



# THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF YEAR WITH DANCE MARATHON

The Official Alumni Newsletter for Dance Marathon at SDSU



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR DANCE  
MARATHON FAMILY





# MIRACLE WEEK 2020

REACHED FOR THE STARS AND LANDED ON THE MOON



*Rady Rockstar Reese & her family.*



## DECEMBER 2020

Our annual Miracle Week (October 19-23), was held entirely virtually for the first time, and we could not be more proud of our DM at SDSU community for the miracles we made during this week! After a week of informative and meaningful virtual events and activities, on Thursday, we were able to surpass our Push Day goal of \$40,000. In 24 hours, we raised a total of \$53,756.96, the most money that we have ever fundraised in a single day and more than the entire first year of DM at SDSU! We can't even begin to express how proud we are of each and every one of you! Thank you for all your continuous participation and support for this movement For The Kids.

**Number of New Registrations:**  
Participants (563)  
Teams (17)

**Push Day Total:**  
**\$53,756.96**

**Total Raised by Alumni Team:**  
**\$1,050.80**

# DANCE MARATHON EVENT 2021

## KIDS DESERVE HOPE



As an organization, our primary mission and focus is to advocate for and celebrate the almost 250,000 children treated at Rady Children's Hospital annually. In addition to this, our movement is one that focuses on the health and wellbeing of everyone involved with our cause. It is because of these values, and in order to protect our participants, miracle families and San Diego community, that we have made the difficult but right decision to move our Dance Marathon at SDSU 2021 event to a 100% online format. Dance Marathon at SDSU 2021 will still take place the weekend of February 26-27, and we are excited to announce more details in the coming weeks and explore what options this new format has in store for us; there will still be many of the elements you know and love from in-person events, including family stories! Though our hearts are heavy and this is not the news we wanted to deliver, we believe this is the only safe and responsible choice to make. In times like these, we encourage our community to remember that "it's a one." Sick and injured kids need us now more than ever, and we can't wait to see what miracles we're still able to make for them.

## PANDA EXPRESS FUNDRAISER

JANUARY 9, 2021  
USE CODE: 901529

On Saturday, January 9, 2021 join us in our nationwide Panda Express fundraiser where 28% of all sales will be donated to Dance Marathon at San Diego State University. Use the code 901529 in the coupon code box when ordering at any Panda Express during online checkout.





# BOARD SPOTLIGHT

DYLAN LACASELLA



## CO-DIRECTOR OF VIDEOGRAPHY

Meet Dylan! This is his first year on the DM at SDSU Board, serving as Co-Director of Videography. Check out why he is for the kids:

"I was treated at Rady for my epilepsy and want to give back because the experience I had helped me feel comfortable in an uncomfortable situation. My doctor is like my best friend. Everyone deserves a normal life and these kids need constant support and love more than anything else. Being a part of this organization allows me to have a part in providing that for these kids."

BELLA YOUNGER

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

My name is Bella Younger and I was a part of the Rady Relations Team from 2018-2019. I am currently working as a nurse in Seattle, Washington and I reminisce on my time on the DM @ SDSU Team frequently. 2020 has been a strange year in the healthcare field, but I still could not be happier in the career that I have chosen. Due to COVID, my pediatric nursing opportunity turned into an Adult Nursing role, but I know that I will be working in pediatric nursing sometime in the near future. My experience with DM @ SDSU gave me such great insight into the personal experiences of patients and their families, which is a very valuable perspective to have as a nurse.





# OUR FIRST EVER VIRTUAL 4K

RUNNING INTO THE  
NEW YEAR FOR THE  
KIDS WITH DM AT SDSU

**Registration Opens: Monday 12/21**  
(registration open throughout event)

- **\$15 to participate** (ticketed event through Donor Drive)
- First 100 participants to sign up will get a sticker!

**Virtual 4K starts: Monday 12/28**  
**Virtual 4K ends: Monday 1/1**



## HOLIDAY FUNDRAISING

FUNDRAISING IDEAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR FELLOW ALUMNI!



Offer tips on something you are knowledgeable about.

Mac is a clinical pediatric dietician intern & gave nutrition tips on Instagram for donations!



Make crafts & donate a portion of the proceeds FTK!

Jess Oliver does macrame and donates a portion of the proceeds to charity.

### MORE FUNDRAISING TIPS

- Ask for Donor Drive donations for the holidays
- Do a gift card raffle
- Sell old clothes online
- Do a food challenge
- Send out Donor Drive Emails
- Set up a Facebook Fundraiser
- Post embarrassing photos
- Make playlists for your donors
- Make a drawing/jingle for donors

Check out our website for more ways to fundraise!

## AN IMPORTANT NOTE FROM DANCE MARATHON AT SDSU:

Unfortunately, not everyone will get to go home this holiday season. Please remember to be safe and continue to practice social distancing, for yourselves, for your community, and For The Kids spending the holidays in the hospital.

**NUMBER OF KIDS SPENDING  
THE NIGHT AT RADY  
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
TONIGHT:  
221**

## **WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

Want to get involved? If you are interested in joining the SDSU Alumni Team or would like to donate, please reach out to [dmsdsu.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:dmsdsu.alumni@gmail.com). If you are interested in contributing to the cause as a corporate sponsor, please reach out to [dmsdsu.partners@gmail.com](mailto:dmsdsu.partners@gmail.com).

**NOTE:** All photos were taken in adherence with CDC guidelines or prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **INTERESTED IN BEING AN MC FOR EVENT?**

**EMAIL ALEXIS, OUR DIRECTOR  
OF ALUMNI RELATIONS,  
[DMSDSU.ALUMNI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DMSDSU.ALUMNI@GMAIL.COM).**



## **CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Alumni Facebook Page: [Dance Marathon at SDSU Alumni](#)  
Instagram: [@dmatsdsu](#)  
LinkedIn: [Dance Marathon at San Diego State University](#)  
TikTok: [@dmatsdsu](#)