*More Light Around The Corner . . .*

Concern for what is behind, looking eagerly for what lies ahead. **. .**

For the past three years I have been observing, reading, and listening to some organizational issues in our international dance community. It has been a repeat of things I have heard or seen in 21+ years of Pro-Am dance lessons, showcases and competitions in local, regional, national, and international arenas. Below are points of clarity that surfaced today.

On deck captain calling dancers to the floor; we resort to calling each other names.

When you have a crevice, know it will eventually become a canyon.

I can exert my thoughts and words to compliment or criticize.

A tiny crack in the foundation of a building in time brings catastrophic destruction.

I put on dance clothes for elegance and glitz; I put on honor for connection and interaction.

With our words we reduce a creative community to a closet of contempt.

I can clamor for money, territory, and prestige, or I can provide opportunities to contribute.

Conflict is easy; to have courage to resolve is a challenge.

A cliff has jagged edges creating imbalance, a dangerous overhang to those close by it.

A bad attitude is catching (ensnaring those who have it and display it); healthy communication is absolutely contagious! (easily shared affecting all those within reach!)

With internal (organizational issues) shadowing and external circumstances (covid-19) threatening I am excited to see the creative resourcefulness of local studios in multiple countries and networks who stepped up to meet the challenge. With concern for students of all ages and for personal income and professional stability many have managed to create on-line classes and lessons. There were messages going forth with words of encouragement through various media outlets. We had hoped to fast forward and reset, but it seems we may have to research and combine our efforts to establish a “new normal” for the cultural, educational and creative love of our lives in dance. I have asked several professionals in differing parts of the world of various capacities to share their thoughts and ideas with us. We will touch Australia, London, Ukraine, Canada, and Lithuania. These are professionals who have traveled and personally interfaced with the global dance community for many years. I have attached some tools that Arunas and I have found effective in 7 ½ years of our Pro-Am partnership. Please scan additional articles provided by Denis Parfyonov & Tania Sopit (Parfyonov), Jason Beaman, and Giles Hatch (Chrisanne-Clover). Choose what best fits your situation or perhaps a combination of several ideas will serve your interest to customize and meet your needs.

***Any questions or comments can be sent to amberibis78@outlook.com and will be forwarded immediately if you indicate a specific individual.***