



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

A Guide for Students and Parents

About This Handbook

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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Owner/Director/Office Manager: Kelley Paronish kelleysdancecraze@gmail.com

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KDC Competition Team Teachers and Choreographers:

Kim Alexander- wahinekim@aol.com

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Kelley Paronish- kelleysdancecraze@gmail.com

Brianna Schmidt- briannaschmidt2000@gmail.com

Gabi Young- gabiyoung24@yahoo.com

Key event dates for Kelley's Dance Craze:

Start of classes: September 4, 2019

Wixom Block Party: September 7, 2019 (11 am- 8 pm, voluntary)

Competition Team Pictures/Picnic: October 8, 2019 (2:00 pm at Gunnar Metalla Park) *students wear black dresses

Bring a Friend Week: September 23-28, 2019

Registration Ends: October 15, 2019

Halloween: Closed October 31, 2019

Costume Deposits Due: November 15, 2019

Thanksgiving Break: Closed November 28-30, 2019

Competition Team Holiday Party: December 14, 2019

Holiday Break: Closed December 21, 2019- January 5, 2020

Classes Resume: January 6, 2020

Winter Registration Ends: January 15, 2020

Costume Balances Due: January 15, 2020

Mandatory Competition Team Make Up/Hair Class: January 18, 2020 (12:00-1:30)

Mandatory Competition Team Rehearsal: January 18, 2020 (LONG, time TBA)

Mandatory Competition Team Rehearsal: February 8, 2020 (SHORT, time TBA)

Mid Winter Break: Closed February 15-22, 2020

Classes Resume/Comp Week: February 24-28, 2020 *DANCERS MAY NOT MISS THIS WEEK FOR ANY REASON

Competition #1: February 28-March 1, 2020 (Rainbow Dance Competition, Clarkston High School)

Comp Week: March 16-20 *DANCERS MAY NOT MISS THIS WEEK FOR ANY REASON

Competition #2: March 20-22, 2020 (KAR Dance Competition, Walled Lake Northern High School)

Spring Break: Closed April 4-12, 2020

Classes Resume: April 13, 2020

Picture Day Weekend: April 18-19, 2020

Comp Week: April 20-24, 2020 *All Solos/Duets performing at VIP must be present for their solos/duets

Competition #3: April 24-26, 2020 *Optional- Solos/Duets only (VIP Dance Competition, Walled Lake Western High School)

Recital Ticket Sales: May 2020 TBA

Memorial Day: Closed May 25, 2020

Finale and Ballet Production Rehearsal: May 29, 2020

Finale and Ballet Production Rehearsal: June 5, 2020

Last Day of Classes: June 4, 2020

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday June 6, 2020 (Walled Lake Western)

Recital: Sunday June 7, 2020 (Walled Lake Western)

KDC Competition Team Nationals: July 18-22, KAR Nationals in Myrtle Beach, SC

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 headed to the mall or 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 extracurricular activities that could interfere with your class, rehearsal, or performance commitments.
- You're doing it because you want to keep up with your friends, but you are not passionate about dance or the commitment.
- You're doing it because your parent(s) 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 your child’s dance education. Furthermore, making a commitment to the KDC Competition Team requires the commitment and dedication of the dancer and the parents.

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 and/or instructors are available to discuss class and choreography placement with parents and dancers. Please feel free to request an appointment with the teacher(s) in question and a meeting will be scheduled. 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. The only time that a parent would have to contact an instructor on a personal phone is if there is an emergency during a competition weekend or if confirming a private lesson time.

❖ 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

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 their Choreography classes.

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

All dancers must show respect for their teachers at all times. Inappropriate behavior could result in dismissal from the program.

Rehearsals

All rehearsals are 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 children make 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 18, 2020	Long TBA
Mandatory Team Rehearsal	Saturday February 8, 2020	Short TBA
Mandatory Finale Rehearsal	Friday May 29, 2020	TBA
Mandatory Finale Rehearsal	Friday June 5, 2020	TBA
Mandatory Dress Rehearsal	Saturday June 6, 2020	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. A season starts in September and ends after Recital in June (July on Nationals years). There will be no exceptions to this rule. Dancers who need to be excused 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 dance attire for the girls includes: black leotards/black camis and specified tights (if necessary). Tight fitting, solid black shorts are optional. Sports bras may be worn underneath. Female team members are also required to wear their hair pulled back or in a neat bun/ponytail for all classes/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 must 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 on a break). Contact with instructors/choreographers must be made through the provided e-mails. Parents should never contact an instructor via a phone call to an instructor's personal phone.
- Finish every class or choreography session with a thank-you to the instructor or choreographer.
- When wearing your Competition Team jacket or other apparel to dance and non-dance events, be sure that the activities and your behavior 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.

