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Miller Arts Scholars

Preparation Materials for the 2018 Audition Season Outcome Report

This past fall I received \$460.00 to pay for preparation materials for the 2018 audition season. My original goal was to buy character and tap shoes, remake my dance reel, and study tap at the Charlottesville Ballet School. My goals changed over time as a result of scheduling conflicts, but I kept with the overall theme of preparing myself for auditions for professional summer work. I am happy with what I accomplished overall and am excited for the eventual results.

My first step was to purchase the character and tap shoes. I went to The Hip Joint, a dancewear store on the downtown mall. I knew it was important to get the shoes actually fitted on my feet rather than buy them online, and I ended up saving money. I didn't get the exact pairs that I had listed in the original proposal, but the savings would turn out to be essential later. Due to some logistical difficulties I found in trying to take class at the Charlottesville Ballet during the fall semester, I signed up for beginner tap classes at Live Arts or the spring semester. I'm happy to report that the weekly class is enjoyable, and I'm quickly learning the basics of tap! Because classes at Live Arts are less expensive compared to the Charlottesville Ballet, I saved money here as well.

I spent the remaining funds and a little of my own money to pay for admission to the SouthEastern Theater Conference (SETC). During winter break, I utilized some of the film equipment available from the Robertson Media Center in Clemons library to remake my dance reel. I used my character shoes to show some versatility (link available below). Using this reel, I applied for the professional dance auditions at SETC and received a slot! I will be seen by more than sixty different theater companies in the hopes of getting a contract for summer stock work.. On February 17th, I will also audition for Hershey Park as a dancer.

Even if these auditions don't result in summer contracts, the experience is still valuable as practice for creating the a career for myself. Freelance artists don't have the security of steady, long-term work, so it will take effort to build a career for myself. I have been given the opportunity to attend auditions and practice new skills that wouldn't be available to me without the mini-grant. I am confident that I will be working as a dancer this summer as a direct result of the Arts Scholars funds.

Dance Reel:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2_WG7IV65I

Budget Report:

Purchases	Amount
Bloch Split Flex Character Shoe	100.04
Capezio Tap Shoe	89.00
Beginner Tap Classes	91.50
SETC fees	212.00
Total:	492.54*

*additional funds were pulled from my personal account in order to pay in full for SETC