



THE ORIGINAL MARIUS PETIPA NUTCRACKER

A CLASSICAL BALLET IN TWO ACTS



Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Libretto and choreography by Marius Petipa & Lev Ivanov

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

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

EDEN PRAIRIE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
DEC.13 • 7 P.M. | DEC.14 • 1 P.M. & 6 P.M. | DEC 15 • 1 P.M.

The Nutcracker

ACT I

A festive party is to be held tonight, Christmas Eve, at the Stahlbaum family home. 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. 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.

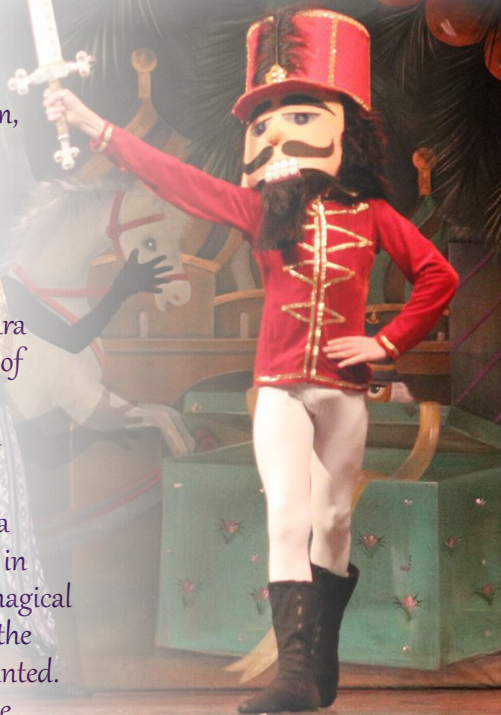
As the Nutcracker and the Rat King engage in final combat, Clara at last overcomes her fear (through her love for the Nutcracker) and strikes the Rat King with the only thing she can think of – her shoe. To her surprise, the Rat King falls and the Nutcracker turns into a handsome Prince.

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 ~

Cast 1: Dec 13 • 7pm, Dec 14 • 1pm | Cast 2: Dec 14 • 6pm, Dec 15 • 1pm

ACT I

Nutcracker Prince:

Sam Neale (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Clara:

Mabel Holm (2), Marta Gadd (1)

Fritz, Clara's Brother:

Philo Lee Dixon

Herr Drosselmeyer:

Andrew Lester (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Herr Stahlbaum, Clara's Father:

Kirill Bak-Stepanoff

Frau Stahlbaum, Clara's Mother:

Sarah Sotillo

Party Scene Adults:

Phil Zumsteg, Shannon Gale
Patrice Ehlert, Julie Zumsteg
Giovanni Lozano, Erin Wells, Alec Trelstad
Matt Miller, Chris Lunde, Eric Stainbrook
Nola Snyder (1), Ada Koski (2), Jekatrina Poppe
Olivia Platt (2), Mariah Espinosa (1)

Columbine Doll:

Olivia Platt (1), Nola Snyder (2)

Porcelain Doll:

Catherine Le Grand (2), Ada Koski (1)

Arabian Doll:

Mariah Schilling (1), Kaitlin Kuhry (2)

Puppet Theatre:

Prince: Sterling Barrett

Princess: Lilah Bodell

Rat Queen: Mara Stainbrook

Party Scene Kids:

Annika Kieffer (1), Averi Dirige
Beatrix Snyder, Carolina Miller
Evelyn Frazier, Gustav Monsen, Inga Monsen
Lennica Barrett (2), