

Pursuing the Power of Passion

TaTyana Williams

TaTyana Williams is a young woman from Paterson who lives and breathes the tenants of passion. As a member of the School of Performing Arts Dance program, it's exceedingly important that she communicate an array of emotions using body language. With much practice, TaTyana is well on her way to mastering her craft. She's been dancing since she was three years old and at the age of eight, knew that she wanted to perform.

"I'll never forget when I got my first solo at the dance company," TaTyana says, "It gave me the biggest confidence boost!"

Dance is heavily integrated into her life. TaTyana performs in PCTI's school productions and was featured in seven numbers of this year's show, "Dancing Off the Pages." Outside of school, she is a member of the 5-6-7-8 Dance company, spends 10-16 hours a week practicing and has, on occasion, acted as an assistant teacher.

Within the halls of PCTI, TaTyana embraced a courseload that includes honors classes, which has pushed her GPA to 3.89, placing her in the top 10% of the Class of 2016! Throughout her high school career, she has received recognitions, including induction into the National Honors Society for Dance Arts, being selected for Circle of Success, as well as receiving the Beverly Miller



Scholarship, the Governor's Award for Artistic Excellence in Dance (one of two students in NJ to receive this honor), and the Chance for Dance Scholarship.

In the future, TaTyana hopes to become a professional dancer with a company, eventually training to become a choreographer. She is applying to Pace, AMDA, the University of the Arts, Rutgers, and Montclair State University. Her plans

are to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance, to earn Masters' degree in Dance and Business, and to eventually open up her own studio.

When asked how she's grown since coming to PCTI as a freshman, TaTyana says, "The friendships I've built with everyone in my program during the last four years has allowed me to become the dancer I am today. I have so much more confidence knowing that we all support one another in every possible way."

Her one-of-a-kind passion permeates through every action. From dancing on stage to her ambition in her future career, TaTyana will impact the world in positive ways. Congratulations to this ambitious Bulldog!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranked in the top 10% of her class
- Performs in many PCTI dance functions
- Member of National Honors Society for Dance Arts & Circle of Success
- Received Beverly Miller Scholarship, Governor's Award for Artistic Excellence in Dance, & Chance for Dance Scholarship
- Student of 5-6-7-8 Dance, practices 5x a week, assists in teaching
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a BFA in Dance, pursue Masters' degrees in Dance/Business, open up her own studio