

LEGACY NEWS

ENSURE THE FUTURE OF DANCE AT SAN FRANCISCO BALLET

SPRING 2024

Sasha De Sola in Smith's *Carmen* // © Reneff-Olson Productions



SHARING HER JOY OF BALLET

Though she found career success in Silicon Valley, Jean Lee discovered a love and passion for ballet and the arts through San Francisco Ballet.

Jean studied computer science and worked as a software engineer and manager for over 15 years. She was the 19th engineer with WhatsApp and later worked with Meta following the \$19 billion acquisition. After retiring from her tech career in 2019, she has dedicated herself to giving back to the tech community as a founder, a coach, and an investor.

Jean's connection with San Francisco Ballet began when she started taking adult ballet classes. "I had never danced before," Jean recalled, "but I wanted to find a new challenge. The instructors are fantastic, and it's amazing to see people at all levels come together to share the joy of ballet."

Her engagement with SF Ballet deepened after she attended SF Ballet's Opening Night Gala dinner in 2023, where she met Jill McNay and Eve Wertsch, who encouraged her and her sister to join the SF Ballet Auxiliary as Provisional members. This step solidified their commitment to supporting the arts.

This past March, the SF Ballet Auxiliary Provisional Class commemorated Women's History Month 2024 with

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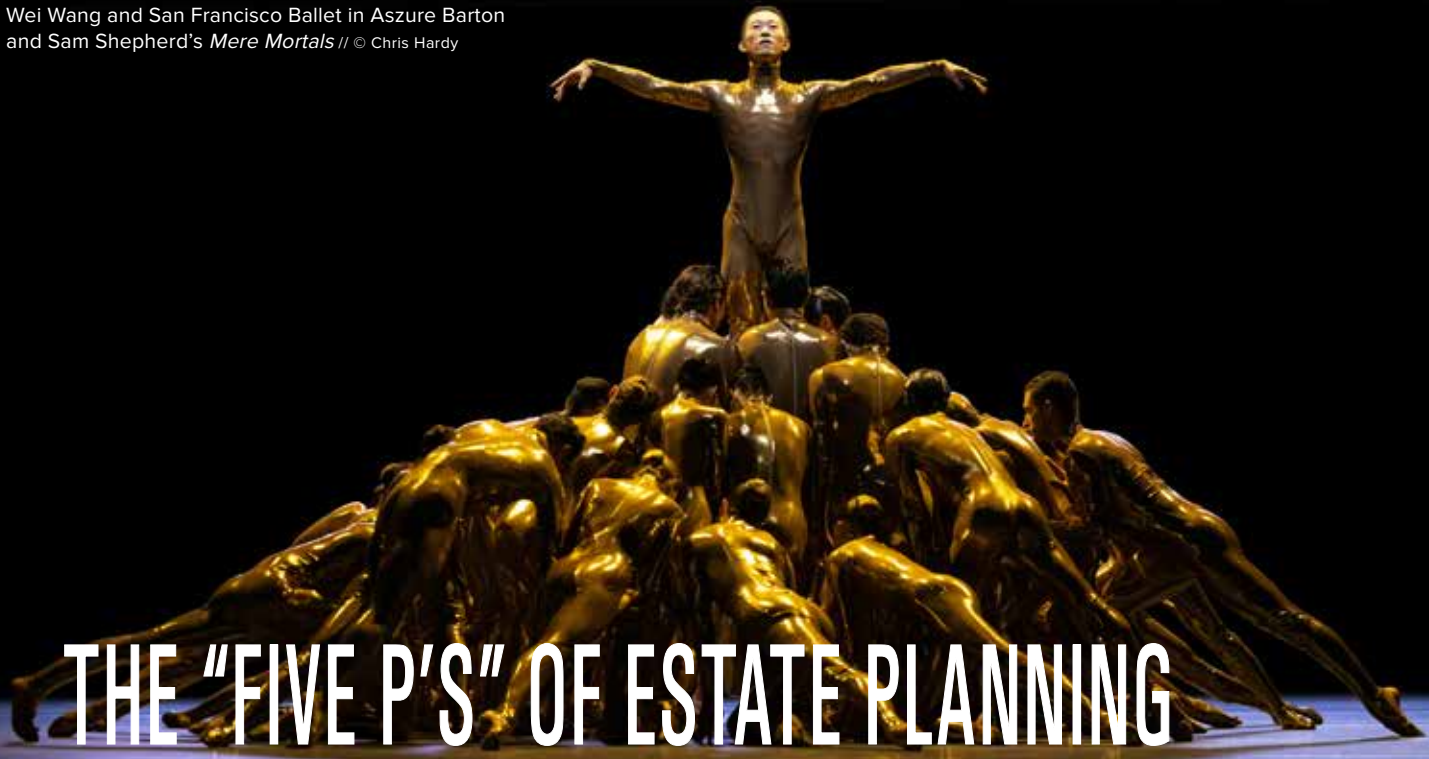
Jean Lee and Sebastian Heycke at *Giselle*



SAN FRANCISCO BALLET
TAMARA ROJO, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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THE "FIVE P'S" OF ESTATE PLANNING

If you have been planning to make your will but are unsure how to start, here is some practical help.

HOW MUCH DOES A WILL COST?

The cost of a will depends on the size of your estate, whether trusts are needed as part of your estate plan, and other factors.

