



## **“The Nutcracker” 2025 Information Packet**

We are thrilled that you would like to be a part of *The Nutcracker*! We’re so excited to bring an even bigger and more magical performance to the stage this season.

Our **dress rehearsal** will take place on **Friday, December 19th, 2025, at 4:00 PM** at the **Northside High School Auditorium**.

The **performance** will be held on **Saturday, December 20th, 2025**, with a showtime of **4pm**, also at the **Northside High School Auditorium**.

This packet will serve as your complete guide for the next four months. Please read through it in its entirety, as it contains everything you need to know.

If you have any questions at any point, please don’t hesitate to ask. We can’t wait to see the magic unfold!

### **Casting Information**

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## **Auditions & Casting Information**

Auditions will take place on **Saturday, September 6th**. Casting will be available at [riverwalkdancecollective.com](https://riverwalkdancecollective.com) under the **Nutcracker** tab.

Casting decisions will be made immediately following auditions. The official **cast list will be posted on the website no later than Sunday, September 7th at 10:00 PM**.

Please note that **casting is final and non-negotiable**. If you choose not to participate, you must notify us by emailing [riverwalkdancecollective@gmail.com](mailto:riverwalkdancecollective@gmail.com) no later than **Tuesday, September 9th**.



If we do not receive a declination email by that date, it will be assumed that your dancer is committed to participating, and you will be responsible for the participation fee.

### **Participation Fee**

The participation fee is **\$130**. This fee can be paid via **check or card**. Checks should be made out to Riverwalk Dance Collective. No cash will be accepted. The fee covers **a T-shirt, costume rental, costume cleaning, and rehearsal costs**. It is due in **full by September 30th, 2025**, and is non-refundable for any reason.

If your child is a current student at Riverwalk, this fee will be billed through Studio Pro. If your account is enrolled in auto-pay, the \$130 will automatically be charged to the card on file on September 30th, 2025.

### **Rehearsals & Time Commitment**

All rehearsals—with the exception of dress rehearsal on Friday, December 19th, 2025—will be held at **Riverwalk Dance Collective, 708 New Bridge Street, Jacksonville, NC**.

Participating in a full-length production requires a strong commitment not only from the dancers but from their families as well. While we understand that occasional absences may be unavoidable, it's important to recognize that **each rehearsal is crucial to the success of the show**. Dancers need to be present to learn, refine, and connect with their choreography and cast members. If your child must miss a rehearsal, please notify us in advance by emailing [riverwalkdancecollective@gmail.com](mailto:riverwalkdancecollective@gmail.com).

Please note: Any dancer who misses **three consecutive rehearsals will be dismissed** from the production.

If a dancer is scheduled for two scenes that rehearse at the same time, **RDC staff will guide them on which rehearsal to attend**. Please also note that some students may have longer rehearsal blocks than others depending on their roles. If your child's rehearsal exceeds two hours, we kindly ask that you send them with **water and a snack**. Dancers will be given breaks to fuel their bodies and stay energized.

To maintain a safe and comfortable environment for all, **each family is allowed one adult to attend rehearsals**. This policy ensures we remain within our **maximum capacity of 113 people**.

### **Costumes**

All participants will be fitted for costumes for the performance. Student measurements



will be taken during their first rehearsal, and **costume fittings will take place on Saturday, October 18th, 2025**, during regular rehearsal times.

Costumes are **rented** from Riverwalk Dance Collective and must be returned **after the final performance to their original white costume box**. Costumes will be stored and maintained by the studio and **transported to the Northside High School Auditorium** by RDC staff for show weekend. Costumes will **not** be taken home.

Please note: If a costume is **lost or damaged** during show weekend, families will be responsible for the **full replacement cost**, which may exceed several hundred dollars depending on the piece.

### **How to Read the Rehearsal Schedule**

When reviewing the rehearsal schedule, you'll notice it is organized by **parts**, **scenes**, and later, **acts**. Please take time to learn your dancer's **role**, **scenes**, and **acts** to easily follow the schedule.

#### **Act 1 is composed of the following scenes:**

1. Opening
2. Party Scene
3. Transition
4. Battle Scene
5. Snow Scene

#### **Act 2 is composed of the following scenes:**

6. Angels
7. Divertissement Opening
8. Divertissement
9. Polichinelle & Mother Ginger
10. Waltz of the flowers
11. Sugar Plum Fairy
12. Finale

### 13. Bows

<b>Act 1</b>	
<b>Opening</b>	<b>Party Children &amp; Parents</b>
<b>Stahlbaum House Opening</b>	<b>Maids, Stahlbaum Couple, Clara, Fritz</b>
<b>Party Scene</b>	<b>Party Children &amp; Parents, Clara, Fritz, Maids, Drosselmeyer</b>
<b>Transition</b>	<b>Clara &amp; Drosselmeyer</b>
<b>Battle Scene</b>	<b>Mice, Mouse King, Soldiers, Nutcracker, Clara</b>
<b>Snow</b>	<b>Snow Queen, Snowflakes, Snow Flurry, Clara, Nutcracker</b>

