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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Santa Barbara Dance Alliance Celebrates its 26th Anniversary!

***Give Dance a Chance
Sunday, April 24, 2005 from 11 a.m. -3 p.m.***

- SBDA Celebrates 26 Years of Service to the Dance Community.
- City of Santa Barbara Proclaims April 25, 2004 "Santa Barbara Dance Day."
- 15 Local Dance Studios offer 45 Introductory Dance Classes for only \$1.
- Learn Ballroom, Belly Dance, Hula, Hip-Hop, Swing, Argentine Tango, Ballet, Jazz, Flamenco, African, Capoeira, Children's Creative Movement, and More!

Celebrating National Dance Week and Santa Barbara Dance Alliance's 26th anniversary, 15 local dance studios will hold 50-minute introductory dance classes on Sunday, April 24th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. – for only \$1. Dance enthusiasts amateur to professional will have the chance to try out a wide variety of introductory classes from hip-hop to tango, ballet to belly dancing and more.

Santa Barbara Country Arts Commission director Patrick Davis notes, "Dance is the most dynamic and yet fragile of the art forms. Santa Barbara Dance Alliance is the flame that tirelessly keeps lighting the torch in our hearts for dance. Dance Alliance has been the entry point for our diverse dance audience, serving all of our local, regional and national dance companies."

Proceeds and additional donations from the classes benefit the SBDA Dance Scholarship Fund. SBDA is giving 15 youth scholarships this year. For a complete schedule and list of class offerings visit www.sbdancealliance.org or call Santa Barbara Dance Alliance at (805) 966-6950.

Santa Barbara Dance Alliance - 26 Years Strong!

Santa Barbara Dance Alliance celebrates 26 years of service to the dance community this year! SBDA is a non-profit arts service organization whose mission is to foster, promote, and increase the awareness and quality of dance and other performing arts in Santa Barbara, and to bring the dance and arts community and its resources together.

Founded in 1979 as the Choreographer's Collaboration, its initial purpose was to assist local choreographers who could not afford to self-present, by having their work presented at the Lobero Theatre. As the needs of the dance community grew, the organization expanded to meet these demands and became the non-profit Santa Barbara Dance Alliance.

When asked about this special 26th anniversary celebration SBDA Executive Director Julie McLeod exclaimed, "What a thrill to think back over the last 26 years. Dance Alliance has been

able to increase the awareness of dance and the arts and has given opportunities to so many to explore their creativity, perform, grow, and inspire others. We have accomplished so much In 26 years and have so much more to come!"

SBDA annually presents:

- NEW WORKS: Santa Barbara Choreographers,
- BASSH: Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and Hip-Hop,
- ON THE VERGE: Teen Choreographer's Showcase,
- The Multi-cultural Dance & Music Festival
- Master Classes with esteemed guest artists throughout the year.
- SBDA also publishes DanceScene (a tri-annual newsletter),
- Serves as a clearinghouse for dance events in the community
- SBDA will provide 15 scholarships this year for young dancers.

Reaching beyond the Santa Barbara area, SBDA has also partnered with the California Arts Council to create the California Dance Network, a statewide coalition of six dance service organizations.

SBDA Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, May 10, 2005 7:30-9:30 pm, Goleta Valley Community Center

AXIS DANCE THEATRE – Master Class – in Adaptive Dance

A class for people with and without disabilities. some in wheelchairs and some not, we will explore the vast possibility of movement and the joy of dance. The class is presented by Santa Barbara Dance Alliance with UCSB Arts & Lectures and co-sponsored by Goleta Valley Community Center and Rehabilitation Institute at Santa Barbara.

Saturday, May 28, 2004, 8 pm, Marjorie Luke Theatre

ON THE VERGE: 9th Annual Teen Choreographer's Showcase

21 pre-professional teens showcase their original works with over 80 teen dancers. Tickets \$10-15, Patrons \$50, Call 966-6950, www.sbdancealliance.org

Saturday and Sunday August 20& 21, 11am – 7 pm Oak Park

11th annual MULTI-CULTURAL DANCE & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Over 40 dance and music groups celebrate our cultural heritages in Santa Barbara. Food and crafts from as many nations, as well as free dance classes.

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