

The MOST commonly asked questions from applicants about a KIDS season..



As you prepare for [auditions](#) coming up in February, we are sure you have so many questions about the Kids from Wisconsin experience. We hope that the following most commonly asked questions will help you to understand what would be expected if you were chosen to be a KID in 2017.

If you have questions that are not answered here, please don't hesitate to pick up the phone. Talk with our Executive Director, Tina Weiss at 414-266-7067/

We can also put you in touch with a former KID.

Our KIDS are the best resource to answer questions on their experience.

Why is it called KIDS? I am an adult and over 18!!!

Kids from Wisconsin have been part of a performance tradition for nearly 50 years, performing across the Midwest. In 1969 when the program was formed, KIDS was a common word for young adults as well.

Keeping the name "Kids from Wisconsin" is important to the thousands of loyal fans over the years, Wisconsin, and the pride many have in the youth of our state.

The troupe typically consists of 50% high school age, 15-18 and 50% college age, 19-20.



Since I am an over achiever, I am hoping to continue my employment all summer. Is this possible?



We know all of our KIDS are awesome achievers, however performing with the KIDS along with other employment will not be possible. The Kids from Wisconsin start their training in early June and learn an entire 2 hour production. After that, the troupe tours most of the summer until August 19th. There are scheduled off days each week. KIDS can make appointments, rest, recreate or do what they wish on these particular days. We are getting close to closing our bookings for the 2017 season.

I hear the KIDS only stay at 5 star hotels, is that true?

Some may consider a few bunks, two sinks in the bathroom and air conditioning a 5 star facility. Your home for the summer is at the Tommy Thompson Youth Dorms at the Wisconsin State Fair.



During the Wisconsin State Fair KIDS move into another facility, making room for the agricultural kids from across the state. At this time KIDS stay at the beautiful, Marquette Straz tower and transported daily to the fair. In a survey to past KIDS, this was the most enjoyable part of their summer. So

much to do in the area and even though the fair brings a lot of performances, there is also more evenings that are free compared to the rest of the summer.

On days where we are overnight in other cities, home-stays are arranged for the troupe where possible. Some of these home-stays are quite 5- starish. If home-stays are not an option in that community, a hotel or other dorm is utilized for needed rest.

I know this is hard to believe, but what if I miss my family and want to go home to visit?

We feel it is very important for you to reconnect with your family and other friends during the summer.

These are the facts:

1. There are only two periods where you are not allowed to go home: Training camp and during the first week of the Wisconsin State Fair.
2. If a KID chooses to go home after a performance, arrangements will be made with the tour staff. (If you are under 18, a parent will need to be contacted)
3. If you are chosen as a KID, you are now a professional performer. With that, comes the responsibility for making sure to arrive by load time for the next performance, or make arrangements to meet the bus at the performance site. Communication with staff is vital.



I know I am going to love hanging out with my NEW "KID" friends, but what if I want to get away from it all for a little bit?

Our KIDS are notorious for knowing how to have a great time. KIDS are allowed to leave the dorms during free time and days off. Typically hanging out together is their first choice. Going to the beach for some summer fun, mini golf, a movie night or other various outings are some of the activities KIDS love on off days.



Many times an area KID will invite other KIDS who live much further away, an opportunity to hang out at their home on days off. They then eat a home cooked meal, do laundry and get to know another KID family.

When not at the dorms (parent permission if under 18), you are responsible for your behavior and no longer under the jurisdiction of staff. You were chosen to be a KID for your incredible talent and maturity. Like your parents, we take this seriously and we know you will as well.

I know that applause is the best reward of all, but do I get paid for this gig?

Applause is certainly something you will appreciate and look forward to over a summer with the KIDS. But one can't live on applause alone and we get that.

Principals receive a \$100 per-diem each week of the tour season. This is a direct deposit to your personal checking account. Plus you receive a weekly cash amount from button



sales (typically about \$30/week). During the State Fair, August 3-13, each KID will receive two meal coupons per day.

