

DECEMBER 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

GOT YOUR "NUTCRACKER" TICKETS?

Tickets will be available up until curtain time, or until sold out, whichever comes first. Our production has sold out in the past, so if you don't have your tickets yet, get them soon to avoid disappointment! Our production promises to be as festive as always, and especially beautiful featuring 40 new Flower and Snowflake costumes!

Performances are
8:00 pm Friday, December 16
1:00 pm and 4:30 pm Saturday, December 17
1:00 pm and 4:30 pm Sunday, December 18

All performances are held at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium with live orchestra, conducted by our esteemed Music Director Pamela Martin.

Special Guest Stars Kaelyn Magee and Michal Wozniak Friday and Saturday; Lauryn Winterhalder (pictured below by Devi Pride) and Dylan Keane Sunday; Gabriel Williams all performances. Come celebrate our favorite holiday tradition with us!



*Guest stars Lauryn Winterhalder and Richard Smith
photographed by Devi Pride*

Go to SantaCruzTickets.com to purchase tickets online. Advance ticket sales end 3 hours prior to performance time.
Civic Box Office hours are Tuesday-Friday 11 am-6 pm.
Buy tickets by phone (831) 420-5260 press 5.

Our dancers have been working hard all autumn to bring you the best production possible this holiday season. Our two Sugar Plum Fairies starring in our performances are both alumna of our academy and of Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre. Lauryn and Kaelyn were in the company at the same time and were both promising students. We are so proud of the professional careers their hard work and talent have brought them. Some of the young dancers you witness onstage may follow in their footsteps, which is a rewarding joy for all of us: directors, instructors and parents. It takes a village!

Thank you for your support and patronage. If you are interested in seeing both casts of the production, Cast A dances Friday 8 pm, Saturday and Sunday 1 pm. Cast B dances Saturday and Sunday 4:30 pm.

*The Studio will be CLOSED
December 11 - January 8
Happy Holidays!*

*Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre
company dancers have rehearsal with guest
choreographers December 27 - January 7*

Winter term begins January 9

IN PRAISE OF THE SANTA CRUZ ARTS SCENE

We are proud to belong to such a vibrant arts scene as we have here in our beautiful enclave. Santa Cruz is known nationwide for its arts community. From time-honored organizations like Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music to newer organizations such as the Tannery Arts Center, the arts play a huge role in what makes our community unique, desirable and dynamic. Here are some of our favorite movers and shakers:

In his third year as Music Director, Daniel Stewart has created an excitement about **Santa Cruz Symphony** as well as a critical acclaim. The Maestro is building a case for classical music and shares his infectious personality with musicians and audience members alike. **Kuumbwa Jazz** has been a driving force in our community for many years. Under the direction of Co-Founder Tim Jackson and our good friend Managing Director Bobbi Todaro, Kuumbwa continues to bring excellent concerts and music education to all of us who like some jazz in our life. **Santa Cruz Shakespeare** has been a fixture in Santa Cruz for 35 years. Recently achieving its independent non-profit status, the organization prospers under the Artistic Direction of Mike Ryan. **Tandy Beal and Company** have been around for many many years and have brought a sense of humor along with their professionalism through dance over the years. Other notable arts organizations who have proven their merit with exciting programming and educational offerings are **Cabrillo Stage**, **Jewel Theater** and **All About Theater** (the acting equivalent of our dance instruction). These organizations represent the diversity of our arts community.

No Movers and Shakers list would be complete without the inclusion of one of the most aggressively modern arts organizations: **Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music**. Executive Director Ellen Primack has led her small but mighty charge of administrators for 25 years, and this next season the Festival welcomes a new Music Director Cristian Macelaru. Marin Alsop leaves big shoes to fill, but we are excited to see what the Festival will bring under the baton of Maestro Macelaru!

Last but not least, we wish to acknowledge the **Arts Council Santa Cruz** and its Executive Director Michelle Williams, which has supported all forms of arts in our county for many years, with grants, SPECTRA organizations and many more ways of giving and helping individual artists, small organizations, and the big guns of the art world in our town.

Supporting our local arts organizations is a way of ensuring the spirit and creativity of our community.



Chinese Tea photographed by Michael Gerald-Namasaki

Special thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers for making our production of "The Nutcracker" possible!

COMPANY DANCERS ARE BACK IN THE STUDIO OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre Company dancers are back in the studio over their holiday break, preparing for the upcoming spring repertoire and Regional Dance America Adjudication. While most of us are snug in our houses in front of a fire, these young dancers will be busy preparing new repertoire.

Guest choreographer Eva Stone will be the first visiting artist to work with the Senior Company. She will be re-staging her piece "End of a Year," a wonderful, lighthearted modern dance in Ms. Stone's super-charged style. The dancers won't have to worry about eating too much over the holidays — on the contrary, they'll have to make sure they eat enough to get through this rehearsal period.

SCBT alumnus Nahshon Marden will return to create a new work on the dancers. His "Atmos; Smokey Black" was an atmospheric sensation last season, and we look forward to what he will create this year.

Our own Robert Kelley will be choreographing two new works: one on the Senior Company dancers to be first shown to the RDA Adjudicator Jeffrey Gribler early February, the second will be choreographed on the Junior Company dancers for the Santa Cruz Symphony Children's and Family Concerts. SCBT has commissioned a new score by composer Jerome Begin, Juilliard faculty member and former Music Director of The Studio. Jerome plans on making a modern string quartet, which hopefully someday will be performed live here in Santa Cruz.

We take great pride in bringing in top talent for our student dancers, who are being shaped by each creative experience they can get their hands (and feet) on. We wish them an enriching and challenging experience working with this exciting lineup of choreographers!

**Come see a sneak peak of the
Party Scene from "The Nutcracker"
6:30 pm Thursday, December 8
Downtown Santa Cruz on Pacific mall in
front of the Cinema 9 movie theater!**