



2020
COLOR GUARD
AUDITION PACKAGE



ABOUT THE AUDITION PROCESS:

All new and returning color guard candidates are required to submit the Registration Form online, after which you will be directed to pay the registration fee (all credit cards accepted). This fee is waived for returning members (Vets must complete registration form, and should contact Brian.Greenleaf@seattlecascades.com)

Once the fee is paid, you will be prompted to download the audition packet which will be necessary to prepare for your audition. A new registration form must be completed for each new year. If you are unable to submit the form and fee online, you can download the form and mail it to the office with a check or money order to:

Northwest Youth Music Association
13717 Linden Ave. N #201
Seattle, WA 98133

Audition packets are included when you register to audition or attend a clinic and contain tons of information about The Seattle Cascades with tips, exercises, techniques and much more. It is an essential tool for anyone interested in becoming a member and required if you want to audition.

ABOUT THE AUDITION

Don't be afraid to audition

Every year dozens of qualified members don't come to the audition because they're nervous about something, typically being 'cut.' We don't 'cut' anyone. We go to great lengths to make your audition experience rewarding, educational and worthwhile. We encourage every person interested in the corps to come to camp. Remember, talent and skills are important, but work ethic, tenacity, and communication skills are often more so. Also, there may be opportunities you haven't considered if your first choice doesn't work out.

How Does the Audition Work?

Prospective guard members will learn equipment and dance techniques and perform a short routine. You'll experience a full weekend of top-notch instruction with some of the finest teachers in the country. If you spin flag only, you will not be asked to spin a weapon. We have had many individuals in the past who only spin flag. If you spin rifle or sabre you will be asked to audition on both weapons. Please remember to bring the following items for your audition: spinning gloves; rifle and/or sabre if you own one; and BLACK dancewear (spandex and/or form fitting – not too long or baggy). Your clothing should allow maximum flexibility, and feet/ankles need to be visible. Dance shoes (jazz, ballet, etc) are optional, but auditionees should be prepared to dance on a wooden floor barefoot as well. Hair must be pulled back.

During the weekend you will be evaluated both individually and as part of the ensemble and given feedback on your skills – where they excel and where there is room for improvement. Based on those evaluations, you will be given one of Three Cs.

Contract Offered– Your skills are of an excellence level in which we feel confident of your ability to succeed in the Seattle Cascades. We are offering you membership.

Callback– We think you have what it takes to be a successful member of the Seattle Cascades, but there are one or two areas we would like to see you work on before the next camp. We want to see you again!

Consider Your Options– Your skill level is not quite to level where we think you will be successful with the Seattle Cascades in the upcoming season. If your goal is to be on the field for the upcoming season, we can help you find a home with another corps. You are also welcome to come back to the next Seattle Cascades camp for additional training and possibly to prove us wrong. Every year there are people who receive this rating at the first audition camp and through practice and determination are able to make the corps. By the end of the weekend you'll have had an opportunity that most never have the courage to pursue; you'll experience a full weekend of drum corps. You'll know what it means to be part of a great ensemble. You'll eat and sleep with the corps, work hard, and

become a better performer. You'll have an idea of what it's like to work with one of the finest drum corps in America.

Once More, Don't be Afraid to Audition

We regularly hear from people who say "I'm not good enough for drum corps," or "I'm afraid to audition." If you are at the point where you are reading this - you need to come to camp. You have very little to lose and everything to gain. Everyone auditioning for the Seattle Cascades will have a great experience. You will meet some great people, you will learn great musical and guard skills, you will know more about the Seattle Cascades, and you will feel fabulous because you did something in pursuit of your dream. Do not stay home! Find out what this is all about. Come to camp.

Video Tape Auditions: Video auditions are for extenuating circumstances only. If you are unable to attend the camps due to extreme circumstances (coming from another country, major school commitments, etc.) you will need to contact Brian.Greenleaf@seattlecascades.org and discuss your conflict.

After you have been approved you will need to complete the registration process, including paying the registration fee (audition videos will not be reviewed until fee is paid). You can then submit your audition video via e-mail Brian.Greenleaf@seattlecascades.org. It will be reviewed by the appropriate staff member, and you will be contacted with feedback. The April camp is a mandatory camp for all those auditioning for the color guard.

The video should contain:

- 1) An introduction of yourself that includes your past experience, and an email address so we can contact you with feedback
- 2) Examples of your movement and dance ability (technique and choreography)
- 3) Your flag and weapon skills (technique and choreography)

Your video has no time limit, but should be performed at your highest ability (include spins, tosses, and choreography). Keep in mind that you should demonstrate an ability to move and spin at the same time.

This is not the recommended method to audition. No positions will be solely determined by video audition. Please understand that a live audition allows us to better assess your skills and personality.

After we review your video audition, we will send some feedback (not as extensive as if you were to attend a live audition) and apply one of the following status:

- A) Invite you to the next camp (depending on your section, dates vary – see camp schedule) where we would finalize your evaluation within your section. This equates to us believing you have the skills required to obtain a position, but we would need to see you live within your section before making a final determination.

- B) A position is not available for you at this time.

To submit your video audition:

1. You **MUST** first register for Video Audition by clicking on “Register Now” below.
2. Then, you will receive the audition packet with video requirements. Follow those directions on what to video as required.
3. **Video submissions deadline is April 24.**

If you have ANY questions, please feel free to contact Brian.Greenleaf@seattlecascades.org.

Thank you for your interest in joining the 2020 Seattle Cascades!