

# The Star Spangled Girls

Homewood High School  
1901 South Lakeshore Drive  
Homewood, AL 35209

The Star Spangled Girls are a precision dance team and are part of the Homewood Patriot Marching Band. They perform at all of our football half-time shows, pep rallies, some basketball games and band concerts. The girls are also called upon by civic groups and businesses to do special event performances. They have been featured in the Macy's Christmas Parade in Atlanta, the Dallas Cowboy's half-time show, the Atlanta Falcon's half-time show, and the St. Patrick's Day festivities in Limerick and Dublin. The girls have also performed in the Lord Mayor of Westminster's New Year's Day Parade in London; George Bush's Presidential Inaugural Parade; and the Cherry Blossom Parade in Washington, D.C.

The Star Spangled Girls continue a tradition of excellence that began in 1972. In 1995, 1998, and 2004 they participated in the Fiesta Bowl Parade in Phoenix, Arizona where the Star Spangled Girls and the Patriot Guard won the overall Best Auxiliary Award in the parade. They participated in the Orange Bowl Parade in Miami, Florida in 1999. In January of 2001 they marched in George W. Bush's Inaugural Parade. In 2011, the Star Spangled Girls marched in their 8<sup>th</sup> Macy's parade with the Patriot Band and will be returning this fall for another Macy's performance. In 2014 they marched in their 4<sup>th</sup> Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, California. This past year the SSGs marched and danced in the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Parade.

As you can see, with such an active lifestyle, it is important that all students are in excellent health and physically fit; dance ability and appearance are very important. The girls must show confidence and skill in the audition. A panel of qualified judges will select the girls.

The auditions will be held on March 9. Tryout clinic will be March 5-8. Each day we will meet in the gym from 3:10-5p.m. The results of tryouts will be on Homewood's web page and posted at the school that evening of the 9th.

Students who meet the criteria as described in the Homewood High School Eligibility for Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities may try out. SSGs who have all bills clear may re-try out.

If your child should be selected, she will need to buy the prescribed outfits. There will be some fund raising projects to assist with these expenses for those who participate in the group; however, most expenses are the responsibility of the individual.

In order to maintain this record of accomplishments, it is necessary for the SSG, your child, to follow a demanding schedule of rehearsals. If your child is selected, it is necessary for her to spend two weeks in July and all of August in rehearsal. She will be expected to practice most every day after school until 5:30 (Tuesdays from 6-8:30) during football season. Part-time jobs and appointments are to be scheduled so they will not interfere with practice. Star Spangled Girl practice should be one of her top priorities.

Each Star-Spangled Girl will be required to look nice on a daily basis since she represents the line. Her appearance, along with keeping the uniforms in excellent condition, are a part of her responsibilities. **All forms, money, and pictures for auditions are due by Monday, February 26.**

I wish your child good luck and thank you for allowing her to audition.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ayers  
Director of the Star Spangled Girls

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Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Student e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE ATTACH CURRENT PICTURE BELOW**

( picture should be a full body shot of student in tryout outfit)

HEIGHT
WEIGHT
CHEST
WAIST
HIPS (largest point)
GIRTH (measure from one shoulder through legs to opposite shoulder)

There is a \$10.00 entry fee to cover the cost of judges. It is not refundable after the first day of clinic.



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Please fill in and sign after reading the attached sheet.

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

### Current Class Schedule

CLASS (period)	TEACHER
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

Overall average for the 1st semester(letter grade) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate (month, date, year)\_\_\_\_\_

Previous dance training, where??\_\_\_\_\_

How many years??\_\_\_\_\_

Any school activities in which you are presently involved:

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My daughter has my permission to try out for Star Spangled Girls. I have read the attached letter and am aware of the responsibilities of being a Star Spangled Girl. I am also aware that my daughter will participate in money raising projects.

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Signature of parent/guardian

# The Star Spangled Girls

(place copy of insurance card here)

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## HEALTH INFORMATION 2018

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

(person to be contacted in case of emergency if parent is not available)

Health History: Diabetes \_\_\_\_\_ Epilepsy \_\_\_\_\_ Asthma \_\_\_\_\_ Operation \_\_\_\_\_

(within the last year)

Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

( please include insects and drug allergies)

Tetanus (last injection) \_\_\_\_\_

Any special health problems \_\_\_\_\_

Medications student is presently taking \_\_\_\_\_

Is students under medical treatment at this time? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please give reason

\_\_\_\_\_

Family physician \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Contract Number \_\_\_\_\_

Group Number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned parent, do hereby give permission to Ron Pence/Jennifer Ayers/Meagan Malone, representatives of Homewood High School staff, to seek and obtain medical care and attention that may be necessary for my child that is in their custody, and I hereby release and hold harmless the aforementioned staff for any and all claims which may arise.

