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Master Dance Class with Jeanne Ruddy Coming in October Former Principal Dancer with Martha Graham Company to Teach at Arts Center

(Pueblo, Colo.-August 27, 2019) The Sangre de Cristo School of Dance will host a special master class with Jeanne Ruddy on Friday, October 4 at 11am. The class is open to School of Dance Level 4 students and will have live music accompaniment. Outside participants must be working contemporary dancers or pre-professional students. Cost is \$20 or free for existing Sangre de Cristo School of Dance students. Reserve your spot by calling (719) 295-7221 as space is limited.

About Jeanne Ruddy

Jeanne Ruddy is a former Principal Dancer with the Martha Graham Company where she performed throughout the world and was featured in the PBS Great Performances series in Graham's Cave of the Heart. She danced on Broadway in *The King and I*, starring Yul Brynner and was an original member of Agnes de Mille's Heritage Dance Theatre. She directed the Graham-based modern department at The Alvin Ailey American Dance Center and was on the faculty of The Juilliard School. Ruddy has been invited to numerous international symposiums, recently having taught the *Danza Contemporanea de Cuba* in Havana. Ruddy has received prestigious awards including, the Independence Foundation Fellowship Award, the National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America, NEA's Artistic Excellence, the Pew Foundation Dance Advance and the William Penn Foundation. Ms. Ruddy founded her company, Jeanne Ruddy Dance that she directed, choreographed and performed for twelve seasons. Currently, Jeanne is the Executive Director, Co-Founder, and Resident Artist of the Performance Garage, a space in Philadelphia created exclusively for dance to empower the next generations of dancers and choreographers.

Ms. Ruddy founded her company, Jeanne Ruddy Dance, and then with the help of her husband, Victor Keen, her Board, individual contributors, staff and company dancers, founded the Performance Garage, a space exclusively for dance. Now, over 500 additional choreographers have taught, rehearsed, auditioned, or performed since the Performance Garage's opening in 2003.

About Sangre de Cristo School of Dance

The School of Dance offers a wide variety of classes to many age groups and ability levels including, but not limited to ballet, pointe training, adult ballet, early education (ages 3-7), character, jazz, modern, contemporary, yoga, conditioning, and special pre-professional level classes for those interested in pursuing a career in dance. The students in our advanced classes have the opportunity to participate in masterclasses from professional dance companies that are part of the Center Stage Performing Arts Series. Past masterclasses hosted by Sangre de Cristo School of Dance include the Grand Russian Ballet, Flamenco Vivo, MOMIX, and Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo dance companies.

About the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center:

The cultural hub of Southern Colorado, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center gives visitors the tools to think and act creatively through a three building complex including seven galleries offering the best in historic and contemporary art by artists of local, regional and national renown. The Arts Center offers the Buell Children's Museum, recognized as the second-best for art by *Child* magazine, a 500-seat theater featuring a variety of performing arts programs, both local and national, and two gift shops. Over 100 fine arts, dance, and leisure classes are available quarterly providing unique offerings to everyone from children to adults of all skill levels. Admission to the Arts Center is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, seniors 65+, and military. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98B, or visit online at www.sdc-arts.org.

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