

## **Just For Kix Jazz/Hip Hop FAQ**

Answers to frequently asked questions about JFK Bismarck North Jazz classes

### **What's the difference between Kix and Jazz/Hip Hop?**

- Jazz/Hip Hop is for those dancers who are really “into” dance and want MORE.
- We spend more time working on technique, flexibility, skills, and strength.
- I expect Jazz/Hip Hop dancers to be dedicated, hardworking, and focused.
- Attendance is vital.
- We typically cover three styles of dance: Hip Hop, Jazz, and Lyrical.
- Our Jazz/Hip Hop classes perform several times per season, including multiple performances at Winter Shows, Spring Shows, and two competitions. Their performances fall later in the season because their dances are more difficult and take longer to get ready.
- Competitive Opportunities:
  - Grades 4-5 – compete Hip Hop and Jazz at one competition; compete Kix and Jazz at a second competition
  - Grades 6-7 – compete Hip Hop, Jazz, and Kix at one competition; compete Kix and Jazz at a second competition
  - Grades 8-12 – compete Hip Hop, Jazz, and Kix at two competitions

### **Why doesn't my dancer wear her Jazz uniform until February or March?**

- Our Bismarck North Jazz/Hip Hop classes usually start the season with a Hip Hop dance, which requires a different uniform from Jazz or Lyrical.
- Since families are investing in two uniforms for this class in addition to a Kix uniform, we usually wear an inexpensive Hip Hop costume like cargo pants and a t-shirt.
- They will get 3-4 performances in their Hip Hop costumes, and 5-6 performances in their Jazz uniforms.

### **Why do I have to take a Kix class in order to take Jazz/Hip Hop?**

- This is JFK company policy.
- An athlete who trains two days per week is stronger and progresses faster than an athlete who trains once per week.
- Dancers need the additional skills and strength gained from training twice weekly to master the more advanced technique and choreography of Jazz and Lyrical.

### **Can I take Jazz/Hip Hop without Kix if I dance with my school team?**

- Yes, if there is class space available, and with instructor permission. Dancers enrolled in a Kix class will have first priority for Jazz/Hip Hop class spots.
- We understand that kids want to be involved with their school activities, including dance team, so we do allow those on their school teams to take Jazz/Hip Hop class without the Kix requirement. They are dancing multiple times per week and improving skills.
- We have had mixed results with this over the years – sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't.

- Pros: The middle school teams have a short season (3-4 months), so it's beneficial for these dancers to take class in addition to their team. And there are some dancers who just love the inclusive JFK philosophy!
- Cons: It can be a big commitment during the Dec-Jan competitive season. And sometimes school team coaches are not supportive of their dancers taking outside class.
- It's different for each dancer and each family. I am happy to discuss further if you like.

#### **How much does Jazz/Hip Hop cost?**

- There is no additional registration fee.
- Monthly class fee is \$48 (same as Kix).
- There is a separate uniform, including pieces for Jazz and Hip Hop. The uniform is required.
- Grades 4-7 wear the same tan jazz shoes for Kix and Jazz, and black hi-top sneakers for Hip Hop.
- Grades 8-12 wear tan half-sole turners shoes for Jazz, and black hi-top sneakers for Hip Hop. Their uniform is more costly because we are trying to give them the complete dance experience, similar to what the school teams get.