

**Hello and Welcome to another exciting performance of
Erie's Nutcracker Reimagined! We are so excited that you
will be joining us for the 2025 show!**

While all performers must audition for a role, and participation by all is encouraged. With this mission, LEBC will perform the Nutcracker each year during the holiday season, successfully working with directors, dancers, and actors from Erie arts organizations to sustain this Erie Tradition.

The rehearsal staff will be dedicated to fostering a positive and inspirational learning environment so that the dancers that participate in this performance opportunity can prepare for a professional career in dance through skilled training and mentoring.

In just a few short months, the audience will be eagerly awaiting the curtain to rise on the majestic stage of the Warner Theatre to see this year's production of

Erie's NUTCRACKER Reimagined!

All forms must be printed, signed, and brought to your audition. Performers with incomplete or missing forms will not be cast.

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SCHEDULE AND IMPORTANT DATES

Auditions.....Saturday, August 23 and Sunday, August 24 (check times)

Casting results Posted and Emailed..... by Friday, Sept. 5

Mandatory Informational Meeting – All Performers are required to attend with one parent/guardian **Saturday, Sept. 13 at 2:00pm****

Hair and Makeup Seminar (Mandatory for all **first time** performers).....October 18

Optional Performances -These performances are optional, and sign ups will be posted on band along with the rehearsals for each performance

Santa Arrival Performance Mall (optional) Saturday, Nov. 15 at 10:00*

Soldiers and Sailors Home (optional).....Saturday, Nov. 22 at 10:00am

Festival of Trees (optional)Saturday Nov. 29 Time TBD

Mandatory rehearsal period.....**Nov 22 to final performance on Dec. 14****

Full Run in Costume – Act 1 (SB Studios) Saturday, Nov 22 at 2:30-3:45pm

Full Run in Costume – Act 2 (SB Studios)..... Saturday, Nov 22 at 4:00-5:00pm

Full Run in Costume – Act 1 (SB Studios)..... Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 6:00-7:30pm

Full Run in Costume – Act 2 (SB Studios)..... Thursday, Dec 4 at 6:00-7:30pm

Full Run in Costume – Act 1 (SB Studios)..... Saturday, Dec. 6 at 2:30-3:45pm

Full Run in Costume – Act 2 (SB Studios)..... Saturday, Dec. 6 at 4:00-5:00pm

Mandatory Theatre Meeting .. All Performers are required to attend with one parent/guardian **Wednesday, Dec 10 at 6:00pm****

Spacing Rehearsal (Warner).....Wednesday, Dec. 10 Times TBD

Dress Rehearsal (Warner).....Thursday, Dec. 11 at 6:00pm

School Performance.....Friday, Dec. 12 at 10:00am

Dress rehearsal (Orchestra/Photographer).....Saturday, Dec. 13 at 12:00pm

Pizza Party (Warner Lobby)..... Saturday, Dec. 13 at 3:00pm

Performance..... Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:00 pm

Performance..... Sunday, Dec. 14 at 2:00 pm

*date subject to change

****indicates mandatory periods, when dancers may not request absences**

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REHEARSAL START DATE and COSTUME FITTING DATES

(Check Band App for continuing rehearsal days and times.)

