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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Napa Valley Ballet Academy Collaborates with Local Animal Rescue

Napa – Jameson Animal Rescue Ranch (JARR) announced today its collaboration with the Napa Valley Ballet Academy (NVBA). Some of JARR’s adoptable dogs will be appearing at this holiday season’s performance of the Napa Valley Ballet’s Christmas classic, The Nutcracker.

The holiday classic debuts in Napa on December 9th at 4:00 PM at the NVUSD District Auditorium and brings to life the beloved Christmas Eve story of a girl’s dream, with memorable music by Tchaikovsky.

"When children are better educated around issues concerning animals our whole community benefits," said Monica Stevens, Co-founder JARR, "Children and animals naturally go together, and we couldn't be happier to collaborate with the Napa Valley Ballet."

Marcella Contessi-Smith, artistic director of Contessi Ballet, and founder of the North Bay Performing Arts Center is directing this joint performance with NVBA. This performance will mark her first steps into retirement at the youthful age of 90. Mrs. Smith has been dancing for over 70 years.

"Napa Valley Ballet is proud to work with other non-profits in the region," Said Christopher Ott, Chairman of Napa Valley Ballet, "We take the development of whole human beings in our program very seriously. Working with other organizations such as Contessi and Jameson models the connectivity of the World and underscores the fact that Dance Training is Life Training."

Principal, Ryan Camou will be performing as the Prince. Ryan received his dance training from Hawaii State Ballet and San Francisco Ballet School, before becoming an apprentice with Houston Ballet where he was featured in Trey McIntyre's Touched.

Halie Nelson will star as the principal role of Clara. Nelson, 22, has been dancing at Contessi Ballet since she was two years old. She has performed many principal roles in large productions including Cinderella, The Magic Flute, Swan Lake, and The Nutcracker.

As a California non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, NVBA is dedicated to providing performing arts opportunities for youth and adults in the North Bay Region.

For tickets and more info, please visit:

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3745696>

About Jameson Animal Rescue Ranch

Jameson Animal Rescue Ranch is a no-kill rescue and sanctuary in the Napa Valley for companion and farmed animals in need. The nonprofit provides transitional and permanent shelter, adoption and rescue services, humane education, animal advocacy, and is committed to ending animal hunger, cruelty, and overpopulation.

JARR also collaborates with and acts as a liaison for various local animal rescue groups.

www.jamesonanimalrescueranch.org