



**Linda Hurkmans, M.A.** is the Artistic Director and choreographer of San Jose Dance Theatre. As a child, Linda performed with San Jose Dance Theatre before becoming a professional ballet dancer, and today welcomes all dancers to the many opportunities to train and perform there. [www.sjdt.org](http://www.sjdt.org)

San Jose Dance Theatre (SJDT) was originally founded in 1964 as Paul E. Curtis Jr.'s Los Gatos Academy of Dance and the West Valley Ballet Foundation. The name was later changed to San Jose Dance Theatre in 1965 and incorporated as a nonprofit educational organization in 1968.

Across more than 50 years, SJDT has trained beginning through advanced dancers for a lifetime of participation in, as well as appreciation of the art of classical ballet. The Academy is a school that specializes in the classical ballet training of children from 4 years of age to the pre-professional level.

SJDT has delighted local audiences for five decades with performances including *Peter and the Wolf*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Beauty and the Beast*. The results of the Academy's training have been gratifying. Many of its alumni have gone on to professional careers in dance and in ice-skating.

This year SJDT will celebrate the golden anniversary of our esteemed production of "*The Nutcracker*."

[www.SJDT.org](http://www.SJDT.org)

Miss Hurkmans studied intensely with Larisa Sklyanskaya, former Soloist with Bolshoi Ballet and later with Conrad Ludlow, former Principal with New York City Ballet, and the teachers at The Royal Danish Ballet School. She received full scholarships to the Pacific Northwest Ballet School, The Royal Danish Ballet School and the University of Utah Ballet Department. She performed with the Utah Ballet/Ballet West, Norwegian Andanse Ballet, Zahkraz Dance, and as a guest of The Royal Danish Ballet, and of The Norwegian National Ballet in conjunction with the Year of Dance and the 1994 Olympics in Lillehammer. Linda competed in the 72-country ITI International Competition in Finland. Linda holds a B.F.A., Cum Laude in Ballet Performance, from the University of Utah, Full Pilates Certifications from The Turning Pointe Studios and PhysicalMind Institute, and a M.A. in Psychology from Notre Dame de Namur University. Linda has taught at professional ballet schools in the U.S. and in Europe, Stanford University and Santa Clara University, where she helped found the SCU Pilates Program. Linda currently teaches Ballet at Foothill College and Psychology at De Anza College.

Miss Hurkmans' choreography has been performed by The Norwegian State High School, Zohco Dance Co., Western Ballet, Santa Clara University, Margaret Wingrove Dance Company, and San Jose Dance Theatre.

SJDT Artistic Director Linda Hurkmans will briefly discuss ballet history, work of San Jose Dance Theatre & pointe shoes. Her student dancers will then illustrate the ballet art form by recreating sample scenes. Audience questions are most welcome.

Level 4 dancers demonstrate classwork:

Twilight Lin, Jeremy Pettitt, Natalie Ramskov  
Dances from Act 2 - The Sleeping Beauty  
Silver Fairy: Natalie Ramskov & Lilac Fairy: Twilight Lin  
The Little Red Riding Hood: Natalie Ramskov & The Wolf:  
Jeremy Pettitt  
Puss N Boots: Twilight Lin, Jeremy Pettitt & Natalie  
Ramskov

Level 5 and 6 dancers demonstrate classwork:

Mia Watson Fong, Emily Pettitt, Rachel Chun, & Julienne  
Ramskov  
Dances from Act 1 - Swan Lake  
Solo from Swan Lake - Pas de Trois: Julienne Ramskov  
Finale from Swan Lake - Pas de Trois: Mia Watson Fong,  
Emily Pettitt, Rachel Chun, & Julienne Ramskov

----- next San Jose Dance Theatre events ([www.SJDT.org](http://www.SJDT.org)) -----

Sat Jul 11 & Sat Jul 25

*The Nutcracker* workshop.

Learn choreography for auditions ahead of time!

Tue Aug 18

Fall semester begins!

Sat Sep 12 & Sun Sep 13

*The Nutcracker* auditions

Fri Dec 4, Sat Dec 5 & Sun Dec 6

50th production of *The Nutcracker*, featuring San Francisco

Ballet's Tiit Helimets & Sasha de Sola.