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***BALLET SAN JOSE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GIFT FROM FRY'S
ELECTRONICS
JOHN FRY NAMED CHAIR OF NEWLY ORGANIZED BOARD OF
TRUSTEES***

(San Jose, CA) On March 4th, 2004, Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley received a \$1 million gift from Fry's Electronics of San Jose. It is the largest single gift to Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley. John C. Fry (owner of Fry's Electronics) has been a major financial supporter of the company for several years. Recently he has worked with the Board of Trustees to find ways to improve the company's financial stability.

At the last Board of Trustees meeting, John Fry was elected chair of the newly re-organized Board of Governing Trustees. The Governing Trustees will have fiduciary responsibility for the Ballet and meet quarterly. An Operating Board, which does not have fiduciary responsibility, will meet monthly and will actively engage in the extension of staff activities such as development, marketing, and finance, etc. John Fry will also chair this group of community leaders, many of whom have previously served on earlier Ballet boards.

"I think we have really turned the corner with this move", said Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley CEO Charles Hart. "John Fry is one of the most successful business leaders in our community. He knows how to market a product, and run a business. He also has demonstrated a real love of the ballet. With his support during the past year, we have continued to produce professional ballet performances with the highest artistic standards, and outreach programs to meet the cultural needs of our community. I fully expect his leadership to take our company to the next level of excellence and financial stability"

Dennis Nahat, Artistic Director of Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley, said, "We are delighted about John Fry's gift and the new changes ahead. The company's core programs have evolved over 20 years in San Jose. Over the past year we performed to over 55,000 theater attendees, including 4,500 children in free performances. We also provided arts education for children and adults through its professional school with an enrollment of 350 students. Our most recent offering, COPPÉLIA, broke its sales goal and delighted audiences. The world premiere of Flemming Flindt's OUT OF AFRICA is March 25-28, and the season closes with a new children's ballet in April and a mixed-repertory program in May. The company will return to the stage in the fall with a full season of programming, opening with a new production of PIRATES OF

PENZANCE. This is, indeed, an exciting time."