



THE
NUTCRACKER 2021

Thursday, Dec. 2 – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 3 – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 4 – 12:00 and 6:00 p.m.





presents

The Nutcracker Ballet

Artistic director and lead choreographer:

Julie Moffitt

Assistant director and choreographer:

Aimee Davis

Choreography and/or instruction:

Danni Chapple, Andrea Cunningham, Rebecca Gonzales,
Emma Gonzales, Annabelle Ingram, Alyssa Klein,
Shannon Marshall, Beatrix Robbins, Kylee Schow,
Alicia Smeding, Emily Swaner

Music by Peter Lynch Tchaikovsky

Recorded by the London Symphony Orchestra

The performance will last approximately one hour and forty-five minutes with one fifteen- to twenty-minute intermission. Please observe proper theater etiquette. Turn off cell phones. No photography or video recording allowed. Disruptive children should be removed and taken to the theater lobby. Enjoy the ballet!



Act I: The Party



It is Christmas Eve. The peculiar Herr Drosselmeyer, inventor of marvelous toys, is in his workshop with his nephew packing up the magical holiday presents for the Christmas Eve party at the grand home of the Stahlbaums.

As the curtain opens, the Stahlbaums and the maids are preparing for the party. Clara, Fritz, and their beloved grandfather are delighted by the holiday tree.

Soon, many guests arrive for the Christmas festivities. The most eagerly awaited by Clara is her godfather, Uncle Drosselmeyer. He presents the children with special holiday gifts: dolls for the girls and toy horns for the boys. Excited with their gifts, the children dance merrily, and the adults join in. Drosselmeyer entertains the group with magical tricks. Surprising Clara and her guests, he produces life-sized entertainment who perform charming dances.

Drosselmeyer finally gives Clara a special gift — a wooden nutcracker designed to look like a soldier. Clara falls in love with her nutcracker instantly. Fritz lets his jealousy overwhelm him. He snatches the beloved nutcracker and breaks it. Clara weeps as Drosselmeyer binds the nutcracker's head with his scarf and consoles her. Fritz is remorseful, apologizes, and all is well.

A Polonaise dance performed by the adult guests marks the evening's finale. The Stahlbaums bid farewell to their guests as Clara and Fritz retire to bed.



Act II: The Magical Dream



Clara returns to the drawing room and falls asleep, cradling her nutcracker in her arms. Small mice appear and begin dancing. Clara awakens suddenly to find frightening giant mice and their king. Drosselmeyer appears just in time to save her and sends the mice scurrying away. Clara and Drosselmeyer joyfully dance as he uses his magic to make the Christmas tree grow and brings her nutcracker to life.

As Drosselmeyer vanishes, the Mouse King reappears, accompanied by his army. Clara joins the battle, helping her nutcracker soldier fight the ferocious king. In the fierce duel, the valiant nutcracker defeats the Mouse King and suddenly becomes a real prince.

Clara and her handsome prince dance together as the parlor grows into an enchanted snow forest where penguins and polar bears frolic and play. As evening falls, the Snow Queen and her crystalline snowflakes waltz in the glistening snow.

 *15-Minute Intermission*

 Visit the Nutcracker Ballet Boutique in the lobby!

 *Act II: The Land of the Sweets*  

The Sugar Plum Fairy dances with her cherubic angels in anticipation of the arrival of their guests. Drosselmeyer arrives and introduces Clara and the prince to the Sugar Plum Fairy, who welcomes them to her castle. The honored guests tell her about their adventures. The Sugar Plum Fairy admires them for their courage and seats them for an evening of entertainment as her dignified servants offer them food and sweets.

The Spanish Queen and her spirited dancers join in the entertainment, followed by the adorable sugar plums. The Sugar Plum Fairy performs the most breathtaking dance of all with grace and finesse. She calls in the enchanting Arabian dancers along their queen who perform with grace and mystery. Mother Ginger and her darling ginger snaps evoke laughter, the cupcakes twirl with delight, the energetic Chinese dancers dazzle, and a trio of dancing Reed Flutes take the stage. Shepherdesses' with little sheep make Clara smile followed by tumbling candy canes that steal the show. Beautiful flowers elegantly waltz with the Dew Drop Fairy before the Sugar Plum Fairy performs a final dance, inviting Clara and the prince to join her.

As the performance draws to a close, the fairy bids farewell and thanks them for coming to her kingdom. Clara awakens and sighs blissfully, recounting the fantasies from her slumber...

Was it really just a dream?