My Extracurricular Activity

SURE, DANCE IS FUN. BUT THESE PERFORMERS HAVE OTHER SKILLS THEY'RE PUTTING TO GOOD USE.

By Rachel Zar

Alexandra Johnson
Silva Bell Dance New York
HOBBY: Reupholstering furniture

"My mother has always been into sewing and she's worked in interior design, so I latched on to her interests. Now, I own a lot of furniture that I've reupholstered. People don't realize you need upholstery just in case if you're going to take time to do it—and it saves money!"

Sarah Braverman
Perwone's Dance
HOBBY: Learning Italian

I decided to take up Italian because two of the dancers I work with speak the language and we spend a lot of time together. This hobby just happens to be on my winter training schedule! At the end of a long day it feels good to have something special under my belt that's outside of the dance world. Keeping your mind open makes your dancing more informed.

Jermaine Terry
Alvin Alley American Dance Ensemble
HOBBY: Con全程手

"Old-fashioned costume design isn't our thing, so I had to design my own piece and my costume designer suggested they try it and add the hair and makeup. So that's what I did. I started to do it professionally last year by accident. In the fall of last year, I was wearing a pair of jazz pants that I made. The manager of the company came over and asked if I wanted to design the costumes for one of the pieces. People now ask me: "What are you making?""

Shelby Elsbree
Royal Danish Ballet
HOBBIES: Blogging, cooking, and photography

"A little over a year ago, my sister encouraged me to do something with my free time besides watching TV. I started watching a program called a film and read a photograph. I thought it was the most beautiful picture ever. I love food and cooking, so I combined those and included stuff with dance and started a blog. "Elsbee." I used to be an active writer, but it's been a while."

Sona Kharatian
The Washington Ballet
HOBBY: Knitting

"During the summer season, I'll knit scarfs and stockings for Christmas presents. If someone tells me they need a scarf, I say yes!"

Temur Sulushvili
Jeffrey Baile
HOBBY: Crocheting

"One day I decided to pick up crocheting needles and see what happened. I thought it could be a book challenge. With crocheting you can do the whole thing in minutes. I was crocheting it, and you can see the whole thing when you have a scarf."

Sarah Braverman and her sister, dancer moss M'Omarie

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