

THE NUTCRACKER



A CLASSICAL BALLET IN TWO ACTS
performed by

Minnesota Ballet Theatre

Eden Prairie Performing Arts Center

Friday, December 17 • 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 18 • 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 19 • 1 p.m.



Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Libretto and choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov

Based on the tale by E.T.A. Hoffman

Artistic directors: Svetlana Bak-Gavrilova and Kirill Bak-Stepanoff

The Nutcracker

ACT I

A festive party is to be held tonight, Christmas Eve, at the home of Herr Drosselmeyer. All of Clara's friends are invited. The children dance around the tree, receive gifts and watch a magical puppet show. Clara loves her gift of a Nutcracker, a strange, almost ugly little fellow. Somehow Clara knows it is going to be an extraordinary night for the two of them.

The guests leave and Clara, exhausted after the party, falls asleep in an armchair. At the stroke of midnight, marvelous changes indeed take place: the little Nutcracker doll comes alive, tiny mice (which represent Clara's fears) grow large and frightening, and a magical battle takes command of the night.

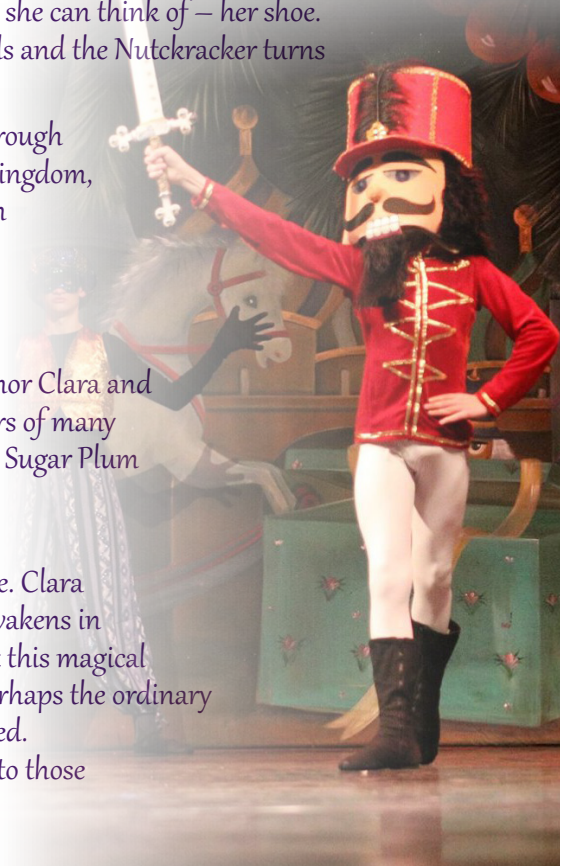
As the Nutcracker and the Rat King engage in final combat, Clara at last overcomes her fear (through her love for the Nutcracker) and strikes the Rat King with the only thing she can think of – her shoe. To her surprise, the Rat King falls and the Nutcracker turns into a handsome Prince.

Clara and the Prince journey through the whirl of falling snow to his kingdom, "The Land of the Sweets." It is an enchanting place as lovely and fleeting as a dream.

ACT II

The entertainment begins to honor Clara and the Prince. Flowers waltz, dancers of many lands display their best, and the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier join in the festivities.

Yet dreams may change and fade. Clara must return to her home. She awakens in her armchair. Clara realizes that this magical fairytale was all a dream. But perhaps the ordinary can once again become enchanted. All kinds of magic may happen to those whose eyes and hearts are open.



~ Cast ~

ACT I

Nutcracker Prince:

Andrew Lester (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Clara:

Catherine Le Grand (1), Abby Hoyt (2)

Nutcracker:

Nikita Ginzburg

Herr Drosselmeyer:

Kirill Bak-Stepanoff

Herr Stollbaum, Clara's Father:

Dmitry Ginzburg

Frau Stollbaum, Clara's Mother:

Carolina Ginzburg

Party Scene Adults:

Alec Trelstad, Denise Koopmeiners,
Derek Fredericksen, Erin Wells, Ethan Baines,
Jon Kamrath, Kori Stephens, Ryan Maley,
Sara Sotillo, Stacy Blackstad, Lily Kamrath,
Taylor Reemts, Tim Karlstad

Columbine Doll:

Aleksandra Sokolinsky (1), Ada Koski (2)

Porcelain Doll:

Kaitlin Kuhry (1),
Hermione Zhou (*Graduating Senior*) (2)

Arabian Doll:

Andrew Lester

Puppet Theatre:

Prince: Philo Lee Dixon

Princess: Lennica Barrett

Rat Queen: Rory Coplin

Party Scene Kids:

