

Nicole Kuntner



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Born in Braunau am Inn, Upper Austria on 6th February 1976. Nicole started her school career in 1982 at the Volksschule, Braunau, and completed it in 1994 with the Matura at the Bundesgymnasium in Braunau. Due to the hobby of her parents, Dorethea and Egon Kuntner, who were at the time, intensively occupied with Ballroom and Latin Dances, Nicole discovered her own love to dance. During her time at the Volksschule she started learning Volks Dance, and then with time, started with Jazz Dance. Through her mother who was working as an assistant at the local Dance School, Nicole was able to start Ballroom and Latin Dances at a very early age, and in the year 1991, after successfully completing the dance exams, Silver, Gold and Gold Star, Nicole started her Dance Competition career for a Dance Club in Salzburg, Austria

The best results that Nicole managed in her amateur dance career were:

- *Semi-final at the IDSF International Open to the World Latein in Mailand/Italien.*
- *Final at the Austrian National Championships in Latin and with this result, member of the Austrian National Team.*
- *Final at the Austrian National Championships over ten Dances.*



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After finishing the Matura in 1994, Nicole started studying Law at the University of Salzburg, although realising after some time that Law wasn't for her. Since January 1999, Nicole has been employed by her parents at the family company, Air Ambulance Technology, Ranshofen, Upper Austria.



After a long amateur dance career, Nicole decided in 2003 to turn to the professional side of the sport, and with this decision, to earn her keep with dancing.

Whilst dancing in European and World Championships, Nicole started in 2004, the training to become a professional dance teacher. This training was completed in 2007 with the mark „distinction“.

The best results Nicole experienced with her dance partner were the semi finals of the European Championships, and the quarter final of the World Championships over the ten dances.

In 2006 Nicole was asked by Austria National Television, to take part in a live television programme named „Dancing Stars“.

Her partner in 2006 was Edi Finger, a sport reporter from Austrian National Radio. In 2007, Nicole was given an ex National Football Team Goalkeeper, Michael Konsel. In the third series of „Dancing Stars“, and also the most watched programme to date, Nicole danced Dorian Steidl, a television presenter.

Together with Dorian Steidl, Nicole was watched weekly, by over 1.5 million people, and was voted by the public to become overall winners of the series.

In June 2008, the knockout dance contest for „The Eurovision Dance Contest 2008, was televised. Also watched by approximately 1.5 million people, Nicole, and her „Dancing Stars“ partner Dorian Steidl were voted by the public to travel to Glasgow, to represent Austria at the Eurovision Dance Contest.

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Watched live in over 15 European Countries, and by over 25 million people, Nicole and her dance partner danced their show dance in the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Center in Glasgow, Scotland.

Although they unfortunately reached only the 13th position, the feedback they received from many different countries, including Austria, was very positive. Dancing Stars 5 in 2009 was the most recent Series. In this series she danced with Entertainer, Andi Lee Lang, who managed to get to the third round.

At the moment, Nicole is organising and teaching dance workshops, dance courses and is also a qualified Zumba Instructor for Zumba Basic, Zumba Gold, Zumba Toning, Aqua Zumba and Zumbatomic.

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Dancing Stars 2 – Edi Finger



Dancing Stars 3 – Michael Konsel



Dancing Stars 4 – Dorian Steidl



Eurovision Dance Contest – Dorian Steidl



Dancing Stars 5 – Andi Lee Lang