

BALLET SAN JOSE SILICON VALLEY

For Immediate Release Contact: Lee Kopp, publicity (408) 288-2820 x 210

SBC Communications Makes \$12K Contribution to Ballet Outreach Program

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SBC Communications has donated \$12,000 to Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley's Education and Outreach Program which provides a variety of arts opportunities to thousands of Bay Area young people each year. In addition to free tickets to age-appropriate ballet programs, the Education and Outreach Program offers free workshops to local children including an eighteen week series of classes with free instruction, free uniforms and shoes, laundry services and even transportation tokens.

Jodi Porter, Associate School Director of Ballet San Jose School was delighted with the gift. "We feel privileged to offer such a wonderful experience for children," said Porter, "providing the magic of theatre, the beauty of self-expression through dance, and the opportunity of a life-time to study ballet in a professional setting. This wonderful gift allows us to continue this important work."

Ballet Development Director Sheri Frumkin added, "Thanks to SBC Communications and their generous support, Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley can continue to reach out to thousands of under-served and at-risk youth in our public schools, opening the world of arts to children without financial barriers."

"SBC's donation demonstrates their corporate commitment to arts education in the local public schools", said Ballet SJSV Chief Financial Officer and COO, Donald K. Gansheimer. "With state and federal budgets slashed for such cultural enrichment, corporate support of the Ballet's education programs ensures that children in our community will not grow up without exposure to the arts." "We need to ensure a balanced educational experience which includes the arts along with academics" said Leon Beauchman, Area Manager for SBC. "We are proud to be a part of this exemplary program."

Last season Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley hosted over 5,000 students in free matinee performances of their works, gave introductory workshops to hundreds of children and incorporated 20 of those young people into the ballet school under the outreach program. Other businesses, groups or individuals interested in giving opportunities to Ballet San Jose, are invited to contact Development Director Sheri Frumkin at (408) 288-2820 x 237 or email her at sfrumkin@balletsanjose.org.