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**Laney College's Danny Nguyen  
Featured at International Dance Program**

Danny Nguyen, chairperson of the Laney College Dance Department, will perform along with Laney students at the 27th International Choreographers' Showcase, which is to be held in Paris on September 25-26, 2004.

The International Choreographers' Showcase is an annual event that promotes extraordinary performances by outstanding artists and presents artistic works of the highest caliber to an international audience. It is where artists, directors and producers from all over the world share ideas and learn about cultural dance and communities around the world.

“Community colleges offer a range of classes from beginning to professional,” Nguyen, who is also artistic director of the Danny Nguyen Dancers and Musicians troupe, said. “I pride myself in helping all students reach their own individual potential.”

Nguyen's participation in the festival will increase global awareness of the quality community college education that is offered in the United States, particularly in California and at the Peralta Colleges. To further the development of Laney's Dance Department, Nguyen will travel to Paris with two other talented dancers, Tiffany Barbarash and Nan Busse. They will perform “Struggle to Flee,” a dance depicting the experience of Vietnamese women before, during and after the Fall of Saigon in 1975.

This dance piece offers a deeper dimension to the international arts community, furthers awareness about the intersections between American and Vietnamese performing arts, and highlights the importance of cross-cultural involvement.

Nguyen, Barbarash and Busse will share their experience in Paris with the students, staff and faculty of Laney when they return

“I would like to give special thanks to the Peralta Colleges Foundation for supporting the performing arts, educational enrichment programs, and by making our participation in this event possible.” Nguyen said. “Many students come to transfer to four-year colleges from Laney's Dance Department,” Nguyen noted.

“We will showcase the Peralta Colleges and Laney's dance students – not only on a local level, but state-wide, nationally and, now, on the internationally,” he said.

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