
... STANDBY!

CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE NUTCRACKER CLUB - Performance Guide 2022

A significant portion of dance education and development includes learning through PERFORMANCE!

We work to provide our dancers with the necessary resources to be their personal best and encourage students to test their skills through performance. My goal is to make everyone's Performance experience an organized, exciting, educational, and memorable event!

This Performance Guide provides detailed and crucial information. In order for our Performances to run smoothly, professionally, and successfully, PLEASE read carefully.

**** Your dancer's consistent focus, cooperation, positive attitude, and patience is KEY to assuring their participation on-stage.****

IMPORTANT DATES

- **THURSDAY, 11/03**
Premier (Teen) Ballet Dancers ONLY | [AT THE THEATER](#) | 7:00-9:00pm
 - **SATURDAY, 11/19**
Full Cast Rehearsal | [AT THE STUDIO](#) | 12:30-2:30pm (Specific Schedule Breakdown TBA)
 - **FRIDAY, 12/02**
Full Cast Dress Rehearsal | [AT THE THEATER](#) | 5:30-9:00pm (Specific Schedule Breakdown TBA)
 - **SATURDAY, 12/03**
Performance #1 | [AT THE THEATER](#) | 5:00-6:35pm (Dancers Arrive at 4:15pm)
 - **SUNDAY, 12/04**
Performance #2 | [AT THE THEATER](#) | 5:00-6:35pm (Dancers Arrive at 4:15pm)
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Christmas Eve at the Nutcracker Club?

“Nut Club” is an SOTD original!

The whole family will thoroughly enjoy this fanciful yet reverent sketch of Christmas Eve.

Set in a 1940's USO Hall in the imaginary town of Rockwell, our refreshingly original, “Christmas Eve at the Nutcracker Club” features the talents of our Children, Teens, Adults, and Professional Guest Artists.

This SOTD classic promises an exciting assortment of music and dance styles... Classical Ballet, Contemporary Ballet, Tap, Broadway Jazz, Performance Acrobatics, and Traditional Modern Dance set to masterpieces from the beloved Tchaikovsky, Duke Ellington, Mannheim Steamroller, Glenn Miller, and Floyd Cramer.

When are the Performances?

Performance #1: Saturday, December 3rd, 2022 at 5pm (Dancer Call: 4:15pm)

Performance #2: Sunday, December 4th, 2022 at 5pm (Dancer Call: 4:15pm)

Where are the Performances?

This season, SOTD will perform at Potomac Falls High School.

46400 Algonkian Pkwy, Potomac Falls, VA 20165

Are dancers expected to perform in both Performance #1 and Performance #2?

Yes.

Where should I park?

Performers, family members, and all audience members may park in the school parking lot.

Is parking free?

Yes. SOTD has rented a portion of the school parking lot. (Additional parking details TBA.)

Why are we not performing at the Waddell (NOVA) Theater?

Although we called The Waddell Theater “home” for the last 16 years, due to unforeseen staffing shortages, they were unable to host our event this season.

After two solid months of searching (applying to literally 16 other performance venues) we were fortunate to book Potomac Falls for our beloved Holiday Production!

How long is each Performance?

From start to finish, each Performance is approximately **95 minutes**:

- Act One is approximately **45 minutes**,
- Intermission is **15 minutes**,
- Act Two (including Curtain Call) is approximately **35 minutes**.

How can I purchase tickets to the Performances?

Tickets may be purchased online only through Tututix.com. (Even if you wish to purchase last minute tickets upon arrival, you must do so through Tututix.com. Cash/checks will not be accepted at the theater.)

SOTD families will be notified when ticket sales are open!

What is Dress Rehearsal?

Dress Rehearsal is a full run-through of the show, without interruptions, and with costumes and makeup.

It is treated exactly like a real show, from start to finish.

What is Curtain Call?

Curtain Call is the final bow. It takes place at the end of each Performance when the performers return to the stage to be recognized by the audience.

Are parents, family members, or friends allowed backstage?

Never. This is a critical, high traffic area. Performers, assistants, and crew members need space and privacy.

Are parents, family members, or friends allowed in the Dressing Rooms?

Dress Rehearsal (Friday 12/02)

- SAME-SEX parents may assist their dancer in the Dressing Room for Friday's Dress Rehearsal only.
- Absolutely NO MALES (Dads, brothers, Grandpas, etc.) are allowed inside FEMALE ONLY Dressing Rooms.
- Absolutely NO FEMALES (Moms, sisters, Grandmas, etc.) are allowed inside MALE ONLY Dressing Rooms.
- Once your dancer is fully dressed in their costume, please escort them to the audience and wait quietly until it is their turn to perform.
- All dancers under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Performance #1 (Saturday 12/03)

- No. Parents, family members, and friends are not permitted in the Dressing Rooms (unless you've previously arranged to be a SAME-SEX parent chaperon).
- Please deliver your dancer to their assigned Dressing Room and our wonderful chaperons and assistants will take over from there.
- If you are attending Performance #1, please proceed to the lobby and enjoy the show!
- If you are not attending Performance #1, please return to collect your dancer from their Dressing Room by 6:30pm.

