~ Cast ~ * Cast 1: Dec 13, 7 pm & Dec 14, 2 pm * Cast 2: Dec 14, 7 pm & Dec 15, 2pm * Pas-de-Trois Alec Drieslein, Abby Hoyt Angels Charlotte van Blyenburgh, Eliza Grosen, Gabrielle Yun, & Dani Pham (1) Jadalyn Siikarla, Lucy Kohlstedt, Alec Drieslein, Hermione Zhou Sloane Kohlstedt, & Kira Hoffman (2) Zoey Bannach-Cohen Madame Ginger Jon Kamrath Butterflies Aleksandra Sokolinsky, Avilora Clowns Amani Dang, Charlotte van Kemnitz, Catherine Le Grand Blyenburgh, Eliza Grosen, Jocelyn Glenna (2), Kaitlin Kuhry (1) Gabrielle Yun, Inga Monsen, Rats Act 11 Amelia Zaycheck, Bennett van Jadalyn Siikarla, Lucy Kohlstedt, Sabana Sotillo, Sloane Kohlstedt, Blyenburgh, Elsa Monsen, Sydney Adashek, Mariah Rhodes, Maya Deminov, Nola Snyder Zoey Bannach-Cohen Waltz of the Matilda Bak & Madeline Storts (1), Spanish Isabella Wilson & Vivian Relan (1), Flowers Solo Alena Harrison & Vivian Relan (2) Madeline Storts & Maria Linder (2) Arabian Solo Alena Harrison (1), Matilda Bak (2) Waltz of the Aleksandra Sokolinsky, Avilora Flowers Little Kemnitz, Catherine Le Grand. Arabian Core Abby Hoyt (2), Alena Harrison (2), Elsa Monsen, Jocelyn Glenna (2), Ana Schreck (2), Dani Pham (2), Kaitlin Kuhry (1), Maya Deminov, Hermione Zhou (1), Kira Hoffman (1), Nola Snyder, Shefali Camacho Matilda Bak (1), Madeline Storts (1) Waltz of the Abby Hoyt, Alena Harrison (1), Chinese Solo Ana Schreck (1), Lily Kamrath (2) Flowers Big Ana Schreck, Dani Pham, Hermione Zhou, Isabella Wilson, Chinese Core Arya Nair, Ashley Zheng, Kira Hoffman, Lily Kamrath, Mila Chen, Shefali Camacho Madeline Storts (1), Maria Linder, Matilda Bak (2), Vivian Relan (2) Russian Jameson Drieslein, Lily Kamrath & Maria Linder (1) Sugar Plum Azusa Okamoto Jameson Drieslein, Isabella Wilson Cavalier Brandon McGuirk & Vivian Relan (2)





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 parents and friends for contributing their talents and energy to the following: Rehearsals, Costumes, Props & Set, Publicity, Program, Concessions, Dressing Room and Stage Management.

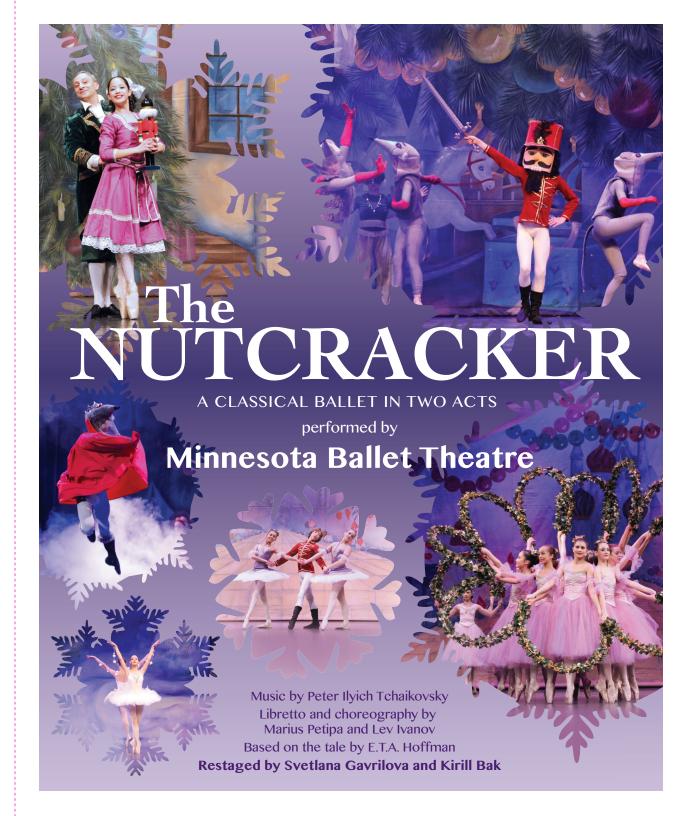






Eden Prairie - West 78th & Glenhaven





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 Nutcracker turns into a handsome prince, 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 of the Nutcracker) and strikes the Rat King with the only thing she can think of — her shoe. To her surprise, the Rat King falls. 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.

INTERMISSION

Minnesota Ballet Theatre will be selling refreshments and mementos in the lobby to help make this and future productions possible.

ACT II

With angels heralding the way, 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.

