



# NUTCRACKER

2022

## AUDITION GUIDE

We are excited to provide each dancer with an enriching and exciting opportunity to perform in a brand new production on **Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 5:30 PM at the Sarasota Opera House.**

Please read all of the registration information carefully and review our performance participation policies, which will ensure a wonderful experience for all of the dancers and families.

- **Audition and Fees**

- **Auditions** will be held on **Saturday, September 10.**
- **Pre-registration is mandatory. Registration Form below - please scan and return to: [nutcracker@sarasotaballet.org](mailto:nutcracker@sarasotaballet.org)**
- A *mandatory* parent meeting will coincide with each audition. Only one parent needs to be in attendance.
  - **11:45-12:30 Party Scene Adults (19-up)**  
**Estimated rehearsal time on most Saturdays is 1-2 hours. Some dance experience is necessary.**
  - **12:30-1:00 Act 2 Little Dolls (4–5-year olds)**  
**Estimated rehearsal time on most Saturdays is 1/2 hour. This is not a dancing role but will give the child time on stage and experience.**  
This audition will incorporate very little dancing but will gauge the child's ability to follow directions. Parents need to attend the 12:30 PM meeting.
  - **1:00-1:45 Act 1 Party Children, Little Snowflakes; Act 2 Little Angels or Lambs (6- 7-year-olds)**  
**Estimated rehearsal time most Saturdays is 1 hour. Party Children will be 1-2 hours most Saturdays.**  
This audition will require simple dancing – minimum of one year training required. Parents need to attend the 1:00 PM meeting.

- **1:45-2:45 Act 1 Party Children; Act 2 Bon Bons (8 - 9-year-olds) Estimated rehearsal time most Saturdays is 1-2 hours.**  
This audition will require dancing – minimum of two years training required. Parents need to attend the 1:45 PM meeting
- **2:45-4:00 Act 1 Party Children, Fritz; Mice; Act 2 Dew Drops (10-11- year olds) Estimated rehearsal time most Saturdays is 1-2 hours.**  
This audition will require dancing – minimum of three years training required. Parents need to attend the 2:45 PM meeting.
- **4:00-5:30 Party Children, Soldiers, Angels, Trepak (12-18 year olds. Those on pointe, please bring pointe shoes.) Estimated rehearsal time most Saturdays is 1-2 hours**  
This audition will require dancing – minimum of four years training required. Parents need to attend the 4:00 PM meeting
- **\*\*MBC students and Trainees do not need to audition but must have their paperwork in by September 10\*\***
- **Cast list** for *The Nutcracker* will be sent via email by **September 20**.
- **Understudies** are crucial to the production. Please check to see if your dancer is also cast as an understudy. They should attend all rehearsals for their own roles as well as for the role they understudy.
- **Registration Fees** are required *prior* to audition and will be refunded *only* if the dancer is not given a role. The fee includes rehearsals, use of costumes, one t-shirt per dancer, and a video download of the production.
  - Fees are only refundable if a dancer is not cast in the ballet; they are not refundable if a dancer declines to participate because of casting or any other reason. Siblings receive a \$25 discount.
  - Need-based full and partial scholarships are available if proof of need is shown through the most recent two years of tax return.
  - **Fees are as follows and cover all rehearsals, costume rental, Opera House rental and stage crew, a t-shirt and link to video download. Note that all rehearsals will take place separately from class time, therefore the extra fees are necessary to cover extra costs.**

Children's Program (ages 4-7): \$175

School Levels 1-2: \$225

School Levels 3 and up: \$275

MBC Including Trainees: \$275

Adult Students: \$100

\*(School students, this includes Nutcracker Festival (December 10) (ages 4-8) and Carnival of the Animals (May 20, 2023) (all ages)

\*MBC Students and Trainees, this includes Images of Dance performance. (May 2, 2023)

