

I could sit here and begin a paper with a Martha Graham quote, maybe even Isadora Duncan, then ramble on about how much dance means to me, and how I hope and aspire to one day be as well acclaimed as Graham; but not today. It would be impossible for me to write in one page the importance of dance in my life and my future, because that would be like writing every moment of my life that I can possibly remember and all of the dreams that I hope to accomplish on one page...you must admit that's impossible. I am the student that runs through dances sitting in class at a desk, the one that sketches costumes on the closest paper when the inspiration hits. I am the person, dancer rather, that has cravings to be in a studio, surrounded by other dancer's energy and commitment and the holes between us filled with music that inspires us to move...to live. I could never even begin to fathom life without dance, it would be like a painter without their paints; helpless, useless, and pathetic.

Dance is not second nature to me; it is much more than that. Every movement is potential dancing in my eyes; from a person's smile to a person galloping down the hallway to greet a friend. Without dance the true beauty of life, simply being able to move, would never be recognized. Dance is for people like me, people that have a hard time approaching others face to face and verbalizing everything that I feel, dance is a mere exaggeration of body language. Without dance I would have no where to revert to release my anger, understand my sorrow, express my excitement; I would have no where to truly live. It is from dance that I have learned how to look at myself in the eyes with complete comfort, complete acceptance. I have learned who I am, how I work, what I believe, how to love, how to accept, how to express the normal human emotions without being ashamed, embarrassed, or hesitant. I have grown to understand people through dance.

Everyone relates to music, it helps us realize we aren't alone in how we feel, and dance lets us live through that artist's emotions. Every dance ever performed tells a story, has life; these dances help audiences visually escape with the music they hear, while they help dancers physically break free and experience what story the music tells. For twelve years now I have lived on stage, escaping from reality in countless three minute dances, I would be lost without those small glimpses of bliss. Everyday I wait to enter a dance studio, to step into a world of my own; the studio is my safe haven, and I hope to one day create one of my own.

Upon my acceptance into USC's dance program, I intend to study dance so that I can create the best possible studio there is to offer, a place for kids like me that want, need, a place to live, create and cultivate an art of their own. Without dance I would be lost; it has created who I am and I hope that I can one day provide people with the same opportunity I've been offered. There is so much beauty, so many splendors in dance that can transfer to all aspects of life; it would be a crime to shelter it from the world. From here I could begin to rant and rave about dance and how unappreciated and overlooked it is, and how much it truly has to offer for the world and people in it, but that would require more than this page is willing to suffice. Though I still deem it impossible to write why dance is important in my life and in my future on one page, I did my best. Now if you'll excuse me, I must go dance.