Amelia Zaycheck, Elisabeth Drieslein,
Hannah Laatz, Johanna Bonnett, Mabel Holm,
Marta Gadd, Nikita Ginzburg, Olivia Platt,
Victoria Li, Vladislav Ginzburg,
Inga Monsen, Hana Sinko

Mice:

Claire Higgerson, Gustav Monsen,
Lennica Barrett, Philo Lee Dixon,
Rory Coplin

Rats:

Abby Hoyt (1), Ada Koski (2),
Aleksandra Sokolinsky (1),
Catherine Le Grand (2), Cecilia Jancourt,
Elsa Monsen, Hana Sinko,
Hermione Zhou (2), Johanna Bonnett,
Kaitlin Kuhry (1), Lily Kamrath,
Nola Snyder, Olivia Platt

Soldiers and Horse Riders:

Amelia Zaycheck, Elisabeth Drieslein,
Hannah Laatz, Inga Monsen,
Lucille Kohlstedt, Mabel Holm,
Madisyn Frank, Marta Gadd, Presley Karlstad,
Sabana Sotillo, Sloane Kohlstedt, Sophia Elliot,
Sophia Lee Dixon, Victoria Li, Vladislav Ginzburg

Rat King:

Alec Trelstad (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Snow Princess:

Matilda Bak

Little Snowflakes:

Claire Higgerson, Gabriela Ahlquist,
Kailee Horvath, Lennica Barrett,
Milliana Espinoza, Rory Coplin,
Rosalie Strautz

Snowflakes Solo:

Alexia West & Vivian Relan
(*Featured Guest Artists*)

Snow Core:

Abby Hoyt (1), Ada Koski,
Aleksandra Sokolinsky,
Catherine Le Grand (2),
Cecilia Jancourt, Elsa Monsen,
Hana Sinko, Hermione Zhou,
Johanna Bonnett, Kaitlin Kuhry,
Lily Kamrath, Olivia Platt, Nola Snyder

~Cast~

ACT II

Sugar Plum:

Samantha Howe (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Cavalier:

Ryo Munakata (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Butterflies:

Hana Sinko, Johanna Bonnett,
Marta Gadd, Victoria Li

Rats Act II:

Lucille Kohlstedt, Madisyn Frank,
Presley Karlstad, Sabana Sotillo,
Sloane Kohlstedt, Sophia Elliot,
Sophia Lee Dixon

Spanish:

Abby Hoyt & Lily Kamrath (1),
Hermione Zhou & Kaitlin Kuhry (2)

Arabian Solo:

Matilda Bak

Arabian Core:

Aleksandra Sokolinsky (1),
Amelia Zaycheck, Cecilia Jancourt (2),
Elsa Monsen, Nola Snyder

Chinese Solo:

Ada Koski (1), Aleksandra Sokolinsky (2)

Chinese Core:

Elisabeth Drieslein, Hannah Laatz,
Inga Monsen, Mabel Holm

Russian:

Hana Sinko, Johanna Bonnett,
Nikita Ginzburg, Olivia Platt,
Victoria Li, Vladislav Ginzburg

Pas-de-Trois:

Andrew Lester
Ada Koski & Cecilia Jancourt (1)
Catherine Le Grand & Kaitlin Kuhry (2)

Madame Ginger:

Jon Kamrath

Clowns:

Claire Higerson, Gustav Monsen,
Lennica Barrett, Philo Lee Dixon,
Rory Coplin

Waltz of the Flowers Solo:

Hermione Zhou & Kaitlin Kuhry (1)
Lily Kamrath & Matilda Bak (2)

Waltz of the Flowers Little:

Elisabeth Drieslein, Hannah Laatz,
Mabel Holm, Marta Gadd,
Olivia Platt, Victoria Li

Waltz of the Flowers Big:

Abby Hoyt (1), Ada Koski,
Aleksandra Sokolinsky, Alexia West,
Catherine Le Grand (2), Cecilia Jancourt,
Elsa Monsen, Hana Sinko,
Hermione Zhou (2), Johanna Bonnett,
Kaitlin Kuhry (2), Vivian Relan, Lily Kamrath
(1), Matilda Bak (1), Nola Snyder

**Thank you to everyone who has helped
make this production a success.**

A very special Thank You goes to Ann Marie Ethen for making
the beautiful backdrops and costumes used in our production,
Betty Criberg for the Madame Ginger costume,
the Hoyt family for providing dinner for the cast and crew.

We are so grateful to all of the dancers, parents and friends for contributing
their talents and energy to rehearsals, costumes and the program.

We thank Eden Prairie High School for hosting MBT's The Nutcracker.

