team Pom
  7. Contest Team Kick
  8. Contest Officer Jazz
  9. Contest Officer Lyrical
  10. Contest Officer Contemporary
  11. Hip Hop Ensemble
  12. Tap Ensemble
- A. Each dance should be on its own individual slide.
  - B. Select music for each routine. Give the artist and title. Include a link to the audio track of the music (can be on Spotify, YouTube etc). Make sure all music is school appropriate.
  - C. A costume must be provided for each dance. Include a link to the costume you have selected.
- VII. **Book Study:** You will need to read **The Energy Bus** by Jon Gordon. After reading this book you will write an essay about what you learned from the book and how to apply it to a leadership position in Markettes. Your essay should be a minimum of a page.

**GOOGLE SLIDE PRESENTATION IS DUE MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> NO LATER THAN 6:30 A.M.**  
**ALL GOOGLE SLIDE LINKS MUST BE SENT TO MRS. BROOKS BEFORE 6:30**  
**NO LATE PRESENTATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

**Team Vote**

Each candidate will be evaluated by their teammates. Each Markette will have 10 points to allocate to each officer candidate. Markettes will evaluate officer candidates on dance technique, leadership ability, responsibility, dedication and commitment, organization and overall personality. The average of all of the scores will be added to each candidate's score.

## **Teacher Referrals**

Each officer candidate's teachers will evaluate candidates on discipline, morals and ethics, responsibility and overall character. Teachers will have 10 points to allocate to candidates in each category. The average of all teacher scores will be added to each candidate's score.

### **Officer Score Sheet Point Break Down**

Google Slide Presentation – 15 points  
Team Vote – 10 points  
Officer Jazz – 30 points  
Judge's Interview – 15 points  
Solo – 15 points  
Officer Strut – 5 points  
Teacher Referrals – 10 points

A panel of 3 judges consisting of dance professionals will judge and score the candidates during the tryout process. An administrator will be present for the tabulation of the scores. The Markette directors do not score the candidates or have any kind of vote in the officer selection process.

All candidates trying out will be scored together, regardless of grade classification. After the scores have been tabulated the directors, along with administration, will determine whether all positions will be named.

All officer candidates must meet the following criteria in order to audition:

#### **ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Must have one year on drill team experience previous to tryout date.
2. Must be passing all current classes according to the previous nine weeks grading period.
3. Must not have more than one "F" or more than one "N" and absolutely NO "U" in conduct.
4. Able to achieve all their responsibilities as an officer and maintain their grade point average.

## **MARKETTE DANCE OFFICER TRYOUT CALENDAR**

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- Monday, December 14** Applications are available
- Friday, January 29** Markette Officer Tryout Permission Slip Due, at company lines for morning practices, NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Friday, March 26** Google Slide Presentations are due by 6:30 a.m.  
NO LATER, NO EXCEPTIONS!
- April 27-30** Keep Tuesday afternoon open, will learn officer jazz after school.  
Jazz/Strut clinic 6:30 in the Markette room Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday; teach across the floor combinations
- Wednesday, April 28** Senior Officers conduct mock interviews after school. You will be able to practice after interviews, so wear dance attire
- Thursday, April 29** Present Jazz, solo and candidate speech to the team during 1<sup>st</sup> period and team will vote
- Friday, April 30** Tryouts will begin **EXACTLY** at 3:45 p.m.

**GOOGLE SLIDE PRESENTATION IS DUE MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> NO LATER THAN 6:30 A.M.  
NO PRESENTATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 6:30 A.M.!!**

## Markette Officer Contract

I promise to exemplify the ideal Markette member at all times in and out of uniform by setting an example for all Markettes to follow and be proud of.

I promise to be ladylike and courteous at all times.

I promise to fulfill all responsibilities and duties assigned to me as an officer.

I promise to arrive at least 15 minutes early to every practice and event and stay later than any other Markettes afterwards.

I promise to abide by every rule and regulation in the Markette Constitution.

I promise never to be seen anywhere cursing, using obscenities, smoking, drinking, or under the influence of alcoholic beverages, or to partake in or be under the influence of drugs at any time. This includes being around drugs and alcohol even though you are not specifically participating using the substances.