Performance #2 (Sunday 12/04)

- No. Parents, family members, and friends are not permitted in the Dressing Rooms (unless you've previously arranged to to be a SAME-SEX parent chaperon).
- Please deliver your dancer to their assigned Dressing Room and our wonderful chaperons and assistants will take over from there.
- If you are attending Performance #1, please proceed to the lobby and enjoy the show!
- If you are not attending Performance #1, please return to collect your dancer from their Dressing Room by 6:30pm.

What should my dancer wear to the theater?

Dress Rehearsal (Friday 12/02)

- Hair and stage make-up must be done before you arrive at the theater.
- Female performers must arrive wearing their nude camisole leotard, (A) the specifically assigned tights/leggings provided by SOTD, (B) their own tights/leggings, the shoes they will need for their dance(s), and hair must be in a very neat bun (NO PONYTAILS ALLOWED) completely pulled away from the face. Please wear a loose fitting cover-up (tee shirt, tank, cardigan, zipper sweatshirt) to wear over your nude camisole leotard, and comfortable pants to wear over your tights when arriving to and departing from the theater.
- Male performers must arrive wearing the specifically assigned pants for their dance(s), the shoes they will need for their dance(s), and any shirt that is quick and easy to remove.

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- Hair and stage make-up must be done before you arrive at the theater.
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- Male performers must arrive wearing the specifically assigned pants for their dance(s), the shoes they will need for their dance(s), and any shirt that is quick and easy to remove.
- Don't forget to pack a change of clothes if you plan to grab dinner with your friends and family after the show!

Performance #2 (Sunday 12/04)

- Hair and stage make-up must be done before you arrive at the theater.
- Female performers must arrive wearing their nude camisole leotard, (A) the specifically assigned tights/leggings provided by SOTD, (B) their own tights/leggings, the shoes they will need for their dance(s), and hair must be in a very neat bun (NO PONYTAILS ALLOWED) completely pulled away from the face. Please wear a loose fitting cover-up (tee shirt, tank, cardigan, zipper sweatshirt) to wear over your nude camisole leotard, and comfortable pants to wear over your tights when arriving to and departing from the theater.

- Male performers must arrive wearing the specifically assigned pants for their dance(s), the shoes they will need for their dance(s), and any shirt that is quick and easy to remove.
- Don't forget to pack a change of clothes if you plan to grab dinner with your friends and family after the show!

What is the suggested attire for Performance guests?

Some might argue that an evening Performance is a bit more formal than an afternoon showing. That said, please dress as you feel appropriate.

Should my dancer wear makeup?

Dress Rehearsal (Friday 12/02)

- Yes. Dancers, even young ones, wear makeup on stage in order to make their faces and expressions visible to the audience.
- Small Children: I recommend lipstick and blush at a minimum (reds or a berry tone), and possibly light eye makeup in neutral colors (brown in the crease, pink, ivory or coral as a highlight).
- Age 10 and Up: Foundation, blush, eye shadow, eyeliner, mascara, lipstick.

Performance #1 (Saturday 12/03)

Yes. (See above.)

Performance #2 (Sunday 12/04)

Yes. (See above.)

May parents take photos/videos from the audience?

Dress Rehearsal (Friday 12/02)

Yes.

Performance #1 (Saturday 12/03)

- No. You may take photos of your dancer in their costume after the performance in the lobby.
- Taking photos/videos during a performance is distracting to other audience members and dangerous to the dancers on stage. Performance #2 (Sunday) will be recorded by a professional videographer.

Performance #2 (Sunday 12/04)

- No. You may take photos of your dancer in their costume after the performance in the lobby.
- Performance #2 will be recorded by a professional videographer.

What should I do if my dancer doesn't like his/her costume?

What a wonderful life lesson! *You get what you get and you don't have a fit.*

I have spent many months of my life (not days...not weeks...but months!) imagining, brainstorming, drafting, crafting, creating, refurbishing, re-purposing, sewing, dyeing, adorning, and perfecting to the very best of my ability each and every costume in this production.

Every single detail, big or small, helps bring to life the vision I have worked so passionately and tirelessly to create.

Dance placement, music selection, choreography, costuming, and spacing of all pieces are at the Director's and Choreographer's discretion and are not up for discussion.

