History of Street Dance in the UK

Street dance is an umbrella name for a mix of dance styles with its origins in Hip-hop and jazz from the USA. However from the 1990's street dance began to grow in the UK as the first street dance competition took place in Battersea. Here we look the history of street dance in the UK from small beginnings in Battersea to a movie blockbuster.

1990
The first recognised street dance group in the UK was called G.W.I (Get With It).

1996
GWI changed their name to G Force Productions when they hosted the first ever recognised street dance competition. Held in Battersea, the competition attracted 8 groups and 75 spectators. The competition was called "Street Dance Weekend".

1997
G Force Productions started the first ever street dance class for 6-13 year olds. This helped to get street dance in schools and the demand started to grow. Street dance competitions started in other parts of the UK.

2002
Street dance competitions were attracting large audiences. "Street Dance Weekend" was attracting over 2000 spectators and groups from outside London. Each year street dance groups try to push the boundaries with better costumes, music and props.

2005
G Force Productions host the first “USA vs UK” street dance event. The best street dance groups from the two countries battled in front of a large audience.

2008
Several well-known street dance groups such as Flawless and Diversity entered and won “Street Dance Weekend” and other competitions.

G Force Productions struggle to get street dance on TV but are approached by a UK film production company to produce the first ever street dance movie.

2010
The street dance group Diversity wins the TV hit talent show “Britain’s Got Talent”.

Demand for street dance classes outstrip supply as millions of people around the UK look to learn how to street dance.

2011
Channel 4 airs the first documentary on Street Dance showing how groups prepare and enter the Street Dance XXL competition.

2012
Street Dance 3D (Part 2) the movie is released. Street dance continues to grow as a dance form and to keep fit.