<b>Act 2</b>	
<b>Angels</b>	<b>Angels</b>
<b>Act 2 Opening</b>	<b>Clara, Nutcracker, Sugar Plum Fairy, Dew Drop, Russian, Arabian Lead, Chinese, Spanish Lead, Marzipan Lead, Pastry Chefs</b>
<b>Divertissement</b>	<b>Spanish Lead &amp; Spanish Dancers, Chinese dancers &amp; Lion, Russian Dancers, Marzipan Lead &amp; Marzipan Dancers &amp; Lambs, Arabian Lead &amp; Odalisques</b>
<b>Polichinelle</b>	<b>Mother Ginger, Clara, Polichinelles</b>
<b>Waltz of the Flowers</b>	<b>Dew Drop, Flowers, Petals</b>



Sugar Plum Fairy	Sugar Plum Fairy
Finale	Clara, Nutcracker, Sugar Plum Fairy, Dew Drop, Russian, Arabian Lead, Chinese Lead, Spanish Lead, Marzipan Lead
Bows	Full Cast

### Dress Rehearsal

Dress rehearsal will be held at the **Northside High School Auditorium on Friday, December 19th, from 4pm-6:30pm. Dancers may not arrive until 3pm.** This full run-through will include **props, hair, and costumes.** The purpose is to finalize **stage spacing**, adjust **sound and lighting**, and help performers become comfortable with the **stage, props, and costumes** ahead of show day.

Please send your dancer with **snacks, water, and warm-up attire.** To ensure safety and manage space, **only one adult per dancer** is permitted to attend.

### Show Day

**Seating is first come, first served.** Parents may **not** use blankets, tape, or other items to reserve seats. Please remember, *The Nutcracker* is a **classical ballet and a semi-formal event.** We encourage all attendees to wear **Sunday best attire** out of respect for the performance and performers.

### Dancer Call Time

Parents must bring their dancer fully ready (hair & makeup) by their designated **call time.**

To maintain order and safety, **only designated dressing room volunteers** will be permitted backstage. **Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms** unless they are pre-approved volunteers. Dressing rooms have limited space and cannot accommodate additional adults. **No exceptions will be made.**

**2:45** Call time for show: All cast members should be in their assigned dressing room at this time preparing for the show.

**3:15** Theater doors open: There is no admission into the theater prior to this time.

**4:00** Show Starts



## 6:30 Show Ends

### What to Bring on Show Day

Dancers may bring the following items to help stay comfortable and prepared throughout the day:

- Snacks & water
- Comfy clothes or warm-ups
- Blankets, iPads, or coloring books (for quiet downtime)
- Bobby pins, hair pins, hairspray, hairbrush, hair elastics
- Ballet tights, ballet shoes, nude leotard

**Important:** Please label all personal items. **Anything left in the dressing rooms without a name will be donated directly following the show.**

### Makeup

Stage makeup is **highly encouraged** for all cast members to ensure their facial features are visible under stage lighting. Without makeup, faces can appear washed out or blurry from the audience.

At a minimum, dancers should wear:

- Blush
- Mascara
- Red lipstick

**Top and bottom eyeliner** are also encouraged for added definition.

Please **do not use glitter**, as it can interfere with lighting and costumes.

### Hair

Standard hair style is to be in a neat bun on the mid to upper level of the back of the head. The flatter the bun, the better. Please do not use any “bun makers.”

### Polichinelles



Polichinelles will wear their hair in space buns with enough room to place their hat in between the two buns

### **Party Girl/ Clara Hair**

All party girls are required to wear their hair either curled and half up/half down, or in a bun with a curled hair piece attached. If you do not wish to purchase a hair piece, sponge curlers or hot rollers work well to achieve the desired look.

### **Show Ticket Purchasing**

Tickets will be **\$15 each** and must be purchased **online**. A ticket is required for **all guests ages 2 & up**.

We anticipate a full audience for the show, so we encourage families to purchase tickets early to secure their seats.

Tickets will go on sale starting **Monday, September 15th**.

A **purchase link will be available on the home page and under the Nutcracker tab** of our website at [riverwalkdancecollective.com](http://riverwalkdancecollective.com)

### **Volunteers**

It takes a village to bring *The Nutcracker* to life, and we're so grateful for the support of our dance families!

A **SignUpGenius link** will be emailed to the entire cast, offering opportunities to **volunteer backstage** during rehearsals and performances. We are especially in need of **dressing room monitors, prop helpers**, and other behind-the-scenes support.

We're also looking for **12 enthusiastic volunteers** to join the cast as **Party Parents**—a fun, onstage role during the party scene of the show. No dance experience required, just a willingness to participate and add to the magic!

If you're interested, please keep an eye on your email and sign up when the link goes live. We truly appreciate your help in making this production a success!