



KELLEY'S DANCE CRAZE COMPETITION TEAM (INTENSIVE DANCER PROGRAM)

A Guide for Students and Parents

About This Team Handbook/Team Contract

SINCE 2018, our studio has been a leader in dance education. We believe that our success comes as a result of providing solid training and quality service, along with an underlying belief in the strength of our organization. We have created this handbook to offer our students and their parents a clear understanding of their commitments and responsibility to the Intensive Dancer Program and the studio.

❖ *Dates and/or expenses listed in this handbook are subject to change.* ❖

Key contact information for Kelley's Dance Craze:

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FOR OUR DANCERS

Congratulations! You have been accepted into the Kelley's Dance Craze Intensive Dancer Program. The first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to your classes, rehearsals, and performances. Strong technique is a key ingredient and class is where you develop that technique. Come to each class prepared to learn and without personal distractions. Class time is your chance to focus on yourself, so try to leave your concerns or worries at the studio door. True progress is made when you look at each class, rehearsal, or performance as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your technique, and make the most of every class.

❖ *We expect all dancers to arrive at least 10-15 minutes early to their first class of the day each week: remember that being "on time" is actually late.* ❖

The Intensive Dancer program is a privilege that dancers and their parents must appreciate and respect. Participation in the program is restricted to dancers who are ready to make achieving their personal best a priority. There will be times when classes, rehearsals, or performances will be scheduled when your non-dance friends or family may be having a birthday party or headed to the movies.

We encourage dancers to be as dedicated to their academic studies as they are to their dance training. If your participation in this program affects your grades or the expectations and goals set by your parents, we cannot allow you to continue in the program.

Reasons why this program might not be a good fit for you:

- You're involved in other extracurricular activities that could interfere with your class, rehearsal, or performance commitments.
- You're doing it because you want to be with your friends, but you are not passionate about dance or the commitment.
- You're doing it because your parents want you to.
- You're primarily focused on winning awards.
- You're not fully committed to attending all classes and rehearsals.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Only a small percentage of the dancers in our Intensive Program will move on to professional dance careers; therefore, the program focuses on educating young people to strive for their personal best in anything they want to accomplish. We achieve our goals for the program by offering young people the chance to:

- gain a sense of balance in life by managing their commitments to both dance and academics;
- participate in a physical activity that enhances understanding of the value of a healthy body;
- develop a sense of confidence when speaking or making a presentation in a public setting, which is also a great benefit in college or job interviews;
- work with mentors who are focused on the students' success inside and outside of the classroom;
- enjoy friendships that could last a lifetime and a sense of belonging to an extended family of fellow dancers, teachers, and parents;
- discover the results of hard work and determination; and
- develop a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts

In addition, making a commitment to the policies set forth in this handbook teaches our young people that there are boundaries that must be respected in order to succeed in the program.

FOR THE PARENTS: “WE’RE IN THIS TOGETHER”

We believe that children’s success depends on the support of their parents or guardians. Because your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference, we encourage you to be a part of supporting your child’s dance education. Furthermore, making a commitment to the KDC Competition Team requires the commitment and dedication of both the dancer and the parent(s).

Our programs rely on a positive atmosphere and educational experience for our instructors and students and their parents. Cooperation between all parents is expected. Showing respect—for other parents, the students, and the instructors—makes an important impression on the children. You are a role model for your child about how to interact with others in a professional setting.

Your child’s presence at all classes is imperative. The spirit of teamwork and the lesson of dedication are a big part of our studio’s educational process.

Parents and instructors may look at a child’s learning from different perspectives. However, we believe they share a common goal: to ensure that every child receives the best possible training, both physically and mentally. Mutual respect among our teachers and our students’ parents provides the children with the ultimate care and education.

UNDERSTANDING DANCE EDUCATION

As a parent, you play an important role in supporting your child financially, but your emotional support is of equal—and perhaps even greater—value. Encourage your child to be the best that he or she can be regardless of what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form and children need to be allowed to achieve at a pace that’s comfortable. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the exact same training. It’s important to encourage children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments.

Dance education encompasses far more than technique and the steps your children learn. We believe the discipline of dance training gives young people a better understanding of commitment through learning, experiencing the spirit of teamwork, and discovering what they can accomplish through hard work. Our goal is to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of our students, teaching them the skills needed for a successful life, whether or not they stay involved in dance.

❖ You play an important role in supporting your child financially, but your emotional support is of equal—and perhaps even greater—value. ❖

DO’S AND DON’TS

Some parents may compare their child’s progress or class placement to another child’s. Watch for this behavior in your children as well, and encourage them to focus instead on their own accomplishments.

Looking to other students for inspiration is good; however, making negative comparisons distracts children from focusing on becoming stronger dancers. In addition, speaking negatively about your child’s instructors, fellow students, or other parents in front of your child—or other students—could result in problems far beyond your original concerns. Often children will imitate a parent’s behavior with other adults or authority figures.

