# SCBT FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

The Studio & Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre | partners in excellence serving Santa Cruz County for over 30 years

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 PETITE COMPANY DANCERS!

Our company of 16 young dancers worked with guest choreographer Debra Pearse Rogo on her ballet "The Jungle Book" for performance In Concert at the Crocker April 4. The dancers have the fun challenge of dancing roles which are not human. That's right: the Petite Company dancers will be Exotic Plants, Wolf Cubs, Kaa Handlers (Kaa is the boa constrictor who hypnotizes Mowgli and some of the other jungle creatures), and Arie joins the Junior Company troop of Monkeys. Artistic Director of Mid-Columbia Ballet, Debra Rogo has staged her fantastic ballet on her own company several times. This is the first time she has staged it for another group, and this is also the first time the Petite Company dancers will have the privilege of working with a guest choreographer. The dancers all enjoyed Debra's gregarious personality and quick wit.

Resident Choreographer of Mid-Columbia Ballet Nicole Haskins will be in our studios mid-February to choreograph some of the main characters' dances and complete the story. Nicole recently retired from her dancing career with the Sacramento and Smuin Ballet companies and has embarked on her career as a professional choreographer. We look forward to welcoming her to Santa Cruz, and seeing what she will create to compliment Debra's work.

## Come see us dance!

SANTA CRUZ BALLET THEATRE performs with the SANTA CRUZ SYMPHONY The Orchestra Sings

Family Concert: Sunday, March 1 Children's Concerts: Thursday, March 5

Family Concert tickets are available at the Civic Box Office

Senior and Junior Company dancers will perform two new works by Associate Choreographer Flora Chatwin. The concerts also feature Kuumbwa Honors Jazz Band, the SC County Youth Symphony, Cabrillo Youth Chorus and El Sistema Santa Cruz .

#### THE BALLET ALLIANCE ADJUDICATION PROCESS

THE STUDIO, SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL BALLET PROFESSIONAL BALLET TRAINING ACADEMY

Our Senior Company recently participated in The Ballet Alliance Adjudication process, welcoming Festival Artistic Director Nicholas Ade to our studio. SCBT presented a company class, taught by Diane Cypher and accompanied by Carlos Fagundo, as well as two company pieces and two additional pieces choreographed by our own dancers. Though the Adjudication itself is a nerve-wracking event, our dancers performed beautifully. They rose to the occasion and demonstrated confidence and skill.

Mr. Ade viewed the classic "Grand Pas Classique Hongrois" and Eva Stone's recent creation "Lavender" and chose the classic offering for performance at the Festival in Long Beach this April. Repertoire to be Adjudicated is chosen to best showcase the range of our dancers as well as challenge them in diverse idioms.

Two company dancers choreographed pieces for consideration on the Emerging Choreography Concert at the Festival. Mr. Ade was shown 21 different pieces for consideration on this concert, and he chose Flora Chatwin's piece "Ricochet" as one of only 7 pieces to be performed.

The Adjudication process includes evaluations of our training methods, dancers' performances and choreography. At the Festival, the evaluation process will culminate with Mr. Ade's assessment of our performance(s). These evaluations are one of the best things about being a member company of The Ballet Alliance. Each Festival Artistic Director shares his or her expertise, with the aim that member companies improve in every aspect. This focus on high standards in turn benefits each and every dancer of Ballet Alliance companies.



Santa Cruz Symphony Music Director Daniel Stewart



The cast of The Jungle Book with guest choreographer Debra Pearse Rogo

### NO SURPRISE: NEW STUDY SHOWS THAT DANCE IS THE MOST PHYSICALLY-DEMANDING JOB IN THE UNITED STATES

A recent study conducted by researchers at InsuranceProviders.com analyzed data from the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET), a national organization developed through support from the U.S. Department of Labor/ Employment and Training Administration, to determine the 20 most physically demanding jobs in the country. They analyzed the level of strength, stamina, flexibility and coordination required for a host of jobs.

Careers in hard labor — such as iron and steel workers, roofers, firefighters and construction laborers — accounted for 15 of the 20 professions on the list. But the data determined that dancers have the most physically demanding job of all, with an average combined score of 97 out of 100 for overall level of job physicality. (O\*NET collected information to assign a score between 0 and 100 for each of several key aspects of a job.) Dancers scored 100 out of 100 in the stamina, flexibility and coordination categories, and 87.8 out of 100 for strength. Go to the SCBT facebook page for a link to the Dancemagazine article outlining the occupational study.

While our young students train for such a demanding profession, remember that a healthy diet and sufficient rest are integral to success. These factors are especially important during the formative years. St. Patrick's Auction Event

**Bargetto Winery** 4-8 pm Sunday, March 15 Make reservations in The Studio office

\$75 per person or \$125 per couple

\$600 for a table for 10\* \*includes 2 bottles of wine

#### Featuring a performance by Men In Tights!

Donations of gift baskets can be left on the long table in The Studio lobby or in the office



Thank you for your support!