



JENNIFER RUSSELL, AGE 21
BOSTON CRUSADERS TRUMPET PLAYER
AND
UNIV OF SOUTH FLORIDA DANCE PERFORMANCE MAJOR
 TAMPA, FLORIDA

As a trumpet player with the Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps, 21-year-old Jennifer Russell has enjoyed many professional performance experiences. Entering her third year as a member of the corps, she's already had the opportunity to perform during the past two summers with 134 teammates in hundreds of football stadiums across the United States, and in front of audiences reaching the tens of thousands.

Well beyond her drum corps background, however, Jennifer is no stranger to the performing arts. Trained as a dancer since the age of seven, she started dancing professionally at age 11. Her dance studies have enabled her to experience the studios and stages of the prestigious Houston Ballet and American Ballet Theatre, among others.

Now a third-year dance performance major at the University of South Florida, her impressive and growing dance resume includes performances around the world. With more than 200 performances on Broadway in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular to her credit, Jennifer has also earned hundreds of titles and scholarships as a competitive dancer, including National Miss Dance USA and Dance Masters of America's Miss Dance of Florida.

"At Radio City Music Hall, I performed each show to an audience of about 6,000, and it was a great experience to be on that stage dancing to music from a live orchestra," she says. "I must say though, that nothing compares to the feeling I have had performing at two Drum Corps International World Championship Finals. Those performances are the culmination of months of hard work and the crowd reaction is awesome.

"As a competitive dancer I try to perfect every move of my performance and include certain components that will help my score, similar to in drum corps where the team is working toward performance perfection."

Combining her dance background with skills she has learned in drum corps, Jennifer hopes to one day open her own fine arts business offering instruction in dance and music.

The member corps of Drum Corps International are the world's most elite marching music ensembles. Groups are made up of 135 14- to 22-year-olds who spend the summer rehearsing and performing an 11-minute show in professional and major college football stadiums across the U.S. Corps members are among the top musicians and performers in the world.

Find out more about drum corps at www.DCI.org.



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