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For Immediate Release

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The Hottest Dancers in Santa Barbara!
***BASSH*: Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and HipHop**
April 11 & 12 at the Lobero Theatre

Summary Facts:

- Local dancers in fabulous mixed program of Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and Hip Hop
- Produced by Santa Barbara Dance Alliance
- 8th annual performance
- Exhibition dancers and competition winners
- Friday and Saturday, April 11 & 12 at 8 pm
- Lobero Theatre, 33 E. Canon Perdido
- Post-performance GALA for patrons on April 11
- Patrons (GALA) \$60, General \$31, SBDA members \$28, Students/Seniors \$25
- Tickets: Lobero Theatre Box Office 805 -963-0761 or lobero.com Additional information at 805 - 966-6950 or sbdancealliance.org
- EDITORS: Photo opportunities and interviews available on request.
- 300 dpi jpg photographs are available online at sbdancealliance.org under Press Kits

Stately **ballroom** dance, sultry **Argentine tango**, spicy **salsa**, the swingingest **swing** dance, and slammin' **hip hop** will dazzle you at the 8th annual BASSH: Ballroom, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Swing and Hip Hop at the Lobero Theatre April 11 & 12 at 8pm.

Ever-popular Derrick Curtis will emcee and swing dance with his wife Trudie. Some of the featured dancers will be Karen Hermanson with Edwin Cabrera and dancers from Arthur Murray Studio; David Alvarez with Alison Allan and Lena Pousette from Santa Barbara Dance Center. Tango ranges from the more seductive "Salon" style with Michael Serry and Barbara Salas, Michael Downey and Lauren Breese, Lauren & Hector Sanchez do a fast, twisty nuevo tango, and Cynthia Norton and Carlos Martinez do the high-flying legs of "Fantasia." Hip hop is sure to excite when Fusion Dance Company, Santa Barbara Dance Arts and Rhythm In Motion take the stage. Salsa Lolita rounds out the program with a sassy version of salsa.

Patrons are invited to swing and sway with the cast at the onstage GALA following the opening night final curtain call. Champagne, wine, food, and DJ Mike Loeza will keep toes tappin' the night away. Dance with the cast, nibble to your heart's delight, or continue to enjoy watching dance that will knock your socks off.

BASSH's popularity makes it an annual sellout. Advance ticket purchases are highly recommended. Tickets are on sale now at the Lobero Box Office, 805 -963-0761 or online at lobero.com. Prices are \$60 Patrons (including the GALA), \$31 General, \$28 SBDA members, \$25 Students/Seniors. BASSH is presented by Santa Barbara Dance Alliance, who for over 29 years has dedicated itself to fostering and promoting dance and dance artists in Santa Barbara. Visit sbdancealliance.org or call 805 -966-6950 for additional information.

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Background Information

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Derrick Curtis, is a beloved Santa Barbara dance teacher in swing, Lindy hop, ballroom and salsa. He works with youngsters at Montessori Center School as a physical education specialist and teaches at Santa Barbara Dance Center. He and his wife, Trudie, direct **Embody Dance**.

BALLROOM:

David Alvarez of **Santa Barbara Dance Center** will dance a variety of Latin dances with Lena Pousette and Alison Allan including Cha Cha, Jive and Samba. His students consistently win top awards at National Championships.

Karen Hermanson, director of **Arthur Murray** will perform the Viennese Waltz with partner, Edwin Cabrera. Dancers from the studio will do a medley with foxtrot, rumba, bolero and swing.

Derrick Curtis of **Embody Dance** will perform a graceful and smooth night club two step with partner, Maria Klachko.

ARGENTINE TANGO

Fardad Michael Serry, **Artistic Director of Tango Milonga** and partner **Barbara Salas** will perform *Extranado Mi Tierra (Missing My Homeland)*, a Salon style Argentine Tango. Barbara, daughter of a well-known Argentinian singer, will sing a haunting tango song.

Michael Downey and Lauren Breese, will be dancing *Implicit Games* a sensual tango encounter.

Hector Sanchez and Lauren Breese will be performing to *Libertango* by Astor Piazzolla, a blend of nuevo tango styles.

Cynthia Norton and Carlos Martinez will bring us a flashy tango in a Fantasia style.

SALSA

Avital & Hector Sanchez, a wife and husband duo, will be performing *My Inner Voice*, a dazzling Salsa. Hector teaches at Santa Barbara Dance Center, UCSB and both teach at the Montecito YMCA.

Salsa Lolita, directed by **Colleen Belharrat**, fuses Hip Hop and Salsa for a sizzling finale for twelve dancers.

SWING DANCE

Joshua James of **Santa Barbara Dance Center** has choreographed a sassy Cha Cha/Swing medley for Derrick & Trudie Curtis, and Ross Barrett & Alexandra Beach.

Teresa Johnson and **Alexandra Shadle**, both instructors at **Santa Barbara Dance Center**, present *Girls' Night Out*, a spunky trio of women dancing Swing, Jazz & Jive.

HIP HOP

Tamarr Paul, of **Rhythm Dance & Fitness Company**, returns to BASSH with his **Rhythm Street Team** dancers for the energetic and fun *School is in Session*.

Cynthia Norton and **Kara Stewart**, director of **Fusion Dance Company**, have gathered eight high-energy dancers for *Persuasion*.

Shannon Abero, **Alana Tillim** and **Anne Wilmore** from **Santa Barbara Dance Arts** have combined forces to create *Throw It On Me* to music by Hip Hop's most influential producer, Timbaland.

300 dpi photos are available at sbdancealliance.org

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