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For Immediate Release

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Dancers sizzle in BASSH (Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and Hip Hop) at the Lobero

Summary Facts:

- Local dancers in mixed program of Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and Hip Hop
- Produced by Santa Barbara Dance Alliance
- 7th annual
- Live tango band
- Broadway pros and competition winners
- Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17
- Lobero Theater, 33 E. Canon Perdido
- After show Gala for patrons on Friday, March 16
- Patrons (Gala) \$50, General \$25, SBDA members \$22, Students \$20
- Tickets at the Lobero Theater Box Office 805 963-0761 or www.lobero.com. Additional information at www.sbdancealliance.org
- EDITORS: Photographs and interview opportunities available.
- 300 dpi jpg photographs are available on line at www.sbdancealliance.org under Press Kits

Think of the shoes... From spikey heels to saddle oxfords, shiny pumps, boots and high tops; at Santa Barbara Dance Alliance's 7th annual BASSH (Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and Hip Hop) there will be shoes of all shapes and sizes and absolutely fantastic dancers to fill them. On Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17, Lobero Theater, at 8 pm, the BASSH performance showcases Santa Barbara's hottest dancers in a sizzling mix of dance styles and traditional forms including swing, samba, mambo, rumba, salsa, Hip Hop, break dance, Argentine tango to live music, Viennese waltz and more.

BASSH production director and swing dancer Derrick Curtis hosts along with Santa Barbara Dance Alliance Executive Director Julie McLeod, a veteran of the original Broadway Company of "West Side Story," and Joshua James dancer and instructor extraordinaire. BASSH's fifteen dance acts represent local studios, Broadway and international pros, competition winners and beloved teachers.



Derrick and Trudie Curtis as well as Javier Ochoa with Jessica Morgan and Daisy Ramirez, Arthur Murray Dance Studio present romantic ballroom dance. Michael Serry and Julie Stillman of TangoMilonga.biz and Brian Griffin and Fay Villanueva of Tango Santa Barbara will give Antonio Banderas a run for his money in this provocative style. Rob and Diane Van Haaren, Santa Barbara Air Steppers produced by Jonathan Bixby, and Teresa Johnson perform lively swing dance. Roy Reyes Joel Sanchez, Salsa Barbara; and Carlos Martinez and Concepcion Villareal remind us that salsa is hot. Shawn Henry and Annihilation, Tamarr Paul of Rhythm Dance & Fitness, 14 K Jules Studio's Julie Rubio-Shamblin, and Alana Tillim of SB Jazz Dance Academy bring things to a head with Hip Hop teams.

You, too, can get into the scene at the on-stage GALA for patrons after the opening night performance. Supporters and cast will "dance the night away" with DJ Mike Loeza, and will taste delectable food and wine.

BASSH tickets can be purchased in advance at the Lobero Box Office, 805 963-0781 or on-line at www.lobero.com. Prices are \$50 for patrons, \$25 for adults, \$22 for SBDA members, \$20 for students/seniors. Visit www.sbdancealliance.org for additional information.

END RELEASE

Bios and Photos

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Derrick Curtis, production director for BASSH (Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Swing, Salsa & Hip Hop) returns for this 7th year. He is beloved in Santa Barbara as a teacher in swing, Lindy hop, ballroom and salsa. He works with youngsters at Montessori Center School as a physical education specialist, teaches at Santa Barbara Dance Center and partners with Kay Fulton in classes at Santa Barbara City College. He serves on the Board of Directors of Santa Barbara Dance Alliance. This BASSH, Derrick's wife **Trudie** joins him for a rumba.

Julie McLeod, Executive Director of Santa Barbara Dance Alliance, joins Derrick as a co-host. Julie was in the original company of "West Side Story" on Broadway and has spent her life teaching and supporting dance and dancers. She was awarded SBDA's first Lifetime Achievement Award. Julie teaches ballet and private reformer Pilates.

Joshua James joins BASSH this year as an Emcee sharing his knowledge in commentary, maybe give us a lesson or two. He is an expert performer, competition dancer and teacher. He has toured in the US, Europe and China dancing tango, fox trot, Swing and Latin styles. He currently teaches at Santa Barbara Dance Center.

Maria Lopez brings her eagerness to learn dance to BASSH this year. She is the registrar at Santa Barbara Dance Center and has assisted local politicians including Pedro Nava.



