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Hey there everyone, the article that I chose to write this week centers around the ballet, or An Evening of Ballet to be precise. This weekend Radford University's dance department put on a performance of different ballet themed dance pieces as a performance show that students, teachers, families and anyone else to come to if they wished. This performance was phenomenally done and the dancers were completely involved in their pieces, showing us a true art form that certain individuals seem to often take for granted.

The actual definition for ballet is as follows, an artistic dance form performed to music using precise and highly formalized set steps and gestures. Classical ballet, which originated in Renaissance Italy and established its present form during the 19th century, is characterized by light, graceful, fluid movements and the use of pointe shoes.

Ballet is a wonderful type of dance and is in fact one of my favorites. To be able to move with such grace and poise while maintaining the stamina and strength to perform these pieces, whether in ballet flats or even on pointe is astounding. These dancers have put in years of work to get to where they are today and have persevered through the blood sweat and tears to stand where they are today. The dancers at this performance were wonderful during all performances and made me wish that I had taken up ballet so that I could perform with as much grace as them, making complex choreography look like a walk in the park to them, while if I even attempted to complete a pirouette I would fall flat on my face.

Overall this was a spectacular performance and I was very excited that I was able to go. As a theatre technician throughout high school it was really neat to watch how effortlessly this group of individuals was able to pull off this performance and in a way that was both incredibly entertaining and also interesting as to what meets the eye. The dancers themselves were resplendent and were able to take center stage in this performance, a well deserved recognition for all of the hard work and practice that they were going through throughout this semester in order to make sure this performance was spot on and portray perfection in the already complex world of ballet.

I highly encourage anyone who missed this performance to go to another exhibition which the dance department holds of at all possible, it is a fun and intriguing way to get away from life for a few hours and just focus on art in one of its many forms. I fully plan on attending

every performance that I can while at Radford University, as I have never seen a performance, presentation or show that has failed to meet my expectations. On the contrary, Radford University has continuously raised the bar that I previously held for entertainment and I cannot wait to see what they come up with as their next piece.

-Ellie Hawthorne