



# **ALLEN HIGH SCHOOL COLOR GUARD AUDITION INFORMATION!**

## **Mini-Clinic Dates**

**Mini-Clinic- 2/13, 2/27 & 3/5/12 --6pm-7: 30pm**

## **Audition/Try-out Dates are**

**April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 4<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**BOTH EVENTS MEET AT**

**Allen High School Band Hall**

**4pm –9pm**

**The NEW Director/Instructor of the Allen High School Color Guard is Mr. Sam Woodfield. If you have any questions or need more information about color guard please contact him at [sam\\_woodfield@allenisd.org](mailto:sam_woodfield@allenisd.org) school phone number is 972-727-0400 ext.7707 or call Allen HS Band Hall at 972-727-0400 and speak to Mrs. Hester.**

**Please listen and look for more information about Allen Color Guard Mini-Clinics during the months of February and March. Announcements will be made at Curtis MS, Ereckson MS, Ford MS and Lowery Freshmen Center.**

## **Why should I Be on the Allen High School Color Guard?**

As a member of the AHS Color Guard you will earn your **PE and Fine Arts Credits** at the same time! The class meets during the school day and morning rehearsals with the Allen HS Marching Band “the ESCADRILLE”! Every student who joins the color guard receives the following:

- Extensive education in dance
- Learn how to spin different types of equipment (flags, rifle and sabers)
- Huge Field Trips Disneyland, Hawaii, Padre Island, etc.
- Competitions across the State
- Really fun dances and parties
- Compete on a Varsity level your freshmen year
- Leadership Opportunities
- Make many new friends
- A member of the award winning Allen High School Marching Band better known as the “Escadrille”
- Be a part of a huge family

## **Color Guard**

The color guard is open to all students who are currently enrolled in band as well as students outside the band program. The purpose of color guard is to provide visual and musical color along with overall general effect to marching shows in the marching with the use of dance and several different types of equipment that include flags, rifles, and sabers. The guard also performs in the spring semester which we call winter guard. The guard competes against other guards from around the area, state, and country. Placement in the color guard is by audition only.

## **What is Color Guard?**

Color guard is a true American art form. It originated from ROTC and grew into what we see today. Color Guard has grown very fast in the past twenty years and is one of the fastest growing activities in today's high schools, with thousands of participants from around the world. It is a high energy, adrenaline rushing sport that advances students into a new area of performing and visual arts. The color guard is a make-up of all the musical and visual arts including music, dance, gymnastics, theater, acrobatics, equipment manipulation, and visual color all rolled into one. The activity demands physical involvement in rehearsal and performance involving muscle tone, conditioned response to music and other stimuli, simultaneous coordination of head, arms, legs, body stature as well as poise and control while experiencing physical and mental pressure. The color guard is the one group that involves every aspect of artistic expression. This is why we call color guard the "Sport of the Arts!" We will teach you everything you need to know.

# **Auditions For The Color Guard**

Auditions for the color guard at Allen High School are easy! Many students come into our auditions thinking they will not be able to do many things we do in color guard. Well, it is true that you will not know how to spin a flag, toss a rifle, or dance across the floor, but we will teach you! Every member of the guard started out just like you. Many of them did not know how to spin a flag or dance, but after only three days they soon learned that they could do it. They also realized how much fun this activity really is. Some students already come into auditions with previous dance training and that is great! However you DO NOT need any previous dance training to be on the guard. We will teach you everything you need to know.

## **What To Expect**

From the moment you walk in, you will instantly feel welcomed! Everyone is welcome to audition for the color guard, and we are glad you will be joining us. If you are looking to make new friends, then you have found the right place! You will be given an information sheet as soon as you walk in the door, so please arrive early so we can get started on time. During the first day you will learn the basics of dance. We will be working on stretching, balance exercises, moving across the floor, and basic turns. We will then give you a flag where our members will teach you how to spin our basic spins. On day two, we will review what we learned the previous day and add to it. In dance, we will teach you more basic dance steps like sautés, passes, turns, and combinations. Don't worry, if you don't know what those terms mean don't worry, we will teach you. We will then continue learning how to spin the flag and go into spinning with one and two hands. We will also teach you how to toss the flag. It's scary at first, but a lot of fun! On day three, we will review everything we learned and add more to it with fun dance combinations and a routine on the flag. All equipment will be provided for the audition process, such as flag and flagpole.

## **The Actual Audition**

Your actual audition will be your participation for the entire three days and your final routine on the third day. During the three days we will evaluate your progress throughout each day. If you are eager to learn, improve each day, and have a great attitude then you have a VERY good chance of being accepted on the color guard. On the final day, we will have one more audition to see what you have learned. Afterwards we will let you know if you have made the Allen Color Guard Team.

## **Welcome To Our Family!**

We know that auditioning for any organization can be very difficult and sometimes scary, but please do not be afraid. Every member of the guard will be happy to see you! You do not need any prior experience to be on the color guard! We promise, you will absolutely love being part of our team! If you are still not sure, just come to the first day of auditions and see what we are all about! What do you have to lose? Come see what being part of the "Sport of The Arts" is all about!!

