

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 | Mark Swan, SCBT Board President

## *Happy New Year!*

*from all of us at The Studio and Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre*

### **THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DANCERS, VOLUNTEERS, CREW AND AUDIENCE FOR MAKING OUR NUTCRACKER A SUCCESS**

What an artistically-satisfying production it was this year! We are proud of all of our dancers, from the smallest Little Party Girl to our accomplished Senior Company. We especially appreciated the esprit de corps of our Company dancers, who so selflessly (and adeptly!) changed positions in the big corps de ballet scenes and supported each other through illness and injury. These are the life skills you will take with you throughout your existence, whether you become a dancer or not. We could not be more proud of all of you.

As always, our parent volunteers perform duties before the performances and backstage that are truly meaningful in support of the production. Thank you all for donating your time and energy to this holiday tradition. We really could not produce this wonderful ballet without each one of you!

*Enjoy 2018 ~ Robert & Diane*



*How lovely to welcome back alumnus Gabriel Williams, left, to work with our pas de deux couples. Lily Swan as the Dewdrop Fairy holds her final pose surrounded by Flowers, top. AvaRose Dillon held aloft by Ryan Gonzalez, above. Rehearsal photos by Nikki Brooks.*

## COMPANY DANCERS ALREADY HARD AT WORK ON SPRING REPERTOIRE

Our Senior Company dancers started work on the upcoming spring repertoire last August, learning vocabulary for "Swan Lake Act II," in the case of our corps de ballet, and learning the actual choreography in the case of the ballet's principals. The ballet will be staged once the Regional Dance America/Pacific Adjudication is finished, which is coming up later this month.

Over the holiday break, our dancers began learning a fantastic ballet by Robert Kelley, which was choreographed in 1999. Robert wanted to restage "Pivot" on this year's company because they are so strong: technically, artistically and cohesively. With an original score composed by Jerome Begin the piece is truly imaginative and compelling. The score features electronic harp and percussion.

One of our favorite teachers/choreographers/friends/collaborators/colleagues, Debra Rogo was also in town re-

staging her neoclassic "Gaelicia." To music by the Chieftains, this continues to showcase the wide range of our company dancers. "Gaelicia" features beautiful musicality, mathematical patterns and interesting canons typical of this Australian.

The company will also perform with the Santa Cruz Symphony next month, on their Children's and Family Concerts. Come see them dance Sunday, February 25 at the Civic Auditorium.

## PETITE COMPANY AUDITIONS SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 AUDITION REGISTRATION 1:30

Calling all dancers age 7 and up who want to increase their performance skills! \$30 audition fee per dancer. \$225 participation fee for the entire season. The 2018 Season includes performances at In Concert in March, Emerging Choreography Concert in June, Season Kick-Off Event in the Fall and an extension for those who are available at the Cabrillo Festival Church Street Fair in August.

### SPECIAL THANKS

to all of the businesses, artists and individuals who donated items to our fall Season Kick-Off Event! Many of our students remember playing with Diane's doberman pinscher puppy Sophia when she was hanging out at The Studio during rehearsals in August 2016. Sophia was the lucky recipient of a donated item: a professional pet photography session with local artist Kate Falconer. Sophia really enjoyed posing and playing on the beach for an audience! Sophia highly recommends Kate because she's fun and doesn't get in the way of play, and Diane recommends Kate for her beautiful work and conscientious demeanor.



**Thank you, Kate, and all of the other generous donors!**



*Alumna Lauryn Winterhalder, Petite Company dancer for several years and currently principal dancer with Sacramento Ballet. Top, Petite Company in 2017 performance.*