
Kayla Grace Benson

19 Fox Run
South Salem, NY 10590
914-391-7300
kbenson23@klschools.org
<https://kaylagrace.live/>

EDUCATION

SUNY Purchase College – Student, Studio Composition Major
Fall 2023 – Present

John Jay High School, Cross River, NY
September 2019 - Present
High School Diploma

- **John Jay High School Dance Team** – Junior Captain, 2019 - Present
- **John Jay High School Thespian Society** - Singer and Actor, 2019 - Present
 - Featured role in *Rumors* (Cookie), 2021
 - Featured roles in *The Laramie Project* (Zubaida Uma, Tiffany Edwards, Alison Mears), 2021
 - Featured role in *Revenge of the Space Pandas* (Mrs. Rudich), 2020
 - Ensemble roles in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Cheerleader/Lead dancer), 2019
 - Featured role in *13* (Lucy), 2019

Additional Instruction

- **Music**
 - Voice and acting lessons with Debbie Feinstein, 2017 - Present
 - Voice lessons with Mary Beth Soucy, 2015 - 2017
 - Piano lessons with Zirka Sochan, 2010 - 2017
- **Dance**
 - Private dance lessons in ballet, jazz, hip-hop, contemporary, lyrical, tap and musical theater with instructors Jacob Taylor, Anne Gellar, Stephanie Knox, and Amanda Barfield, 2014 - Present
 - Ridgefield School of Dance, Ridgefield, CT, 2013 - 2017
 - Enchanted Garden, Ridgefield, CT, 2010 - 2012
- **Acting**
 - Showbiz Q&A Workshop, A Class Act NY with Hollywood Consultant Bonnie Wallace, April 7, 2021
 - Acting class with Broadway Star of *Beetlejuice*, Alex Brightman, Broadway Workshop, August 2020 & January 2021
- **Martial Arts**
 - Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Gracie Sports, Norwalk, CT, September 2021 - Present

EXPERIENCE

Singer and self-taught Guitarist, Pianist, Composer and Lyricist

2017 - present

Vocal range: F3-D5

- **Composer and Singer-Songwriter of Original Musical Works**, 2017 - Present
 - "Dear Father" (pop song)
 - "If I Could" (pop song)
 - "The Depths of the Ocean" (Musique concrète with underwater sounds)
 - Minimalism Project Taking (basic sounds added to consistent sound element)
 - Sonata in A minor (for piano)
- **Singer, Pianist, and Guitarist**; 2016 - Present
 - Singer with Charli La Toven
 - Featured Vocalist, pianist, and guitarist with Two Shots of Blue (Live performances at The Heights, The Horse & Hound, and Salem Golf Club), North Salem, NY

Actor and Model

2017 – Present

- **Best Interview & Personality Pageant Winner**, Miss New York Teen USA, Resorts World Catskills, 2021
- **Signed Representative Model**, John Casablancas Modeling Agency, 2021
- **Ensemble Actor** in *Pippin* (Soldier/Farmhand/Player), Theatre of New Canaan, New Canaan, CT, Summer 2019
- **Impromptu Storyteller** with "Spooky Doings Improv," Triple Crown Ale House, NYC, Winter 2018
- **Ad Campaign Model and Actor**, 2016, 2017, 2019
 - Actor for CocoOil (digital ad Campaign for luxury skincare and suncare brand), 2019
 - Model for Demi Lovato's Secret Color (social media campaign for major hair extensions brand), 2017
 - Lead Model for Hot Jewels (email marketing campaign for major metallic temporary tattoos brand), 2016
- **Retail Box Cover Model**, 2015, 2016
 - Juggle Bubbles (featured at Walmart, Target, BBB, etc.), 2016
 - Disney Frozen Elsa Snuggie for kids (blanket product with sleeves), 2015

Additional Work Experience

- **Social Media Manager and Photographer**, Jacob Taylor Dance, Ridgefield, CT, May 2023 - Present
- **Manager and Assistant to Pharmacist**, Paul's Pharmacy, South Salem, NY, February 2022 - Present
- **Caregiver and Assistant Counselor**, 2017 - Present
 - Babysitter (Red Cross Certified) 2017 - Present
 - Assistant Counselor, Ridgefield Boys and Girls Club, Ridgefield, CT, Summer 2019
- **Food Service and Hospitality Server**, 2020, 2021
 - Hostess, Busser, and Server, Salem Golf & Country Club, North Salem, NY, May 2021 - September 2021
 - Hostess and Busser, TerraSole Ristorante & Posa Ristorante, Ridgefield, CT, June 2020 - November 2020