

BALLET SHOWCASE

The Ballet Showcase is an opportunity for student choreographers to develop and expand their choreographic abilities. The Ballet Showcase is fully supported by the department through mentorship, resources and full production support. The studio and stage is a choreographer's laboratory, so the opportunity to create work in this supported environment is special and exciting!

Besides taking advantage of exemplary support and mentorship, young choreographers should jump at the chance to be part of the Ballet Showcase in order to expand their own performing skills and experience in the theater. Choreographic skills and tools extend beyond knowing how to choreograph a piece. Participation in Ballet Showcase will build skills and knowledge about choreography, production, theater, performance, organization, costuming, sound and much more!

Student choreographers from the Ballet Department are invited to submit proposals for works. All proposal packets must be completed and turned into the appropriate faculty and staff in order for the student's work to be considered for adjudications. Technical and sound requirements, costumes needs and program information are **ALL** the student choreographer's responsibility. All faculty, are invited to observe adjudications and provide feedback and guidance. Student choreographers will be mentored throughout the entire choreographic process. **Student choreographers must register for and attend 4730-001.** Students cannot adjudicate work if they are not registered for 4730-001.

Student dancers in choreographed works must register for 4605-001. **Student dancers are limited to performing in two pieces! No exceptions!**

Should a student-choreographed piece not make it into the adjudicated Showcase Concert, the student is encouraged to remain in 4730-001 in order to continue work on their piece. The following semester the student is encouraged to adjudicate their piece again. Student choreographers wishing to workshop and develop their work are encouraged to complete a semester of 4730-001 before adjudicating their piece!

Student choreographers and dancers need to clear their evening schedules to ensure availability at **ALL** spacing, lighting, technical and dress rehearsals. Student choreographers will be responsible for ensuring that each of his/her dancers is available for each of these obligations. Student choreographers are responsible for ensuring their dancers are on time for **ALL** calls. Student choreographers and dancers will arrive at least one-half hour prior to their scheduled time. Student choreographers are responsible for establishing a warm-up for his or her dancers, either as an individual group or in conjunction with the other choreographers. The faculty reserves the right to remove any pieces during the process if students are unable to uphold their end of the Showcase agreement and/or are unable to attend all of the required stage rehearsals.

Adjudication Note:

Spring Ballet Showcase 2015 Adjudications will be held Saturday, January 31st at 9am. To be considered for the concert your full cast must be represented at the adjudications. In order to accommodate challenging schedules video submissions will be accepted. Video submissions will only be accepted if the entire cast is represented on the video and the choreographer presents the video at the adjudications. Incomplete representation of your cast is incomplete representation of your work, and therefore, cannot be assessed accordingly. The better quality the video and the more complete the piece, the better representation of your work!

BALLET SHOWCASE PACKET

Included:

- Proposal – Page 4-6
- Sound – Page 7
- Lighting – Page 8-9
- Costumes – Page 10
- Program Information Sheet – Page 11
- Proposed Calendar – Page 12
- Guidelines and Checklist – Page 13

SHOWCASE CONTACTS

Jennifer Weber – jennifer.weber@utah.edu - Directing Professor
Steve Rasmussen – l.rasmussen@utah.edu – Costume Shop Director
Cole Adams – cole.adams@utah.edu - Production Director and Lighting Designer
Ben Sandberg – ben.sandberg@utah.edu - Sound and A/V Manager
Brent Schneider – brent.schneider@utah.edu - Chair of Ballet Department

BALLET SHOWCASE PROPOSAL

Name:

Date:

Proposed Music:

Composer:

Length:

Title:

Proposed Dancers:

Description of your piece:

Proposal Continued

The following questions are to help you consider your piece and broach challenges you may or may not be having with your piece. You do not have to know the answers to all of them, but take the time to consider each question and at the very least record some ideas.

1. What is your overriding concept for your piece? (Sum up your dance in one image or sentence)
2. What inspired your concept?
3. What are elements of choreography you might use (motif, repetition, theme and variation, rondo, narrative, etc.) and how might you use them?
4. What action words (apathy, grief, fear, lust, anger, pride, courageousness, acceptance, peace, etc.) might you use to clarify your concept? How do they clarify your concept?
5. Explain the beginning, middle, and ending of your dance. How does this support your overriding concept?
6. What is a rough breakdown of your schedule and how do you plan to choreograph on your dancers? (i.e. Week 1 – teach all phrases; Week 2 – assign who does what; Week 3 – clean and tweak; etc.) Or rather what are your weekly objectives?
7. Will the dance be in pointe shoes, soft shoes, barefoot, etc.?

8. What style will the dance be? If a known choreographer had created your piece, who would it be (i.e. Balanchine, Robbins, Forsythe, Petipa, Massine, Fosse, Cole, Luigi, Tudor, DeMille, Baush, Taylor, Cunningham, Graham, Stolman, etc.)?