We house you all summer and feed you on performance days. The per-diem is to help cover your personal expenditures on tour, although typically meals are provided.

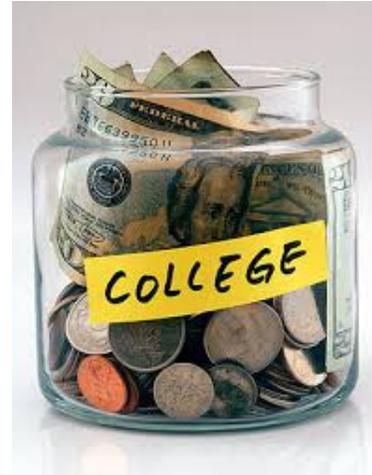
An experience of this caliber is priceless and considered highly educational. If you calculate the educational experience as a summer long camp, it is equivalent to an approximate value of \$500 a week or \$6000 for the entire period and if you make the 2017 troupe, you have been chosen to receive this experience.

Having the KIDS experience on a resume' or college application is something that will make you stand out from others. Many of our former KIDS also have received college credit for their time as a KID.

I am on a tight budget, saving up for college tuition. Are there any other costs involved with my summer of KIDS?

We get it...really we do. Your costs involved in being a KID are minimal if you make good choices.

- There is a small camp fee of \$250 for principals
- Most of your tour wardrobe is provided. Girls and guys will each provide a pair of shorts in a certain color or style
- Costumes are provided
- Girls will have to purchase their tights and shoes
- Guy singer/dancers will need to purchase their dance shoes



I am hungry all the time, who will feed me?

"Feed me Seymour"... All your meals are provided at training camp. Most meals are provided on tour. You are allowed to have a refrigerator in your dorm room to hold foods you really love to have around. You will be working hard and we encourage you to stay nourished and make good food choices.

There are many restaurants within walking distance of the Tommy Thompson Youth Dorms and when on tour and a meal is not provided, the buses will try to stop at locations that give you choices.



What do I do with my really stinky clothes and costumes?

We are so happy you are thinking about this and it will be appreciated by your roommates. Laundromats are close by and should be used on days off. Some parents arrange visits to the dorms and take dirty clothes in exchange for clean.

Costumes are provided with special care instruction. Fabreeze will become a staple in your garment bag. You are responsible for a clean and pressed look on stage, and clean tour wardrobe all summer.

If you can smell yourself,



others have been able to for a while.

What is the summer time commitment?



If you are talented enough to be chosen as a Principal, or Camp Alternate singer/dancer, your first day will be May 20th and 21st for a weekend of choral camp.

KIDS rehearsal camp begins June 4th and will go until June 18th. More will follow along with your summer paperwork. The last day of the summer tour is August 20th.

If your regular school session ends after the first day of camp, we ask you do all possible to take exams early and be excused. Most schools understand the importance of the KIDS educational experience to a performer and will try to accommodate the rigorous schedule.

Can I attend my high school graduation? Of course, but arrangements must be made for your immediate return to rehearsals. All absences must be approved by the producer.

THAT MEANS I GIVE UP MY ENTIRE SUMMER?

Hmmm.. if that is what you are thinking, we suggest you don't audition. A summer with the KIDS from Wisconsin is about providing you opportunity to become that professional you envision yourself to be one day. You give up nothing if you are gaining a lifelong professional experience at your age.

The connections you make with other like minded, performers will be partnerships that connect you with even more opportunity down the road of your successes.

The KIDS from Wisconsin have a reputation of excellence across the country and has provided a first step to a professional career for many performers, educators, composers, choreographers and much more.

We wish you the best audition and lifelong success!



A KID is now on Broadway!



From KID to the Philadelphia Orchestra..



Testimonial of a KID playing with Harry Connick, Jr.

[DON'T WAIT, APPLY ON-LINE TODAY](#)

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Kids from Wisconsin
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[More on auditions here](#)

We hope you found this Q & A helpful in learning more about Kids from Wisconsin

