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Progress Report 3

During this time of project, a lot is going on. I have to carefully categorize my time between school and everything else. It's getting slightly overwhelming but it's almost over so I'm hanging on. Plus I thrive under pressure. From the points on which I did my two interviews, there was a problem. Because most of my interviews are filmed in a dance studio (being that my interviewee's are choreographers) there is a whole bunch of light and mirrors. A lot of light reflected off of those mirrors which gave me a glare in my videos that seem to be persistent on staying there. After days of playing with the color correction some are worthy of saving but others, the color correction made it worse. Luckily I was able to save a few and weed out the ones that I can work with, with the ones I had absolutely no chance of working with. It is a shame because a lot of them were good footage. The footage was also fine before uploading it into the Avid software, I assumed it just intensified whatever light might have previously been there.

Aside from a quick color correction fix, this meant that I had to go and reshoot the footage. This could've been a big set back, but I am pleased with the way the new footage came out. Having learned from my previous mistake I tried my best to avoid any harsh light or mirrors. The room itself has bright colors as well which doesn't help with the blending in of the light since there was nothing to separate it. A good outcome of this though was that upon my revisit I was warmly welcomed by the choreographer and students. The authentic connection that I felt there made me incapable of getting upset that I made this mistake. I was able to fix it. Upon filming this new footage I realized that it wasn't the way I was filming it that got the color like that, but the software itself. When I watched it at first it was fine, but after linking the footage is when I saw the problem. However, to me the color doesn't take away much from the film. I researched ways to bring the color saturation down and was only able to do it in a way that wasn't perfect, but was doable.

Regardless of how the color came out I knew that I wanted my message to be the one that stood out most about my project. I felt good about the way in which it was structured, beginning, middle, end. Or in other words, past, present, future. What I was really doing was bringing up Dance Africa in the past to compare it to what we're doing in the present and how far we want to take it in the future. It's a story and I feel really proud that it's a story I came up with.

Although this wasn't my first choice for the project, I'm glad that it is the choice I stuck with. I have learned a lot about Dance Africa and the mission they intend to complete, which is to spread awareness of African culture and heritage. They do this through music, dance, food, and celebration. One thing that is also deemed very

important is the honoring of our elders, or those who came before us. By them paving the way, we are able to continue on walking and it is important to acknowledge that. Overall, I am liking how the progress of my project is going. After having a meeting with my tech advisor, we discussed that other than some minor refining that won't take me too long, I'm basically finished. This project has shown me a lot about the pacing and timing of film, which will be further discussed in my final reflection.