

Post-Visit Activity

Title: <i>Designing a Costume</i>
Subjects: <i>Language Arts, Visual Arts</i>
Grade: <i>7-12</i>
Time: <i>One to two class periods</i>

Introduction:

A major consideration in dance is the type of costume that a dancer wears. In this activity the student will design a costume and ‘dress’ Nureyev for a chosen role that his character will be representing.

Objectives:

The student will:

- understand the nature of the role that the costume will be signifying.
- become familiar with some of the costumes Nureyev has worn.
- differentiate between the types of costumes generally worn in particular types of dance.
- design a costume to fit the model and the role.

Materials:

Nureyev Slides # 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 & 20.
slide projector, paper*, colored pencils* and scissors.

*Alternative: acetate and fine to medium permanent markers.

Vocabulary:

ballet d’action
character dancing
classical ballet
contemporary dancing
modern ballet
modern dance
clothing design

Teachers Motivation:

The students will have studied the **slides** in the teachers packet in class and part of that **discussion** could be the **appropriateness** of the costumes **designed** for Nureyev for the roles indicated. As well, they will have seen the Nureyev **exhibition** which includes 3 of the **actual costumes** that he wore. It can be arranged with the Education Staff

that **drawings** of the costumes be done during your visit with the intent to **re-design**.

Procedure:

Ask Students to:

- choose from one of the following characters that Nureyev has actually danced:
Don Quixote in Don Quixote
The Prince in Sleeping Beauty or
Romeo in Romeo & Juliet
- list 3 things about that character that would help you design a costume that would be appropriate to his role.
- knowing that Tights and Tunics were worn for traditional stories like these ones, design a costume that you think would suit Nureyev’s style of dancing. Remember that a whole costume may include shoes (in the form of toe shoes) and hats. You can fit your design to the outline of Nureyev’s body – you can get this by projecting the slide onto a white wall and tracing it.

Cut out your design, with tabs, and place it on a cut figure on cardboard – or draw your costume on a piece of acetate, or heavy tracing paper and tape it over your drawing of Nureyev. Fit your design onto the ‘paper-doll-like’ form of Nureyev and display.

Evaluation:

Did students:

- consider the particular characteristics that they were designing a costume to represent.
- design the costume to fit the body of Nureyev.
- Color the costume appropriately.

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Interdisciplinary Connections:

Ask students to:

Language Arts:

- Read three classic stories; Don Quixote, Sleeping Beauty and Romeo & Juliet
- Analyze the characteristics of the 3 leading male characters.

Research & compare:

- Classical Ballet & Modern Dance.

Visual Arts:

- Design and draw a costume.