**THE ALLEN HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND and COLOR GUARD!**  
Better known was "THE ESCADRILLE"!

# **Allen High School**

## **Color Guard**

**Audition Packets with additional information and application will be available closer to the Audition Dates.**

# THE ALLEN H.S. COLORGUARD

## 2011-2012 AUDITION AND INFORMATION PACKET

Mini-Audition Clinics –February 13<sup>th</sup>, February 27<sup>th</sup> and  
March 5<sup>th</sup> 6pm-7: 30pm

Tryouts Clinic Week, **April 30 thru May 4<sup>th</sup> 4pm-9pm**

This form must be completed, signed by parent/guardian and turn in the first day of Audition Week.

### **Audition Application:**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Grade Level:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student ID #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_, **TX Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Number:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent/Guardian Permission**

I hereby give my student \_\_\_\_\_ permission to participate in the Allen High School Color Guard auditions and if selected to the program, I hereby give my student permission to participate in that organization and will support the financial and schedule requirements of the organization.

**Print Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REPORT TIME:** Students will report to the Allen High School Band Hall

each day of the clinic by **4:15 pm**. Current 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders coming from the middle schools or LFC may either come by bus if there is a shuttle (make sure that notification is given to the school and driver) or be transported by parents to the high school campus.

**CLOTHING** – Students will be asked to wear comfortable clothing that will allow their bodies to move freely. We will be doing some dance fundamentals and choreography throughout the clinic so it is essential the students not be bound by tight clothing. Shorts are permissible. Shorts and tops must meet school dress code for a PE Class. If you need to change clothes for practice, please allow yourself time to change and be in attendance block by 4:15 pm.

**ATTENDANCE** – This is a five-day clinic. Missing clinic days will put you behind the rest of the group. Students should attend all 5 days. Attendance at all practices/performances for all members of the guard during the season is mandatory. Get in the habit now. *Attendance and punctuality ARE being evaluated during the clinic.*

**FLAG TRAINING** - The students will receive training in the fundamentals of flag as well as learning a choreographed routine utilizing the flag. This equipment is provided for the week of the clinic.

**DANCE TRAINING** – Each student will also be trained in the fundamentals of dance and learn a choreographed dance piece as a part of their audition.

**WORK ETHIC and PARTICIPATION** – Each student will be evaluated based on their work ethic and participation in the clinic. No one expects perfection; we only expect determination and hard work. We want to see how each student works to achieve the choreography taught to them. *NOTE\*\* someone who may not grasp the material quickly, but has a positive attitude and good work ethic, will get much more consideration than someone who can pick it up quickly but has negative attitude.*

**INTERVIEW** –Each student auditioning will undergo a brief interview with the color guard director to answer a few questions about why they are interested in becoming a member of the team.

**DISCIPLINE/ACADEMIC RECORDS – School discipline records, grades, attendance records and teacher evaluations of each student trying out will be checked. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements in these areas will not be permitted to audition.**

**Colorguard members ARE members of the band.** All members must be model band students and leaders with the band and away from the band. The Colorguard functions as a visual compliment to the Allen Marching Band. Members of this organization are selected through an audition process in the spring of each year. Members are required to audition each year. The Colorguard performs at each function with the marching band and meets after school hours.

**All rehearsals and performances are mandatory for membership in this group.**

The members of the Allen High School Marching Band and Color Guard are responsible for the camp and participation fees as the other members of the band. In addition, the color guard members are responsible for the purchase of show uniform, warm up suit, shoes, all under garments, rifle, hair/jewelry accessories and guard bag. Fundraisers are set up to help defray these costs and fees are not due at the same time. The Colorguard will have 2 weeks of rehearsal in the summer as well. A calendar of rehearsals will be given to those who make the team.

We believe that each member should improve through daily practice. We are firmly convinced that the most successful students are the ones that are improving themselves through regular habits of practice and daily progress. A member must develop a high sense of purpose toward which they are willing to work. They must know right from wrong and to stand for their principles. The Allen High School Band and Color Guard program will be conducted in a manner that will encourage all students to set and achieve goals. Remember you will receive a PE and a Fine Arts credit for participation in Color Guard.

#### **The Color Guard Member's Responsibility to the Band Program:**

1. To be present at each rehearsal and performance or to be properly excused from such in accordance with the attendance policy.
2. Put forth a **true effort 100% of the time** to learn and improve daily.
3. Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences for your actions.
4. Have respect for those in authority (directors, instructors, chaperones, student leaders, etc.)
5. Follow all school and band/color guard rules and regulations.
6. Cooperate with your fellow band/color guard members and share with them the responsibilities, privileges and rewards that are a part of our program.
7. Contribute positively to your music/fine arts education and that of others by the best use of your talents.
8. Participate in all band/color guard functions.
9. **Put academics FIRST! To be able to participate in such a Top Organization like the Allen High School Band and Color Guard!**