ROLE	REHEARSAL START	COSTUME FITTING	HEAD SHOT
Snowflakes Flowers	Saturday, Sept. 13	Saturday, Oct 4	Sat. Oct 4
Spanish Corps	Saturday, Sept. 20	Saturday, Sept. 27	Sat. Oct 4
Party Girls and Boys	Saturday, Sept 27	Saturday, Sept. 27	Sat. Oct 4
Soldier Brigade Captain	Saturday, Sept 27	Saturday, Sept. 27	Sat. Oct 4
Rosebuds	Saturday, Sept 27	Saturday, Oct 4	Sat. Oct 4
Party Kids	Saturday, Oct.4	Saturday, Oct 4	Sat. Oct.4
Baby Mice Acro Mouse	Saturday, Oct. 4	Saturday, Oct. 4	Sat. Oct 4
Little Soldiers	Saturday, Oct. 11	Saturday, Oct. 11	Sat. Oct 11
Sweets	Saturday, Oct. 11	Saturday, Oct. 11	Sat. Oct 11
Bon Bons Angels	Saturday, Oct. 18	Saturday, Oct. 11	Sat. Oct 11
Parents, Party Guests, Grandparents	Sunday, Oct. 19	Sunday, Oct. 19	Sun, Oct 19
Maids	Sunday, Oct 26	Sunday , Oct. 19	Sun. Oct 19
Reindeer	Saturday, Nov. 1	Saturday, Oct. 4	Sat. Oct 4
Snake Corps	Saturday, Nov. 1	Saturday, Oct. 11	Sat. Oct 11
Marzipan Various Leads	Refer to Band Schedule	Saturday, Sept. 27	Sat. Oct 4
Cherubs Page	Saturday, Nov. 8	Saturday, Oct. 11	Sat. Oct 11
Opening, Finale	Saturday, Nov. 1		
Apotheosis - ALL	Saturday, Nov. 8		
Apotheosis Party Girls		Saturday, Sept. 27	
Make-up Fitting Day		Saturday, Oct. 18	

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2025 PERFORMER AGREEMENT

In consideration of the opportunity to participate in “Erie’s NUTCRACKER Reimagined” (Production) of the Lake Erie Ballet Company (LEBC) for the 2025 season (commencing September 5, 2025, and concluding December 14, 2025), Performer and/or Performer’s parent(s) hereby understand and agree as follows:

1) ACCEPTING CASTING DECISIONS AND RULES OF CONTACT

LEBC casting decisions are made at the sole discretion of the Artistic Director and they are final. Neither Artistic Director nor Board Members shall be contacted regarding these decisions. Such contact will result in the forfeiture of the performer's invitation into which they have been cast.

2) PARTICIPATION FEE

The participation fee is set at \$75.00 per performer and a maximum per family fee of \$175.00 for families with multiple performers. In lieu of paying the participation fee, each performer/family has the option to secure a quarter page program ad from a local business. The Program Ad form is included in this packet. The participation fee/program ad is due by September 13, 2025. Fees can be paid and forms handed in at the Mandatory Parent/Performer meeting at Sovereign Ballet Studio.

3) FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE

If a performer withdraws from Nutcracker after rehearsals have begun for reasons other than injury or illness documented by the performer’s physician, or if a performer is dismissed from the production because of an infraction of the Performer Agreement, the fee the performer/performer’s family has paid to LEBC will not be refunded. Participation Fees related to a force majeure event (including COVID-19) will be refunded.

4) PERFORMER ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL MANDATORY MEETINGS, REHEARSALS, MAKEUP CLASSES, COSTUME FITTINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

Performers are required to attend all mandatory scheduled events. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the Production and forfeiture of associated fees. Performers and Parents are required to attend informational meetings, refer to “Schedule and Important Dates.”

5) UNDERSTUDY ROLES

Understudy roles follow the same strict rehearsal mandates as all other roles.

6) REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are generally, but not exclusively, held on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at Sovereign Ballet, 2539 West 12th Street. Schedules are typically posted one week in advance on the Nutcracker BAND APP and are subject to change. It is the responsibility of the performer and parents/guardians to closely monitor the rehearsal schedules.

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7) **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Performers and Parents/Guardians are to treat other performers, parents, staff, and volunteers with respect at all times. A more in-depth list of “Behavior and Etiquette” is attached and must be signed and submitted by the due date listed.

8) **EMERGENCIES**

Any emergencies or events that might cause a performer to be late to a rehearsal should immediately be communicated to the Rehearsal Director. Contact through private message through the BAND APP.

