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News Release

For Release
Oct. 29, 2009

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Friday, Oct. 30, 2009 at 10:45 a.m.

Dancers preview future school of the arts at Hiram Johnson High School

*Sacramento Ballet Company demonstrates daily workouts, variety
of dance styles to students*

Hiram Johnson High School dance students will learn what it takes to be a professional dancer and the diversity of styles as the Sacramento Ballet Company completes a sample workout and performs in different dance genres for students in the schools' dance studio located in the Johnson gymnasium.

The visit is scheduled for Friday, October 30 from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the school, 6879 14th Ave.

Performances will include several pieces from the Sacramento Ballet's current schedule. Performers will work directly with the students in their warm-ups and dance instruction. A pilot dance program was launched this month with the Johnson students and the entire professional company of the Sacramento Ballet Company. Through May 2010, the company will present workshops and master classes in musical theater, folkloric dance, contact improvisation, social dance, hip-hop, the techniques of Trey McIntyre and Twyla Tharp and Pilates training. Sacramento Ballet will also present two workshops for the dance department and its 75 students.

In addition, the Ballet will present 34 on-campus master classes and 6 additional workshops open to all Johnson students. Dance department students will attend ballet performances at the Sacramento Community Center Theater and have an original new dance work created especially for them. In May, students and the professional dancers will perform together in the school's 1,300-seat Chappell Theater.

In the fall of 2010 Hiram Johnson will launch a new School of the Arts (SOTA), a special program for students also referred to as a multiple pathway, for youth interested in the arts. Besides the Sacramento Ballet Company, professional partners that will join the SOTA effort include the Children's Opera, the Sacramento Youth Symphony, the River City Theater Company and the Step 1 Dance Studio. More partnerships are expected before SOTA begins next year. Information about SOTA will be available at the district's Open Enrollment/Showcase of Schools on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Serna Center, 5735 47th Ave. or by calling Cynthia Borcich at (916) 277-6300, Ext. 1069.

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