BALLROOM

Javier Ochoa will partner with **Daisy Ramirez** to dance a ballroom medley. He will also present a waltz and foxtrot with **Jessica Morgan**. They are part of the **Arthur Murray Dance Studio**, directed by Karen Hermanson. Santa Barbara Arthur Murray Studios in collaboration with the Ventura branch will also present the elegant tradition of Viennese waltz with a company of ten dancers.

ARGENTINE TANGO

Michael Serry and **Julie Stillman** of **TangoMilonga.biz** will perform "A Evaristo Carriego, a pure Argentine tango with music by the beloved Osvaldo Pugliese. They have won Gold Awards in international tango competitions and have been invited to perform in national festivals.

Tango Santa Barbara will give an overview of the development of Argentine Tango showing the tango, and the milonga, a jaunty, lively dance. They will be accompanied by a live tango band of bass, traditional bandoneon and a violin. Brian Griffin and Fay Villanueva have been teaching in Santa Barbara for 15 years and produced "Tango Vivio" as well as the Santa Barbara Tango & Malambo Festival with Santa Barbara Symphony.

SWING DANCE

Exhibition dancers and instructors of swing, Rob and Diane van Haaran have just returned from performing and teaching in Germany. They perform their flashy swing dance that is in demand around the world.

Teresa Johnson has choreographed "Ladies Only" a swing dance for four women. They sample jazz, the Charleston, the Black Bottom and Big Apple to the Muskrat Ramble by the McGuire Sisters. We have seen Teresa perform in five BASSH's being high flung in the air by Chris Stewart, her Savoy style Lindy hop partner. With a B.A. in Dance from UCSB and an M.A. in Dance from UCLA she is also proficient in jazz, ballet, tap, modern dance and ballroom.

Santa Barbara Air Steppers, produced by **Jonathan Bixby** will do a Lindy hop routine with five couples to "T'aint What You Do". The dance was choreographed and directed by **John Ennis**. The styles incorporate Lindy hop, the Charleston and near extinct dances of St. Louis and Single Rhythm Shag.

LATIN DANCE

Carlos Martinez and **Concepcion Villareal** bring a youthful spark to the program with their Latin rhythms of cha-cha-cha, salsa and merengue. Watch the action in their hips! Carlos has been dancing professionally as well as teaching for four years.

Director of Salsa Santa Barbara, **Joel Sanchez** is a salsa maestro from Mexico City. His dance "Mambo Diablo" includes salsa, mambo, and cha-cha for ten dancers. He teaches at Santa Barbara Jazz Dance Academy.



Roy Reyes trained with salsa masters in Mexico. A professional competition champion, he has had invitations to perform and teach in Europe and Mexico. Currently he teaches in Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo. His expertise is in salsa; he also excels in cha-cha-cha, cumbia, merengue, danzón, bachata, Afro-Cuban.

HIP HOP

14K Jules Dance Academy presents 12 dancers from Carpinteria under the direction of Julie Rubio-Shamblin hop the Hip Hop in "Like That". One of the students, 17-year-old **Angela Carty** is the newest member of the Santa Barbara Dance Alliance Board of Directors as a teen representative.

Santa Barbara Jazz Dance Academy's Alana Tillim, Anne Wilmore and Maya Frank have joined forces to create "She Wants To Move" for a dozen hot young dancers. "Pop and Lock" is the featured Hip Hop form. Alana is the Managing Director and owner of SBJDA. In her 25-year career Alana Tillim has choreographed for SBDA New Works and BASSH and has been a mentor for ON THE VERGE: Teen Choreographers' Showcase. Maya Frank trained with ballet companies in Santa Rosa and UC Irvine. She teaches Hip Hop and jazz at SBJDA. Anne Willmore trained with Tamarr Paul and teaches and choreographs for SBJDA.

Shawn Henry returns for a fourth year in BASSH with his break-dancing, head-spinning Hip Hop group, **Annihilation**. He has won awards in street dance championships and currently teaches in Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and Bakersfield.

Tamarr Paul returns to BASSH with his group of sharp dancers Hip Hopping to Justin Timberlake. He directs Rhythm Dance and Fitness Company and teaches in Santa Barbara. Tamarr choreographed music videos in Los Angeles and taught at Debbie Allan's Dance Academy in Culver City.