9) **NOTIFICATIONS**

Important information is posted on the BAND APP. Performers and their parents/guardians are responsible for regularly checking the APP to remain up-to-date on Nutcracker news and schedules. QR code to join BAND APP (open camera, hover over image, tap on link, follow prompts):



10) **EXCUSED ABSENCES NOT TO EXCEED THREE**

Performers are expected to attend all rehearsals, but they may be excused for a total of two, as long as the absences do not fall during the first three setting rehearsals for the performer’s role or the final weeks prior to the performance(s). Excused absences require prior notice to the Rehearsal Director. A no-show, unexcused absence is an infraction of the Performer Agreement and may result in dismissal from the Production.

11) **PREPLANNED REQUIRED SCHOOL ABSENCE**

Performers cast in Battle Scene through Act 2 will have to miss one day of school for the Friday Education Outreach Performance. Parents are responsible for communicating this absence to their performer’s school. A “School Excuse Form” will be posted on Band.

12) **COSTUMES**

Costumes may not be taken home. Performers are responsible for any damage to the costumes and will be charged for repairs and any extraordinary cleaning fees.

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NUTCRACKER AUDITION FORM

Audition # _____

Dancer Name: _____

Dancer Email Address: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Age (as of Audition) _____ Birth Date _____ Height in Inches _____

Grade & School Name: _____

Dancer Phone: _____ Parent Phone: _____

Address: _____

Years of Ballet Training _____ Years on Pointe _____ Years of Acro _____

Current Studio _____

What role(s) would you like to perform: _____

Please Read and Initial the Following:

_____ I understand that there is a Mandatory Performer/Parent Meeting Sept. 13 at 2:00pm at Sovereign Ballet, 2539 West 12th St., Erie, PA and will attend.

_____ By attending the Nutcracker audition, I agree that if chosen, I and/or my dancer will accept, rehearse & perform the assigned role. I will also encourage my dancer to handle disappointment with understanding, as it is an unavoidable aspect of performing.

_____ I/my dance is willing to be cast in a role that is not consistent with their gender (ie female dancers cast as Party Boy).

_____ I have read and can attend the expected meetings and rehearsal requirements as outlined in this packet, including the mandatory rehearsal period.

Dancer (if over 18)/Parent/Guardian Signature:

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BEHAVIOR AND ETIQUETTE

LEBC is committed to creating a safe and healthy atmosphere for their performers and volunteers. To that end it is agreed and understood that:

1. General conduct:

- a. Performers will be held to the highest standards of conduct and are expected to show courtesy and respect to the Artistic Director, support staff, fellow performers, and LEBC volunteers. This extends to the performers' and parents' / guardians' social media postings, referencing directly or indirectly to a student, staff, family, studio brand/or affiliations to the studio. Bullying and the posting of hate speech, inappropriate language, and vulgar gestures online are causes for immediate dismissal from the Production.
- b. Lake Erie Ballet Company is committed to providing a welcoming environment focused on encouragement and acceptance for all to feel safe and confident. Therefore, LEBC is implementing a Zero Tolerance Bullying Policy.
 - i. Bullying is defined by behavior that harms another performer physically or emotionally, targets another performer, or creates a hostile environment for any performer in the studio.
 - ii. Under reporting is the biggest hinderance to stopping further harassment. If you witness bullying behavior, speak up and report what you have seen.
 - iii. Since our goal is to empower people and embrace individuality, one reported bullying event could result in removal from the cast.

2. Language:

- a. Performers are expected to behave and speak in a respectful and professional manner, and to follow the directives of the Artistic Director with regard to all aspects of the Production. Older performers are role models for younger performers. Performers must refrain from inappropriate conversations and foul language in the dressing rooms, during rehearsals, and at performance venues.

3. Banned Substances:

- a. The possession or use of alcohol and/or drugs (including smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes) within the walls of any space within which LEBC rehearses or performs is strictly forbidden. Any use of these substances is grounds for immediate dismissal from the Production.

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4. Photography:

- a. The taking and posting of photos and/or videos is strictly prohibited without the expressed consent of all parties included in that photo and/or video.

5. Proprietary rights:

- a. Performers shall not participate in any outside performances using the name, choreography, or costumes of LEBC without the prior written approval of the Artistic Director.

