



Reminders for 2020

"The Tribute to My Parents Award"

This award presentation defines what Tribute is all about...I ask dancers to write an essay about their parents and why they feel their parents should receive this award for things they have done for them during their years in dance. Remember dancers, you are writing this as a Tribute to your parents and this should be written by the dancer only and not shared with the parents. The parents who are selected to receive this award will be invited on stage and portions of the essay will be read to them for the first time. The winner will be announced during one of the award segments and will not be notified prior to the event. As a gift for their love, support and contributions to their children, Tribute will be returning all entry fees that were paid by the parents for the dancer who wrote the winning essay. One award will be presented at each regional event. To type and submit an essay go to our website **www.tributetodance.com**. The essay must be submitted **no later than 3 days before the event.**

"Let us post your comments in the Free Program Books"

Tribute provides program books *free of charge* in a pdf format that we upload to our website 3 days before the event. Remember we do **NOT** sell program books at the event so you can either print your copy prior to the event or view the book on any smart device at the event. For special comments and well wishes, I added a feature called "**Tribute to Family and Friends**". We may have a few comments or several to add to the book, but I at least want to offer the opportunity for others to share feelings. I want parents, teachers, dancers and relatives to have a place where they can share their love, support and appreciation for each other with heartfelt comments. All posts are asked to be 100 words or less. I look back on my life and remember the cards and letters I received from my parents and friends that I still have and will remember and cherish forever. If you would like your kind words posted in the program book, go to our website **www.tributetodance.com** under program books and click on program book comments to submit your comments for the city you are attending. **ALL COMMENTS MUST BE SENT TO US BY THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE EVENT YOU ARE ATTENDING BEFORE 9AM IN ORDER TO BE IN THE PROGRAM BOOK**

"NEW LOOK FOR 2020"

After a family meeting with my wife and kids, we have decided to make a noticeable change for our company for 2020. **Tribute will NOT be selling merchandise or any other items that put families in a position to spend additional monies while their children share their talents on stage at a Tribute Event.** I have thought for years that this is a must since it is the norm and what everyone is used to seeing. We just want to try something different by not having a retail store like so many other events and to focus more on the art of dance. One thing that we love to see more than anything is the smiling faces of the dancers before and after they perform taking pictures with their family members, fellow team members and teachers in the lobby. So, we will be replacing what normally would be our merchandise area with an even larger and more enhanced display just for everyone to take photos. From day one, we have always tried to do our part to make Tribute affordable for families and to give back and help others. We try to always put ourselves in the shoes of parents who work so hard to provide for their children.

Video and Photography Reminder

At Tribute, from day one we have not had a vendor that takes pictures or video records the routines. Each studio in attendance will be given a photographer and video pass to use during the competition. Studio Owners, you may select as many individuals from your studio to have a rotation in place or as some do have a professional photographer attend and take pictures and or video for your studio. Passes will be given to the studio owner upon arrival and ID passes must be worn by the studio representatives at all times. In some locations there will be a designated area reserved for video and photography. ****While YOUR studio is performing, I do allow photographers to move freely for better shots as long as they are not interfering with your dancers or those in the audience trying to view a routine from your studio**.** Tribute has the right to revoke any photography or video pass at any time for any reason.