



ST. MARY'S DOMINICAN HIGH SCHOOL

7701 WALMSLEY AVENUE | NEW ORLEANS, LA 70125

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Parents and Prospective Color Guard Members,

We are excited to have you audition for the 2026-2027 St. Mary's Dominican High School Color Guard and look forward to seeing the unique gifts you can bring to the team. Please read over the following handouts and return the permission slip and consent forms to Mrs. Ferguson by Monday, April 21st. Please take time to review and discuss the cost and time commitments involved.

Dominican Color Guard is a yearlong activity that requires individual dedication and financial commitment. Dominican Color Guard is both a competition team and a school spirit team. The team performs on campus at Dominican pep rallies, parades, and recruitment events. The team also has several off-campus commitments. The team performs with the Brother Martin Band and Dominican Debs at football games, competitions, and Mardi Gras parades. They perform with the Dominican Band in Mardi Gras parades. The team also competes in state and regional winter guard competitions. Being a competitive team requires financial commitment. The 2025-2026 team fees were \$1,500 plus individual member purchases of up to \$1,200 for a total commitment of \$2,7000. The fees for the 2026-2027 season will be finalized after auditions for our parent/member meeting on May 1, 2026. If a member participates in other extracurricular activities, they must coordinate those activities around the Dominican Color Guard. Parents of color guard members who do not drive are responsible for providing or arranging transportation to and from practices and events promptly. Parents and members will receive a monthly calendar informing them of the dates and times for practices and events. Effort must be made on the part of members and families to coordinate their schedules in conjunction with practice or performance commitments. In addition, a positive attitude, cooperation, dependability, punctuality, and the ability to work well with others as well as accept constructive criticism are all important qualities of a good color guard member. Failure to be in good standing with these things can result in removal from the team.

According to the Dominican High School Color Guard Constitution, any student trying out for the team must meet eligibility requirements. These requirements include good disciplinary standing and good academic standing (at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA). Any student not meeting these requirements will not be allowed to audition. Please read the following documents thoroughly and take all of this into consideration before completing the audition process. Please email Mrs. Ferguson with any questions concerning auditions.

Thank you for your cooperation. We wish you the best at auditions!

Amy Ferguson

Color Guard Moderator

St. Mary's Dominican High School

504-518-5047

aferguson@stmdhs.org

Dominican High School Color Guard Clinics and Tryouts **Tuesday, April 21st through Friday, April 24th**

Clinics (Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday April 21st – April 23rd):

1. **Clinics will be held from 4:00pm-5:30pm.**
2. **Dress:** fitted athletic or dance attire, dance or tennis shoes, & hair up. No team apparel.
3. **All signed documents & \$10 tryout fee** are due by **Tuesday, April 21st**.
4. Team instructors will be available for individual help during the clinics.
5. **Tuesday:** Meeting, stretch & warmup, learn beginner dance and flag skills, begin learning audition routine, and individual interviews
6. **Wednesday:** stretch & warmup, review what was learned on Monday, continue learning audition routine, and individual interviews
7. **Thursday:** stretch & warmup, time to rep routine or work in small groups, and individual interviews

Auditions (Friday, April 24th):

1. **Auditions will be held from 4:00pm-5:30pm.** All students must be picked up promptly.
2. **Dress:** fitted athletic or dance attire, dance, or tennis shoes, & hair up. No team apparel.
3. Auditions are required for all students (new & returning) enrolled at Dominican.
4. Special treatment/recognition will not be given to previous team members trying out.
5. Students will have to schedule a makeup audition with Mrs. Ferguson if they cannot attend at least 1 of the 3 clinic days. Attending all 3 days is recommended.
6. There will be two to three qualified and objective judges.
7. The girls will be judged according to:
 - a. **Technique** (fundamentals of dance, performance, posture & projection, fundamentals of flag, muscle tension & flexion, and timing/tempo)
 - b. **Comprehension** (memorization, attention to detail, understanding and retention of spatial, body, & equipment expectations in routine)
 - c. **Performance Qualities** (showmanship and effect)
 - d. **Attitude** (effort and recovery)
8. Girls must leave the room immediately after auditioning & wait until the audition is over.
9. No one will be allowed in the tryout room except the judges and moderators.
10. **Results:** Results will be announced after the audition is complete.

Model of a Dominican Color Guard Member:

Ability to work well on a team & shows respect for all

Shows responsibility, punctuality, & time-management

Approaches all things with a great attitude

Individually motivated & disciplined

Works hard, learns quickly, & practices at home

Receives instruction respectfully & constructively

Understands that color guard is a full-time commitment

An ambassador for Dominican that shows school pride and spirit

Note: any experience is welcome but not necessary

Expected Required Time Commitment

Weekly Summer Practices

LSU Tigerland Auxiliary and Leadership Camp

After school practices

Saturday practices with choreographers and designers

Additional practices may be called for special events.

Performances at school pep-rallies and recruiting events.