For your convenience, SF Ballet offers complimentary estate planning services with Thompson & Associates and can walk you through a "pre-will" process with an experienced consultant.

HOW DO I GO ABOUT MAKING A WILL?

First, make an appointment with an attorney or reach out to us about complementary estate planning services. Before your consultation, carefully consider your estate using the "Five P's" of estate planning:

- ▶ **People** in your life for whom you feel responsible and/or wish to remember.

- ▶ **Property** you own, including homes, automobiles, securities, and other relevant assets.
- ▶ **Plans** for the property, a dollar amount, or the estate percentage you want each person to receive.
- ▶ **Philanthropic** goals you may have for SF Ballet or other charitable organizations you have supported during your lifetime.
- ▶ **Planners** you want to consult about these decisions: your family and loved ones, attorney, accountant, and others.

If five P's isn't enough, remember the sense of **Purpose** you'll enjoy knowing you're supporting SF Ballet's mission to share the joy of dance with the widest audience possible.

Please reach out to us if you would like more information about complimentary estate planning services or have questions about other aspects of your charitable plans.

GIVING TO THE FUTURE OF SF BALLET

The San Francisco Ballet Endowment Foundation is an independent nonprofit public benefit corporation established in 1980. It holds and manages endowment funds for the San Francisco Ballet Association. Its primary objective is to provide SF Ballet with a reliable source of financial support while safeguarding its investments against inflation and volatile swings in the capital markets.

Every year, the Endowment Foundation provides funding to SF Ballet for various needs, such as creating new works, touring, financial aid for SF Ballet School students, and community education and outreach programs. The annual operating transfer from the Endowment Foundation has become an increasingly vital source of funding for SF Ballet.

In Fiscal Year 2020 alone, the transfer provided roughly 10% of SF Ballet's core operating budget. It now ranks as the third most significant revenue stream for SF Ballet, following ticket sales and contributions.

The growth of Endowment Foundation assets, and consequently the growth of the annual transfer, is attributable to three main factors: robust investment returns, bequests and planned gifts, and the successful outcome of two endowment fundraising campaigns. SF Ballet expresses gratitude to the numerous patrons who have supported its endowment.



Yuan Yuan Tan taking her final bow at San Francisco Ballet
// © Chris Hardy

If you wish to contribute to support SF Ballet's mission, there are two options:

- 1. Donate to the San Francisco Ballet Association**, which will enable SF Ballet to allocate your gift flexibly. Gifts left to SF Ballet Association may be invested to generate revenue or used in the year they are received.
- 2. Donate to the San Francisco Ballet Endowment Foundation**, which will ensure that your gift is held in perpetuity. This means that your gift will be added to the endowment, and only the income and interest from your gift may be used to support SF Ballet, as determined by Endowment Foundation policies.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about ways to support SF Ballet, please contact Hayleigh Thompson at 415-865-6623.

A POPULAR WAY TO GIVE

In recent years, donor advised funds (DAFs) have become one of the most popular ways to give to SF Ballet.

So, why are DAFs such a great way to give? Here are a few reasons:

- 1. Tax Benefits:** One of the biggest advantages of a DAF is that it provides significant tax benefits. When you contribute to a DAF, you can deduct the total amount from your taxes in the year that you make the contribution. This is particularly useful for people who want to make a significant charitable gift but can't do so in one year due to tax limitations.
- 2. Flexibility:** With a DAF, you can recommend grants to any qualified charitable organization at any time. You can also contribute various assets, including stocks, real estate, and other non-cash assets. This makes it easy to give in a convenient way.
- 3. Simplicity:** Setting up a DAF is simple. You can open an account, make a contribution, and then recommend grants to your favorite charitable organizations, such as SF Ballet. Then we handle all the administrative details, including tax reporting, record-keeping, and grant disbursements.
- 4. Long-Term Giving:** A DAF also provides a way to make a long-term impact through charitable giving. By contributing to a DAF, you can create a lasting legacy that will continue to support SF Ballet for years to come.

If you want to set up a DAF or learn more about this giving option, contact our development team to get started.

San Francisco Ballet in Aszure Barton and Sam Shepherd's
Mere Mortals // © Chris Hardy



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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San Francisco Ballet

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San Francisco Ballet in Lopez Ochoa's *Broken Wings* // © Reneff-Olson Productions



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SHARING HER JOY OF BALLET

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a luncheon celebrating inspiring women. Jean had the opportunity to interview Dana Genshaft, a teacher and choreographer at SF Ballet School. “We had a conversation about the role of women in ballet,” Jean said. “It was an amazing experience to hear Dana’s story and learn how she’s dedicated her career to nurturing the next generation of dancers and choreographers.”

After joining the SF Ballet Auxiliary, Jean learned about the Jocelyn Vollmar Legacy Circle (JVLC). Recognizing the importance of legacy planning, she had included San Francisco Ballet in her will a decade ago while setting up her estate plans during the WhatsApp acquisition. After notifying the JVLC of her decision, she officially became a member.

Jean also supports and volunteers with various food banks, women’s shelters, and tech initiatives promoting diversity and inclusion. When not engaged in career coaching and volunteering, Jean enjoys dancing, painting, crocheting, and writing.

Jean passionately believes in the power of the arts to enrich and transform lives. “Supporting those who create, teach, and promote the arts is crucial,” she emphasized. “It not only helps the artistic community thrive, but it also creates opportunities for everyone to engage with and appreciate the arts.”