

KDC COMPETITION TEAM AUDITION PACKET 2023

(HOW THEY WORK, AND WHAT TO EXPECT)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11TH

JAZZ LINE AUDITIONS 9:00-11:00 AM

*SHOOTING/SHINING/SUPER/ALL STARS ARE REQUIRED TO AUDITION.

*STARLINGS AND RISING STARS ARE NOT REQUIRED, BUT SUGGESTED TO AUDITION.

*PLEASE ARRIVE BY NO LATER THAN 8:45 TO GET YOUR NUMBER AND BEGIN WARMING UP.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH

KDC COMPETITION TEAM AUDITIONS

9:00 AM-2:15 PM

*PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR STARTING TIME TO GET YOUR NUMBER AND BEGIN WARMING UP

LITTLE STARS 9:00-10:00 AM

STARLINGS/RISING STARS/SHOOTING STARS 10:00 AM-12:15 PM

SHINING STARS/SUPER STARS/ALL STARS 12:15-2:15 PM

***YOU WILL RECEIVE A SCHEDULE WITH THE ORDER OF DANCES BY NEXT MONDAY, AUGUST 14TH.**

***AUDITIONS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT THEIR STARTING TIME.**

****IN ORDER TO AUDITION, THE LAST PAGE OF THIS PACKET MUST BE SIGNED AND TURNED IN TO THE FRONT DESK BY NO LATER THAN MONDAY, AUGUST 14TH.**



WHAT TO WEAR

On the Fridays of both the Jazz Line and Team Auditions, all dancers must come dressed in audition gear: black leo/tight fitting cami/sports bra, black jazz shorts (no athletic shorts), tan tights (optional), and the appropriate shoes for what you are auditioning for, with hair pulled back neatly, and a water bottle labeled with their name. Hair should be pulled back into a neat, slick bun, ponytail, or braid(s)- no wispies! No jewelry should be worn (bracelets, necklaces, rings). Post earrings are okay, but no hoops or dangly earrings. Please bring a water bottle labeled with your name.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

All dancers should arrive 15 minutes before the time of their auditions begin. Upon arrival, each dancer will need to pick a number label (they will be available at the front desk), and safety pin it to the waistband of their shorts or attach to their leo. After doing this, they may proceed to room B to begin warming up. Dancers need to stay in Room B until they are called.

JUDGES

The judges will be in Room A, where the auditions will take place. As we go through each style of dance, the judges will be determining the best fit for your child, level-wise. In order to “make” a certain team, there is specific criteria we are looking for, skill-wise. They will begin auditioning with the group as a whole, and then they will break them into smaller groups as they best see fit, using different variations, until they’ve determined each child’s individual placement. Then, they will move on to the next group/style.

CLOSED AUDITION

Once your child has their number attached, and are in Room B beginning to warm up, we are asking all parents to exit, as this is a closed audition. This can be a very long and stressful process for your child, and as parents, we tend to ask a lot of questions which can lead to anxiousness in your child. We want them to be as calm and focused as possible. Dancers could potentially be done sooner if everything runs smoothly (if this is the case, we will call you.)

SCHEDULE

The full audition schedule will be made available the second week of Summer Intensive. It will not have times, as it is impossible to determine how long each style’s audition will take. It will only have the order of styles/levels.

WHAT IS MY CHILD AUDITIONING FOR?

All dancers are auditioning for Jazz and Tap. The judges have to approve them for at least one, in order for your child to make the competition team at all. These 2 are the main styles of dance, and the dancers need to be fluid and comfortable in their movement for both in order to make the team.

As a part of your requirements, all dancers (with the exception of Little Stars) MUST audition for at least 2 other styles of dance (Musical Theatre, Hip Hop, Contemporary, or Lyrical). It is highly suggested that your child audition for all, as that is how they will become a better, more well-rounded dancer.

However, we understand that it may not work with your schedule. If you choose to do more than the two required extra class, any additional classes will be free.

*Once you have signed the back page of this form, you are committing to the styles your child is auditioning for. If after auditions, you decide to pull your child out of any of their dances, they will automatically lose their spot on the competition team, and will not be eligible to audition the following year- we are looking for committed students and parents to represent KDC.

PLACEMENT

While your child may have been suggested to try a certain level for the summer intensive, that does not guarantee their spot on the team or that level. Dancers will be placed based on their ability and their performance during the audition. Once the 2023-2024 team is announced, you may see that your child has moved up, moved down, or stayed in the same level. Dancers can be in different levels for different styles (ex. Mary is in Shooting Stars Jazz and Shining Stars Tap).

In some cases, classes have been combined on the fall schedule (ex. Super Stars/All Stars Jazz).

When the results are posted, the child will still see where they fall within that class (ex. Suzy made All Star Contemporary, Mary made Super Star Contemporary). They will dance together, but it is necessary for our teachers to know, as they may group dancers together for certain sections of a dance. We are allowing judges to place a dancer in a higher level (potentially skipping a level) for the upcoming year if we feel they showed outstanding quality in that style during the past year, and also at auditions.

WHAT IF MY CHILD DOES NOT MAKE THE TEAM?

We have been telling our dancers the entire year and throughout the summer intensive that not everyone will make the team. Just because you were on the team last year, does not guarantee your spot on the team this year. You have to earn your spot on the team, and work hard to keep it throughout the year. Dancers that are new to the audition process have been told this as well. If your dancer does not make the team, I will give you suggestions on classes they should take this upcoming year to be more prepared for auditions the following year. Our goal is to always help everyone to succeed, but some may need a little more help and time than others.

WHAT IF MY CHILD DOES NOT MAKE THE "EXTRA" CLASS(ES) THEY AUDITIONED FOR?

