

# DANCE MARATHON

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Dance Marathon at UF hosts 5th annual FT5K race**

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Come run or walk alongside Dance Marathon at UF's Miracle Families, the UF and Gainesville Communities at the Up, Up and Away FT5K.

The event will be held on February 8, 2015 at the UF Commuter Lot. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. and the race starts at 9 a.m. Participants can register online at [www.floridadm.org/ft5k](http://www.floridadm.org/ft5k).

There is also an "All For One and One For All" 1.1K Mini Fun Run for kids that will begin after the 5K. Pre-registration and day-of registration is available for both the FT5K and the mini fun run.

All proceeds from this event benefit the children at the UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

For the first time, UF Health is partnering with DM at UF for the FT5K. The first 400 people registered received a free UF Health dry fit shirt. Participants can also choose to purchase a DM at UF FT5K shirt with their registration.

Fluent will be at the FT5K with the Keurig Cooler Scooter Tour and will provide Keurig products to drink such as both hot and iced coffees, teas and juices.

KISS 105.3 will be there to broadcast the event. The title sponsor of the FT5K is Gainesville Apartments. Other sponsors include FIT2Run and Google. Google will be providing a GIF booth and merchandise.

More

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"Our Miracle kids are the real superheroes," Jacqueline Papilsky, Community Events Overall Director, said. "We chose to continue with this theme for the second year in a row because they overcome so many obstacles and inspire us all. They are true heroes and this is such a great way to show how strong they truly are."

All participants are encouraged to dress in super hero costumes to honor the kids who are fighting for their lives. "FTK" stands for "For the Kids." It is DM at UF's motto and reminds people that everything DM does relates back to the kids they are speaking out for.

*Dance Marathon at the University of Florida is a yearlong philanthropy raising funds and awareness for the UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, Gainesville's local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Fundraising events are held for an entire year leading up to the final event in April where 800 UF students will stand for 26.2 hours. These dancers stand to symbolize the pain and long periods of time pediatric patients spend in the hospital. Dance Marathon will be held March 14-15, 2015 at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.*

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