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For Immediate Release

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NEWS RELEASE

On the Verge of the Future with a New Generation of Dance

Summary Facts:

- ON THE VERGE: 13th Annual Teen Choreographers' Showcase
- Fifteen pre-professional teen choreographers and technical theater students create original work under the guidance of mentor-choreographers
- Saturday, May 31, 8 pm
- Marjorie Luke Theater, 721 E. Cota St, Santa Barbara
- Presented by Santa Barbara Dance Alliance
- General \$15, Dance Alliance Members \$12, Students/Seniors \$10, Patrons \$50
- Tickets/info: www.sbdancealliance.org, call 805 966-6950 or purchase at the door.

The next generation of artists brings its visions to life in ON THE VERGE, Santa Barbara Dance Alliance's showcase for teen choreographers on Saturday, May 31, 8 pm, at Santa Barbara's Marjorie Luke Theater, 721 E. Cota Street. Fifteen teens will present original works performed by young dancers with lighting and costumes designed by young designers.

The choreographers range in age from 12 to 19, and many are already veteran performers and scholarship winners. They come from local schools and dance studios such as San Marcos High, Nordhoff High in Ojai, Westmont College, Santa Barbara Dance Arts, 14K Jules Dance, Cruz Studio of Dance, Gustafson School of Ballet and UCSB. The showcase features a diverse mix of dance styles ranging from flamenco, hip-hop, modern and classical ballet. Seventeen carefully mentored pieces will be performed, all from the unique perspectives of these new and emerging artists. Robin Zelko and Taylor Fisher have created a contemporary duet about their investigations into the freedom of sexual identity. Another

youthful point of view comes from Tenaya Cowsill in her modern solo about finding the strength to acknowledge personal accomplishments and goals. Daniela Zermeno, who has performed in all 13 showcases, will bring her high-spirited flamenco style to the stage for her final choreographic work.

Year after year, Santa Barbara Dance Alliance watches the teens mature in their choreography as they return to be a part of the showcase. They go on to university dance departments, become professional dancers, and many return to Santa Barbara to teach. We are proud of our "Future Choreographers of America!"

This year's mentors, Rose Marie Cruz, Kim Hoj, Julie Rubio Shamblim, Nancy Colahan, Shannon Abero, Nicole Helton, Heather Shea, Brooke Preston, Pam Lappen, Timothy Farley, Lisa Abshere, Briseyda Zarate and Vicki Finlayson, are all well-known Santa Barbara teachers and performers and have provided professional guidance for the young artists.

ON THE VERGE: 13th Annual Teen Choreographers' Showcase is presented by the Santa Barbara Dance Alliance and is generously supported by Santa Barbara County Arts Commission, Santa Barbara City Parks & Recreation, Santa Barbara City Teen Programs, Towbes Foundation, Wood Claeysens Foundation, Ann Jackson Foundation, Stauffer Foundation, Hutton Foundation, Montecito Bank & Trust, Margo & Robert Feinberg and Venoco, Inc.

Ticket prices are \$15 General Admission, \$12 Dance Alliance members, \$10 Students/Seniors, and \$50 Patrons. Tickets for the performance are available online at www.sbdancealliance.org or call Santa Barbara Dance Alliance at 805 966-6950.

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Editor: For photos: Download High Res images at www.sbdancealliance.org/press/releases/ or call Nicole Helton at 805.966.6950