6. Dress code:

- a. Dancers must adhere to all dress code requirements. Girls must arrive to rehearsals and fittings in leotards and clean tights, and with their hair in a neat bun. Girls dancing in pointe roles must have a second pair of pointe shoes for backup at all times. Boys must be in possession of their own dance shoes as required for their role. Dancers must be able to perform safely without eyeglasses during rehearsals and performances.

7. Dismissal:

- a. Artistic Director and the Board of Directors retain the right to dismiss any performer whose physical or psychological health is determined to be at risk or putting others at risk.

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BEHAVIOR AND ETIQUETTE AGREEMENT

PERFORMER	PARENT/GUARDIAN (if under 18)
Sign:	Sign:
Print:	Print:
Date:	Date:

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EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

Submit by Saturday, September 16, 2023

PLEASE Print Legibly

Performer Name	
Performer Cell Phone (if applicable)	
Performer Email (if applicable)	
Parent/Guardian Name	
Parent/Guardian Cell Phone	
Parent/Guardian Email (Print Clearly)	
	Emergency Contact Info
Emergency Contact Name	
Relationship to Performer	
Emergency Cell Phone	
Emergency Email (print clearly)	
	Medical Information
Allergies	
Approved Medications	
Other Medical Info	
	Custody Notifications
Do NOT allow this person to pick-up my child:	

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RELEASE OF LIABILITY

There are inherent physical risks involved in participation in the Production. Performer's participation is acknowledged by performer or the parent(s), guardian(s), family members, and/or parent's designees, as a voluntary undertaking. In consideration for the privilege of participation, the parent/guardian assumes full responsibility for any and all damages, injuries, or losses that may be sustained or incurred, if any, to the persons listed below, while rehearsing, attending, participating, observing, or in any other activity associated with "The Nutcracker". The parent/guardian also agrees of his/her own free will to waive, release, and covenant not to sue, and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Lake Erie Ballet Company, Inc., its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, and contractors for any and all claims resulting from ordinary negligence and inherent risk of the Production, including but not limited to any loss, injury, death, including with respect to COVID-19, damage, or liability sustained while on or about the premises or any location where LEBC performs, rehearses, visits, or engages in activity.

Neither party shall be liable to the other for any failure or delay in performance of its obligations under this Agreement arising out of or caused, directly or indirectly, by circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including, without limitation, acts of God, strikes, riots, equipment failures, change in law, fire, floods, earthquake, power failures, and epidemics, and pandemics, including, COVID-19.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THIS RELEASE

PERFORMER	PARENT/GUARDIAN (if under 18)
Sign:	Sign:
Print:	Print:
Date:	Date:

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PHOTOGRAPH AND VIDEO RELEASE 18 YEARS OR OLDER

By performer's signature hereby irrevocably consents to the use by LEBC, and any person or entity authorized by the Production, of performer's name, likeness, still photographs, videotaped and filmed images, and biographical material of performer, alone or in conjunction with other material, in whole or in part, in and as part of any material created by and/or relating in any manner to the Production, on any website relating in any manner to the Production, in any promotional activities or announcements relating to the Production, and for advertising and trade purposes in connection therewith, all of which may be exhibited in any media throughout the world in perpetuity. The performer hereby releases and discharges the Production from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of the above material.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THIS RELEASE

PERFORMER (18 years or older)
Sign:
Print:
Date:

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PHOTOGRAPH AND VIDEO RELEASE UNDER 18 YEARS OLD

By signature hereon of performer's parent or guardian, performer and performer's parent or guardian hereby irrevocably consent to the use by LEBC, and any person or entity authorized by the Production, of performer's name, likeness, still photographs, videotaped and filmed images of performer, alone or in conjunction with other material, in whole or in part, in and as part of any material created by and/or relating in any manner to the Production, on any website relating in any manner to the Production, in any promotional activities or announcements relating to the Production, and for advertising and trade purposes in connection therewith, all of which may be exhibited in any media throughout the world in perpetuity. The performer's parent or guardian hereby release and discharge the Production from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of the above material.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THIS RELEASE

CHECK ONE:

- Permission to use my child's name with photo/video
 DO NOT use my child's name with photo/video

PARENT/GUARDIAN (if under 18)
Performer Name:
Parent/Guardian Sign:
Parent/Guardian Print:
Date:

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PARENT VOLUNTEERING REQUIREMENT

Parent volunteers are critical to the safety of our performers and the success of the show! Here at LEBC we try to make volunteering fun, engaging and an invaluable part of the [Erie's Nutcracker Reimagined](#) experience!

