

The Studio & Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre | partners in excellence serving Santa Cruz County for over 30 years  
Diane Cypher, Artistic Director | Pamela Martin, Music Director | Sandy Nelson, Administrative Director

**SPRING 2020 HAS CHANGED OUR LIVES**

The current pandemic has changed the way we live, for now, and perhaps forever. I wish strength for our families as we navigate the world day-by-day. It is my hope that SCBT can still present some of the ballets the dancers have worked so hard on this season. We are holding our Friday, May 29 date at the Samper Recital Hall @Cabrillo College, in hopes that a performance may be possible by that time. However this season comes to a close — whether it be quietly and without applause or to the sound of appreciative clapping and relief of the current situation — I would like to thank all of our families for your commitment and support this season.

**Sandy will keep Studio families informed about Summer Programs, tuition policies and altered calendar dates.**

We will make every effort to provide summer study in all its glory, with esteemed guest instructors toward the end of the summer if at all possible. As always, when we are open for business, we endeavor to provide the best in pre-professional training by our own excellent faculty. Rest assured, our students who worked so diligently all year long will only face slight setbacks when you return to class and your strength, flexibility and overall technique will return before you know it.

I am especially proud of this year’s Senior Company dancers and all of the progress they have made this season. This has been both the **most committed** and **most fun** group of dancers I have ever worked with. It is they who inspired this Spring News bulletin, as I want to honor their hard work, progress and talent. Each of them is individual and brings something special to class and rehearsal, whether the setting is a creative one, or one where they are being directed to give more, work harder. They are the people who enrich my daily life. If performances (live or filmed) are not possible this spring, I feel profoundly privileged to have witnessed their growth every day since August. Dancers, I salute you.

**WITH GRATITUDE,**  
*Diane*



*Senior Company dancers display the camaraderie built over months of working hard together and supporting each other’s efforts.*

**SENIOR COMPANY 2019-2020 SEASON  
IN PICTURES HERE AND ON NEXT PAGES**



*The Boys (plus older brother) during the August rehearsal period. A moment from Eva Stone’s new piece “Lavender.”  
Photos by Jim Schwartz. “Lavender” photos contributed by Rebecca Dymond.*

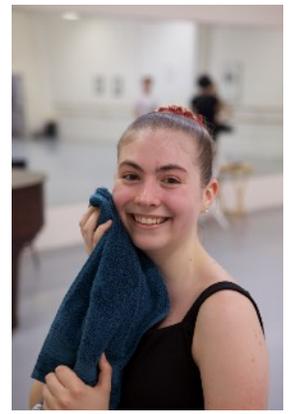




### *Our new **Waltz of the Flowers** by Ron Cunningham*

*What a consummate professional Ron is. He choreographed this beautiful new version for us in just two weekends and gave our dancers something to strive for, especially the challenging choreography for our lead couple. The entire Senior Company was radiant in this work (except our Russian Blintz, who was busy cabriole-ing and pirouette-ing; but these photos show him stepping in for an absent dancer in rehearsal.)*



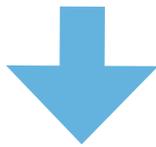


## *Personalities and camaraderie*



*Some of my favorite moments: before, during, and after the work.*

*The photo of our young dancers playing poker on a break from "Nutcracker" rehearsals was a popular one. This photo is probably my favorite down-time moment captured from the season, as it illustrates the complete ease between two dancers.*

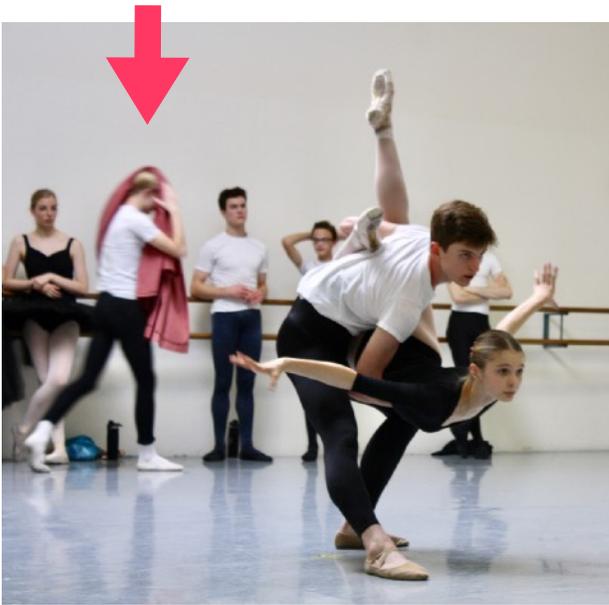




## Friendship

*Our dancers demonstrate their rapport during rehearsals.*

*It is no secret that training to be a ballet dancer is hard work, for countless hours, even when you are tired and sore or are having a bad day. One of our male dancers demonstrates that sometimes not even resting on the sidelines is enough ... but a nap between Spanish and Waltz of the Flowers should do it.*





## *The Nutcracker*

*Rehearsal shots on this page contributed by Flora Chatwin.*



*Act II divertissements, Dolls, Snow Pas de Deux couple, Waltz of the Flowers lead, The Boys chill in the dressing room*





## ***The Nutcracker performances***

*Photos on this page by Steve DiBartolomeo.*





*The Boys after Mens Class with guest instructor David Arce, above. The Girls, above right. The whole gang, below, and during Nutcracker season, bottom.*



*Eva Stone's  
Lavender*





*The season's repertoire evolves through hours of rehearsal*

*Company Class and rehearsals for emerging choreography piece, Grand Pas Classique Hongrois and The Jungle Book — with face painting by Lei Su and her team with included parents, siblings, staff and 2 Cabrillo College students.*

*Our dancers made tremendous progress in classical partnering in Grand Pas Classique Hongrois, and developed characters in The Jungle Book with sensitivity and commitment.*

*Below, the wolf family does not want Mowgli to leave them.*

*Bottom: Jacala the Monkey King, Shere Khan the Tiger and Akela the Wolf Pack Leader*

