

India Harl

It's crazy to think that I first started at Bird College almost a year ago. What a year it has been! We dance, sing and act for almost 50 hours per week and I love the privilege of being taught by industry professionals. Many of my teachers are ex West End leads, Royal Ballet stars and top London choreographers and I cannot appreciate enough my chance to be trained by them. Since starting last September I feel like I have improved dramatically in my performance and dance technique. My singing has also widely progressed and it is something I am definitely more confident with. I couldn't ask more of the year and can't express how much enjoyment I am getting from something I love doing every day.

Our first six months were heavily focused on basic technical training. Following that we faced a series of tough assessments in April before our Summer show in July. The show 'Wonderlands' was performed in Dartford to may agents and professionals hoping to sign graduate students (me in two years' time!). It was focused around the 3rd years however I thoroughly enjoyed my chance to perform. I can't wait for it to be me graduating and getting out to work.

Up to now I am painting a very positive picture however, like with everything, there have been some struggles. The school is very strict and the teachers are very honest. I have benefitted from this type of training immensely and it has pushed me to become stronger, better and prepare me for what is to come. I have had bad days but it's all part of the training programme and it's those days which inspire me to work harder.

When we aren't in class I practice and go to the gym to maintain a high fitness level. I eat well and on weekends I try to find time to visit my family and friends. I have loved living in London and exploring a new city. It's definitely where I can see myself living after I graduate.

Your help with funding has been extremely beneficial. It has allowed me to use my spare money for college needs. I couldn't be more grateful about how much it's helping me to stay on track.

Now I am moving into my second year I am moving out of halls and into a house. As you can imagine, the cost of living in London is largely greater than what I am used to in Norwich.

Over the Summer I have kept myself busy whilst earning money teaching dance to children in Summer camps. It has been a great experience.

Many thanks for what you have done for me.