## Rehearsals

- Rehearsals will take place *outside of class time* at the **Margaret Barbieri Conservatory located at 500 Tallevast Road beginning on Saturday, October 1.**
- Rehearsals will be scheduled for every Saturday from October 1st until the performance on December 18th, with the exception of Thanksgiving weekend. **There will be no rehearsals Thanksgiving Weekend.**
- Rehearsal schedules will be emailed every Monday prior to that week's Saturday rehearsal. Rehearsals for dancers will be scheduled between the hours of 1PM - 6PM. Conservatory Program dancers may have rehearsals on Wed evenings instead of some Saturdays. Trainees will have many rehearsals during week-days.
- **ALL REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY.** Dancers are **REQUIRED** to be available for and to attend **every** rehearsal for which their roles are scheduled. Any dancer who misses a rehearsal under this policy risks being removed from the production without a refund of fees. Missing rehearsals cause great hardship to the cast and artistic staff.. Imagine painting a picture and some of the paint colors are missing; the colors are difficult to add later. Missing dancers cause a similar problem.
- Absence due to illness can be due only to extreme illness or it will be considered a violation of the no-miss policy. Fever free dancers who are mildly ill (non-COVID) or injured should attend rehearsals and observe. Dancers should not be present if they have symptoms of COVID and they should share testing results with us.
- If a dancer is unable to attend a studio rehearsal, please call: 941-225-6525 and leave a voicemail. Remember, all rehearsals are mandatory. Absence may result in being removed from the production without a refund of fees.
- If the COVID transmission level is high, all participants may be asked to wear a mask.
- **In-studio rehearsals will be held on December 10 and 17.**  
*Approximate* times of rehearsals are:  
**Act 1 Party Scene 12:00-1:00** (Clara, Herr Drosselmeyer, Fritz, Party Children, Party Adults, Columbine, Harlequin, Soldier Doll(s), Nanny)  
**Act 1 Battle Scene 1:00-1:30** (Herr Drosselmeyer, Clara, Nathaniel Drosselmeyer/Nutcracker Prince, Mouse King, Soldiers, Mice, Columbine, Harlequin, Soldier Doll(s), Little Dolls)  
**Bows 1:30-2:00** Entire Cast  
**Act 1 Snow Scene 2:15-2:45** (Snowflakes, Snow Queen, Snow King, Young Clara, Prince, Herr Drosselmeyer, Older Clara, Cavalier)  
**Act 2 Land of the Sweets 2:45-4:00** (Older Clara/Sugar Plum, Cavalier, Young Clara, Prince, Flowers, Dew Drop, Little Dew Drops, Spanish, Arabian, Mother Ginger, Bon Bons, Marzipan, Little Lambs, Trepak, **(Leaving out Chinese for now.)**)  
**Act 2 Closing Scene 4:00-4:30** Young Clara, Herr Drosselmeyer, Nathaniel Drosselmeyer
- **MANDATORY On-Stage Dress Rehearsal** will be at the **Sarasota Opera House on Sunday, December 18, 2022 (approximate time 12:00-2:30 PM).** Any dancer missing this rehearsal for *any* reason will be unable to perform. Expect your child to spend most of the day at the theater as the performance is at 5:30PM.

- **Rehearsals start promptly at the time scheduled.** Dancers should be in the designated studio and ready to dance at the start time of the rehearsal. **Chronic tardiness will result in removal from the production without a refund of fees due to the hardship this causes to the rest of the cast.**
- **Casting is subject to change.**

- **Family Volunteer Requirement**

**Volunteering or paying an opt-out fee** is required from every family during the production period and during the performance weekend.

- Theater rental, costumes, backdrops, props, and the hiring of technical crew are expensive. In order to ensure high-quality productions, Nutcracker families are expected to volunteer their time and effort either before or during the production. The committee activities are listed in the attached **Parent Volunteer Sign-up. In lieu of volunteering, families may choose to pay a \$100 opt-out fee.**
- Additionally, we would be grateful if your family solicits businesses you frequent for ads for the program, contribute gift items to be sold during the performances, and/or donate items for our raffle baskets.

**Photo and Video Protocols**

- Photography and filming of rehearsals and performances is strictly prohibited.
- Reproduction or sharing of videos or video clips must be approved by Sarasota Ballet School. Allowable usage includes college or professional auditions, scholarship applications, etc but all must be approved.
- Video downloads are for personal use only.

**Costume Protocols**

- Costumes are the property of Sarasota Ballet School and must be handled with care.
- All costumes must be properly hung on designated hangers when not in use.
- Costumes and headpieces may not be left on the floor
- Costumes may not be worn while eating or applying make-up.