Children learn important lessons from their instructors and parents, acquiring behavior patterns through their example. Our studio’s instructors take that responsibility seriously. It’s our philosophy to encourage our students to feel, think, and act respectfully toward their peers, the adults in their lives, and themselves.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's dance education (such as progress or class placement), please discuss them with your child's teacher or the director. Talking only to other parents can lead to misinformation and confusion. Please contact/email the teacher directly to set up an appointment.

If you do request a conference, please listen carefully to what your child's teacher(s) have to say. They spend a significant amount of time with your child and offer expertise in the field of dance education.

CLASS OR CHOREOGRAPHY PLACEMENT/HOW TO CONTACT STAFF

KDC instructors meet regularly to discuss the students' progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every child.

Placement decisions are derived from many years of teaching/dance experience. Often a child is placed in a particular group or class where he or she will feel confident, in order to promote the development of self-esteem. Some dancers who are placed in a higher level become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with dancers who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex.

The owner/director will hold an individual meeting in the weeks following Team Auditions with each competition family to discuss class and team placement with the parents and dancers. It is our policy to meet with each student and his or her parents at the same time unless otherwise specified.

We ask that parents refrain from discussing class placement issues and all other gossip with other parents or questioning the instructors between classes, in the lobby/at the studio or anytime. When contacting an instructor or staff member, please do so in person or via email. We do not give out our personal phone numbers to parents or students.

❖ Class placement of students is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex. Placement decisions are derived from many years of professional teaching experience. ❖

CLASSES AND ATTENDANCE

All dancers are expected to attend their regularly scheduled classes in addition to all rehearsals and performances. In a given dance year (September-June), no more than 6 sick days, and 2 personal days (for extenuating circumstances) may be missed. Any team member with poor attendance may be dismissed from the program. Keep in mind that all dance classes are important; please do not just bring your child to their Choreography classes.

Dancers will know their class schedule upon fall registration and/or at their individual meeting. The program may include Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, Contemporary, Lyrical, Pointe, Technique, Stretch, and/or Conditioning; some are recital and/or competition classes, while some are just for technique. Team members may also be expected to participate in additional classes, including master classes/conventions. These will be at an additional charge.

Dancers (and their parents) must show respect for their teachers at all times. Inappropriate behavior could result in dismissal from the program.

PROBATION PERIOD FOR KDC DANCERS THAT ARE NEW TO THE 2025-2026 TEAM

If your child was not a 2024-2025 KDC Competition Team dancer, they will be placed on 1 year of probation for the 2025-2026 dance season. Dancers who violate their probationary period by not following the rules of this handbook/contract will be dismissed immediately from the KDC Competition Team.

REHEARSALS

All rehearsals are mandatory, and dedicated to choreography or “cleaning” the choreography. A dancer who misses a rehearsal holds back the progress of the entire group. Repeating the choreography from a previous session for those who were absent takes up valuable rehearsal time, which could result in a performance that is not up to par. When we clean choreography, we may also change it. Dancers who miss a cleaning session may not be properly prepared for an upcoming performance and could end up disappointing themselves, their team, or the studio.

An important lesson taught through our Intensive Dancer Program is the value of teamwork. Dancers who miss a rehearsal because of a non-emergency circumstance are letting their fellow dancers and teachers down in many ways. We expect parents to nurture the values that dance education teaches; therefore, you should never encourage your child to let the group down.

If parents have a conflict that prevents them from taking their children to a scheduled rehearsal, we will be more than happy to arrange transportation with other parents from the same group. Our goal is to help all of our dancers make it to all of their commitments.

❖ *Dancers: True progress is made when you look at each class, rehearsal, or performance as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do.* ❖

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

Rehearsals are an important part of the commitment to the Intensive Program. All dancers are expected to work hard and arrive early enough to warm up. All rehearsals below are mandatory.

Mandatory Team Rehearsal	Saturday January 10, 2026	All Day- Time TBA
Mandatory Team Rehearsal	Saturday February 7, 2026	All Day- Time TBA
Mandatory Finale Rehearsal	Friday May 15, 2026	Time TBA
Mandatory Finale Rehearsal	Friday June 2026 TBA	Time TBA
Mandatory Dress Rehearsal	Saturday June 2026 TBA	Time TBA

*Additional rehearsals may be scheduled at the discretion of the teacher/choreographer. All dancers are required to participate.

INTENSIVE PROGRAM DANCERS MAY NOT MISS ANY REHEARSAL DURING THE SEASON

Our season starts in September and ends after Recital in June (potentially July on Nationals years). There will be no exceptions to this rule. Dancers who need to be excused from Rehearsal due to sickness are required to notify the studio 24 hours before the scheduled rehearsal. Any dancer excused from a rehearsal is responsible for learning any missed choreography before arriving for the next class/performance. Keep in mind that this could mean taking and paying for a private lesson.

All Intensive Program dancers must attend rehearsals in proper dance attire and appropriate shoes.

Proper rehearsal dance attire for our team includes: a SOLID black leotard/black cami/black sports bra/tight fitting black tshirt, SOLID black jazz shorts (optional), and tan tights (optional), along with the required shoes. Female team members are also required to wear their hair pulled back or in a neat bun/ponytail/braid(s) for all rehearsals.

