



SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWS

The Studio & Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre | partners in excellence serving Santa Cruz County for over 30 years
Robert Kelley and Diane Cypher, Artistic Directors | Sandy Nelson, Administrative Manager | Rod Caborn, SCBT Board President

Welcome to our 2019-2020 Season

The Studio's 43rd year in business and Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre's 36th season

WELCOME, DANCERS AND PARENTS

We look forward to a rewarding year together! We recommend all of our students and parents visit our online Calendar page, which includes studio closures and special events. Audition information is detailed on the Auditions page. Studio policies, tuition rates, schedule, dress code, etcetera, can be found on the Academy pages. New parents will find helpful information on our Newsletter Archive page, where we have archived previous articles about dancer nutrition, how to support your dancer, information about pointework and much more.

The Studio and Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre have been partners in excellence for over thirty years. The Studio, School of Classical Ballet is a business owned and operated by Diane Cypher and Robert Kelley. It provides ballet classes to its students. The Studio employs professional dance teachers, accompanists and Registrar. Tuition payments are to be made out to The Studio. The Studio does not accept credit cards, and is an approved Ocean Grove vendor.

Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre is a non-profit organization which presents performances to the community. It is governed by a volunteer board of directors. Robert Kelley and Diane Cypher are hired by the board as Executive Artistic Directors. The board is supported by a Guild under the leadership of co-Chairwomen Christina McLaughlin, Kimberly Miles and Linda Swan. The Guild welcomes new members throughout the year and presents fund raising events, for which volunteers and support are needed. SCBT hires the Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre Orchestra musicians annually, and has a long-term contract with Music Director Pamela Martin. SCBT rents theaters during the season for performances, hires technical crews and designers and provides scenery and costumes for performances. SCBT is supported largely by foundation grants, private donations, and only partially by participation fees and ticket sales.

The Studio and SCBT partner each year to train the highest level of dancers possible. The standards are very high for Senior Company members, who spend an average of 25 hours weekly in the studio honing their skills in classes and rehearsals.

Being a part of The Studio and one of the SCBT companies, or as part of "The Nutcracker" cast, will be a learning experience that will benefit each dancer for the rest of their lives. Our dancers learn commitment, discipline, organizational skills, spatial awareness, teamwork, a sense of responsibility, mentoring and an excellent work ethic. Ballet training and the rehearsal process improve cognitive thinking and can greatly help dancers with dyslexia, A.D.D. and other learning disabilities. This — on top of gaining strength, coordination, endurance, flexibility, improved posture, confidence, expression and artistry — that is developed every day in the studio.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A REWARDING YEAR TOGETHER ~ FALL TERM BEGINS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Our favorite quote of the moment:

"When a dancer comes onstage, he is not just a blank slate that the choreographer has written on. Behind him he has all the decisions he has made in life... each time, he has chosen, and in what he is onstage, you see the result of those choices. You are looking at the person he is, and the person who, at this point, he cannot help but be... Exceptional dancers, in my experience, are also exceptional people, people with an attitude toward life, a kind of quest, and an internal quality. They know who they are, and they show this to you, willingly."

~ Mikhail Baryshnikov



2019-2020
Senior Company dancers
photographed by
Jim Schwartz.

CONGRATULATIONS COMPANY DANCERS

2019-2020 Company dancers were chosen by open audition in August. We look forward to seeing you dance this season!

SANTA CRUZ BALLET THEATRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GUILD CO-CHAIRWOMEN

President ~ Rod Caborn

Vice President ~ Ciara Harraher

Treasurer ~ Lei Su

Secretary ~ George Hood

Trustees ~ Shannon Bane, Charlotte Kim, Owen Lawlor,
Sissy Madden

Guild Co-Chairwomen ~ Christina McLaughlin,
Kimberly Miles, Linda Swan

JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS! Support our performances and educational programs. Help ensure the future of Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre. All

interested parties are encouraged to contact Board President Rod Caborn at 831-259-1900 or rod@firstclassfundraising.com

WE WELCOME LILY SWAN TO OUR FACULTY

We are happy to welcome alumna Lily Swan to our faculty. Lily has completed Teacher Training Courses with Diane Cypher and has taught several levels — from Pre-Ballet through Level IV — over the last couple of years. She will be teaching Pre-Ballet through Level II this fall. Welcome Lily!

*Junior and Senior
Company dancers
at the barre, right;
Senior Company men get
some air in the centre,
below.*



GUILD MEMBERSHIP DRIVE and Leotard Sale SATURDAY, SEPT 21 in The Studio lobby
Donations of gently used dancewear are greatly appreciated



**Ballet is not as gender-specific as we might think.
Male and female dancers must be equally
Strong, Sensitive, Powerful, Graceful, Athletic, and Artistic.**

We are lucky to have a wonderful mix of dancers this season and look forward to their technical and artistic development.

*Senior Company dancers
take class in August.
They also began learning
Raymonda Variations for
spring's In Concert
performances and a new
piece by an emerging
choreographer for
The Ballet Alliance
Adjudication in January.
Photos by Jim Schwartz.*





Robert Kelley & Diane Cypher,
Executive Artistic Directors

All Performances with Live Orchestra
conducted by Music Director Pamela Martin

The Nutcracker

2019 AUDITIONS

Saturday, September 21

Dancers age 4-6 years* 4:00 pm

Dancers age 7-10 years 3:00 pm

Dancers age 11 and up 1:30 pm

*Dancers age 4-6 must be students of The Studio to qualify; parent must be present.
All other age group auditions are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. No experience necessary!

Times listed are for Audition Registration; Auditions begin 30 minutes after. Late entrants are not eligible.

\$30 audition fee per dancer.

Bring pointe shoes if you dance en pointe and attend the first audition regardless of age.

Auditions held at The Studio, School of Classical Ballet, 2800 S Rodeo Gulch Road, Soquel.



Visit scbt.org for more information

photos by Michael Gerald-Yamasaki and Nikki Brooks