



HOW WE WILL USE YOUR DONATION

We will build upon the strong foundation, community respect and involvement, and deep need for local art that makes Encinitas Ballet Academy (EBA) the premier ballet studio in North County San Diego for ballet training and international community around dance in order to strategically build into a new phase of operations to better and more expansively serve our community.

- 1) First, we seek funding to develop a 26-week contract structure that will pay visiting international dancers to join our faculty and provide community service in the form of instruction, performance, and ambassadorship.
- 2) Second, this funding will enable us to offer more and diverse classes, for more students, so that we can expand our ability to offer top-level CLASSICAL-style ballet, discipline, and self-confidence through movement. The hiring of professional dancers, to whom we can commit a 26- week contract, will enable us to expand our course offerings and community impact.
- 3) Third, this funding will support our EBA performances in the form of space rentals for performance rehearsals and also in the form of outreach and free public performances. We produce top quality, professional-grade performances (including an annual “The Nutcracker”) using our own students plus one or two visiting, guest, international dancers. We perform in local theaters (often schools) across North County Encinitas, Vista, Carlsbad, San Marcos, Oceanside, and Del Mar. We seek funding to support these performances and enable us to offer more gratis tickets so as to spread appreciation for the arts and for the capacity of youth to inspire.
- 4) Fourth, and finally, this funding will enable us to provide scholarships for talented ballet students based on merit need. Our ballet training teaches not only ballet technique, but also dedication, self-confidence, wellness, and art history. Our ballet studio not only offers classes but also serves as a nexus site for international community and appreciation for global humanism; we are proud to have attracted dancers and families from Russia, China, Korea, Brazil, Guatemala, Panama, Germany, Switzerland, and more. This global aspect of our studio is a value-added that cannot be understated and connects to our first point about funding: hiring international visiting dancers to teach, share, and serve our community.

OUR UNIQUENESS

Encinitas Ballet Academy (EBA) is the premier ballet studio in North County, San Diego for ballet training and youth-based ballet performances, but what makes us special is not necessarily visible from the stage. We have developed a deeply-connected local community around our ballet studio, specifically a community comprised of diverse, international members. Our students stay to dance with us for decades because they consider EBA a second home; many of their parents dance with us too, either in regular classes and/or on stage during performances. This is unique and what truly separates us from any other dance studio or enrichment activity site. We create community and care. This is evident from how many family celebrations and milestone events that we (the teachers and studio owners) are invited to attend; in how many parents and siblings volunteer to help in our community performances (sewing, setting up backdrops, creating props, etc.). We are unique in that we consider dance education to be not just

about technique or performances but about life and leadership skills. This is evident in our summer intensive curriculum, which includes not only diverse forms of dance from around the globe (from Folklorico to Jewish folkdance) but also music, language class, and art history. We teach expansively and inclusively, and we have become a vital part of many local families because of our training and perspective. We believe in the power of art, ballet in particular, to make the world a better place. A single class, a single child, a single moment of inspiration can have infinite ripples.

