

TIPS FOR BETTER CHOREOGRAPHY

By Teri Rowe

What makes a routine a winning routine? If it evokes an emotional response from the audience and judges, then leaves a memory.

- I. UNDERSTAND YOUR SCORESHEET
 - A. Overall Effect
 - B. Execution
 - C. Content
 - D. What do you control and when

- II. KNOW YOUR CATEGORIES
 - A. Read, learn and get educated

- III. KNOW YOUR COMPETITORS
 - A. Who is your competition and what are their strengths
 - B. What do they do every year?

- IV. KNOW YOUR OWN STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES
 - A. What areas are strong/weak THIS YEAR?
 - B. Be prepared to change/adapt to new teams

- V. DECIDE WHO WILL CHOREOGRAPH
 - A. Student Choreography
 1. Depending on training, may have limited knowledge
 2. Increase their knowledge by education
 - B. Professional Choreography
 1. What can you afford? Plan in your budget!
 2. Look for good quality, low prices too
 3. Look at previous work...was it quality?

- VI. ONCE CHOREOGRAPHY IS DONE
 - A. Intensive cleaning
 - B. Move dancers where they serve best (take one for the team)
 - C. Examine transitions, content, patterns
 - D. Start reworking to improve-constantly creating

- VII. GET TO COMPETITION EARLY
 - A. Don't wait until end of season to get judges input, do this early

- VIII. LISTEN, LEARN, REPEAT

- IX. DON'T BE AFRAID TO CHANGE
 - A. Music that doesn't work
 - B. Choreography that doesn't work
 - C. Dancers that don't develop