- Dancers and parents 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

***Hair needs to be pulled up for ALL classes. *Buns are required for all Ballet/Pointe classes.**

Class	Boys	Girls
Ballet/Pointe	Black sweatpants, joggers (or tights for ages 10 and up), white T-shirt, black ballet shoes.	Black leotard, pink or tan tights, pink canvas ballet shoes (Bloch Pro-Elastic, split sole, pink), Black ballet skirt (optional). Pink pointe shoes may be required.
Jazz	Black sweatpants, joggers, or shorts, white T-shirt or white muscle shirt, black jazz shoes.	Black leotard/cami/tight fitting t-shirt, tan transition tights (optional), black jazz shorts or leggings, tan or black jazz shoes (Bloch NeoFlex).
Tap	Black sweatpants, joggers, or shorts, white T-shirt or white muscle shirt, black tap shoes.	Black leotard/cami/tight fitting t-shirt, tan transition tights (optional), black jazz shorts or leggings, Bloch Audeo tap shoes with ties- (Petite, Junior/Intermediate) and Teen,Senior- Black J-Sam's
Hip-Hop	Black sweatpants, joggers, or shorts, white T-shirt or white muscle shirt (Shoe TBA)	Black leotard/cami/tight fitting t-shirt, tan tights, black jazz shorts, joggers, sweatpants, or leggings, (Shoe TBA)
Lyrical/Contemporary	Black sweatpants, joggers, or shorts, white T-shirt or white muscle shirt, black jazz shoes.	Black leotard/cami/tight fitting t-shirt, tan transition tights (optional), black jazz shorts or leggings, Capezio Pirouette II (nude or match skin tone)
Musical Theatre	Black sweatpants, joggers, or shorts, white T-shirt or white muscle shirt, black jazz shoes.	Black leotard/cami/tight fitting t-shirt, tan transition tights (optional), black jazz shorts or leggings, Capezio Pirouette II (nude or skin tone) or Jazz shoes tan or black Neoflex TBA,
Turns/Jumps/Leaps & Conditioning	Black sweatpants, joggers, or shorts, white T-shirt or white muscle shirt, black jazz shoes.	Black leotard/cami/tight fitting t-shirt, tan transition tights (optional), black jazz shorts or leggings, Capezio Pirouette II (nude or skin tone), or barefoot/jazz shoes/gym shoes for conditioning

Additional shoe styles may be required; please check with the instructors.

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

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 deducted to your card on file the 1st of each month, unless changes have been made with the front desk). We accept cash, checks, or Visa, Master Card 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. If you pay with cash, please ask for a receipt.

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. Additional Choreography Classes are \$25 each per month.

Level	Base Tuition (due the 1st of each month)
KDC Tiny Competition Team	\$77 per month*, 2 hrs
KDC Petite Competition Team	\$144 per month*, 4.5 hrs
KDC Junior Competition Team	\$152 per month*, 4.75 hrs
KDC Intermediate Competition Team	\$152 per month*, 4.75 hrs
KDC Teen Competition Team	\$160 per month*, 5 hrs
KDC Senior Competition Team	\$160 per month*, 5 hrs

*Tuition prices for each level reflect group pricing. If a student is in several different levels, then the tuition tier is figured by the Ballet requirements.

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

Private Lessons	\$25, half hour	*as needed
Solos	\$25, half hour	Weekly from Sept-March, Bi-weekly beginning in April
Duo	\$15 per dancer, half hour	Weekly from Sept-March, Bi-weekly beginning in April
Trio	\$10 per dancer, half hour	Weekly from Sept-March, Bi-weekly beginning in April

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 extra choreography will be performed in competitions. Depending on the performance venue, length of time allotted, or theme of non-competitive performances, we cannot guarantee that all extra choreography will be presented in public performances or Recitals.

Entry Fees for 2019-2020 Competitions: Pricing can vary depending on the competition, but generally, Solos are around \$90 each, Duets/Trios are around \$65 each, and Small/Large Groups are around \$45 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.

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

Costumes

Costume payments are the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Intensive dancers may compete in Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Lyrical, Musical Theatre, and/or Hawaiian/Tahitian; The typical cost of a costume is \$75-100 each (including performance tights, if required), although they can be more/less. Some parents & students may agree to choose more expensive costumes. 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.

A deposit of \$50 per costume will be due by November 15, 2019; costume balances are due January 15, 2020.

Additional Admission Charges

Event	Admission	Detail
KDC Recital (Walled Lake Western)	\$16.50 pre-pay/ticket \$18 @ door/ticket	No admission without a ticket

Summer Program

The Summer Intensive Program is a mandatory activity for all Intensive dancers. Kelley’s Dance Craze offers a 2 week Summer Intensive, Auditions, and 5 weeks of classes to keep up on technique. Classes will take place at the studio. Class days and times to be determined. *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's 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 warm ups 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 attend the entire weekend, but you must be prepared to do so. **There are no exceptions.**

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

At many of the competition events, the studios receive performance critiques from the judges. These critiques are the property of KDC and will be played for the dancers during rehearsal or class time. Solos/Duets/Trios will hear their critiques during their rehearsal sessions.

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. Solos may keep their awards, Duet/Trios award decisions will be up to the studio director, and Group awards will be given to the studio.