Parents of performers 16 years old and under are required to volunteer backstage for 1 Performance and 1 Dress Rehearsal.

Dress Rehearsals Include:

Wednesday, December 10	Warner Theater
Thursday, December 11	Warner Theater
Saturday, December 13	AM Dress Rehearsal - Warner Theater

Performances Include:

Friday, December 12	Education Outreach Performance - Warner Theater
Saturday, December 13	7:00pm Performance - Warner Theater
Sunday December 14	2:00pm Performance - Warner Theater

There are many other areas we need extra help! These areas include sewing costumes, steaming costumes, props, assisting with special performances and supervising kids during their free time at the Warner Theater! **We can not put together a performance of this magnitude without your extra help!** These additional areas are also available on the Parent Volunteer Sign Up page posted on Band!

Volunteers can sign up using the QR code, or following the link posted on the BAND app! In lieu of volunteering, parents/guardians have the option to pay a \$250 fee per performer.

- I will be Volunteering Backstage to Support my performer/s
- I will be contributing \$250 Per Performer

Name

Signature

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PARENT VOLUNTEER CLEARANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you for your assistance with our Production. We are grateful for your involvement. Lake Erie Ballet Company's insurance provider requires our organization to follow policies and procedures to properly supervise employees and volunteers in direct contact with minors and other individuals in all on-site or off-site programs and events. Therefore, we are required to obtain your signed response regarding these policies. Please sign and date this form and return it to us as your acknowledgment that you:

I have obtained the following clearances:

- **Report of criminal history from the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), and**
- **Child Abuse History Clearance from the Department of Human Services (Child Abuse).**
 - Additionally, a fingerprint-based federal criminal history (FBI) submitted through the Pennsylvania State Police, or its authorized agent is required if the volunteer has lived outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the last ten years.
 - If the volunteer is not required to obtain an FBI Criminal History clearance, they must swear and affirm in writing that they are not disqualified from service based upon a conviction of an offense under 6634 of the Child Protective Services Law.
 - Links to request forms for both clearances can be found at [Criminal History Background Check \(pa.gov\)](#)

Agree to the following policy:

- **I understand that Lake Erie Ballet Company prohibits minors from ever being left alone with only one adult or two related adults in any program, service, or event.**

Response:

VOLUNTEER (18 years or older)
Performer Name:
Parent/Guardian Sign:
Parent/Guardian Print:
Date:

If you have questions about these policies, please contact us. All discussions will be handled discreetly. Thank you, Lake Erie Ballet Company, Inc. Board of Directors

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I/We want to support **Erie's NUTCRACKER Reimagined** with a Program Ad!

I/We want to support _____ (Name of Performer)
with a Program Ad!

(This document will act as your invoice)

_____ \$125 ¼ Page Event Program Ad, 3 ½" high x 2 ½" wide

_____ \$225 ½ Page Event Program Ad, 3 ½" high x 5" wide

_____ \$350 Full Page Event Program Ad, 7 ½" high x 5" wide

NAME _____ COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE(W) _____ (C) _____ (H) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

OPTION 1:

Check payable to **Lake Erie Ballet Company**
Mail to address: 2539 West 12th St., Erie, PA 16505

OPTION 2:

Credit card through Zeffy.com QR Code:

✦ Provide Name/Company name as it should appear on promotional materials

✦ If you have a company logo to be included in program, please email your logo in or pdf format as an email attachment to admin@lakeerieballetcompany.org. You also elect to have Name/Company name printed instead.



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Submit Form to: admin@lakeerieballetcompany.org