



AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

The Studio & Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre | partners in excellence serving Santa Cruz County for over 30 years | scbt.org
Robert Kelley and Diane Cypher, Artistic Directors | Sandy Nelson, Academy Registrar | Mark Swan, SCBT Board President

WELCOME TO THE STUDIO'S 40TH SEASON OF TRAINING DANCERS!

WELCOME TO THE 2016-2017 SEASON

It's true: The Studio was established forty years ago! Originally housed in downtown Santa Cruz, The Studio moved to Soquel after suffering irreparable damage in the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989. Directed by Diane Cypher and Robert Kelley since 1998, our mission to prepare aspiring dancers for a career in the classical ballet field continues. We also strive to prepare dancers for esteemed college and university dance programs, and we aim to instill a love of the art form in all of our students. We are proud of the dancers we have trained!

As the official academy of Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre, The Studio has been recognized in recent years for excellence in training by Regional Dance America. We cherish the relationships we have built with our esteemed colleagues in the field. We also relish being a part of the diverse and prolific arts community as we have here in Santa Cruz.

We are glad you have chosen our academy for your dance training and are confident we have a program to suit your needs and aspirations. Our most recognized program is the center of our success: our Professional Training Program. This program is built on the rigor required by classical ballet training and has proven successful in training professionals. Many examples exist, most notably those dancers who hold principal dancer contracts with esteemed companies. For a list of our impressive alumni, go to scbt.org/alumni. These dancers worked diligently throughout their training, and bring the qualities they learned here to their careers: organization, work ethic and integrity. Talent is just a part of what makes a great dancer; hard work is a larger part of what creates success.

We also have a time-tested Preparatory Ballet Program, which encompasses Pre-Ballet and Primary levels of study. These classes are taught by longtime teacher Jeani Mitchell and director Robert Kelley. Both have a unique affinity for young children and this program is an excellent introduction

to ballet. Classes nurture each child's musicality and self-expression, while building small and large motor skills, direction-following and cognitive thinking. Stretching and coordination skills are a large part of these classes.

Our Teen and Adult Programs have stood the test of time. Some adult dancers have been taking our classes for many years and enjoy the concentrated, professional atmosphere of our facility. These programs offer more flexibility in both commitment level and payment plans than our other programs.

This season we are offering a new Extended Dance Program. This program features two levels, Beginning/Intermediate and Intermediate/Advanced and includes ballet technique and contemporary dance classes. The Intermediate/Advanced level also includes a weekly Modern class with Lyndsey Loosley. Jessica Metter has been brought on board to teach contemporary classes. Jessica is a local product who has roots in our Professional Ballet Program and has won numerous awards as a dancer and choreographer. We welcome her to our faculty.

We are glad you are joining us this year and we anticipate a rewarding season together!



CONGRATULATIONS COMPANY DANCERS!

Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre is proud to announce its roster of Company dancers for the 2016-2017 Season. We welcome some new additions to our ranks, as well as many returning from previous seasons. Make sure to come applaud their efforts this season!



Above, some of our 2016-2017 Company dancers before the first Company class of the season; photographed by James Schwartz.

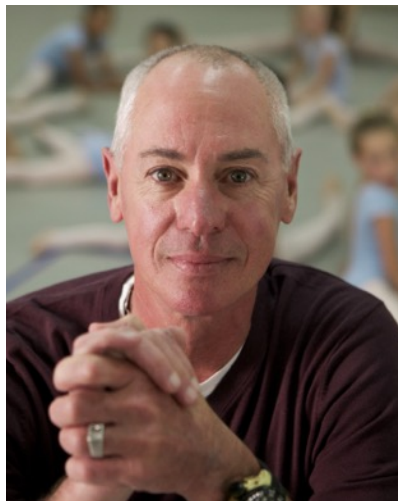
The Senior Company will have the opportunity to work with these esteemed professionals this season:

Guest choreographer Eva Stone (left) will re-stage her "End of a Year."

Guest choreographer and alumnus Nahshon Marden (lower left) will create a new work on the dancers.

Our own ward-winning choreographer and Artistic Director Robert Kelley will choreograph a new piece on the company, as well as new works for the Junior and Petite Companies.

The dancers are fortunate to work with Music Director Pamela Martin (lower right), as she conducts the Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre Orchestra for the annual "The Nutcracker" production at the Civic Auditorium.



