

The Studio & Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre | partners in excellence serving Santa Cruz County for over 30 years  
Robert Kelley and Diane Cypher, Artistic Directors | Sandy Nelson, Administrative Manager | Rod Caborn, SCBT Board President

## CONGRATULATIONS PETITE COMPANY DANCERS

Twenty dancers have auditioned successfully and joined the 2019 Petite Company. The dancers are from The Studio, as well as Agape Dance Academy, Dancenter and Motion Pacific and are ages 7 through 14. They will begin rehearsals early this month for a new piece by Artistic Director Robert Kelley to be performed at our spring In Concert repertoire concert. Have a great season, dancers. We look forward to watching you dance!

## LEVEL IIa CLASS AMPS UP THEIR TRAINING

The Level IIa class has added a fourth class per week, and some of the students have also begun preparatory pointework. Pre-Pointe is just that: preparing the female student for her first pair of pointe shoes. Pre-Pointe classes will build strength, stamina, alignment awareness and determination. Pointework requires all of these things, as well as a mature understanding and mastery of all basic technique. Go to our Newsletter Archive page for more information about the demands of dancing en pointe (article titled Demystifying Pointework). It is the dream of many a little girl, but doing it well is the ultimate challenge. Our Pre-Pointe program

prepares our students for the demands of our beautiful art form. Keep up the good work, dancers!

## SCHEDULE SUMMER STUDY

Consistency is one of the most important building blocks toward solid classical ballet technique. Every year our students study diligently through the summer, making huge leaps in their progress. Summer is the ideal time to buckle down, take extra classes and work extra hard, unencumbered by the demands of academics. Dancers who study through the summer build the consistency that their bodies need for muscle memory to take hold in basics. Solid basics are the foundation on which the rest of our technique and eventually artistry is built. Consistency becomes even more key when students are at an intermediate level of accomplishment and are pursuing pointework. The Studio offers several summer programs for our dancers. We encourage you to take as much as possible and train diligently. Your progress is in your hands, and its rewards come with diligence and commitment.

## THE STUDIO ANNOUNCES SUMMER PROGRAMS

### PRE-POINTE and ADVANCED FOCUS WEEK

ONE WEEK: JUNE 17-21

Classes for Levels IIa through VI only

### SUMMER SESSION

FOUR WEEKS: JUNE 24-JULY 19

for all ages and abilities; including classes in Alignment, the opportunity for Semi-Privates for upper-level dancers, and Choreography Course

### SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAMS

TWO WEEKS: JULY 22-AUGUST 2

for serious students in Levels IIa through VI with special guest instructors; intensive pre-pointe or beginning pointe work for Level IIa, and additional dance idioms for Levels IV-VI

Summer Brochures with Enrollment Form will be mailed home to current students this spring. Mark your calendar for your summer study today.

All summer programs run Monday through Friday.  
Work hard during the week and enjoy your weekends!



*2018 Petite Company dancers performing In Concert.  
Photo by Nicole Formenti.*

## THE BALLET ALLIANCE

SCBT Senior Company dancers will present Adjudication this month to the Festival Artistic Director Ron Cunningham. The company will present a full class and four original new pieces. Two of the pieces will be considered for a public performance at the Festival, one choreographed by Robert Kelley and the other, *La Volonta*, choreographed by Debra Pearse Rogo. Two of our dancers have also choreographed new pieces to be considered for performance in the Emerging Choreographers Concert, Flora Chatwin and AvaRose Dillon. One of the missions of The Ballet Alliance is to groom and promote new choreographers. Should Flora and/or AvaRose's piece be chosen for performance, the choreographers will also qualify for scholarship recognition to a choreography intensive.

The Ballet Alliance Festival is the ultimate learning opportunity for pre-professional dancers. The dancers take master classes with their peers from across the region. Recruiters from professional companies and schools as well as prestigious college and university dance programs offer professional contracts, scholarships and early acceptance to dancers. The region is made up of twenty pre-professional companies. The standards upheld by the region to be a member company are high, and every company aspires to continue its growth. Directors network and have a very supportive camaraderie. Dancers become friends and see each other each year at the Festival, as well as at summer programs. They cheer each other on in performance. Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre is a proud member of The Ballet Alliance!



*Our dancers at Festival 2018, clockwise from top left: Senior Company dancers warm up for Emerging Technical Rehearsal on the skybridge between the hotel and theater. Dancers on their way out to watch a performance. Our dancers dressed up for the awards banquet. The pas de deux from "Pivot." SCBT Senior Company in the final moments of "Pivot." Our dancers in class with Alberta Ballet instructor Edmund Stripe.*