❖ We expect all dancers (and their parents) to be on their best behavior during rehearsals, classes and at competitions, and work as team players at all times. ❖

RESPECT

Respect for the studio and its instructors/choreographers is essential.

The instructors/choreographers selected to work with our Intensive Program dancers are among the finest and most experienced available. They are selected because of their professionalism and knowledge of what is technically and emotionally right for the dancers.

Guidelines for behavior:

- Leave any personal negativity at the door when entering KDC.
- Arrive at least 10-15 minutes before the start of your first class or rehearsal.
- Proper dancewear and shoes are a must in every class and rehearsal.
- Choreography should never be questioned. Kelley's Dance Craze prides itself on being age appropriate in our choreography, music choice, and costume selection. Everything must be approved through Kelley Paronish.
- Please do not approach instructors/choreographers about issues in between classes (unless they are working at the front desk). **Contact with instructors/choreographers must be made through their provided emails, not through social media.**
- Finish every class or choreography session with a thank you to the instructor or choreographer.
- When wearing your Competition Team jacket or other KDC apparel to dance and non-dance events, be sure that the activities you are participating in, and your behavior, both reflect positively on you and the studio.

APPRECIATE THE CRITIQUE

Listen to each correction given, whether it's directed to you or another dancer. A correction is an honor; it shows you how much an instructor cares about your progress as a dancer. Always say thank you when an instructor or choreographer offers you constructive criticism. Nothing can stop those students who apply themselves in every class and appreciate their instructors' knowledge and experience.

FOR DANCERS AND PARENTS

The children and parents involved in the Intensive Dancer program participate in many outside activities, all of which reflect Kelley's Dance Craze's philosophy. Please keep the following in mind:

- We never speak negatively about teachers, dancers, or parents from our studio or other studios. In addition, please do not verbally or physically abuse anyone at an event or competition.
- We never create conflict with the directors or judges of events in which we participate.
- The studio owner/director handles all communication with the directors of our outside activities.
- **No parent or dancer may call or question the directors of any event.** If you have a concern, please contact Miss Kelley and she will get your answer in a timely fashion.
- Dancers should be properly dressed for all events. If you are arriving to/leaving any event in your costume, always wear a cover up.
- **Parents are not allowed backstage at any competition event.** Please cheer on your child/the team from the audience and congratulate them in the hallway after. Please give the dancers time to catch their breath and reflect on their performance after each of their dances. Congratulate the dancers after their dances in a courteous/non-disruptive manner. Being excited is wonderful, but please remember that there are other dances on stage.
- Go out there and show the audience how much you love to dance!

DRESS CODE REQUIREMENTS

Listed below are all of the requirements for each style of dance. It is important for our students to follow our dress code so our teachers can see the lines of the body and be able to correct improper alignment.

We allow our dancers to express themselves by offering them the ability to select dancewear in any color/pattern/style variety!

If dancers choose to go the route of wearing a sports bra, it is with the understanding that their bottoms (shorts/athletic leggings) will be high-waisted.

***Dancers may not drastically change their hair color or cut before a competition/recital. This is to keep everyone looking "uniform" for our required hairstyles, and so as not to distract judges/audience. If your child has bangs, it is highly recommended to grow them out before performances, as they will always have to be pulled back.**

Dancers who are not wearing the proper shoes or dancewear will receive a warning the first time. The second time they will have to sit out of class, and will have a form sent home that the parent will have to sign. Please note how important dress code is to our studio and your child's performance.

HAIR

All Ballet and Pointe Classes: Pulled back, and up in a neat bun (hair donuts and bobby pins can help with this).

Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Lyrical, Musical Theatre, Technique, Stretch, and Conditioning Classes: Pulled back into a neat ponytail, pigtail, braid(s), or bun. If hair is shorter, please use barrettes or a headband to keep hair/bangs out of your dancer's face.

Boys: If hair is longer, please use a sweatband or bandana to keep hair out of your dancer's face.

DANCEWEAR

All Ballet and Pointe Classes: Leotard, Tan or Pink Tights, Ballet Skirt (optional)

Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Lyrical, Contemporary, Musical Theatre, Technique, Stretch, and Conditioning Classes: Any combination of the following- Leotard, Form Fitting Cami/T-shirt/Crop Top/Tank Top/Sports Bra, High Waisted Jazz Shorts/Leggings, Tan or Pink Tights.