Audience Etiquette

Enthusiastic applause is encouraged. When in an auditorium, remain seated whenever dancers are performing onstage. Move quickly to your seat in between performances.

Independent Entries

No dancer may compete in any competition as an independent entry without the permission of the studio owner.

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.

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.

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 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 itunes, 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 will be using that song, and you don't want to be the ninth dancer performing to it.

Tinies/Petites/Juniors/Teens/Seniors: Your teacher/choreographer will determine the right music for your performance that also suits your personality.

Seniors (in high school): You will work with your teacher/choreographer to determine the right music 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. Duets/Trios will be recommended by the KDC teachers.

Costume Common Sense

- ✓ Always have a second pair of tights available.
- ✓ Place costumes in a garment bag for travel.
- ✓ Carry hats in a hatbox or container to prevent them from damage.
- ✓ Steam costumes (if necessary) before each performance.
- ✓ Place your name in all costumes and shoes.
- ✓ Remove all costumes from their garment bags immediately following the competition to be sure that they are not wrinkled for the next event.
- ✓ Check seams, trim, headpieces, etc. for repairs that must be made prior to the next competition.

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.
- 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.
- 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.

Termination of Enrollment

In certain circumstances, when it is in the best interest of one or more students, it may be necessary for the studio owner or director to terminate a student's enrollment. Every effort will be made to correct a problematic situation before terminating enrollment. Reasons for termination of enrollment include the following:

- Disruptive or dangerous behavior by students or their parents, including gossip
- Abuse of other children, staff, or property
- Inability of Kelley's Dance Craze to meet the child's needs
- Excessive absences/tardies
- Outstanding bills or balance
- Drug or Alcohol Use by students or their parents on studio grounds or at studio events (competition, recital, etc.)

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

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 class of each month.

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.

Newsletters and important updates are emailed to you 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 and on our TV in the main lobby.

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

We try to answer email on a daily basis, except on weekends. Feel free to email general questions and Competition Team related questions to Kelley at kelleysdancecraze@gmail.com .

Website (www.kelleysdancecraze.com)

We are constantly updating our website. News, important parent and student information, contact information, and more are available online 24 hours a day.

Social Media

“Like” the Kelley’s Dance Craze page on Facebook to receive updates on academy events. Please invite your family and friends to “like” the studio. We also have an Instagram page “kelleysdancecraze”. Many of the teachers have made an Instagram page specifically for their students with dance appropriate info/videos/ and pictures from class.

Please do not post questions on the studio’s social media pages. Instead, please email them directly to kelleysdancecraze@gmail.com .

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, rewarding season! ☺

NEW KDC POLICIES FOR THE 2019-2020 DANCE SEASON

1. **SOLOS IN RECITAL-** To keep the number of dances down for Recital, the only Soloists that are able to perform in the Recital at this time are High School Seniors and our Tiny Team Soloist (it is her only competition dance). All Soloists will have 4 chances to perform this season (3 local competitions, and Nationals).
2. **INJURY ASSESSMENTS-** If a student is showing signs of injury, they may not sit out of any more than two 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 Monday basis, and will no longer be meeting with every student- only with the ones that the teachers are truly seeing signs of injury. We tried having her meet with every competition dancer this summer, and multiple students were complaining of non-existent injuries and sitting out and missing important technique and class time.

3. **BIG/LITTLE SISTER COMMITMENT-** All dancers need to be present for at least 2 other dances other than their own at competition. As Big/Little Sisters, your child is committing to being there for one another. We had some issues this past season with dancers being there for their own dances/award ceremonies and then leaving immediately after. I saw a little sister have her heart broken when her big sister wasn't there for her. While we understand that sometimes things come up, you should be making every effort possible to be there for others. In reality, we are all a team and need to be there for each other.
4. **CONVENTIONS/MASTER CLASSES-** On Nationals years we will have required Master Classes where these teachers will be coming in to our studio to teach over the course of a scheduled weekend. This is an additional cost (schedule and cost will be announced once everything is finalized.) On non-national years, we will be attending a required local convention. It is highly recommended that your child attends at least one dance convention (of any kind) a year, but it is not required.

KELLEY’S DANCE CRAZE COMPETITION TEAM CONTRACT 2019-20

Dancer’s name _____

Birthday _____ Age ____ School _____

Parent/Guardian’s Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone Number (____) _____ - _____

Address _____

Email _____

Person responsible for tuition fees _____

Address (if different) _____

This contract is entered into by and between Parent/Guardian) _____,
 (Student) _____, and Kelley’s Dance Craze. The terms of this contract shall begin
 September 3, 2019 and continue through July 22, 2020. By signing this contract, all persons are bound to this
 contract.

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to comply with all of the 2019-20 Competition Team Rules, Regulations, Terms, and Policies. Please initial.	Financially Responsible Parent/Guardian Initials	Student Initials
Team Rules and Expectations		
Parent Rules and Expectations		
Yearly Financial Commitment (including Commitment Fee)		

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____