

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

❄️ The Nutcracker ❄️

Performances at the
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Saturday, Dec 18 and Sunday, Dec 19 ❄️

featuring SCBT Music Director Pamela Martin
conducting the Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre Orchestra
with esteemed guest artists and alumni
Melody Mennite and Lucien Postlewaite

Tell your friends! Our dancers are working hard in the studio and can't wait to perform for a live audience again! We will be following all Civic and City Covid protocol, but it's a small adjustment to pay for the opportunity to present and enjoy live art once again. Be sure to patronize the wonderful downtown restaurants and shops before or after the performance, as the Civic will not be selling concessions. This is an opportunity to bring joy and business to our local community, and ourselves. Don't miss it!

Tickets are on sale now, click [HERE](#) to purchase



Parent Observation Week November 1-6

Parents are invited to observe classes (with the exceptions of Level IV Tuesday and Thursday, and Levels V & VI Tuesday).

Please do not bring extra people for spatial safety, and respect the concentration in the studio.

Mask required regardless of vaccination status

Our students are making great progress
~ We hope you can make it!

**The Studio will be
CLOSED
the entire week
of November 22**

Happy Thanksgiving!

Nutcracker rehearsals
will be held
Sunday, November 28
for ALL ROLES



*Maestro Martin conducting the Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre Nutcracker Orchestra in rehearsal.
Photo by Nikki Brooks.*



Our dancers hard at work in the studio



Clockwise from top left: Advanced students in Myra Ritchey's Pilates class. Level VI student gets a hands-on correction from Diane Cypher. Level IV students in Choreography class with Linda Lock via Zoom. Jenny Bennett guides Level I dancers through their barre work. Photos by Jim Schwartz.

Our Junior Company opened the season at our annual Kick-Off Event on October 24.

They performed a fabulous piece by Flora Chatwin created especially for the occasion, and they did a terrific job! Thank you to our ballet community for coming out to support SCBT and start the season with this celebratory dinner, even in the middle of our first storm. Special thanks to the Halstead Family and our Guild Co-Chairwomen for making the event happen, our Senior Company dancers for serving and to everyone who donated wine and auction items. What a great start to the 2021-2022 season! Younger dancers, pictured at right, approve.





Our dancers enjoyed another phenomenal rehearsal experience with the inimitable Ron Cunningham, who created a new Snow Scene for our *Nutcracker*.



Piggy-backing on archival SCBT Snow Pas de Deux choreography, Ron's work begins with the entrance of the Snowflakes, and continues through the end of the act. He restaged his choreography for the Sacramento Ballet Snowflakes (yes, made for professional dancers), and he created new choreography for our Snow Queen and King to complement the corps de ballet, and vice-versa.



From top: SCBT Senior Company dancers enjoy a maskless outdoor break from Snow rehearsal. Snowflakes in rehearsal. Our Snow Queen and King practice new choreography created especially for them by Mr. Cunningham.

Photos by Jim Schwartz.



SCBT Senior Company dancers are already preparing for the annual Ballet Alliance Evaluation, which will take place in early February. Our assigned Festival Artistic Director is Susan Brooker, who is the director of the pre-professional division of the North Carolina School of the Arts. The Ballet Alliance is providing two virtual events this

month: a seminar with inspiring dancer Katherine Barkman and a College Roundtable. The organization is planning to host the annual Festival in person this spring in El Paso, Texas. Fingers crossed for this valuable experience happening as planned and for everyone's safety.