

Bellydance Superstar Kami Liddle
Tribal Fusion Workshop 27th May, Guildhall, Gloucester
Workshop feedback and organisational tips!

“I thought the workshop was brilliant! Kami was a really good teacher and it was good to know that she was concerned about making sure we had the correct postures etc as well as learning the dance moves. I thought that she explained everything very clearly and I found it useful to learn that some of the movement’s only need to be very slight and not over exaggerated in order to make an impact!” Lisa Taplin

“I felt I had worked VERY hard, but did not feel in the least bit strained or stiff after the workshop! I reckon that's a sign of a really excellent teacher! I felt I had learned such a lot about breaking basic movements down and making them part of a funky routine - I am looking forward to incorporating what I have learned into my own dancing! Many thanks for all your hard work in putting together such a brilliant day, Anna!” Patsi (Farrah)

“The Guildhall was really nice and I was impressed with the room we had to dance in. Kami was really friendly and a great teacher it would be great if she could come again.” Mia Luxton

Kami began touring with the Belly dance Superstars last Autumn and this is her first trip to the UK. Her style is what she calls a modern fusion of an ancient dance. Although she is primarily a tribal dancer, she pulls from the various styles of belly dance that she has studied, as well as modern, hip hop, jazz, and bhangra dance. Kami performs both as a solo artist and also collaborates with other dancers. She is a guest artist for The Indigo, directed by Rachel Brice, and has also worked with Samantha Riggs of Boom Boom Bollywood on choreography and periodically performs with the company. Kami was nominated for 'Best Kept Secret’ and 'Best Interpretive Artist" for 2005 by Zaghareet Magazine and won the title 'Entertainer of the Year 2005" at Wiggles of the West.

When I read the above profile for Kami I was really excited to be asked to host a workshop for her in Gloucester. It quickly became apparent that the phenomenon that is the Bellydance Superstars is a team effort. After a quick volley of emails to establish who my contact would be, I soon received clear instructions from the production team on how to proceed. It was great to have these as a guideline to put the event together and acted as a good checklist to make sure I didn’t overlook anything!

I have always enjoyed working as part of a team and it was great to have the opportunity to work with a professional production team such as the Bellydance Superstars. Even though I have produced Stages dance festival for Bristol School children with shows at the Bristol Colston Hall and the Bristol Hippodrome for the last 4 years, I learnt loads from this experience. People often ask me how I go about ‘pulling it all together’, so here are a few pointers for any first time event organizers out there! Anna Chandler www.egyptiannights.co.uk

1. Establish the finances – Will you pay the teacher a set fee or a percentage profit split after expenses? Can you afford the risk? Personally I think a percentage split, (with a minimum fee) works well, as it minimizes the risk for the host and maximizes the income for everyone.
2. Visit your potential venue and consider;
 - How will people get there, where will they park?
 - Where will they change is water/ refreshments available?
 - Where will the teacher, teach from? Can they be seen/heard?
 - Does the space ‘feel’ right?
 - Where will your host/customers stay, is this reasonably priced?
3. How will you market the event?
4. How will you manage the administration for the event?
5. How will you manage the pressure and responsibility and look after yourself as well as everyone else?
6. What tasks if any can you delegate and who to, who are your team?
7. Will you enjoy the process of making it happen? If not go to an event someone else has organized and just enjoy the dancing!!