



CTV PHOTO

Stouffville's Lindsay Leuschner (bottom left) poses with the other nine competitors remaining on So You Think You Can Dance Canada following Tuesday night's episode.

Eliminated dancers eye U.S. work

Geisha Chin and Joey Arrigo are not Canada's Favourite Dancers.

The York Region residents were eliminated from So You Think You Can Dance Canada Tuesday night.

"You have bright futures ahead of you," show host Leah Miller told the pair during Tuesday night's elimination show.

For Ms Chin, this was the fourth time she has landed in the bottom three couples, which is based on audience votes.

"I was in the bottom with two amazing dancers (Stouffville's Lindsay Leuschner and Toronto's Yuliya Zavadska) so I had a strong feeling it was time to go home," the 19-year-old Richmond Hill resident said.

The timing, however, was bittersweet, as Ms Chin had her best and favourite performance Monday night, an Afro-jazz piece with Mr. Arrigo.

Ms Chin, however, said she has no regrets and got out of the show exactly what she wanted - to learn and grow as a dancer.

Like Ms Chin, Mr. Arrigo is OK with being voted off the show. His elimination, however, was not unanimous, according to judge Tre Armstrong. The other two dancers he was up against were Thornhill's Shane Simpson and Quebec's Christian Millett.

"There are definitely going to be opportunities that arise for me and Geisha," Mr. Arrigo told the York Region Media Group Wednesday morning.

TWO REGRETS

The Newmarket resident went on to the show with a laundry list of things he wanted to accomplish, which included proving to Canada he could dominate in his genre of contemporary dance and to inspire young Canadian dancers.

Mr. Arrigo does, however, have two regrets. "I could have transformed myself into what my audience wanted me to be as a dancer," he said.

His second regret was not being able to completely understand the choreography of the salsa he performed with Denista Ikonomova two weeks ago.

"I don't feel as though Gustavo (Vargas, the choreographer) and I worked the same way... He's a great choreographer, I just wasn't able to read his choreography," Mr. Arrigo said. "It wouldn't have turned out half as good as it did without (Ms Ikonomova)."

But Ms Ikonomova is not who Mr. Arrigo is pulling for to be named Canada's Favourite Dancer. It's actually Tottenham's Jordan Clark, who he called his strongest support system.

PULLING FOR LINDSAY

Ms Chin is also rooting for a female winner - Ms Leuschner.

"She's one of the strongest finalists left in terms of dancing and her personality is great," she said.

The pair were roommates throughout the competition.

Tuesday night was the first time Ms Leuschner, 19, landed in the bottom three couples and had to dance for her life.

"I wasn't nervous. I was kind of excited," Ms Leuschner said. "I think it's a reminder to Canada who you are as a dancer."

Along with Ms Leuschner, the top 10 finalists include York Region dancers Adam LoPapa (Woodbridge), Melissa Mitro (Richmond Hill) and Mr. Simpson who said, following his performance: "it would be amazing (to be in the top 10)... I just really want it."

Ms Chin plans on taking a couple of weeks off and awaiting her American visa so she can head to Los Angeles where she hopes to land roles in music videos and movies.

Mr. Arrigo already has his visa and is awaiting word from a Washington D.C., dance company.

You can follow the remaining York Region contestants on Twitter: Adam LoPapa (www.twitter.com/AdamL_DCS4), Lindsay Leuschner (www.twitter.com/Lindsay_DCS4), Melissa Mitro (www.twitter.com/Melissa_DCS4), Shane Simpson (www.twitter.com/Shane_DCS4)

The show airs Mondays and Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on CTV. You can follow the show on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SYTYCDCanada

- Sandra Bolan

Lindsay 'amazed' by support

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for-your-life solo, she not only had support back here in Stouffville, but also in the audience.

"She's so talented, unbelievably talented," said Jodi Olmstead, a friend of the Leuschner family, who brought her eight-year-old daughter Emily to Tuesday night's show at the studio on Toronto's lakeshore.

Following the Tuesday results show, which is taped at 6:30, the dancers get ready for the next performance show by choosing their dance genre out of a hat. Partners have also been switched more often than not this season and will continue to change until a winner is announced.

The dancers have three days to learn a new number, which is sometimes not in their own genre. The performance show, which airs Mondays, is taped on Saturdays.

The dancers, even those who live just north of Toronto, live in the city. Ms Leuschner and recently eliminated Richmond Hill dancer Geisha Chin were roommates.

"It's just crazy to see everybody go," said Ms Leuschner, who was visibly upset at the loss of Ms Chin and Newmarket's Joey Arrigo. The trio train out of the same studio in Markham - Elite Danceworx.

"Everybody's surprising to go home. Everyone's so talented. It's just a free-for-all now... We hate Tuesdays."

She saw first-hand how supportive the residents are, in particular, with the car flags, posters and signs posted at businesses.

Ms Leuschner recently had the opportunity to return to Stouffville where she saw first-hand how supportive the residents are, in particular, with the car flags, posters and signs posted at businesses.

"It's amazing to have that support," she said. "It makes you feel so good... A lot of people are proud to know a little Stouffville girl is on TV."

The show airs Mondays and Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on CTV. Boston Pizza in Stouffville is hosting Lindsay viewing nights on Mondays.

You can follow the show's official Twitter account at twitter.com/SYTYCDCanada and can become a fan of the show at facebook.com/SYTYCDCanada.com. You can follow Lindsay Leuschner at twitter.com/Lindsay_DCS4



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