



640 S 84th Street, #522
Milwaukee, WI 53214-1438
414-266-7067
Operations and Program Director
Peggy.strimple@kidsfromwisconsin.org
www.kidsfromwisconsin.org

The only pre-professional performance opportunity of its kind IN THE NATION!

The KIDS FROM WISCONSIN (KFW) show troupe has been entertaining audiences all over Wisconsin, the Midwest, and the nation since our inaugural summer of 1969, performing contemporary pop songs, the music of Broadway, country hits, rock, swing, jazz, and many other styles. After 17 days of training, this talented group of vocalists, dancers and instrumentalists performs up to 50 shows each summer and is featured annually at the Wisconsin State Fair and over 30 other venues across the state. KFW is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) made possible by performance revenue, grants, sponsorships, and individual donations.

A summer with the KFW is one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences an aspiring young performer can have. Many KFW alumni have gone on to successful careers in performance, music education and many other fields of endeavor.

LOCATION

The KFW office is situated at the Wisconsin State Fair Park Youth Center in West Allis, WI. However, we are in the exciting process of searching for a new “forever” home.

SUPERVISORY STAFF

A highly professional and experienced staff of instructors provides the training necessary to prepare members of the KFW for a summer of performing. Our choreographers, choral director, band conductor, musical arrangers, and technical director all help educate performers in highly specialized routines, professional arrangements, and exciting stage presentations. While on tour, we have tour staff that are qualified, certified/licensed educators and trained for 24/7 supervision of the troupe.

PERFORMING PERSONNEL

The troupe is composed of 34-36 student performers (20-22 dancers/vocalists either male or female identifying. with a 14-piece show band) from across the state. Ages 15 -20, regardless of race, color, or national origin are eligible to apply. Candidates must demonstrate artistic talent, stage personality and choreography (singer/dancers) at their live audition. We also invite camp alternates to attend our rehearsal camp. The amount is based on talent seen at auditions and more information on our understudy program is given with the invite.

MANNER OF SELECTION & AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Selection for the limited number of positions will be competitive. Applicants must submit an official [online application form](#). A headshot should accompany the online application, and a recommendation letter must be received in our office before auditions.

Vocalists/Dancers

Once you pick your audition location, a **one-hour time slot** will be emailed to you a few weeks prior to auditions. Openings exist for all voice parts; soprano, alto (female identifying), tenor and bass/baritone (male identifying) All auditioning vocalists/dancers should be prepared to sing one song (3 minutes or less) – pop, Broadway, vocal jazz, etc. Anything you feel best shows your range and performance style. Sheet music for accompanists must be provided at the time of the audition. Singers/dancers should also be prepared to dance. Time to change into dance shoes (any that are your favorite or tennis shoes with no tread) and clothes (nothing baggy that would hide your dance lines and moves) will be allotted

Instrumentalists

Openings exist for the following instrumental chairs:

- Trombone (Tenor and Bass)
- Trumpets
- Tenor and/or Alto Sax (playing other wind/reed instruments I.e. Baritone sax, clarinet or flute a plus)
- Keyboard/piano (with synthesizer knowledge important)
- Electric bass
- Guitar
- Drum set & auxiliary percussion

Audition candidates should be prepared to perform two contrasting pieces (jazz, popular or classical) and sight read. Guitar and keyboard should demonstrate chord knowledge. All instrumentalists, including rhythm section players, will need to provide their own instruments and equipment for live auditions.

PERIOD OF COMMITMENT

If chosen for this elite troupe, you must commit to the following dates approximately **May 23rd-25th** (Mini camp) AND **June 9th-Aug 16th** (3-week rehearsal camp, approx. 7 weeks of tour and 11 days at the Wisconsin State Fair)

REHEARSAL CAMP

Principals and Understudies accepted are required to pay a Camp Fee between \$300-500

All meals and rooms are provided during the 17 days of camp. Special arrangements for graduations, college orientations and other required school activities must be approved by the Artistic Director and staff before camp begins.

TOURING

Principals need to provide their own uniform shorts, shoes, belt, socks and show shoes and costume undergarments, makeup and grooming. (approx. \$300-600) Travel will be by chartered bus, at times school buses if the journey is short. Shared housing will be furnished on tour, as are most meals. Schedules and details on housing and meals will be furnished as early as possible following booking confirmations. There is a weekly per-diem and all troupe members, after passing a personal review of performance and expectation of conduct, are eligible for a scholarship. During the tour there is normally 1 day off a week and/or free time periods that you are permitted to sign out. The tour is staffed with 4-5 professional tour staff along with office support. **If you have conflicts for the summer, you must make us aware at the time of audition or during the selection process.**

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

Members will be provided with the necessary costumes to be worn during performances, multiple tour polos and a show T-shirt for travel, as well as heavy-duty clothing bags for transporting costumes. Members may be required to purchase or supply additional personal pieces for travel and performance as directed. Additional wardrobe information will be provided before the start of camp. All instrumentalists will be expected to furnish their own instruments and keep them in proper playing condition.

EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES

The organization has had a stellar reputation for over 56 years in not just its high-quality production, but the troupe's exceptional professionalism and representation. Strictly followed policies will be made in the best interests of the member, the organization and overall program. Each member is an official goodwill ambassador of Wisconsin, and because of this unique distinction, self-discipline and proper conduct of oneself must be exercised on and off stage. Infraction of any rules, regulations, policies, or standards set forth by the KFW organization will result in consequences, including loss of privileges, reprimand, and dismissal. During the tour, members offer FREE Outreach workshops to youth ages 7-14 and will require socializing and interacting with youth. Also, artistic staff may instruct a suitable hair or makeup style for performances that align with the Kid From Wisconsin expectations and policies of a professional and maintained appearance.

MEDICAL-HEALTH CERTIFICATE

Members must furnish a Medical/Health certificate signed by a licensed physician so that they can take part in strenuous stage and dance routines and frequent bus travel. Certificates must be submitted to the KFW office prior to the camp reporting date.