9. How many women and how many men are in your piece?

10. What kind of costuming do you envision? (i.e. classical tutus, skirts, dance dresses, unitards, etc.) How will that support your concept?

11. Is everyone wearing the same thing? Do you have principals, men, or different parts that need different costumes?

12. Provide any sketches or drawings that help capture your costume ideas.

13. What kind of lighting do you envision? How will that support you concept?

14. What is your choreographic experience?

BALLET SHOWCASE SOUND

Feel free to turn in work in advance of the deadlines!

DEADLINES:

Friday, January 30th – Sound Edits

Friday, February 6th – ALL Music Due

All sound edits will be handled by Ben Sandberg (ben.sandberg@utah.edu)

An appointment can be made on or before Friday, January 30th, via email, for audio mixing and/or edits. For audio edits, please turn in your music at least one week before you need it. **DON'T PUT THIS OFF!!!**

To turn music in, email Ben at ben_sandberg@yahoo.com with music in .mp3 or .wav format. Or bring the music into the A/V room, MCD 128, during Ben's work hours on CD or Thumb Drive. *Music from an iPhone is not appropriate, as it cannot be taken off the iPhone for use!!!*

Student choreographers are expected to purchase the music they will use for their performance. **The University and Department do not condone piracy.** 'Pirated music' and/or low quality recordings are not acceptable and will be refused. This ensures the quality and originality of the music as well as proper payment to the original artist.

If **ALL** music has not been turned in by Friday, February 6th the student choreographer runs the risk of having their piece removed from the concert!

BALLET SHOWCASE LIGHTING
Student Choreographers Guide to Lighting
DUE Thursday, January 29th

Please fill out the following questionnaire and return to Cole ASAP (Cole.adams@utah.edu or Rm 70). The questions are designed to aid in our communication so that lighting may best serve your artistic vision, so please take some time to reflect on the questions before you answer them. You will not be locked into any of your statements just because you put them in writing, rather this will give us some common ground on which to start. If you aren't sure about any of the answers, then just write 'not sure' and we will make suggestions after we see your piece. And of course we will let you know if you request something that is not possible or that is not in the best interest of your piece. If you do not take the time to fill out what you can and turn this in, your lighting may not be all that it could be.

Choreographer _____ Title _____
Email (print clearly) _____ Phone number _____
Style _____ Number of dancers _____
Music _____ Approx. Length _____
Number of Movements _____

(as you answer the questions below, feel free to give different responses for different movements)

Adjectives that describe the mood of your piece: (i.e. happy, sad, energetic, heavy)

Without thinking about it too much, name a color that feels like your piece feels:

Does the piece feel bright or dark or somewhere in between? _____

Does the piece feel warm or cool or neither? _____

What is the tempo? _____

What colors are your costumes?

Should the background be black or should it be colored? _____

If colored do you have a color in mind? _____

Props, special effects, or set pieces? _____

Is there anything specific, lighting-wise, that you know you want to request? (i.e. a pool of light on Center, or a blackout at a certain point in the piece, or an extra slow fade up in the beginning)

What is the sequence of the beginning and the ending of your piece? We always start with the curtain closed. A typical sequence for the beginning is "All Lights Fade to Black, Curtain Open, Lights Up, Music Start". You must decide if that works for you or if you would rather have it differently, such as seeing the dancers in pose as the curtain opens or hearing the music before the lights come up, etc. A typical sequence for the ending is "Lights Fade to Black, Pause for Bow Places, Lights Up, Bows, Lights fade as curtain closes".

Beginning sequence:

Ending sequence:

PROPS/SETS/PROJECTIONS REQUESTS: The Production Department does not build or acquire sets, props and/or projections for the Ballet Showcase. We will, however, advise you in how to acquire things for yourself and help you manage the logistics and safety considerations of having them onstage. Your dancers may be required to assist the crew if items require more than 2 people to carry or must move quickly. These requests need to be approved by Cole or James before the adjudications. Projections are allowed if the final product is turned in at adjudications. Please have no menu and 3 seconds of black before the piece and 30 seconds at the end. Also please layer your music on the DVD to make sure it syncs correctly.

BALLET SHOWCASE COSTUMES COSTUME SHOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

There are several ways you can costume your dancers. You may borrow existing costumes from the Costume Shop Ballet Department racks, buy items from stores, or rent for other Arts organizations or local costume rental businesses.