\_\_\_\_\_

signed (parent or guardian)

date



# SSG TRYOUTS PARENT INFORMATION 2018

- Completed SSG forms should be turned in NO later than Monday, **February 26**. Include picture and \$10 (checks made payable to HHS including phone number). Information about picture is on the form. Please only include one full body picture, preferably standing. Please also include health form with your information. **INCOMPLETE FORMS will NOT be accepted.**
- Prep sessions will be held in the dance room at 7:15 a.m. on February 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and March 1. These are designed to help your child review and practice skills before the actual tryout week. I highly recommend girls trying out attend at least one session to make sure they are comfortable with the required skills. Senior SSGs and I will be available at that time to entertain any questions about skills.
- Tryout Clinic runs March 5-8 at 3:10 in the gym and is over at 5:00. Please pick up your child in the gym parking lot. Monday - learn dance Tuesday - finish dance, Wednesday - learn beginning skills and review dance. Thursday and Thursday evening - **MOCK TRYOUTS** and extra practice time in gym, Friday, March 9 - **TRYOUTS**.
- The dance will be choreographed by Jennifer Ayers. Mrs. Ayers and the senior SSGs will teach it to all the students.
- Clinic is **CLOSED** to ALL visitors, including parents and other students! Do NOT wait for your child in the gym. No taking video of the clinic!
- After clinic times SSG seniors are NOT allowed to help anyone outside of clinic. Students may practice with current SSGs who are trying out again. Please try to work in your groups of four. Several places locally may be available for your child to go practice. Please understand that they are NOT school sponsored activities and no certified Homewood personnel will be there to supervise your child. These locations are NOT mandatory! However, if they are available, at your discretion, they could be very helpful.
- Tryout outfit: sleeveless leotard, short shorts (gym shorts, hot pants), toast tights, black jazz shoes, high pony tail sprayed back, makeup and lipstick. No bike tights.
- Tryout groups will consist of 4 girls chosen by Mrs. Ayers according to height. There will be at least one returning SSG trying out in each group. The groups will try out in 8 minute appointments starting at 3:15 p.m.
- On tryout day girls should arrive 15 minutes early and ready to go!! Students who miss their tryout appointment will wait until the last group has gone and perform with a group of senior SSGs.
- No parents allowed in the building on the tryout day. Please wait for your child in the parking lot. Please take her home immediately after her tryout.
- No checking out the day of tryouts. You are expected to be in school.
- There are 4 judges - Mr. Pence (band director) and three outside judges with 100+ collective years' experience in dance and judging tryouts for the Star Spangled Girls. These judges will not know any of the students trying out. The judges will score the girls individually on poise, showmanship, coordination, flexibility, showmanship, memory, technique.

- The students will also receive a percentage of their score based on teacher evaluations. 20% of their score will be based on how they participate in the classroom environment. SSG is a leadership opportunity and it is important that these young ladies are leaders and good role models in all their classes.
- The number of SSGs picked for the next school year is determined primarily by a significant break in the scores. There is not a certain number to be picked. However, we cannot take more than 28 students. Alternates will fall within the larger break of scores. Alternates are ONLY alternates during football season. They participate in all pep rallies, dances, etc... that are not a part of the halftime show. They will dance at least three times during the football season.
- I will remind your child this week that the judges are looking for performance potential. This is just as important as their ability to execute skills. Confidence, exciting faces, attitude, good posture, are all very important for them to practice as they review the tryout material.
- Results will be posted on the Homewood web page and at the school that evening as soon as the names are released. You must check either the web page, or the sheet posted that evening on the glass doors of the fine arts wing.
- Please encourage your child this week. Tryout week is very draining, both mentally and physically. There will be frustration and probably tears... It is a tremendous opportunity to grow as young ladies, and I hope that you will encourage your child to persevere to the end. She will experience success just to make it to the end of the week and will be much stronger because of it!

#### Some of the SSG Responsibilities during the year

- Allstars Camp - tentatively June 4-7
- Summer practice (intense dance practice) - TBA July
- Studio Dance Classes (TBA) group lessons
- Band practice(learning field show) TBA July/August
- After school responsibilities - Tuesday 6-8:30, Wednesday (inside) till 5:30, Thursday after school until 5:30
- Friday - football games
- Pep rallies
- Pecan Fundraiser (additional fundraisers through the band)
- SSG Dance Clinics (one in fall and one in spring)
- Optional trip with band to Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Please sign and return with packet:

I have read and understand the information provided.

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Parent Name