

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2010 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0327

Project Title

Ballet Angles: It's Not All Tutus

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My goal was to discover if the angles professional dancers demonstrate with their legs in a grande jete leap correlate with their esteem within the dance community.

Methods/Materials

Three photos of each dancer (Hee Seo, Gillian Murphy, Patricia Neary, Irina Dvorovenko, Margot Fonteyn) were measured with a protractor to determine the angle of the dancer's grande jete leap. The measured angle was compared to the ideal angle of 180 degrees. Each dancer's esteem was defined by the number of professional lead roles they danced.

Results

Hee Seo, who danced in 15 professional roles, displayed an average angle of 177.25 degrees in her grande jete leaps. Irina Dvorovenko danced in 19 professional roles with an average angle in her grande jete leaps of 178.25 degrees. Gillian Murphy had an average angle in her grande jete leaps of 176 degrees and a background of 17 professional roles. Patricia Neary danced 21 professional roles and had an average grande jete leap angle of 176.75 degrees. Margot Fonteyn had an average grande jete leap angle of 174 degrees and danced 24 professional roles.

Conclusions/Discussion

The ideal angle for a grande jete leap is 180 degrees. Therefore, the goal for any professional ballerina is to achieve a 180 degree angle in her grande jete leap. In conclusion, my results did not show a significant relationship between the measured angle of 5 professional ballet dancers' grande jete leaps and their esteem, as defined by the number of professional roles they have danced.

Summary Statement

My project is about the angles a dancer creates in a grande jete leap and how those angles correlate with the dancer's esteem.

Help Received

No help received.