

## Kristi Markland Rice

Kristi Markland-Rice is a graduate of Ed White High School and Florida Community College at Jacksonville. She has spent the better part of her life learning dance and dealing with the pressure that accompanies dance and pageant competitions. Kristi had the opportunity to train locally under Bambi Philips and Linda Elchak and attended many various workshops that included renowned instructors such as Nilo Toledo, Dorothy Lister, Frank Hatchet and Henry LeTang. She performed in the Community Nutcracker where she danced such roles as Party Girl, Bon Bon, Spanish, Russian and Flower. Her competitive spirit has enabled her to receive a ballet scholarship to the summer program at the Joffrey School of Ballet in New York City, tap scholarship to Henry LeTang School of Tap in New York City and Al Gilbert Tap School in Montreal, Canada and she was named the best all-round dancer at the Pensacola Junior College summer workshop. In 1995, Kristi competed with over 800 ladies for a spot on the first Jacksonville Jaguars cheerleading squad "The Roar". She also had the opportunity to be a Celebrity Cheerleader for the NFL Player's Party at Super Bowl XXXI and XXXII. Working with children is important to Kristi, so she was thrilled to be offered to be a cheerleading instructor at Jeff Lageman's football and cheerleading camp on the Navaho Indian Reservation in New Mexico. Being a talented dancer gave Kristi the confidence to begin competing in pageants. During her sophomore year at Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Kristi was crowned Miss FCCJ 1996 and had the honor of representing FCCJ at the Miss Florida Pageant. She was also honored by a faculty member at Florida Community College who nominated her for listing in the Who's Who in America Junior Colleges. Now with a dance studio of her own, Kristi has had the opportunity to choreograph the opening number for the Miss Senior High Pageant for many years, Production Director for the Miss River City Jacksonville Pageant for two years and has judged for National Dance Competitions. She has been the recipient of three prestigious choreography awards from Dance Troupe National Competition and Professional Dance Teacher's Association. Kristi has been certified as a dance educator through Dance Masters of America Chapter 2. Due to her personal accomplishments, Kristi strives too instill in the dancers under her instruction the belief that anything is possible. Her dance studio motto "There are NO LIMITS to what you can do" is a true reflection on her own life.