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PRESS RELEASE

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Free Boys Scholarship Class Offered By Inland Pacific Ballet Academy

Inland Pacific Ballet Academy, the official school of Inland Pacific Ballet, is currently offering a free scholarship class specifically for boys taught by Jonathan Sharp, IPB Guest Principal Dancer and former member of the USC Dance Department faculty. The free class is held on Thursdays from 4:00-5:15 p.m. and is open to boys age 8 and older. No previous dance experience is required and all levels are accepted.

Designed to help male dancers and athletes develop coordination, flexibility and balance, the class focuses on upper body and leg strength. The program provides strenuous body conditioning for injury prevention, and is excellent cross training for all athletes, particularly tennis, basketball and football players. Artistic appreciation and musicality are also introduced.

According to instructor Jonathan Sharp, “Bringing boys together to train artistically lets us focus on the key strengths of the male body. This class includes a little bit of martial arts combined with strength training and theater games. We work on how to stay balanced, turning, how to jump higher and have a powerful landing. Boys can be strong, but they also have to develop proper timing,” says Sharp. “I’m training male dancers and athletes, so I also share what I learned from my dad about sports discipline. He was a coach and played for the White Sox.”

Jonathan Sharp received his training in New York from master teachers Stanley Williams and Suzanne Ferrell, among others. He studied ballet on scholarship at the prestigious School of American Ballet, the official school of the New York City Ballet. After his training, he danced professionally with the Boston and Pennsylvania Ballet companies. Sharp has also appeared in the original casts of five Broadway shows, including *Carousel* (1994 Tony winner for best revival) and *Fiddler on the Roof*. He is an ABT® Certified Teacher for Primary through Level 5 of the ABT® National Training Curriculum.

Founded in 1991, the Inland Pacific Ballet Academy is the Inland Empire’s largest dance studio and provides professional quality dance training and performing opportunities to students of all ages and levels of experience. IPBA offers the flexibility of Open classes, with Standard and Pre-Professional programs for more serious dancers. Other programs include Ballet (Age 3-Adult), Hip Hop, Musical Theater, Contemporary Dance, Pilates. The Academy is located at 5050 Arrow Highway in Montclair.

For more information about this class or other programs, call (909) 482-1590, or visit www.ipballet.org.