Boys (All Classes): Form Fitting T-shirt, Sweatpants/Shorts/Joggers

***Please avoid having your child wear the same clothing to dance class that they wear to school. They should be in athletic clothing, specifically designed for sports such as dance, to help with freedom of movement.**

❖ Intensive program dancers are required to wear appropriate shoes for all classes and rehearsals. Make sure shoes are clean for each performance. ❖

REQUIRED COMPETITION TEAM SHOES (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY STYLE OF DANCE):

BALLET (STARLINGS, SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS):

CAPEZIO "HANAMI" IN PINK CANVAS, SPLIT SOLE

CONTEMPORARY (SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS): CAPEZIO "PIROUETTE" TURNERS IN NUDE LEATHER (OR A COLOR THAT BEST MATCHES YOUR DANCER'S SKIN TONE)

CONDITIONING (SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS): ANY GYM SHOE OR JAZZ SHOE

HIP HOP (SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS): NIKE "AIR FORCE 1" LOW TOP IN WHITE (ADULT SIZES), NIKE "AIR FORCE 1 LE" IN WHITE (KID SIZES)

JAZZ (STARLINGS, SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS): BLOCH "NEOFLEX" IN TAN OR BLACK, TBA AFTER COSTUMES HAVE BEEN SELECTED

LYRICAL (SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS):

CAPEZIO "PIROUETTE" TURNERS IN NUDE LEATHER (OR A COLOR THAT BEST MATCHES YOUR DANCER'S SKIN TONE)

MUSICAL THEATRE (RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS): BLOCH "NEOFLEX" IN TAN OR BLACK, TBA AFTER COSTUMES HAVE BEEN SELECTED

PRE-POINTE/POINTE 1: CAPEZIO "HANAMI" IN PINK CANVAS, SPLIT SOLE (PRE-POINTE WILL WEAR THESE THE WHOLE YEAR, POINTE I WILL BEGIN WITH THESE, IN THE HOPES OF WORKING TOWARDS EARNING THEIR POINTE SHOES OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.)

POINTE 1/POINTE 2: BRAND AND TYPE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE BEST FIT FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL DANCER. POINTE 1 MUST SCHEDULE A TIME WITH MISS KYLIE (WHEN ASKED) TO GO ALONG FOR THE FITTING. POINTE 2 DANCERS WILL BEGIN THEIR YEAR IN THE CAPEZIO "HANAMI" IN PINK CANVAS, SPLIT SOLE, TO BUILD THEIR STRENGTH BACK UP SINCE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ON POINTE FOR A FEW MONTHS. THEY WILL RETURN TO THEIR POINTE SHOES ONCE MISS KYLIE FEELS THAT THEY ARE READY.

STRETCH (STARLINGS, SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS):
BAREFOOT

TAP (STARLINGS): BLOCH "TAP ON" IN TAN WITH A BUCKLE (NO VELCRO!!!)

TAP (SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS): BLOCH "AUDEO" IN BLACK WITH TIES

TAP (SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS): BLOCH "JASON SAMUEL SMITH" IN BLACK WITH TIES

TECHNIQUE (STARLINGS, SPARKLING STARS, RISING STARS, SHOOTING STARS, SHINING STARS, SUPER STARS, ALL STARS):
BLOCH "NEOFLEX" IN TAN (REQUIRED COLOR FOR FINALE DANCE)

*****SOLOS/DUETS/TRIOS:** SHOES WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY YOUR TEACHER ONCE COSTUMES HAVE BEEN CHOSEN, IN THE CASE THAT THEY ARE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IS LISTED ABOVE. THEY CAN WEAR WHAT THEY HAVE FOR THE TIME BEING.

TUITION AND OTHER EXPENSES

Part of the commitment to the Intensive Dancer program is being current with all accounts related to participation. In an effort to offer all young people the opportunity to experience the Intensive Dancer program, we offer a large tuition discount and other discounts and perks in our Competition Team Program.

Full monthly tuition is due by 1st of each month. (All payments will be automatically be charged to your credit card on file the 1st of each month, or when payments are due, unless you have paid ahead of time the front desk). We accept cash, checks, or Visa, Mastercard and Discover credit card payments for tuition. Please write your child's name in the memo portion of the check. ***All checks need to be made payable to Kelley's Dance Craze, not KDC.**

Please note: tuition is based on the season, regardless of how many weeks are in a given month. Tuition payments average out to ten monthly payments. Tuition includes all regular group classes and choreography.

Level	Base Tuition (due the 1st of each month)
KDC Starlings Competition Team	\$150 per month*, appx. 3.75 hrs
KDC Sparkling Stars Competition Team	\$175 per month*, appx. 5.75 hrs
KDC Rising Stars Competition Team	\$200 per month*, appx. 6.5 hrs
KDC Shooting Stars Competition Team	\$200 per month*, appx. 6.5 hrs
KDC Shining Stars Competition Team	\$200 per month*, appx. 6.5 hrs
KDC Super Stars Competition Team	\$200 per month*, appx. 6.5 hrs
KDC All Stars Competition Team	\$200 per month*, appx. 6.5 hrs

*Tuition prices for each level reflect group pricing. Solos, Duets, Trios, Private Lessons, and additional classes beyond their requirements are not included in this pricing. If a student is in several different levels, then the tuition tier is figured by the hours they dance.

Based on teacher recommendations, Intensive program dancers will have the opportunity to participate in additional choreography that could include the following.

Private Lessons	\$35, half hour	Weekly from September- June
Solo	\$35, half hour	Weekly from September- June
Duet	\$25 per dancer, half hour	Weekly from September- June
Trio	\$20 per dancer, half hour	Weekly from September- June

Dancers who participate in extra choreography may need to attend rehearsals on additional days not included in their normal program schedule. We do our best to work with the dancers and their parents when scheduling extra choreography sessions.

