

Dear Ms. Deborah,

*It has been an unforgettable experience to be able to attend the 2009 Tremaine National Competition. A lot of people came from different places. There were even some people who came from Costa Rica!*

*All of the convention classes were amazing! Each teacher taught us something new and important which will help me forever. The dances that they taught us had many difficult steps that were very confusing to me because I had never done them before. When I achieved the step I felt excited and wanted to learn more new steps.*

*We all did our best at the Competition. My heart was pounding before doing the dances, especially before the duet with Victoria. When I was backstage, I started to worry if I mess up and if I fall down but when I got on the stage, all the worries disappeared and I just danced the best that I could. During the award ceremony, I was nervous to hear the results. When they said "Little Shop of Horrors" I was so excited but still anxious about the other dance. When they didn't say the name of the other dance, I was a little upset but, I told myself that not receiving a reward is just an opportunity rather than a disaster.*

*All the winner's performances were astonishing. They had wonderful technique and true team spirit. They danced together perfectly even when there were more than 50 dancers. Those dances were almost like the shows on Broadway.*

*I learned that each dancer must practice hard individually to improve their techniques and, they must focus on dancing together and teamwork. Also, if their passion for dance comes together, they will be able to feel the true joy of dance and it will then touch the audience.*

*Mrs. Mitzi Gaynor told us "There is no I in team." and Mr. Tremaine told us, "Preparation is the key to success. The secret to success is hard work."*

*I will keep those two quotes in my heart forever.*

*To Mrs. Deborah and Mrs. Helen, thank you so much for giving us such a great opportunity and thank you for teaching these past years.*

*To Mr. Bob and Miss Chrissy, thank you so much for your great help.*

*And thank you everybody who has been helping us with the fundraising and supporting us.*

*I especially thank my parents for their financial and mental support.*

*Without everyone, we couldn't have done anything. I can't thank you all enough.*

*Haruka Stacey Fujiwara*