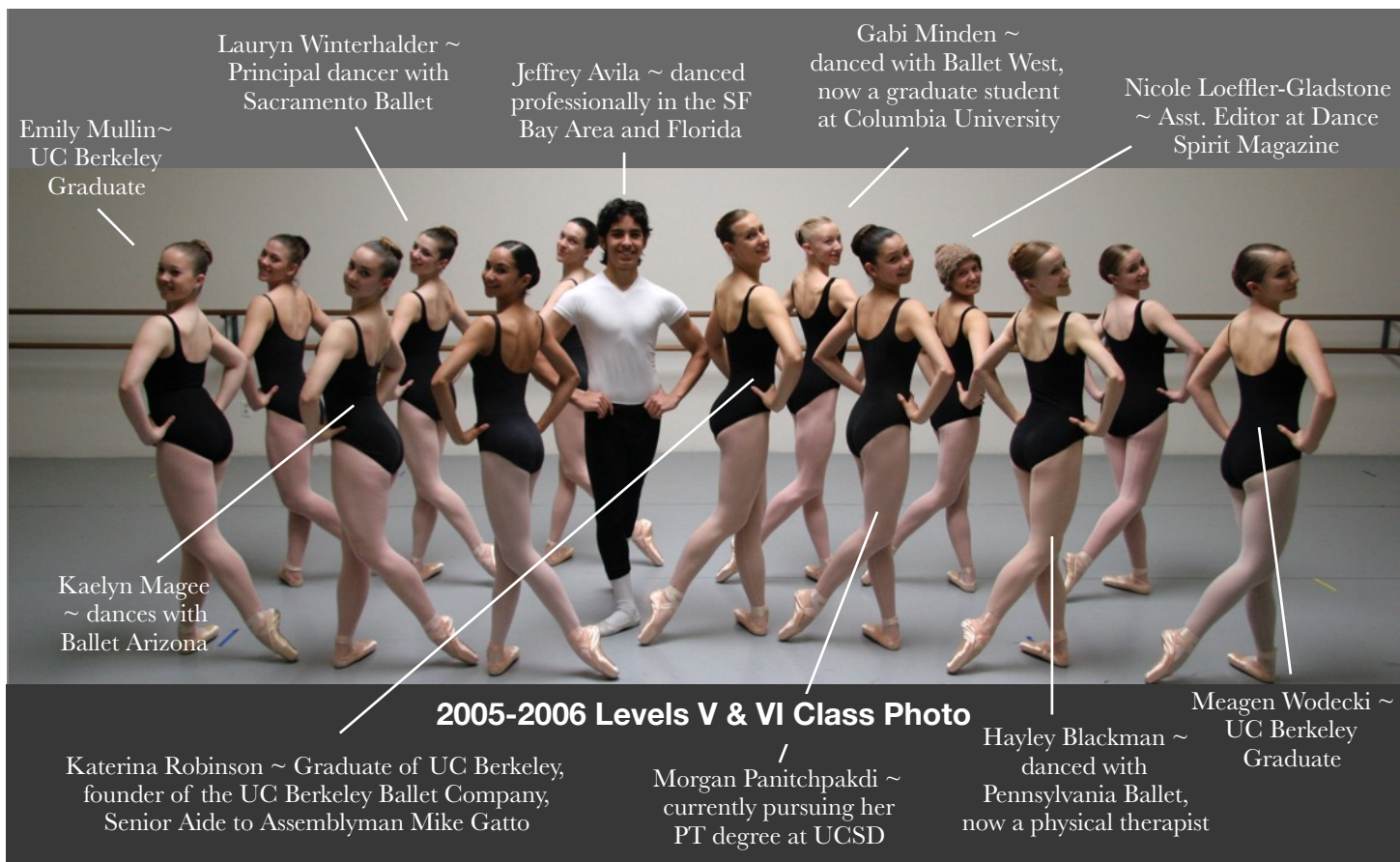
ACADEMY REGISTRAR, SANDY NELSON

is in the office weekday afternoons to help you in person. She can also be reached by telephone (831) 479-1600 and email sandy@scbt.org. Sandy came out of retirement a few years ago because we begged her to work with us. She had been the office manager of Good Shepherd Catholic School and we knew her talents were perfect for The Studio. She has proven herself utterly valuable in our office.

If you need to make a payment during off-hours, you can either mail it in or drop it in the black tuition box next to the office door. Teen and Adult class card status is posted

weekly next to the office door. There is other information posted at the window, in case you have forgotten something important, such as your tuition payment amount. The office sells snack cards for \$10 and \$20, with which students (or their parents!) can purchase snacks, bottled water and protein bars.

Sandy can answer any questions you may have about our school or policies. She sends regular updates and announcements via email as well. Make sure to have her in your address book so you receive all important information.



TRAINING PROFESSIONAL DANCERS

definitely takes time and energy, on behalf of teachers, the dancer themselves, directors, choreographers/coaches, parents and other family members. Literally, it takes a village, coupled with talent and the hard work necessary to compete and succeed in today's ferocious dance world. As we look through company photos from years past, we are constantly proud of our graduates, where they have gone after they left The Studio and SCBT and where they are now. Some examples are shown on this page. We encourage all of our alumni to stay in touch, as we love following your success — whether you dance professionally or not.

IDENTIFY THAT DANCER CHALLENGE

Can you put the names/accomplishments to a face? The first 3 students who correctly match the dancers at right with the photos below will **WIN A \$20 SNACK CARD!** Bring this page to Sandy in the office linking the names to the corresponding graduates to win your prize.



Bonnie Costa ~ danced with Utah Regional Ballet, earned her Communications degree from UC Santa Clara

Michael Miller ~ return dancer with SCBT

Johanna Butterworth ~ pursuing her BA in Dance at Boston Conservatory

Rachel Schmidt ~ BA in Dance from Butler University, LINES Trainee

Emerson Moose ~ dancing with Royal Danish Ballet

Jazmine Hurley ~ dancer with Ballet West

Molly Winslow Hanson ~ danced with Ballet San Jose and Utah Regional Ballet, now pursuing her Liberal Arts degree

Courtney Jesberg ~ UC Long Beach student

Leah Kaplan ~ Psychiatry student at UOP

Sam Fulk ~ dancer with Utah Regional Ballet

Gabbi Kamalani ~ Stanford University Pre-Med Graduate

Georgina Wilson ~ pursuing her BA in Dance at UT@Austin

Emily Rose ~ dancer with Grand Rapids Ballet





Robert Kelley & Diane Cypher,
Executive Artistic Directors

All Performances with Live Orchestra
conducted by Music Director Pamela Martin

The Nutcracker

2016 AUDITIONS

Saturday, September 17

Dancers age 4-6 years* 5:00 pm

Dancers age 7-8 years 4:30 pm

Dancers age 9-11 years 3:30 pm

Dancers age 12 and up 2:00 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!

Audition registration begins 30 minutes prior to each audition; late entrants are not eligible.

\$25 audition fee per dancer. Bring pointe shoes if you dance en pointe.

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 Devi Pride