

JAM DANCE TEAMS

JAZZ STAMINA CREATIVITY CONTROL PRECISION SIZE PACE LEVELS JAM JAM ACHEIVE MOVEMENT MUSIC TURNS VISUAL MEMORY LEAP ROTATION DISTRIBUTION CONFIDENCE INTRICACY FORMING VARIETY ACCURACY STRENGTH LEVELS TRANSITIONS REPEAT SKILLS COMBINATIONS
 FORMATIONS DIFFICULTY FLEXIBILITY SPOTTING KICKS LEAPS REACTION PRESENTATION POWER JAZZ UNIQUE EXECUTION FLOOR HEIGHT EXTENSION TECHNQUE COUNTS TIMING FLAEMER SYSTEM UNITY

In the Spotlight

KERI GHELLER



Resides In: Brooklyn Park
Occupation: Marketing Operations Specialist in Peripheral Interventions at Boston Scientific
JAM Member Since: 1994, pre-JAM

Q: What is your favorite part about being a MSHSL dance team official?

A: I love being able to still be a part of dance team, and I still find it amazing that I get paid for it!

Q: Tell us a little about your dance background.

A: Dance wasn't a big deal in my hometown, so my first exposure was in junior high. I was a cheerleader but I wasn't going to go far because I wasn't good at tumbling and stunts. When I saw the Pom Pom Squad, I knew that was for me. We only had a performance team, but it was a year-round sport, including the summer. We performed for football, soccer, basketball and wrestling, plus school and city events. I was on the team for three years in high school. Once I graduated, I was an assistant coach for a year and then head coach the following year before moving to Minnesota.

Q: Favorite dance team trend.

A: I really like when teams completely immerse themselves in a theme, costumes, music and moves.

Q: Outside of dance, what are your interests and hobbies?

A: I spend a lot of time at my sons' soccer and basketball games year-round, both as a spectator and a volunteer. I'm also now helping them manage their schedules as they are making officiating a family thing. I love to cook and bake, especially for my family and friends. My favorite thing is finding time to read.

Q: What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

A: I can't think of a single surprising thing!

PARIS SOLBERG



Resides In: Shakopee
Occupation: Occupational Therapist with Bloomington Public Schools
JAM Member Since: 1989, pre-JAM

Q: What is your favorite part about being a MSHSL dance team official?

A: I love being able to watch amazing dance routines from teams around the state and supporting a sport I love.

Q: Tell us a little about your dance background.

A: I was a member of the Burnsville Bravettes team for three years, then on a college team for one year. I took studio ballet, tap and jazz for ten years as an adult.

Q: Favorite dance team trend.

A: Each season, I am amazed at the increasing skills and difficulty levels some of the teams achieve. These girls are amazing athletes!

Q: Outside of dance, what are your interests and hobbies?

A: Being active! I enjoy working out and outdoor sports and activities.

Q: What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

A: This is where I usually say, "I judge high school dance team competitions!"

KIM MEYER



Resides In: Lakeville
Occupation: Media Clerk in the Lakeville School District
JAM Member Since: 1994, pre-JAM

Q: What is your favorite part about being a MSHSL dance team official?

A: I love getting the best seat in the house to such talented dancers. I also enjoy carpooling to meets - it is so fun to talk dance and catch up with judging friends on the car ride.

Q: Tell us a little about your dance background.

A: I took jazz, tap, ballet and gymnastics lessons since age 3. I've always loved to dance. I loved being a Duluth East Side Stepper in high school. I wish I had time to return to my adult classes that I loved so much - tap is still my favorite.

Q: Favorite dance team trend.

A: I really enjoy how teams are being creative with standard moves and adding something to them. Like the hinge kicks that go to the side, front, side - a standard move with a twist that adds so much pop.

Q: Outside of dance, what are your interests and hobbies?

A: I love being a dance and Cub Scout mom! I also love hockey and cheer on the Wild, Gophers and UMD Bulldogs (when they aren't playing the Gophers!). I also love going for walks, scrapbooking and going to country concerts with my girlfriends.

Q: What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

A: I'm an engineer with an MBA in marketing, but decided after being laid off to try something new in order to reduce stress and spend more time with my kids and husband. It has been an interesting experience learning the ins and outs of a school! I feel very lucky to have this chance put to my "career" on hold and enjoy my kids while they still want me around!



2014-15 Remaining Meets List

Date	Day	Site	Type
1/26/15	Monday	New London-Spicer	Quad Meet
1/27/15	Tuesday	ACGC	Dual Meet
1/29/15	Thursday	Cannon Falls	Invitational
1/30/15	Friday	New Ulm Cathedral	Dual Meet
1/30/15	Friday	Prior Lake	Single Performance
1/31/15	Saturday	Big Lake	Section 2AA
1/31/15	Saturday	Coon Rapids	Section 4AAA
1/31/15	Saturday	Minnetonka	Section 2AAA
1/31/15	Saturday	Mound-Westonka	Section 3AA
1/31/15	Saturday	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Section 4AA
2/3/15	Tuesday	New Prague	Single Performance
2/7/15	Saturday	Aitkin	Section 4A
2/7/15	Saturday	Austin	Section 1AA
2/7/15	Saturday	Bloomington Kennedy	Section 2A
2/7/15	Saturday	Bloomington Kennedy	Section 1AAA
2/7/15	Saturday	Bloomington Kennedy	Section 3AAA
2/7/15	Saturday	Dover-Eyota	Section 1A
2/7/15	Saturday	Montevideo	Section 3AA

State Tournament Reminders

Watching as a Spectator

If you plan on attending the State Tournament as a spectator this year, please remember that you represent JAM and the MSHSL as an official. You will be recognized by other spectators. Refer to our Code of Conduct and refrain from cheering for any particular team or commenting on routines or results. Your role as a JAM official, whether "on duty" or off, is to maintain integrity, neutrality, respect and professionalism.

Hotel Reservations

Don't forget to make your hotel reservations for the State Tournament if you plan on staying near the Target Center! Downtown hotels fill up very fast with the influx of teams and fans reserving blocks of rooms this month!

UDA Nationals

Huge congratulations are in order for the Minnesota collegiate dance teams that competed at the UDA Nationals recently. Our sport is extremely well-represented by these teams and we are overwhelmingly proud to have our local teams place so incredibly well.

University of Minnesota: Division 1A Pom National Champion, Division 1A Jazz 2nd Place

University of St. Thomas: Open Hip Hop National Champion, Open Jazz 2nd Place

Minnesota State University - Mankato: Open Pom 2nd Place, Open Jazz 3rd Place

St. Cloud State University: Open Pom 3rd Place, Open Jazz 11th Place

College of St. Benedict: Open Pom 4th Place