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Media Contact:

Barb Bullock
info.sarasotacubanballet@gmail.com
941.365.8400

**SARASOTA CUBAN BALLET SCHOOL APPOINTS
FRANCESCA MACBETH ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR**

Ariel Serrano, President and Co-Artistic Director of the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School (SCBS), is pleased to announce the appointment of Francesca MacBeth as the school's Administrative Director. MacBeth will be responsible for the day-to-day operations by planning, organizing, and implementing administrative systems for SCBS.

MacBeth has spent her life in the performing arts, first as a performer and then working in administration and production. In her first career as a ballet dancer, she trained at the Joffrey Ballet School and in New York City, performing with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet and the Eglevsky Ballet, among others. As a stage manager and production manager, she has worked with the New York City Opera, the Caramoor Festival, Glimmerglass Opera, Sarasota Opera, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Juilliard School, The Little Orchestra Society, Manhattan School of Music, Mannes Opera and Opera Tampa. She was the Production Stage Manager for the 75th Anniversary National Tour of The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, and on two productions for the International Mezzo Opera Festival that were televised live in 39 European countries. MacBeth was the Production Activities Administrator for the Vocal Arts Department and Juilliard Opera at The Juilliard School for two years. She relocated to Sarasota with her family in 2012, and is currently in her fourth season as Production Stage Manager at the Sarasota Opera.

"We are excited to welcome Francesca to our team at SCBS," said Mr. Serrano. "Her extensive background, experience and passion for dance—both on the performance side and the business side—will be great assets to us."

About The Sarasota Cuban Ballet School

SCBS was founded in 2012 by the Cuban-born husband and wife team of Ariel Serrano and Wilman Hernandez. Born in Cuba, they trained at the elite National Ballet School of Cuba and performed internationally. In 1993 they moved to Sarasota to join the Sarasota Ballet. Co-Artistic Directors of SCBS, they teach classes at all levels for students from age three to adults, but the heart of the School's program is a rigorous training course to prepare talented, serious young dancers for professional careers. Students of SCBS have gone on to perform with Dance Theater of Harlem, Milwaukee Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Tulsa Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Ballet West, Boston Ballet, Ballet Manila, Ballet Municipal de Lima and the Royal Ballet School and Company.

About the Cuban Style

SCBS is the only school in the United States specializing in the Cuban training style, which is renowned for its athleticism, passion and grace. The Cuban Style is an authentic movement of style of classical ballet with influences from the major schools of ballet—French, Italian and Russian. It emphasizes dancing with the entire body and promoting harmonious movement among arms, legs and torso. It is a very clean and precise, but not stiff. It has a romantic feel, with attentive partnering, and is changing the face of modern ballet with superb technique and impeccable footwork. This award-winning School provides world-class ballet instruction in the tradition of the Cuban method.

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