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El Camino College | Public Relations & Marketing Department
16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Contact: Ann M. Garten, Director, Community Relations
Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | Email: agarten@elcamino.edu

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The South Bay Ballet Returns to El Camino College for “The Nutcracker” *Holiday Tradition adds to the Spirit of the Season*

The South Bay Ballet returns to El Camino College to perform the wintertime favorite, “The Nutcracker,” set for 2 p.m. December 20 and 21 in Marsee Auditorium.

The ballet has become a holiday tradition at El Camino College, attracting students, faculty and community members each year. Under the direction of the mother-son team of artistic director Diane Lauridsen and assistant artistic director Elijah Pressman, more than 100 dancers will take the stage to perform Charles Maple’s choreography to Tchaikovsky’s original score.

The South Bay Ballet has produced many dancers that have gone on to a variety of professional ballet companies, including the American Ballet Theatre (ABT), San Francisco Ballet, and Oregon Ballet. For more than 30 years, Lauridsen's artistic vision has guided the South Bay Ballet as it continues to grow as one of the premiere pre-professional dance companies in the United States. One of the longest standing members of the company, Pressman, trained at the Lauridsen Ballet Centre, home of South Bay Ballet, and has performed throughout the country.

Tickets for “The Nutcracker” are \$30 for adults and \$20 for children under 12 and may be purchased online at www.centerforthearts.org, by phone at 310-329-5345 or toll-free at 800-832-ARTS. The Ticket Office is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Campus Parking is \$3. The El Camino College Marsee Auditorium is located at 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance.

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