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**DETROIT LAKES JUST FOR KIX**

**PARENT/DANCER PACKET**

**2024-2025**

**Our Mission:**To enrich the lives of children through quality dance instruction in an encouraging and confidence-building environment. We will do this by providing a fun and focused classroom that praises teamwork, respect and doing your best.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Detroit Lakes Just For Kix Program Director: Kaitlin Guetter**

**Phone:** 218.329.7969

**Email:** detroitlakes\_mn@justforkix.com

**Website:**  www.justforkix.com/danceclasses/detroitlakes-mn/

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/detroitlakesmnjustforkix/

**Team Reach:** Please join our Team Reach, DL-JustForKix, with the group code “jfkdanceDL”. We will share important info here throughout the season.

**Office Hours:** You can expect email and phone responses from me within 24 hours during the business week. I work at a dental office during the daytime, so phone calls during the day can be difficult. If you need to discuss something, the best time to call me is Monday between 9am-2pm or Wednesday & Thursday evenings between 7-9pm.

**Meet the Director:** Kaitlin Guetter is in her eighth year as a Director, with this being her first in Detroit Lakes. Her love for dance began at the age of 4 when she took her first dance class in her hometown of Pelican Rapids, MN. She joined Just For Kix in 4th grade and participated in Kick, Jazz, and attended Just For Kix Camps during the summer. She was a 4-year member of her high school dance team, as well as captain and kick choreographer. She was head instructor for jazz classes her Junior and Senior years of high school. She was a TWD competition judge for three years and was Director of the Barnesville JFK program for seven years. She graduated from MSU-Mankato with a bachelor’s degree in Dental Hygiene. She currently resides near Detroit Lakes with her husband, Bob, and their son. She also works at Family HealthCare in Moorhead as a Dental Hygienist.

**Just For Kix Home Office**

**Shipping Address - For Letters** **Physical Address to Ship Boxes**

JUST FOR KIX JUST FOR KIX

PO Box 724 7842 College Rd

Brainerd, MN 56401 Baxter MN, 56425

**Payments: www.justforkix.com/danceclasses then log into your account**

**Phone:** 218-829-7107  **Fax:** 218-829-7618

**Email:** dance@justforkix.com **Website:** www.justforkix.com

**Facebook:** Just For Kix **Instagram:** officialjustforkix

**Schedule & Class Location**

**Mondays**

3:45 – 4:15pm Tiny Kix (3yrs-PreK) DLCCC Ballroom

4:15 – 5:00pm Wee Petites (K-1st) DLCCC Ballroom

5:00 – 5:30pm Tiny Kix (3yrs-PreK) DLCCC Ballroom

5:30 – 6:15pm Wee Petites (K-1st) DLCCC Cycle Studio (meet in Ballroom)

5:30 – 7:00pm Wee/Mini Jazz/Lyrical (3rd-6th) DLCCC Ballroom

6:30 – 8:00pm Middle Jazz/Lyrical (7th-8th) DLCCC Ballroom

6:30 – 8:00pm Junior Jazz/Lyrical (9th-12th) DLCCC Ballroom

8:00 – 8:45pm Junior Hip Hop (7th-12th) DLCCC Ballroom

**Tuesdays**

4:00 – 5:00pm Wee Kix (2nd-3rd) DLCCC Ballroom

5:00 – 5:45pm Wee Hip Hop (2nd-3rd) DLCCC Ballroom

5:45 – 6:30pm Mini Hip Hop (4th-6th) DLCCC Ballroom

6:30 – 7:30pm Mini Kix (4th-6th) DLCCC Ballroom

7:30 – 8:30pm Junior Kix (7th-12th) DLCCC Ballroom

**Short-Term Classes**

5:50 – 6:20pm Dance With Me (18-36 months) 3rd Floor Wellness Studio

5:50 – 6:20pm Teeny Kix (2yrs-3.5yrs) 3rd Floor Wellness Studio

TBD Father/Dancer

**DLCCC Ballroom:** 826 Summit Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 *\*Use Oak Grove Street Entrance*

**Detroit Lakes Just For Kix Coaching Staff**

Kaitlin Guetter

Michelle Hanson

Tori LaFriniere

Nichole Rust

Chloe Dallmann-Savig

Brailee Sgro

**Dancer Expectations:**

**To Be Respectful to Your Coaches and Teammates:** Treat others the way you want to be treated.

**To Strive to Better Your Best:** Be determined and work hard at improving yourself. Remain positive; a smile covers a multitude of mistakes.

**To Come Prepared for Class:** Come dressed like a dancer with your hair pulled back and a good attitude.

**To Be Accountable to Your Team:** Make attendance a priority and practice outside of class.

**Parent Expectations:**

**To read monthly emails and announcements:** I will send a **monthly email** to the email address(es) you have listed on your account at justforkix.com/danceclasses. **PLEASE READ THESE! This is my primary way to communicate with you and I only include important announcements**. Also, sign up for TeamReach so you get any important announcements. You can add multiple cell phone numbers to Remind so mom, dad, grandma, dancer, etc. can all receive our announcements. This is also the best way for us to notify you quickly about weather cancelations!

