

SPRING2021 NEWSLETTER



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





CONGRATULATIONS JUNIOR COMPANY dancers! These dedicated young dancers (pictured above) will perform in "Giselle" excerpts alongside our Senior Company. Come support and enjoy their efforts!

EMILY MORAN ACCEPTS TRAINEE POSITION

Senior Company dancer Emily Moran has accepted an offer to join the Studio Company of Ballet Chicago next season. She will travel to Moscow Russia this

summer, to attend the prestigious Bolshoi Ballet Academy. Then she will return to study in Chicago and get acclimated to the School of Ballet Chicago. Their Studio Company is a rigorous training opportunity, which includes plenty of performing experience. Good luck Emily — We wish you the best in your endeavors and for your future!



Our Senior Company dancers will have the thrill of taking master classes with these instructors this spring. Apprentice classes and instructors are listed on the right side of the SCBT Rehearsal Information Page.



DEBRA AUSTIN, Ballet

Debra Austin received a scholarship to the School of American Ballet when she was 12 years old. Four years later, she was the first African-American female dancer to join the New York City Ballet. Ms. Austin danced many principal roles with New York City Ballet in works choreographed by Balanchine, including Symphony in C, Divertimento #15, and Ballo della

Regina, in which Balanchine created a solo for her. She also danced lead roles for Jerome Robbins in The Four Seasons, Interplay, and Chansons Madécasses, which he created on her. She later joined the Zurich Ballet in Switzerland, where she danced principal roles (many with Rudolf Nureyev) in works by all of the major choreographers, including Myrtha in Heinz Spoerli's Giselle. While there, she toured throughout Europe. In 1982 she returned to the US and was promoted to the rank of principal dancer at Pennsylvania Ballet, making her the first African-American female principal dancer of a major American ballet company. She currently serves as the ballet mistress for the Carolina Ballet.



AUTUMN ECKMAN, Modern/Contemporary

Autumn Eckman (MFA, University of Iowa) received her classical ballet training from Tom Pazik, Susan Banks Bebee in Atlanta, GA and graduated from the Houston Ballet Academy. In her performance career, Autumn had the privilege to dance with Giordano Dance Chicago where she also served as Assistant Artistic Director, Resident

Choreographer and Director Giordano II; Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Luna Negra Dance Theatre, Lucky Plush Productions, Ron De Jesus Dance, State Street Ballet and The Cambrians. Her choreographic commissions include State Street Ballet, DanceWorks Chicago, Kit Modus, Big Muddy Dance Co., Wylliams-Henry Dance Company, Missouri Contemporary Ballet, Washington & Lee University, Stephens College, Western Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the University of Missouri- Kansas City. Her choreography has been presented at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Bates Dance Festival, Women In Dance Leadership Conference, Performática (Mexico), Solo Duo Dance Festival, Detroit Dance City Festival, Charlotte Dance Festival, Blackbox International Theatre & Dance Festival (Bulgaria), Houston Dance Gallery Festival, Men In Dance Festival, the McCallum Choreography Competition and with JUNTOS Collective (Guatemala) where

she served as the outreach choreographer in the summer of 2019. Autumn is currently an Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Arizona.



ANNA LANTZ, Ballet

Born in Sweden, Anna Lantz started her ballet training at a young age at the Storan in Goteborg. She attended The Royal Ballet School (RBS) in London, England and graduated from the RBS Teacher Training Course. As Head Student with the highest honor, she was one of only five instructors in the United States to possess the following ballet pedagogy

qualifications: The RBS Three-Year Teachers Diploma, Imperial Society for Teachers of Dance (ISTD), Cecchetti Associate Teaching Diploma and the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) Teaching Diploma. Upon graduating from RBS, Lantz was immediately offered a full-time position at the John Cranko School in Stuttgart, Germany, where she taught for five years. In 2004, Lantz became a full-time instructor at Boston Ballet School, where she was promoted to Head of Elementary Programs. In 2007, Lantz was appointed Assistant Choreographer for Disney's number one box office hit, the movie *The Game Plan*.



MARIN BOIERU, Mens' class

Marin Boieru serves as Ballet Master at Carolina Ballet. He studied ballet in his native Romania and then later at the Kirov Ballet in Russia. He won the gold medal at the International Ballet Competition-Varna and the silver at the International Ballet Competition-Moscow. Praised by The New York Times for his "heart-stopping ability," he performed as a principal dancer in the United States

at Miami City Ballet and Pennsylvania Ballet and in Europe at Maurice Béjart's Ballet of the 20th Century (Switzerland), Roland Petit's Ballet National de Marseille (France), and Opera of Bucharest (Romania). He has toured nationally and internationally with Stars of American Ballet

partnering Susan Jaffe, Alexandra Ferri, and Leslie Brown. His television appearances include starring roles in *La Sylphide* on PBS, in *The Magic Flute* on French television and in *Giselle* on TVR in Romania.



Ballet Camps with Jenny Bennett

For young dancers, from Pre-Ballet (ages 4-6) through current Level I dancers. All curriculum will be level-appropriate and gender-inclusive! Level I dancers are encouraged to add these camps to their training schedule to increase creativity and coordination. They will include elements of improvisation and choreography to enhance your technique!

