

## CWSF 2018 - Ottawa, Ontario



### Phylecia Ferguson

#### What's The Pointe?

**Challenge:** Innovation

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Chignecto West

**City:** Elmsdale, NS

**School:** Hants East Rural High School

**Abstract:** I have created a digital 3D orthotic through the use of a 3D scanner, designed specifically for a pointe shoe. A dancer's job is based off of their ability to dance and, as with every physical activity dancers are at a high injury risk. This orthotic is designed to reduce injuries and improve a dancer's ability to dance.

#### Biography

I basically grew up in dance studios. Ballet was always my dream as a child, but the moment I discovered science was the moment my ballerina dreams changed. The inspiration for my project comes from my years of ballet training from all over Canada. Pointe shoes are a huge part of a ballet dancer's life and something that all dancers have major issues with for fitting, comfortability and injury causes. Although I have only tested my prototype on myself as a dancer, I would love to have the opportunity to test this prototype on other dancers who have different feet than I do. My advice to other students thinking about doing a project would be; stop thinking and start doing!