**To encourage your dancer:** Please be your dancer’s biggest cheerleader as they work to grow in confidence and their dance skills. We focus on praising the dancer’s effort at class and hope you will praise your dancer at home as well!

**To encourage practice outside of class:** Flexibility and great technique take more than an hour a week to achieve. Please encourage your dancer to stretch and practice their skills and routines at home.

**To get your dancer to practice on time:** We will start all classes on time. Help your dancer to embrace that **early is on time and on time is late**.

**To embody great sportsmanship:** Especially at competitions, you never know who you’re sitting, standing or walking by. Please remain a good sport even if you don’t agree with the outcome of the competition. Also, your dancer(s) are watching your reaction and the things you say… your example of humility is very important!

**Things You Need to Know:**

**When You Come to Dance**

* Please use the bathroom BEFORE class. Have your young dancer try even if they say they don’t have to go. Potty breaks are contagious.
* All personal belonging should be brought into the practice space and set neatly near the entrance.
* Dancers Kindergarten and up may bring a water bottle to class.
* Cell phones – your dancer may bring them to class to record their routine.
* Parents/guardians may watch the last 5 minutes of class during the last practice of the month.

Facility Notes:

Our facility is VERY important to us. Always respect the facility and the other people using it. Being able to rent the facilities we do is a privilege and we want to leave a good impression. Please be sure to have your dancer pick up after themselves – especially if they bring a snack for after school or between classes.

No running, yelling, or climbing inside or outside the facility. Dancers MUST be supervised while waiting before/after class and should not wander the halls. No gum.

**Arrival & Pick Up**

**Please arrive no more than 5-10 minutes before your class begins.** We do not have a waiting or parent room, so dancers should wait quietly in the hall right outside the practice space until their class begins. Parents can wait in the hallway, their vehicles or drop off their dancer and come back at the end of class. Please do not go “adventuring” in the building.

Please pick up your dancer immediately after their class is finished as there is no supervision after their class time. **Preschool – 3rd grade parents MUST come into the building to pick up your child. This is for their safety. I am starting another class and not able to watch your child walk outside and keep an eye on the class I’m starting.**

Dancers 3rd grade and up should wait INSIDE the building until their parent/guardian arrives to pick them up.

**A Note on Transportation:** Each dancer is responsible for her/his own transportation to practices and performances. Due to liability, JFK does not allow coaches and directors to transport dancers in their vehicles. Carpooling is a great option, especially for out-of-town competitions; Kaitlin can announce a need for a carpool but the set-up is the parents’ responsibility.

**Payment Policy**

**Payments are made on your account at justforkix.com/danceclasses.**

**Class payments are due before the 1st of each month.** There is a $10 fee assessed to late payments. **We HIGHLY recommend setting up recurring payments by selecting Auto-Pay** in your dancer’s account so your balance is automatically deducted from your card the first of each month.

**Just For Kix requires all dancer accounts to be paid in full in order for your dancer to participate in performances (including competition).** We hope to never have to ask a student to sit out so please make sure your account is paid in full prior to the first class of the month. Your director will notify parents with unpaid class fees prior to the start of class, if paid by the time class starts, your dancer may participate that night. The JFK home office can also assist with payments between the hours of 10:00am – 4:00pm Monday through Friday at 218-829-7107.

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance is very important; your child is a part of a team and their absence affects their teammates! We move quickly when learning new routines, so if your dancer misses a class they might miss a lot. It will be up to the dancer to meet up with a classmate to learn any new information/skills before our next practice. When a dancer is gone from practice, it confuses the dancers around them as there are gaps in formations. If a dancer is absent from a performance it affects formations and sometimes, we have to move dancers around and change their counts which takes up practice time and could get confusing.

* **If your dancer will be missing class, please let Kaitlin or their coach know ahead of time.** If your dancer stays home sick from school, please do NOT send them to dance!
* **If missing a performance, other than for last minute illness/emergency, please let Kaitlin or their coach know at least 2 weeks in advance so we can assess formations and changes in class.**
* **If your dancer misses 2 of the 3 practices before any performance, they may not be able to participate.** The only exception to this is for excused absences (illness, school activities/sports) that the *parent* has talked to me about ahead of time. In these cases, the dancer will be expected to practice at home and get any choreography corrections from a teammate.

If you are missing practice due to a school sport or activity, that will be an excused absence if a parent contacts Kaitlin ahead of time. If an activity impacts a large percentage of class (like a choir concert) we may reschedule that class if Kaitlin knows in advance.