I promise to uphold all issues of confidentiality with the directors.

I promise to keep the lines of communication open with the directors and speak to them first when I have concerns, problems or if something is upsetting.

I promise to enforce the rules and regulations stipulated by the Markette constitution equally with my fellow officers.

I promise to demonstrate equal and consistent strictness with my fellow officers.

I promise to display mutual respect for my fellow officers as well as respect for the line members and the directors.

I promise to always support the final decision of the directors; even if that decision may not be the popular with the team or in accordance to you.

I promise to never speak poorly of the Markette Dance Team, any single member of the line, the officers, or the directors.

If I defy the directors or fail to successfully complete my duties, I promise to accept their decision as to my punishment.

I promise to abide and uphold all my responsibilities as a Markette officer and maintain my grades.

If I am not selected for the position I am running for, I will: support the chosen officer line, contribute positively to the team and refrain from verbal and visible undermining of the selected officers.

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(Signature – Officer Candidate)

**\*This page must be printed and submitted by Friday 3/26, no later than 6:30 am\***

## Markette Officer Contract

I understand and agree that should I break any of the promises listed in the officer contract, I may be subject to demotion from my office by the Directors.

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Signature of Officer Candidate

Date

As a parent or legal guardian of a dance officer candidate, I fully understand and accept the promises that my daughter is making as well as the penalty for breaking those promises described in the officer contract.

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Signature of Officer Candidate Parent/Guardian

Date

**\*This page must be printed and submitted by Friday 3/26, no later than 6:30 am**

## **Officer Summer Dates 2021**

As an officer you will have many additional requirements and expectations. The following dates are required of every officer. If you are unable to attend any of the following you will be required to resign as an officer.

Dance and social officers should set an example and take dance classes during the summer and during the school year. Officers should be at any and all technique classes offered if they are available.

### **Officer Camp**

- Dance and Social Officers - Required
- June 6<sup>th</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup> at San Luis Resort and Convention Center
- Cost - approximately \$475 (we do not know the actual cost at this time)

### **Markette Summer Practice (start date of camp depends on the SBISD 21-22 academic calendar decision)**

- Dance and Social Officers Required
- July 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> from 7:45 to 4:30
- August 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:45 to 4:30
- August 9<sup>th</sup> – August 13<sup>th</sup> times are TBD

### **Memorial Jazz Camp**

- Dance Officers Required
- Social Officers Required
- Dates are included in summer practice times in August, waiting to confirm dates
- Cost: approximately \$100

### **Crowd Pleasers Line Camp**

- Dance and Social- Required
- Dates are included in summer practice times in August, waiting to confirm dates
- Cost: approximately \$250

### **Miscellaneous Expenses**

- Officer jackets are purchased each year, this year it was \$50 an officer (if you are a returning officer you will just add your new title to your current jacket)
- Each company's officers (both dance and social) together purchase a gift for their company at the beginning of the year
- Each company's officers must make a company sign to hang in the dance room
- Company seasonal gifts (small expense, \$10-\$15 for each officer)

### **Dance Officer Schedule**

- Dance officers must be able to have Markettes both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> period

**MARKETTE OFFICER TRYOUT PERMISSION SLIP**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, HAVE READ THE OFFICER TRYOUT PACKET. I UNDERSTAND WHAT THE TRYOUT PROCESS CONSISTS OF AND WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME. BY SIGNING THIS PAPER, I AM TAKING FULL RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT TO THE OFFICER TRYOUT PROCESS.

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MARKETTE SIGNATURE

DATE

I, \_\_\_\_\_, HAVE READ THE OFFICER TRYOUT PACKET. I UNDERSTAND WHAT THE TRYOUT PROCESS CONSISTS OF AND WHAT IS EXPECTED OF MY DAUGHTER. I AM GRANTING PERMISSION FOR MY DAUGHTER TO TRYOUT FOR A MARKETTE OFFICER POSITION.

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MARKETTE PARENT SIGNATURE

DATE

Please indicate what office you will be trying out for this year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Office \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Due January 22<sup>nd</sup>\*\***