

# October

Most dancers have adjusted to class. By now I will start to define what the classroom will be like for the school year. There is a routine to warmup. There is an expectation of a style you teach in. Very young dancers may still need this time and more to not just learn about dance, but learn about how to be a student.

Older dancers for the most part have had fun and we create a healthy and bonding atmosphere. We also hone in on a style and begin building knowledge of terminology week by week, keeping in mind that its not about when the teacher is sick of it, but when the students understand it well enough to move on.

## New Ideas to implement this month

- Continue building on new terminology( Use your own set of terms, or see chapter dedicated to terminology, or refer to the "Essentials" video training for more on this.)
- Create variations of familiar movement.
- Spend at least one week opening class with a review of techniques and terms learned since the start of the school year.
- For younger dancers, choreography should be obtainable, with small challenges being tossed at them each week. It's important that they still feel good and that class is rewarding. It is usually the more mature dancer that can understand the concept of reward being associated with high challenges and concepts that will need to be perfected long term.

## Standard dance classes:

**Beginners** - At this time, dancers should have a healthy dose of words to call back to. I find it important to reference old moves to dancers because much like in other dance styles, having a "base" move has its benefits. Its the foundation of your choreography, even when you don't necessarily choreograph with these moves. Calling back to moves that dancers can easily recall helps you choreograph quickly and allows the dancers to have a starting point when you create variation. So for the month of October, classes can be an even blend of new moves and old moves with new ideas.

The more important idea I'm getting at here is that after a month of training in a set of "named" moves, dancers are familiarizing themselves with holding rhythm in your center. Using your full body to create hip hop. This idea of making rhythm "second nature" will enhance their ability to learn more complex moves throughout the school