



**Palm Desert Choreography Festival strives to select pieces of choreography reflecting a high level of artistic integrity, curiosity and skill, deserving to be seen and appreciated by a larger audience. With our selections we also strive to put together two diverse, entertaining and enriching evenings of dance for the Festival audience. Since we realize that you as the choreographer do not know what the body of work received each year looks like and how your work compares, we thought it would be helpful to provide you with a few things to consider as you select the piece or pieces to submit, or create new work for this purpose. We base these suggestions on observations from twenty years of producing this Festival:**

### **Theme/Mood**

Art, as it should, oftentimes becomes a reflection of humanity and the temperature of our society, leading to thought provoking work. A large percentage of choreographers who submit to our Festival choose to go with ideas that result in works with heavy, dark and/or tense qualities. While there is a need and place for this kind of work, and we definitely want some of it, we encourage and challenge choreographers to counteract the temperature of society and make your art an agent for the change you desire to see, addressing poignant issues, current events or personal matters with hints of hope, joy and even humor. Ultimately we'd like to see a lot more diversity of themes and moods in our submissions.

### **Musical diversity**

Ninety percent of the work submitted is set to a musical composition of repetitive dissonant chords, sometimes lacking melody altogether and often times piercing and harsh. While we understand that choreographers do not have any idea what the next choreographer is creating to, we encourage you to be a musical omnivore, and if submitting multiple works set to music, select works that are musically diverse. A full-length evening of dance requires some musical diversity.

### **Genre**

The Festival encourages submission of original work in all dance genres. The majority of work we currently receive belongs in the contemporary modern category, but we are open to new work in ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop, fusion, etc.