

This past year was my first year of college; I attended Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on a dance scholarship. I was blessed to have been able to perform more than fourteen times this past year, it is very unusual for freshmen to even perform once because all performances have auditions and upperclassmen are given priority. Thanks to the training and financial support I have been given by TAYB I was able to stand out and be recognized in many auditions. I was able to perform in faculty pieces, student choreography showcases, in Philadelphia, and in New York City. I auditioned and was selected to represent Point Park University in the Youth America Grand Prix Semi Final in Philadelphia as a soloist, and in a pas de deux. I qualified to the finals in NYC with my contemporary pas de deux, it was an amazing experience to dance and perform with talented dancers from all over the world. I was also able to participate in a student film "Roses are Red" as a background classical ballet dancer. Academically I have made it on the Dean's List both semesters for outstanding grades.

This summer I was able to perform with my church "The Rock" at one of their events. I am also looking forward to taking classes at the Miami Conservatory and training on my own to prepare myself for the upcoming school year. I want to make sure I get cast in as many shows as possible because I love being able to perform and inspire others to do what they love.

Without the financial and moral support of the Miami Conservatory and all the supporters I would not be the dancer and person I am today. I am beyond grateful for all the opportunities I have been given to continue doing what I love.

Thank you so much for all your support

Diana Figueroa

