

What do the Judges look for in my audition?

Technique - Think about your skill level and choose variations that show you off to your best advantage. Everything begins with clean technique and beautiful lines, no matter what skill level you've accomplished. One or two beautifully placed pirouettes are much better than quadruple turns that are sloppy. Pay attention to clean footwork; pointed toes and clean 5th positions.

Presentation - Your dancing should show confidence and ease; a performance that transcends the studio environment. In an audition, you must dance as if you are on stage. Don't look down; but rather out towards your audience.

Musicality and Phrasing - This demonstrates your ability to listen and physically interpret the rhythm, phrasing, and emotional impact of the music through the choreography. George Balanchine once said, "Dance is music made visible." and "See the music, hear the dance."

Artistry - If you've chosen to dance a variation from a story ballet, do you understand where the character is in the story as it progresses? Is the audience feeling the connection, creativity and sincerity of your performance? There needs to be an emotional connection between yourself, as the dancer, and your audience.

Straight from the Judges' mouths!

"Participants need to show personality and individuality. We want to see the student come alive and shine when they dance!"

"We are looking for dancers that can pull together all the various elements into a cohesive artistic performance - it's not just technique, but how technique combines with musicality and interpretation."

"It's the complete package that makes for a good dancer. Each element is important, but it's how they work together to create a performance that makes the artist."