If your child makes the team, and auditions for one of the extra classes but doesn't make that style, they would be required to take it as a rec class to get stronger. We would still include it in your competition team pricing.

AUDITION RESULTS

Audition results will be posted on our studio website by 9:00 am on Saturday, August 19th (under the competition tab- click on audition results). I will also post a reminder on our Facebook and Instagram pages. When looking through the results, you will either see your child's name listed under each level/style, or you will not see your child's name because they did not make that specific team (either way, you will be receiving an email from me in regards to the results). Your dancer will be placed in the level they made for each style of dance (Tap, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Hip Hop, Contemporary, and Lyrical will all be placed by the judges. Ballet, Technique, and Conditioning will all be placed by their current teachers based on their abilities throughout the summer intensive). Your child must take all of the classes in the levels they have made to remain on the competition team. (If your child makes different levels, for different things, it may affect how often they will be at the studio).

UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTING PLACEMENT

KDC currently offers 7 levels on our Competition Team, in all styles of dance (Little Stars, Starlings, Rising Stars, Shooting Stars, Shining Stars, Super Stars, and All Stars.)

Since we have 7 levels, and dancers that range in age from 6-18, if your child moved up every year, they could potentially end up in the All Stars level by age 10, and be there for the next 8 years.

Dance levels are not like school grades, and competition team levels are based upon ability, not age. Your child will likely spend more than one year in some levels, and less in others. We cannot move a child who is not physically (or emotionally) ready into a level that requires a higher skill set and higher expectations.

The best dancer at our youngest level is not necessarily going to be the best dancer when they move up to the middle or higher levels, and vice versa. Dancers peak at all different ages- it is a process.

To eventually move up a level in dance, we must see determination and focus, excellent attendance, participation, good attitude, and a higher ability in their skill set. If we are not seeing all of these things at this time, they will either stay at the level they are currently in, or will not make the team at all. If a dancer is falling behind, or not keeping up, they are holding their team back, which is not fair to everyone else.

Competition dancers are held at a higher standard than our recreational dancers, and they are expected to work harder and represent the KDC name at all times.

Once our decisions have been made, they will not be changed for any reason (unless something happens in the middle of the season where we have to move a child backwards, or take them off the team because they can't keep up with their requirements). **While you are welcome to ask questions on how your child can improve, please do not question your child's placement, as it shows a lack of trust in your child's dance teachers. We are professionals in this field and will place your child appropriately.**

The dancers all know and understand that even if they stay at the same level, the skill set will be raised within that level every year. It does not get easier, or stay the same.

Challenges are a part of life, and it's all in how you look at it. Our motto at KDC is: If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you. Our goal, as the KDC Staff, is to have all of our dancers succeed- both on and off the stage.

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS (Student must attend with a minimum of 1 parent)

As you may already know, I will be conducting individual meetings with each of you over the two weeks after auditions (August 21-24 and August 28-31). During these meetings, we will go over your team handbook/contract, your judge's comments, your fall schedule and pricing (along with additional options), and we will go over the dancer's goals and expectations for the upcoming season. If your child did not make the team for any reason, we will still use this pre-scheduled time to go over judge's comments, class options and suggestions, and goals for the upcoming season. A sign up genius link was sent to all families this past weekend to guarantee your time/date based off of what works best with your schedule.

KDC COMPETITION TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Please make sure that you have read your team requirements thoroughly and understand what you are committing to, both price and time-wise. You can find the full copy of our Team Requirements by going to our website and clicking on the tab: <https://kelleydancecraze.com/general-competition-info> and scrolling down to the pdf located in the 2023-24 KDC Competition Team Requirements.

KDC COMPETITION TEAM AUDITION PERMISSION SHEET

You must pick at least 2 other classes to audition for besides Tap and Jazz- taking all 3 is highly suggested). *The only exception to this is Little Stars, who will only be competing Tap and Jazz this year (though our returning Little Stars were pre-approved for a few).

TAP
JAZZ

- ___ HIP HOP (STARLINGS/RISING/SHOOTING/SHINING/SUPER/ALL STARS)
- ___ MUSICAL THEATRE (STARLINGS/RISING/SHOOTING/SHINING/SUPER/ALL STARS)
- ___ LYRICAL (STARLINGS/RISING/SHOOTING/SHINING/SUPER/ALL STARS)
- ___ CONTEMPORARY (SHINING/SUPER/ALL STARS)

*JAZZ LINE AND PRE-POINTE/POINTE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE EXTRA REQUIRED CLASSES, BUT WILL STILL BE FREE, AS LONG AS YOUR DANCER WAS APPROVED, AND HAS MET ALL OF THEIR OTHER REQUIREMENTS.

By signing this form:

I understand that by checking the box(es) above, my child is committing to that style of dance. If they choose to drop it for any reason, I understand that they will be forfeiting their spot on the competition team, and will not be eligible to audition the following year.

I am agreeing to accepting my child's position/level on the competition team (if applicable). **I will not ask Kelley or other the teachers for re-consideration of the decision for any reason.** If the staff hears of gossip regarding this, your child will be removed from the team immediately. I understand that if I put the Kelley's Dance Craze name or any of the KDC Staff in a negative light on social media (based on decisions made throughout the year, including audition results), my child will be removed from the team.

I am agreeing to the financial commitment required to be a part of the competition team. I understand that I am committing to: a Convention, 3 local competitions (and a 4th which is optional for Solos/Duets/Trios), and a week-long trip to Nationals every other year. I am also committing to costume fees, and mandatory rehearsals throughout the season (I have viewed the studio calendar, and am aware of all of the mandatory dates.)

I also understand that if I drop from the team at any point during the season, I will not be eligible to audition again in the future, as this would show a lack of commitment on my part.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

CHILD'S NAME (FIRST AND LAST) _____