Marching in Mardi Gras parades

Performance with Brother Martin

Competition season early February through late March

***There will be a parent/member meeting the week after tryouts to discuss membership in the organization, summer practice/camp schedules, and ordering color guard uniforms. This meeting will be mandatory for ALL color guard members. Each color guard member must have a parent representative present at the meeting. Payment for Varsity uniform fees will be due at the meeting.**

APPROXIMATION OF TEAM FEES BASED ON 2025 – 2026 FEES

TEAM FEE

LSU TALC Camp	\$300 (8 th grade commuter) OR \$425 (9 th -12 th grade resident)
Team Fee	\$1,500

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

VARSITY SPIRIT ITEMS:

Dominican Uniform Dress	\$220
Practice Shirt	\$15
Warmup Jacket & Pant	\$239
Varsity 360 Turner	\$33
Vibe Dance Sneaker	\$90
Body Tight	\$35

CARMEL'S DANCE WEAR ITEMS:

Nancy boot	\$80
13" Stud Earrings	\$16

DESIGN A LATTE ITEMS:

Backpack & embroidery	\$65
Garment bag & embroidery	\$65

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- MAY – Varsity Fee is to be paid in May after the team fitting on May 12th.
- JUNE-JULY – payment made for Carmel's Dance Wear & Design A Latte items
- MAY-OCT – Team fee can be paid in one sum or in monthly installments due on the 1st of each month. First installment: May 1st, 2026 & Final installment: October 1, 2026

ST. MARY'S DOMINICAN HIGH SCHOOL

7701 Walmsley Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70125

PERMISSION SLIP FOR ACTIVITY SCHEDULED OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS

TODAY'S DATE: February 27, 2026

ORGANIZATION/CLUB: Dominican Color Guard MODERATOR(S): Mrs. Ferguson

TYPE OF ACTIVITY: 2026-2027 Dominican Color Guard Auditions

LOCATION OF ACTIVITY: Dominican High School Campus, SARG

DATE & TIME OF ACTIVITY: April 21th, 2026 through April 24th, 2026 from 4:00pm-5:30pm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS ACTIVITY: dressed in fitted athletic or dance attire, dance shoes or tennis shoes, hair up. Bring plenty of water.

MODERATORS/CHAPORONES FOR THIS ACTIVITIES: Mrs. Ferguson

TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS: Color Guard auditonees are responsible for their own transportation to and from Dominican

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE MODERATOR BY: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 4:00pm

------(Please return the bottom portion of the form.)-----

STATEMENT OF PERMISSION

I request that Dominican allow _____ to participate in the on-campus activity named below. (student's first & last name)

Name of Activity: _____

I concur with the stipulated arrangements indicated above and understand that my daughter is representing Dominican High School, and therefore must abide by the rules and regulations stated in the current Student / Parent Handbook.

I release Dominican High School, the club moderator(s), and / or chaperones approved by the Administration from liability in any manner.

In case of emergency, I give my permission for the club moderator / chaperon to seek medical care as needed for my daughter if I cannot be contacted.

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

HOME PHONE: [redacted] WORK PHONE: [redacted] CELL: [redacted]

RELATIVE / EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE: _____

**PLEASE DESCRIBE BELOW ANY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING MEDICAL CONDITIONS:

2026-2027 St. Mary's Dominican High School Color Guard Tryout Registration Form

Participant's Name: _____ Grade Level: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Phone Numbers (H): _____ (C): _____

(W): _____ (Email): _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Phone Numbers (H): _____ (C): _____

(W): _____ (Email): _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Liability & Release: I request that St. Mary's Dominican High School allow (Participant's first & last name): _____ to participate in the 2026-2027 Color Guard Tryouts on April 21, 22, 23, & 24. I understand that my daughter will be evaluated by independent, qualified judges and agree to abide by the decision of the judges. I understand the potential costs involved. I understand that the very nature of the activity carries a risk of physical injury. All color guard members are trained in the safest methods of the sport as demonstrated and practiced. Despite all attempts by the coaches, moderators, and color guards to avoid injury, risks still exist. I understand these risks and I release St. Mary's Dominican High School, the club moderators, coaches, judges, and/or chaperones approved by the Administration from liability in any manner. In case of emergency, I give my permission for the club moderators/chaperones/coaches to seek medical care as needed for my daughter if I cannot be contacted. Additionally, I authorize the use of my daughter's photos for the purposes of publicity and marketing materials and on the St. Mary's Dominican High School website.

Parent/Guardian Signature (required): _____

I am interested in being a St. Mary's Dominican High School Color Guard. I understand the risks as stated above. If selected, I will abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the Color Guard Constitution and the Student Handbook. I promise to cooperate and follow the instructions of the color guard moderators.

Student Signature

Date

My daughter, _____, has my permission to try out for color guard at St. Mary's Dominican High School. I understand that she must abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the 2026-2027 Color Guard Audition Packet as well as the current Student Handbook. I realize that she must be present for all practices, games, and events unless she is absent from school or excused by the moderator. I have read the rules and regulations in the Color Guard Constitution and understand that a violation of any of these rules may lead to probation or suspension from the squad.

I understand that for my daughter to try out for the Dominican Color Guard on Friday, April 24th my daughter must:

- be in good disciplinary and academic standing
- current members auditioning must be in good financial standing with the Dominican Color Guard
- attend (2) of the (3) clinics: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday April 21, 22, & 23
- attend the audition on Friday, April 24
- pay a \$10 audition fee by tryouts by April 21st
- provided a copy of current health insurance card by April 21st
- return this page signed by April 21st

I understand that my daughter will be evaluated by independent, qualified judges and agree to abide by the decision of the judges.

I understand the potential costs involved.

Parent/Guardian

Date

I am interested in being a Dominican High School Color guard. I understand the risks as stated above. If elected, I concur with the stipulated arrangements indicated above and understand that my daughter is representing Dominican High School and therefore must abide by the rules and regulations stated in the Color Guard Audition Packet as well as the current Student / Parent Handbook. I promise to cooperate and follow the instructions of the color guard moderators.

Student

Date