All competition choreography will be performed at competitions. Depending on the performance venue, length of time allotted, or theme of non-competitive performances, we cannot guarantee that all competition dances will be presented at Recitals. At this time, only groups and graduating Senior's Solos are allowed. Senior Duets/Trios are TBD, based on the number of dances in the show.

ENTRY FEES FOR 2025-2026 COMPETITIONS:

Pricing can vary depending on the competition, but generally, Solos are around \$130-\$180 each, Duets/Trios are around \$75-\$95 each, and Small Groups/Large Groups/Lines are around \$65-\$85 each. **Entry fees will be due 2 months prior to the competition.** ***Failure to pay these fees on time could result in dismissal from the team. ***Media fees will be added to these costs as well for certain competitions. ***A small administration fee (\$5 for each comp) will also be added onto your comp fees to cover the time spent doing student registration for each event.****If a competition is cancelled for any reason, or if you have to pull a child from a Solo/Duet/Trio or Group, they will not refund you.

❖ *Entry fees are due 2 months prior to each competition.* ❖

COMPETITION COSTUMES

Costume payments are the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Intensive dancers may compete in Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Lyrical, and /or Musical Theatre; The typical cost of a competition costume is \$100-\$160 each (including performance tights, if required), although they can be more/less. Some parents & students may agree to choose more expensive costumes for Solos (parent permission will be required if it goes over cost). Different tights, not included in the costume cost (such as fishnets), may be required to be purchased at an additional cost (instructors will let you know if this is the case). Competition costumes may require extra costs for rhinestoning, props, accessories, etc.

***New this season-** the 1st half of the cost of Competition costumes will be due on October 1st; the 2nd half will be due on January 15th. If your child is any Recital classes (which includes Ballet, Pointe, Finale, etc.), those costume fees will be due in full on November 1st.

COSTUME COMMON SENSE

- ✓ **Always have a second pair of tights available.** *Miss Kelley will usually have extra available for purchase.
- ✓ **Place costumes in a garment bag for travel.**
- ✓ **Carry hats, hairpieces, and accessories in a separate bag or container to prevent them from damage.**
- ✓ **Steam costumes (if necessary) before each performance.**
- ✓ **Place your name (or initials) in all costume tags and on the inside of all shoes.**
- ✓ **Inspect all costumes in their garment bags immediately following the competition to be sure that they are not wrinkled or inside out for the next event.**
- ✓ **Check seams, trim, headpieces, etc. for repairs that must be made prior to the next competition.** *Do not wait until the last minute to let us know.
- ✓ **If you need to replace any of your earrings or makeup, please let Miss Kelley know asap.** She buys these in bulk, and likely has extra. This also guarantees parents are getting the best price, as well as having the correct item.

ADDITIONAL ADMISSION CHARGES

Event	Admission	Detail
KDC Recital, June 2025 TBA	\$25 per ticket	No admission without a ticket

KDC SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAM

The Summer Intensive Program is a mandatory activity for all Intensive dancers. Kelley's Dance Craze offers a 2 week Summer Intensive and Team Auditions. Classes will take place at the studio. Class days and times are determined based on what works best for the studio and staff. *Late auditions may be accepted, TBD by the owner/director.

THE COMPETITION EXPERIENCE

For dedicated dancers, the satisfaction of an excellent performance is all the motivation they need to work harder to continue improving. Don't judge how you feel about your performance by the size of the trophy or the color of the medal.

THE FOCUS IS NOT SIMPLY ON COMPETITION

It is our goal to instill in our students a passion for performing, rather than merely the desire to win awards. Toward that end, Intensive dancers may have performance opportunities other than competitions. They may perform at community events and take part in other performance opportunities. We believe the lessons learned through community performances are as valuable as the competition experience.

Our solid reputation for quality reflects our attitude toward competition and our goal to develop in each student a genuine respect for dance as an art form. We consider students' participation in competitions not merely part of their dance training; it is also an important part of how we influence their growth as people. With the right focus, the experience gained in competition can be an excellent source of self-confidence. If the dancers feel good about a performance and understand that they become better each time they go onstage, they are truly growing through the competition experience. Hitting that stage and doing the best they can is what it's all about; whether they win—or which award they win—is secondary.

Through participation in competitions, we hope to instill in our students an appreciation for other dancers and studios. We are not out to beat anyone; instead, we hope to motivate both students and instructors by exposing them to the highest caliber of talent available. Only then can we produce the best dancers and teachers possible. For us, competition is an education!

❖ We believe the lessons learned through community performances are just as valuable as the competition experience. ❖

GENERAL PERFORMANCE AND COMPETITION POLICIES

Performances and competitions are your opportunity to show the world the results of your dedication and hard work. Here's what you can do to make the most of this opportunity.