All Camps are 1 week: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10 am-12 noon

Bring a snack and a full water bottle; mask required.

The curriculum for each camp is developed with the level in mind. Level I dancers will be expected to assimilate and produce more than Pre-Ballet students. Jenny is the ultimate young dancer instructor and will attend to each level's needs and progress.

Dates:

Pre-Ballet (ages 4-6 years): June 14-18, June 28-July 2, July 12-16, July 26-30

Primary and Level I (ages 7 and up): June 21-25, June 28-July 2, July 19-23, July 26-30

Thematic Curriculum includes

- Under the Sea/Explorers/Jungle Book /Little Mermaid
- Dance Around the World: Hula, Tahitian, African
- Art of Movement/Shapes-Colors-Sounds/ Peter and the Wolf
- Nutcracker Camp

Refer to brochure for more information — will be mailed home in April. Two weeks are all-inclusive with both levels working and learning together.

Tuition TBA.

Sign up for all 4 weeks for your age group/level and receive a special discount. These camps are gender-inclusive. We love our Boys in Ballet!

IMPORTANT SPRING/SUMMER DATES

April 5-10 ~ Studio Closed for Spring Break

May 22 ~ Spring performance and fund raising event

May 29 ~ Last day of class

May 30-June 13 ~ Studio Closed for 2 weeks

June 14 ~ Summer Session Begins

August 6 ~ Last day of Summer Session

August 7 ~ Company Auditions for 2021-22 Season

Week of August 9 ~ Senior Company Rehearsals

August 15-Sept 5 ~ Studio Closed, Company Off

Tuesday, Sept 6 ~ Studio Opens for Fall



New Saturday BOYS CLASS with Jenny Bennett for ages 4 and up 12:45-1:30 pm

Starts March 27 sandy@scbt.org for more information

the young men of our SCBT Senior Company will assist!



SUMMER PROGRAM JUNE 14-AUGUST 6

8-Week Program for Primary through Level VI Monday through Friday

The Studio offers a comprehensive summer program, eight full weeks of summer training of the highest caliber with our own faculty and special guest instructors.

Levels V and VI:

Week of June 14 ~ David Arce, Ballet
Week of June 21 ~ Melody Mennite Walsh, Ballet
and Isaac Herrera, Intro to Breaking!
Week of June 28 ~ Modern on the beach
w/Eva Stone
July/August TBA ~ Ron Cunningham,
Ballet and Choreography
July/August TBA ~ Alex Cunningham, Ballet
July/August TBA ~ Linda Lock, Ballet
July/August TBA ~ Erin Robbins, Ballet

All summer long:
Pilates with Myra Ritchie
Music with Chris Pratorius
Ballet with Rebecca Blair
Modern with Stephanie DaSilva

Choreography Creative Tank with Flora Chatwin
Ballet with Diane Cypher

Levels III and IV curriculum includes Ballet,
Pointe/Pre-Pointe, Choreography,
Music for Dancers and Improvisation!
Faculty: Jenny Bennett, Diane Cypher, Lily Swan,
Chris Pratorius, Flora Chatwin + guests!

Classes will be held in-studio in accordance with current Covid safety protocol.

Class size is limited; enroll early to reserve your place in the program.

Tuition TBA. Summer brochure will be mailed home to our current students and interested dancers this April.

We look forward to working with all of you!

Schedule and guests subject to change.

Adaptations to the Levels V and VI schedule will be made as guest instructors are available.

EXAMPLE SUMMER SCHEDULES

Primary and Level I

These Technique Classes are separate from Dance Camps and are the foundation of your training regime:

Tuesday and Thursday

Primary 12:30-1:30 pm Level I 12:30-2:00 pm

Level III

Monday/Wednesday

Ballet 12:30-2:00 pm Pointe 2:15-3:15 pm

plus Wednesday Choreography 3:30-4:30 pm

Tuesday/Thursday

Ballet 2:15-3:45 pm
Beginning Pointe 4-5 pm

Friday

Ballet 12:30-2:00 pm Music 2:15-3:30 pm

Level IV

Monday/Wednesday

Ballet 12:30-2:00 pm Pointe 2:15-3:15 pm

plus Wed Choreography 3:30-4:30 pm

Tuesday/Thursday

Pilates 12:30-1:30 pm Ballet 1:45-3:45 pm

Extra class (optional): Level III Pointe 4-5 pm

Friday

Ballet 12:30-2:00 pm Music 2:15-3:30 pm

Levels V and VI

Monday/Wednesday

Ballet 12:30-2:30 pm

Pointe/Mens/Variations/other idioms 3-4:30 pm

Tuesday/Thursday

Pilates 12:30-1:30 pm Ballet 1:45-3:45 pm

plus Tuesday: Music 4-5 pm

plus Thursday: Modern or Improv 4-5 pm

Friday

Ballet 12:30-2:30 pm

Choreography Creative Tank 3-4:30 pm

Level V and VI students who exhibit excellent work ethic and attendance may have the opportunity for private or semi-private instruction with Diane Cypher in addition to the above schedule; interested dancers should contact Diane directly.