

ACE THE INTERVIEW

Understand how the candidate, judge, and director all benefit from a fair adjudication.

THE CANDIDATE’S POINT OF VIEW

What are judges really looking for when choosing the team leaders? Often many of the candidates demonstrate above average dance skills and earn good grades. The adjudicator has the awesome task of deciding who will represent the team both at school and in the community. Even though the candidate’s performance on the floor is important, even greater is her performance off the floor. The judges are looking for intelligent dancers who exhibit strengths in communicating and decision-making. Officer candidates must be prepared to answer questions that involve critical thinking skills and diplomacy. By answering these types of questions successfully, the true leader will quickly become apparent in the interview. Just by participating in an interview, an officer candidate will gain more knowledge about her inner strengths and weaknesses. Valuable “real life” skills will be learned and can be applied when interviewing for a job.

THE JUDGE’S POINT OF VIEW

While attending a pageant convention in South Carolina, I participated in a judge’s seminar hosted by pageant consultant, Barbara Kelley. I quickly began to assess the parallels between the interview category in pageants and the interview category in officer auditions.