- Arrive at competitions at least **two hours** before the scheduled time unless otherwise advised by your teachers. For other performances, times will be announced.
- Be sure you are properly warmed up to prevent injury.
- Present yourself in a professional manner, with costumes ready, shoes cleaned, and all accessories accounted for.
- Treat competitors, instructors, and parents from other studios with respect.
- Treat the directors and staff of the competition with respect.
- Keep your area of the dressing rooms clean, and never bring food or drink where it is prohibited.
- Wear your Competition Team jacket to all competition events and during the award presentations.

COMPETITION SCHEDULING

When planning a competition weekend, be prepared for performances on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Once a schedule is prepared, you may find that you do not have to perform the entire weekend, but you must be prepared to do so. **There are no exceptions.** *This may mean that you have to pull your child out of school early if they have a Friday performance.

Approximately **one week prior** to the event, the competition company will supply our studio with an itinerary. Schedules will be emailed to all dancers and their parents as soon as they are received. We pride ourselves on being an organized, professional studio and we do not request changes to the dance competition schedule (except in the case of emergencies). National events typically send the schedule 2 weeks- one month ahead.

COMPETITION CRITIQUES

Studios will receive performance critiques from the judges at each competition. These critiques are the property of KDC and will be played for the dancers during their class time. Solos/Duets/Trios will hear their critiques during their weekly lesson. *These are not shared with parents, unless it is Nationals judging, as those classes have already ended at that point.

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

When presented with an award, always show professionalism by thanking the person who presents you with the award. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated. Soloists may keep their awards, Duet/Trios awards will be given to the studio unless they are given individual awards (which they would keep), and Group awards will also be given to the studio.

AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

Enthusiastic applause is encouraged. When in the auditorium, remain seated whenever dancers are performing onstage. Move quickly to your seat in between performances. Please do not talk through performances, and if you must do so, please keep it to a whisper.

INDEPENDENT ENTRIES

No dancer may compete in any competition or convention as an independent entry without the permission of the studio owner. If a dancer leaves the studio, they may not compete/perform their choreographer's work anywhere else.

INJURY ASSESSMENTS

If a student is showing signs of injury, they may not sit out of any more than three class days without a Dr's note. All dancers who are sitting out of class due to illness/injury must be taking notes and following along with the class. With that being said, Miss Kim Schneider will be here on an every other week basis (usually during Ballet or Technique classes) to look at any potential injuries. **An injury is not a reason to miss class.**

ILLNESSES

New this season- dancers will no longer be excused from absences for illness without a Dr's note. Please be sure to read up on our current studio rules under the Health/Safety section of our studio website.

BIG/LITTLE SISTER COMMITMENT

All dancers need to be present for at least 3 dances other than their own at competition (in a separate section). As Big/Little Sisters, your child is committing to being there for one another. In the past, we have had issues with dancers being there for their own dances/award ceremonies and then leaving immediately after. I've seen both big and little sisters have their heart broken when their "sister" wasn't there for them. While we understand that sometimes things come up, and timing can be an issue, you should be making every effort possible to be there for others. In reality, we are all a team and need to be there to support each other.

CONVENTIONS

Every year, we will be attending a required local convention. This is at an additional cost to parents. Conventions allow our students to continue to grow as dancers by learning new skills/choreography from different teachers/choreographers. Parents will drop their dancers off at these events, and our teachers will attend with them. There is usually a performance and/or awards handed out at the end of the day for parents to attend.

AUDITION PACKETS

These packets will be sent home with your student during the 1st week of the Summer Intensive, to go over and review with your child. The back page will need to be signed and turned in the 2nd Monday of Intensive, committing your child to the audition process.

TEAMWORK

It has always been our philosophy to instill a spirit of teamwork among the dancers in the program. A competitive atmosphere is counterproductive to what we want to accomplish in our classrooms or among the dancers.

Together . . .

- we are stronger;
- we learn from each other;
- we share our successes.

TEAM PICTURES

Each season, we update our dancer's headshots and/or action shots, along with taking a few full team pictures. *This may require the purchase of a specific outfit that fits our theme. We will use these shots for each competition dancer's birthday (one of the many perks of being on the comp team), and when wishing dancers good luck at comp on a social media post. Once you've officially made the team, KDC has the right to use any pictures of your child from this season, and season's past, even if you choose to leave the studio or are asked to leave the team.

CLASS VISITORS

Safety issues and legal responsibilities make it impossible for us to allow students to bring visitors into the classroom. Students should not invite siblings, other relatives, or friends to their classes, with the exception of special events such as "Bring a Friend Week" and in-studio performances. The window will be open for others to view classes during the 1st lesson of each month.

WHAT SHOULD BE IN YOUR DANCE BAG

Dancers should have all of their dance shoes, an extra pair of tights/socks, a box of bandaids, a pack of hair ties, a pack of bobby pins, deodorant (for all dancers 9 and older), and feminine products (for those old enough).

STAYING INFORMED

We work hard to make the dance experience organized and fun. Keeping you informed is one of our primary goals. **Please read all e-mails and other studio information.**

Be sure to accept Miss Kelley's invite to the Team Facebook page, as that is where we share information strictly for the team, as well as photos throughout the competition season.

