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The Success in Me

All I ever think of when I am practicing every week on Saturdays and Sundays is how I am going to make myself a better dancer. I do not have a single regret when I first walked through the doors of Chinese cultural dancing. There were so many Asian cultures that I have discovered since I was five years old. As time has passed, I never knew how much I gained in confidence, success, and most of all, the happiness that I have always had having my AATF family by my side. Who knew that I could be a shy girl at school, but be a hysterical, tomboy when I am dancing. So, with the love from my family and friends, I will always see the success in me.

I acknowledge the fact that I was not the best dancer; but I have a friend who has influenced me to love one of the Chinese cultural dances and she is one of my best friends, Vicki Huang. She is skillful, passionate, and very intriguing. When I first saw her perform the Mongolian dance, it made me realize that people can be so talented and express their joy in their own ways. She was the reason why I started liking Mongolian dances. Not only did she influence me but, my teachers did too. The choreography are always enjoyable so I never get tired of practicing, even if the dances are from years ago. I can not believe how time has passed and now, I am able to share spotlights with her and many other talented upper class-men.

For many years, I never truly found my talents. Honestly, I never saw myself as a dancer growing up. I have always wanted to be an artist, but I guess it was not meant to be. I spent most of my life dancing yet, I was not the best until I became a young teenager. I guess I was too young to realize

how much was in store for me. Teachers would always tell me I could do better even though I do try my hardest. I had feelings that I was never going to be good enough for them to be satisfied. When I go to practice, I am usually the one who sweats the most and the one who gets the most sore. I exceed to the point where I cry after practice. But I always show good sportsmanship to support others and put other people's feelings before mine. Seeing my dance family happy will always make me happy.

As I set a limit to myself, I said no to parties on weekends so I can practice dancing. I am very fortunate to have people who encourage me to do better and I can not thank them enough for how much they have told me no when I wanted to go my own way and just ignore dancing. I also am very fortunate to have my parents, especially my mom, to take me to practice every week. Even when I am sick, she never lets me skip a day. I feel very grateful to be able to have a mother that loves me so much and do what is best for me.

After all, I can never go a day without thinking about how much Chinese cultural dancing has changed me. Most of the time, I always have an inspirational quote stuck in my head. "If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten"- Tony Robbins. This quote has inspired me to stay strong and have courage to go through endless amounts of critical practice that will never beat me down. If my mom would have never wonder across the street of where the AATF studio is, I would not know what I would be doing to stay happy.