Questioning my decisions, comparing costumes to other costumes, and wrinkling faces are not only disrespectful, but unproductive. Therefore, I kindly request... **No complaining!**

What happens if my dancer's costume gets damaged, ruined, or lost while in my possession?

You will incur a penalty. The penalty ranges from \$25-\$75.

When will my dancer be finished/excused?

Dress Rehearsal (Friday 12/02)

- Dancers are excused after:
 1. they've rehearsed their dance(s) on stage,
 2. they've changed out of their costumes and returned everything neatly (in the manor it was originally found) to the Dressing Room,
 3. they've cleaned and organized their personal area in the Dressing Room,
 4. they've received expressed approval by the Dressing Room Chaperon.
- Younger dancers (accompanied by a parent at all times) are encouraged to observe other classes/dances during Dress Rehearsal from the audience, as this will be the only opportunity for them to see the full production on stage.

Performance #1 (Saturday 12/03)

- Dancers are excused after:
 1. they've performed their dance(s) on stage,
 2. they've participated in Curtain Call,
 3. they've taken photos with friends and family members in the Lobby if they so desire,
 4. they've changed out of their costumes and returned everything neatly (in the manor it was originally found) to the Dressing Room,
 5. they've cleaned and organized their personal area in the Dressing Room,
 6. they've received expressed approval by the Dressing Room Chaperon.

Performance #2 (Sunday 12/04)

- Dancers are excused after:
 1. they've performed their dance(s) on stage,
 2. they've participated in Curtain Call,
 3. they've taken photos with friends and family members in the Lobby if they so desire,
 4. they've changed out of their costumes and returned every costume piece to the designated laundry basket in the Dressing Room,
 5. they've cleaned and organized their personal area in the Dressing Room,
 6. they've received expressed approval by the Dressing Room Chaperon.
- Please Note: If your dancer's costume is not appropriately returned to the Dressing Room laundry basket, if costume pieces are unaccounted for or damaged, or if your dancer's personal area is left messy, you will incur a penalty.
- The penalty ranges from \$25-\$75.

REMINDERS & RULES

***** Your dancer's consistent focus, cooperation, positive attitude, and patience is KEY to assuring their participation on-stage. *****

No Roaming

All performers must remain in their designated Dressing Rooms until it is time for them to dance. A Stage Runner will escort dancers from the Dressing Rooms to backstage, and from backstage to the Dressing Rooms. If dancers are found roaming the halls, they'll be swiftly escorted back to where they belong.

No Changing in the Restrooms

The hallway restrooms are not Dressing Rooms. Each Dressing Room will have a mirror and a room divider/privacy screen for changing. In addition, the nude camisole leotard (required for ALL female dancers) helps dancers feel less exposed while changing in front of classmates. If dancers are found hanging the restroom, they'll be swiftly escorted back to where they belong.

Absolutely NO MALES (Dads, brothers, Grandpas, etc.) are allowed inside FEMALE ONLY Dressing Rooms.

Absolutely NO FEMALES (Moms, sisters, Grandmas, etc.) are allowed inside MALE ONLY Dressing Rooms.

No Eating in the Dressing Rooms

Dancers may pack a snack and eat it in the Dressing Room hallway only. (And absolutely NO eating while wearing a costume!)

SOTD Property

All costumes, hangers, Dressing Room supplies, stage props, and lobby materials are property of SOTD. Please do not take anything home that doesn't belong to you.

Label All Personal Items

Please make sure your dancer's name is on all shoes, water bottles, bags, and personal items.

No Jewelry or Accessories Allowed

Absolutely NO jewelry, hair bows, headbands, nail polish, or additional accessories aside from your dancer's costume pieces are permitted during Dress Rehearsal or the Performances.

Audience Etiquette

Please refrain from walking around during dances. (This applies to Rehearsals and Performances.) It is distracting to the performers on stage and others in the audience. If you must exit or enter the audience, please do so between dances – not during.

Just Breathe

"Honed, strong, and relaxed; you know you are dancing well! Self-confidence may be the single most important ingredient for successful performing. It enables you to extend yourself, to take risks, and reach inside yourself." - Dr. Jim Taylor

Performance season is VERY demanding!

From this point on, I will be hyper-focused on all things production!

The process of planning, organizing, and producing our Performances is an all-encompassing, overwhelming, and truthfully exhausting undertaking. (Fortunately, it's also my dream come true!)

During Rehearsals and Performances, there is no guarantee I will be able to answer phone calls, texts, or emails right away.

Please be calm, kind, and patient.

I'm looking forward to an exciting, positive, and truly rewarding season – I'm profoundly PROUD of each and every performer!

Thank you in advance for your dedication.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with questions or curiosities!

Lots of Love,

Miss Ashley