Newsletters and important updates are emailed to you weekly and posted on the Kelley's Dance Craze Website, Facebook, and Instagram pages. They are also posted in the studio on our KDC News Boards in the main lobby.

If you have any questions regarding the information distributed, we encourage you to contact the front desk at (248) 313-0326.

We try to answer emails daily, except on weekends. Feel free to email general questions and Competition Team related questions to Kelley at kelleysdancecraze@gmail.com. All emails will receive a response within 24-48 business hours.

WEBSITE (<https://kelleysdancecraze.com>)

Our website is updated weekly. News, dates, important parent and student information, contact information, and more are available online 24 hours a day. If you are ever needing to know a date, or need to look ahead, all of the information you need is posted here.

FACEBOOK

“Like” the Kelley’s Dance Craze studio page on Facebook to receive updates on studio events. Please invite your family and friends to “like” the studio. We also have a separate KDC Competition Team Facebook page for all 2025-2026 Comp Team Staff/Parents/Students where we can share pictures, answer questions, and have reminders posted which are specific to the KDC Competition Team family. Please add me as a friend on Facebook (Kelley Paronish) and I will add you to that (private) group, once you have made the team. Competition Team Dancers who have a Facebook can join as well.

Please do not post questions on the studio’s social media pages (other than our Facebook Competition Team page). Instead, please email them directly to kelleysdancecraze@gmail.com . Please also avoid posting a negative comment publicly if there is an error on something that we put out. We ask in these cases, that you please email us separately, as it looks bad for our studio, and we are human, and make mistakes like everyone else.

INSTAGRAM

We also have an Instagram page “@kelleysdancecraze” that our dancers and parents can follow. All of the teachers have also made an Instagram page specifically for their students with dance appropriate info/videos/ and pictures from class- @miss.kelley.kdc @miss.gabi.kdc @miss.bri.kdc @miss.chrissy.kdc @miss.kylie.kdc and a few also have separate accounts, just for their choreography.

TIKTOK

We also have a studio TikTok page that promotes our Competition Team dancers. You can follow us by going to @kelleysdancecraze .

POLICY ON SOLOS

Dancing a solo can be wonderful and motivational experience, but it can also be devastating. We have seen dancers who lack confidence attempt their first solo only to end up running offstage. Instead of exhilaration and pride, they experience humiliation and embarrassment. In some cases, these disappointed dancers question whether they want to continue to dance. Is it worth risking all that for a solo?

Solos are limited to dancers who are technically ready and who possess the drive to put in the extra time needed to perfect their performance. Soloists will be recommended by the KDC teachers and approved by the director. Solos will run from September- June. If it is a Non- Nationals year, they will continue to use the time after comps have ended to continue working on technique, to help get them stronger before next season.

***We will not switch styles once you have committed to a Solo. If a dancer chooses to drop from their Solo at any point throughout the season, they will not be eligible for a Solo offering the following year, as it shows a lack of commitment on their part.**

KNOW WHEN YOU'RE READY FOR A SOLO

Take a close, honest look at yourself and your dancing.

You're ready to perform a solo when:

- you have made a serious commitment to yourself and to dance;
- you're willing to work on your own to spend extra time on your solo;
- you are willing to take your solo apart count by count, and make sure you know what needs to happen technically (where your arms are on every count, what the best lines are, and so on);
- you are willing to rehearse your solo full-out all the time in order to build stamina;
- you are technically ready;
- you realize that your obligation to your fellow dancers is priority; and
- you are aware that solo rehearsal time will never interfere with group rehearsals, classes, or performances.

You're not ready to do a solo when:

- you don't want to work hard;
- you want to do a solo because your friend is doing one;
- you want to do a solo because your parents want you to do it; or
- you do not have the time to make the commitment.

MUSIC FOR SOLOS

Turn off your Spotify and Apple music! You are not going to use the most popular song of the year for your solo, no matter how much you love it and are dying to dance to it! Everyone else will be using that song, and you don't want to be the ninth dancer performing to it that day.

Starlings/Sparkling Stars/Rising Stars/Shooting Stars/Shining Stars/Super Stars/All Stars: Your teacher/choreographer will determine the right music for your performance that also suits your personality. *In some cases, they may ask you to send them a playlist of songs you like for inspiration.

Seniors (in high school): You will work **together** with your teacher/choreographer to determine the right music and the right costume for your performance. Together you will look for something different that is not often performed at a competition and that suits your personality.

DUETS/TRIOS

Duets and Trios are also limited to dancers who are technically ready and who possess the drive to put in the extra time needed to perfect their performance and can commit to the teamwork required for a dance of this nature. We do not place Duets/Trios based on friendship. Duets/Trios will be recommended by the KDC teachers, based on similar dancing technique in a specific style. (In some cases, due to low enrollment in a level, a class will become a Duet/Trio by no fault of their own- in this case, Duets/Trios would be charged the regular tuition price, as it was not planned). Duets/Trios will run from September- June. If it is a Non- Nationals year, they will continue to use the time after comps have ended to continue working on technique, to help get them stronger before next season.

