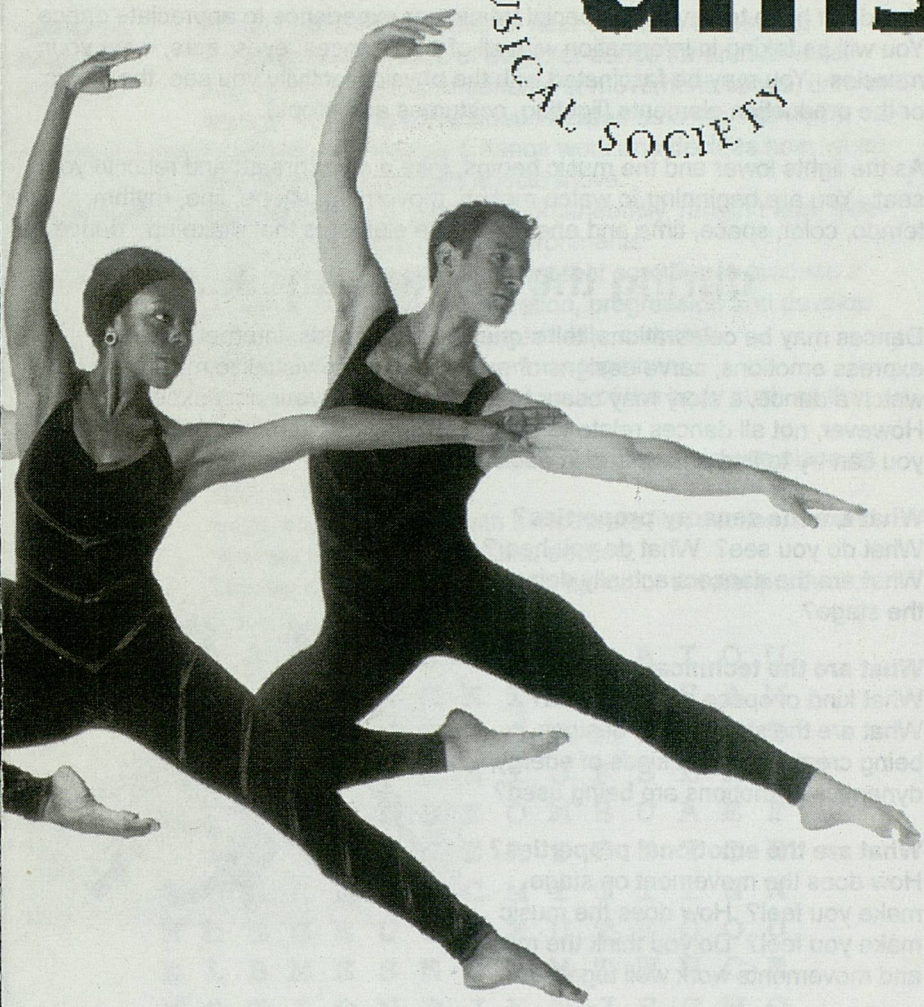


UNIVERSITY
MUSICAL SOCIETY

ums



paul taylor dance company

family program

saturday, october 9, 2004

appreciating dance

before the performance...

You don't have to have any special training or experience to appreciate dance. You will be taking in information with all of your senses: eyes, ears, even your muscles. You may be fascinated with the physical activity you see, the music, or the production elements (lighting, costumes and props).

As the lights lower and the music begins, take a deep breath and relax in your seat. You are beginning to watch motion, movement, shape, line, rhythm, tempo, color, space, time and energy--all the elements that make up "dance."

during the performance...

Dances may be celebrations, tell stories, define moods, interpret poems, express emotions, carve designs or even help you to visualize music. As you watch a dance, a story may occur to you because of your past experiences. However, not all dances relate to stories. Still, there are some questions that you can try to find answers to in each performance:

What are the sensory properties?

What do you see? What do you hear?
What are the dancers actually doing on the stage?

What are the technical properties?

What kind of space is being used?
What are the shapes and designs being created? What kinds of energy, dynamics or motions are being used?

What are the emotional properties?

How does the movement on stage make you feel? How does the music make you feel? Do you think the music and movements work well together?



after the performance...

After the performance, discuss your thoughts with others. Don't be surprised if others had a different reaction to the dance than yours. Take time to think about your personal images and thoughts. Was it enjoyable to watch? Did the dance remind you of experiences in your own life? Did the choreography inspire you to express yourself by writing a poem, drawing a picture or even creating your own dance?

word find

Try to see how many of these things you can spot in the Power Center today, and then try to find the same words in the puzzle below!

- audience** People gathered together to hear or watch something.
concert A formal performance of music or dance for an audience.
element Any of the 3 basic components of movement: space, time and energy. (Body is sometimes included as a 4th element.)
choreographer A person who creates a dance work and decides how, when and where the dancers should move.
improvisation Movement that is created spontaneously, ranging from free-form to highly structured environments.
dance Many sequences of movement that combine to produce a whole; a dance has organization, progression and development, including a beginning, middle and end.
ensemble A group of dancers who perform together.
isolation Movements restricted to one area of the body such as the shoulders, rib cage or hips.
motion Moving; a change of position. This may be in one place or through space.
suite A choreographic form with a moderate first section, second slow section and a lively third section.
costumes Specific clothes designed for a dance or theater production.

I V E D F E J I T Q A A I O U
S M L L A U C K I A U B S A M
Y E P E P N X N O D K Z O T Z
J S D R T V C N I O F S L R M
O K A F O Z S E O M B U A E F
Z Z L I V V N E A Y K I T C H
B V D K A C I C M Y G T I N W
W D G G E U J S X U T E O O U
E L B M E S N E A N T W N C E
M O T I O N P J E T J S G W O
G J O R O X T M Q F I R O M L
A T X R B Q E R K Z V O Q C E
X L R K L L H W Y X Z X N U A
B P K G E N Z V G A J J X J P
C H O R E O G R A P H E R J A

dance fact:

The picture on the front and back of this program catches the Paul Taylor dancers in the midst of a *stag leap*. A *stag leap* is a jump from both feet in which one leg is bent and the other leg is straight.



we want to hear from you!

We hope you'll share your pictures, stories, letters or great family conversations with us! Also, if you are a parent or concerned community member who would like to see the performing arts remain a vital part of K-12 education, please contact us!

UMS Youth Education Program • Burton Memorial Tower
881 N. University Ave. • Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1011
umsyouth@umich.edu • 734.615.4077