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Los Gatos Ballet Brings the Beloved Holiday Classic “The Nutcracker” to the Flint Center

LOS GATOS, CA – November 4, 2014: Gather the family and don your holiday best because there is a brand new Nutcracker in town and it promises to be spectacular. Los Gatos Ballet is proud to present the inaugural production of the “The Nutcracker” at the Flint Center for the Performing Arts in Cupertino from December 5 through December 7. The production also features guest artists Sarah Van Patten and Carlos Quenedit, principal dancers of San Francisco Ballet, additional guest artists from Ballet San Jose, and the Philharmonic Orchestra of the San Jose Youth Symphony, conducted by Yair Samet.

As Artistic Director of the new production, Los Gatos Ballet owner Marcie Ryken is infusing her passion for dance and artistry into each performance, providing a magical experience for audiences to behold and giving the dancers of Los Gatos Ballet the opportunity to dance at the Flint Center alongside professional dancers. After a decade of directing “The Nutcracker” in collaboration with another organization at the San Jose Center for Performing Arts, she is excited to put her own spin on the timeless holiday classic.

“This is a unique opportunity for both Los Gatos Ballet and the San Jose Youth Symphony,” says Ryken, who founded Los Gatos Ballet in 2002. “It’s so rare that young dancers have the opportunity to perform with a live orchestra, and it is even more unusual for young musicians to have the opportunity to provide music for dancers on stage.”

“The Nutcracker” is an enchanting ballet about toy soldiers, dancing mice, life-size dolls and snowflakes as seen through the eyes of a little girl. Composed in 1892 by Peter Tchaikovsky, the two-act ballet will be brought to life on stage by Los Gatos Ballet and a cast of 160 performers, including 145 pre-professional dancers.

Performance Information:

Flint Center for the Performing Arts

Friday, December 5: 10:30AM (outreach performance) and 7:30PM

Saturday, December 6: 2:00PM and 7:30PM

Sunday, December 7: 2:00PM

For tickets, please go to Ticketmaster.com. For more information about the performance, please visit LosGatosBallet.org

About Los Gatos Ballet

Los Gatos Ballet is renowned for its high caliber classical ballet training and for its lavish full-length ballet productions, including “Swan Lake”, “Cinderella”, and “Sleeping Beauty”. Led by Artistic Director Marcie Ryken, it seeks to inspire and cultivate appreciation and

love of dance by providing quality educational and training programs, superb performances, and collaboration with other arts organizations.

About San Jose Youth Symphony

The San Jose Youth Symphony, conducted by Yair Samet, is the premiere youth orchestra in Silicon Valley. These superbly talented young musicians perform regularly in various venues throughout the Bay Area, as well as on their biannual international tour.

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