KDC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP

The KDC Boosters formed in 2018, to exclusively support the KDC Competition Team dancers, staff, and families at Kelley's Dance Craze. The KDC Boosters are responsible for conducting fundraising activities to provide financial support to the KDC Competition Team dancers during the competition season. While some of the parents hold (voted upon) roles in this 501c3 organization (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer), all competition parents make up our KDC Boosters. ***New this season- Because we are all working together to support each other's children, all Competition Team parents are required to be a part of the Boosters.** There will be an annual fee for this, which covers operational expenses, voting rights, and more for the current competition season.

POLICIES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

General Policies

❖ Parents - Please do not open the studio room doors.

- **Parents and students should never interrupt a class in session.** Instead, leave a message at the front desk or email us and we will get back to you. If your child is late, one of our Front Desk Staff will let them in.
- **Only water is allowed in the dance studios.** No food, drinks (other than water), or gum.
- **Cell phones may not be used during class time.** If you bring your phone into the studio rooms, it must be in the 'silent' mode. The only time phones may be in use is when filming choreography for practice purposes.
- **Please watch what you say in the lobby area, a space intended for the comfort of our students' parents and families.** At no time should anyone utilize this area to commiserate or gossip with others about their dissatisfaction with the studio, its staff or choreographers, or other students and their families. **Furthermore, gossiping, at any level, by parents or students will not be tolerated.**
- **Never speak negatively about teachers, students, or parents from other studios.**
- **All students and parents must show respect for their teachers and staff at all times.** Inappropriate behavior could result in dismissal from the studio.
- **KDC Competition Team dancers are not permitted to take private lessons or receive individual instruction from any teachers/instructors outside of the current KDC Staff or outside of our facility.** This can infringe upon the instruction crafted by their current teachers at KDC. **Partaking in this type of activity will result in immediate dismissal from our team and studio, as it poses a conflict of interest.** However, Competition Team dancers are still encouraged to take workshops, conventions, clinics, and master classes to expand their dance knowledge.

TERMINATION OF ENROLLMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE KDC COMPETITION TEAM

In certain circumstances, when it is in the best interest of our staff or students, it may be necessary for the Studio Owner/Director to remove a student from the competition team, not allow them to audition again in the future, or in extreme cases, to terminate a student's enrollment. Every effort will be made to correct a problematic situation before asking a dancer to leave the team or terminate enrollment. Reasons for being asked to leave the Competition Team and/or termination of enrollment include, but are not limited to the following:

- Not meeting the requirements for each team
- Harmful, disruptive, or dangerous behavior by students or their parents
- Verbal, physical, or emotional abuse of other children, staff, or property
- Bullying threatening, or harassment of other children or staff
- Destruction of property at KDC or in performance venues
- Gossip by parents/students regarding our studio/instructors/other dancers
- Excessive absences or tardies
- Outstanding bills or balance (more than one month past due)
- Drug or Alcohol use by students or their parents on studio grounds or at studio events (competition, recital, etc.)
- Representing KDC or its Staff in a negative light on social media
- Inability of Kelley's Dance Craze to meet the child's needs
- Failure to be present for a performance
- Engaging in private lessons or one on one instruction from outside instructors or other facilities

KDC reserves the right to refuse service to anyone, and can terminate enrollment at any time.

***If an Intensive dancer is dismissed or leaves the program, an understudy/overstudy may replace him or her. The student leaving the team is required to turn in all competition costumes to the front desk; they will be returned to the student after the last performance of the season.**

***Parents may also not withhold costumes from their dancers, as it can affect multiple dancers on the team- the same rules apply.**

DANCERS WHO DROP FROM THE COMPETITION PROGRAM

If a dancer chooses to drop from a competitive class at any time after auditions have ended, or any time throughout the season, they will be immediately removed from the team and will not be allowed to audition again at KDC in the future. Please know that we are looking for committed dancers and parents to be a part of this program.

**THANK YOU FOR YOU CONTINUED LOYALTY AND SUPPORT!
WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO THE
KDC COMPETITION DANCE TEAM AND INTENSIVE DANCER PROGRAM!**

We look forward to an exciting, and rewarding 8th season at KDC! ☺



KELLEY'S DANCE CRAZE COMPETITION TEAM CONTRACT 2025-2026

Dancer #1's name _____

Dancer #1's Birthdate _____

Dancer #2's name (if applicable) _____

Dancer #2's Birthdate (if applicable) _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone Number (____) _____ - _____

Address _____

Email _____

Person responsible for tuition fees _____

This contract is entered into by and between Parent/Guardian: _____,
Student(s) _____, and Kelley's Dance Craze. The terms of this
contract shall begin August 23, 2025 and continue through July 31, 2026. By signing this contract, all persons are bound to this
contract.

2025-2026 KDC COMPETITION TEAM CONTRACT

**I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to comply
with all of the 2025-2026 KDC Competition Team Rules,
Regulations, Terms, and Policies in this contract.**

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student #1's Signature _____ Date _____

Student #2's Signature (if applicable) _____ Date _____