To borrow from the Costume Shop student choreographers must:

1. Make an appointment with the Costume Shop Director to see what choices are available to you. This is preferable to do during the first week of school. Make appointments via email (l.rasmussen@utah.edu) or visit the Costume Shop in person to make an appointment. **DO NOT** sign up on the fitting schedule, which is on the door of the Costume Shop.
2. If your piece is chosen for the Showcase show, make an appointment to check out the costumes. If a fitting is required, the choreographer must supervise this.
3. The costumes are signed over to the **choreographer only**. The choreographer **may not** put their dancers in charge of their own costumes. Depending on the value of the costumes, the Costume Shop Director may require a deposit. Nude and white camisole leotards require a \$15 deposit. All deposits will be returned when the costumes are returned.
4. If the costumes or parts of the costumes are lost or damaged beyond repair, the choreographer will be held responsible for a reasonable cost of replacement of the costumes and deposits will be forfeited.
5. During the run of the show, the **choreographer** must care for the costumes. They must be kept in a **secure, locked location** i.e. a graduate student office, a locker with a lock, etc. If it is discovered that any costume borrowed from the Costume Shop is left unattended in the men's or women's dressing rooms, backpacks in the hall, a dancers care or any other unsecured place, a fine of \$100 per costume will be assessed to the choreographer.
6. When the run is over, the **choreographer** will return the costumes to the Costume Shop by the Monday following the show. **NO EXCEPTIONS! Late costumes will be subject to the late fees detailed in your rental agreement!**

Any variance to these policies and procedures must be approved by the Ballet Department Administration and the Costume Shop Director.

BALLET SHOWCASE PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET
DUE via **email** to Jennifer Weber (jennifer.weber@utah.edu) by
Wednesday, January 28th

Title of piece:

Composer:

Title of musical work(s):

Your name:

Dancers:

(In alphabetical order please or provide reasons for a different order)

Sound edited – yes or no

Costumes by:

Any additional, brief comments for the program:

(This will be dependent upon space!)

WORKING BALLET SHOWCASE CALANDER

Friday, January 16 th	By class	Proposal Form DUE
First week of school		Costume appointments made
Friday, January 23 rd		Music Approved
Before and after Adjudications		Rehearsals Attended
Wednesday, January 28 th		Program Information Sheet DUE
Thursday, January 29 th		Lighting Form DUE
Friday, January 30 th		Sound editing appointments made
Saturday, January 31 st	9am	ADJUDICATIONS – MCD 40
After Adjudications		Check out costumes
Friday, February 6 th		ALL Sound DUE
Wednesday, February 11 th	3:30 to 7pm	Spacing
Thursday, February 12 th	3:30 to 7pm	Lighting/Tech
Friday, February 13 th	3:30 to 7pm	Lighting/Tech
Monday, February 16 th		President’s Day
Tuesday, February 17 th	6pm	Lighting/Tech
Wednesday, February 18 th	6pm	Dress
Thursday, February 19 th	4pm CALL	5:30pm PERFORMANCE
Friday, February 20 th	6pm CALL	7:30pm PERFORMANCE
Saturday, February 21 st	12:00pm CALL	2:00pm PEROFRMANCE
Saturday, February 21 st	6pm CALL	7:30pm PERFORMANCE

Show order and Specific times for Adjudication, and theater times TBA
Students organize and teach warm-up classes

BALLET SHOWCASE GUIDELINES AND CHECKLIST

1. Read Ballet Showcase information, packet, and guidelines.
2. Register for 4730-001.
3. Make appointment with Steve to communicate about costumes during the first week of school, if desired.
4. Turn in Showcase Proposal Form by Friday, January 16th.
5. Have music approved by Friday, January 23rd.
6. Submit Program Information Sheet by Wednesday, January 28th.
7. Turn in Lighting Form by Thursday, January 29th.
8. Set up Sound editing appointment by Friday, January 30th.
9. Attend Showcase **Adjudications** on Saturday, January 31st, MCD 40.
10. Turn in Sound by Friday, February 6th, if no editing is required.
11. If your piece is selected, make an appointment with Steve to check out costumes.
12. Attend all Spacing, Lighting, Technical and Dress Rehearsals.
13. As the choreographer, communicate with all choreographers and rehearsal assistants for Cinderella if you or your dancers will have to miss **ANY** part of their rehearsal during spacing and lighting (February 11th, 12th, or 13th). Failure to do so in a timely manner (less than 24 hour notice) may result in removal from the concert and/or a negative impact on your grade.
14. **Attend** weekly class.
15. Choreographers may not dance in their own work.
16. Pieces should be a length that will allow for a quality product.
17. Be prepared to work right from the start! You should have a good idea of what you want to try before you enter the studio. Do your homework!
18. Rehearsals may be observed. Expect to show what you have and to receive feedback and/or directorial advice. Be open to suggestions and experimentation.
19. Be respectful of your peers, as you would expect them to be respectful of you.
20. Please don't be afraid to ask questions of any of the staff. This is how you learn!
21. The last, most important thing to remember is...
Stay calm, have fun and don't be overwhelmed!