



The Studio, School of Classical Ballet
2800 S Rodeo Gulch Road, Suite C, Soquel, CA 95073
831.479.1600

Director ~ Diane Cypher
Registrar ~ Sandy Nelson
Assistant Registrar ~ Wendy Butler

Curriculum, Tuition information, Enrollment Forms,
Dress Code and Calendars are all available on the
Academy pages @ scbt.org

The Studio is an approved vendor to Ocean Grove Charter
School. Find us under our corporation name:
Santa Cruz Academy of Ballet, DBA The Studio.

*Above: Primary students.
Center: SCBT company dancers in Black Swan Pas de Deux,
photo by Steve DiBartolomeo.
Cover: Level I and II students.
In-studio photos by James Schwartz.*



The Studio and Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre
have been partners in excellence, preparing
dancers for the field for Forty years



*Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre prepares the serious dancer for a career
in dance, or for a rigorous dance program in higher education.
Performing opportunities this season include participation in *The
Nutcracker* and the spring *In Concert* performances. Santa Cruz
Ballet Theatre is a proud member of The Ballet Alliance, a
national organization of pre-professional companies.
Go to scbt.org for more information.*

THE STUDIO
SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL BALLET

2023-2024

Forty-Seventh Season of Excellence



Dreams start here!

scbt.org
Go to Academy Pages

(831) 479-1600

Programs • Philosophy

We believe that any person who puts in the effort can become a beautiful dancer. We invite everyone to try ballet!

Preparatory Ballet Program (ages 4 and up) fosters your child's enthusiasm and joy of dance while introducing rudimentary coordination, stretching and coordination exercises. Students learn to listen and respond to music, follow instructions and work together in a group. Our Primary level introduces the discipline of ballet training to students who are ready to embark on that challenge.

Professional Training Program guides students from ages 8 and up through our rigorous syllabus. Students who have the talent, commitment and work ethic necessary will graduate with the tools to enter the competitive field of professional ballet. Graduates who do not continue on as professional dancers will have gained the means to become successful academics, community leaders and arts lovers.

Adult Classes are taught with the same knowledge as our Professional Program and with the building blocks to ensure safe and rewarding results.



Camaraderie and support are key:
The Studio and SCBT foster an inclusive, safe and supportive environment where our students can grow together.

Pictured above: Level V and VI students.

Faculty

Diane Cypher has been teaching ballet since 1983. Her own career as a professional dancer has influenced her teaching skills and perspective. She has trained many dancers and has been gratified to help further the careers of other ballet teachers working under her wing over the years.

Jenny Bennett teaches all levels of Ballet. She believes classical training paired with the joy of dance can be a powerful foundation for inspiring dancers. She strives to make the classical tradition accessible in a fun and encouraging environment, as students step up to the challenge of growing in ballet technique.

Riley Butler is an alumna of The Studio and Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre. Riley teaches in the academy and serves as Children's Rehearsal Director for SCBT.

Myra Ritchey received her ballet training at The Studio, majored in Dance at Loyola Marymount University, is versatile in many dance styles and is a certified Pilates instructor. This year Myra adds Jazz to her Studio classes and we are pleased to have such a knowledgeable instructor.

Eva Stone is a renown choreographer and teaching artist. She teaches Choreography and Modern Dance at Pacific Northwest Ballet School and founded the annual CHOP SHOP: Bodies of Work Dance Festival. She teaches from Seattle via Zoom.

Linda Lock (Guest instructor) had been our principal instructor until she relocated out of the area a few years ago. She has excellent knowledge of kinesiology and has participated in Vaganova and RDA teacher training courses, as well as worked alongside Diane Cypher since 1996.

Rebecca Blair (Guest instructor) is a longtime fixture in the Santa Cruz dance scene, having taught Adults for many years and currently serves Tandy Beal & Company as Managing Director, Rehearsal Director and Stage Manager.

Carlos Fagundo and **Christopher Pratorius-Gomez**, Accompanists



Classical ballet training at The Studio builds increased learning abilities, organizational skills, confidence, poise and physical fitness. Our students are excellent academic students and contributing members of the community.

Savor the fulfillment of long-term goals while building increased strength, flexibility, coordination, grace and artistry. Class size is limited, which encourages esprit de corps and healthy competition among our students. It is proven that ballet training can help overcome dyslexia and improves cognitive thinking.

The Studio is proud to have trained many professional dancers, currently dancing with companies throughout the United States and beyond. Many of our graduates attend dance programs in prestigious colleges and universities. Other graduates who have continued on to higher education are continually thankful for the discipline, work ethic and organizational skills their ballet training instilled in them. Whether or not you make dance your career, our classical training will improve your future. Your quest for a lifetime of beauty and reward begins here!

*Above: Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre in "Remains Nameless"
photographed by Steve DiBartolomeo*