**Dress Code**

Appropriate dance clothes are required for class. We want to provide every child with the correct feedback and when they have on loose clothing, we may miss something that is important. **We will be enforcing our dress code this year, so please make sure your dancer is prepared when they come to class.**

**Hair:** For practice, hair must be pulled back in a ponytail or bun (bun preferred). Dancers with short hair and/or bangs should also secure their hair out of their face.

**Preschool:** Dancewear (leotards, tutus, shorts, tights, etc.) or Active wear (fitted tees/tanks, leggings, shorts) are acceptable. Dance shoes should be worn to class once your order arrives. Most of our preschoolers LOVE to get dressed up in their leotards and tutus!

**Kindergarten – 12th Grade Kick:** Dancewear (leotard, fitted shorts or leggings) or Active wear (fitted tees/tanks, leggings, shorts) are acceptable. Jazz shoes should be worn to practice once your order arrives.

**Jazz:** Dancers should wear fitted dance or active wear (Leotards, fitted tops, booty shorts, leggings, etc.) Jazz shoes or Turners are required for jazz classes.
Technique and style are hugely important in jazz and removing clothing distractions will help instructors see corrections for individuals and the team.

**Hip Hop:** Loose fitting clothing is accepted for hip hop classes. T-shirts, tanks, button downs or hoodies. Shorts, Leggings or pants. CLEAN Sneakers.
If your dancer has class back-to-back a great option is to throw on a button down and sneakers to help them get into the hip hop style.

**Uniforms**

Each dancer is required to purchase the appropriate uniform for their team. Uniform orders are placed through your dancer’s account at justforkix.com/danceclasses and are due by **September 30th** in order to guarantee delivery by our Winter Show. Please be sure to order all of the required pieces. It usually will take about 8-12 weeks for your uniform to arrive. Uniforms are shipped directly to the director and will be passed out during the next class.

**Dancers may wear their uniform shoes to practice!** This is actually preferred as they are broken in for performances.

**Returns/Exchanges:**

**Director Kaitlin will mail returns when we have a full box of uniforms. All return slips need to be filled out by parents (usually green slip). Items cannot be returned if worn/used, so have your dancer try on their uniform as soon as it is received.**

There are instructions included with the uniform order on how to process a return/exchange. The recommendation from the home office to get your replacement in a timely manner is to place a NEW ORDER for the correct item(s) and RETURN the incorrect item(s).

\*Uniforms should be fitted, not baggy. If you pinch the uniform in the small of your dancer’s back there should be about an inch of “give” to account for growth.

**Performances**

Performances are your dancer’s time to showcase all the hard work they have put in and the progress they have made throughout the season! Each team is guaranteed at least 4 performances throughout the season and they wear the same uniform for each performance. Every team performs in our Winter Show, JFK Community Show and Spring Show.

Dance is an interactive experience; your cheering encourages the dancers. So, go ahead and get loud when you see something you like!

**Admission:**

Spectators are charged an admission fee to get into our performances to cover rent, staffing and other performance expenses. We do our best to keep these low so your whole family can enjoy watching your dancer(s)!

When we perform at school events like football or basketball games, anyone coming to watch will need to pay admission just like the athletes’ parents do. Those fees are set by the school district and out of my control.

**Together We Dance Competitions**

Just For Kix offers Together We Dance Competitions around the region during the second half of our season. Typically, our dancers start competing at the Mini level. While TWDs are competitions and it is great to win, we encourage our teams to focus on doing their best and being great sports about the results. We ask parents to demonstrate great sportsmanship; you are representing Barnesville Just For Kix and our community!

**2025 TWD Events for Detroit Lakes JFK:** These are the events I plan to attend, but they are tentative until JFK confirms the dates/locations and categories offered at each event.

* February \_\_\_\_\_: Alexandria TWD
	+ Teams Attending: Middle Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Jazz/Lyrical Junior Kix, Junior Hip Hop
* March \_\_\_\_\_: Wahpeton TWD
	+ Teams Attending: Mini Kix, Mini Hip Hop, Wee/Mini Jazz/Lyrical, Middle Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Kix, Junior Hip Hop
* March \_\_\_\_\_: Brainerd TWD
	+ Teams Attending: Mini Kix, Mini Hip Hop, Wee/Mini Jazz/Lyrical, Middle Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Kix, Junior Hip Hop
* April \_\_\_\_\_: Valley City TWD
	+ Teams Attending: Wee Kix, Wee Hip Hop, Mini Kix, Mini Hip Hop, Wee/Mini Jazz/Lyrical, Middle Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Jazz/Lyrical, Junior Kix, Junior Hip Hop

**Fees:** Dancers are charged competition fees to participate at our TWD events. All competition fees must be paid at least five days prior to our competition date. Admission is not charged at these events for spectators.

**Thank you for choosing Detroit Lakes Just For Kix for your child(ren)’s dance classes! Please let me know if you have any questions.**

**With Kix,**

**Kaitlin Guetter**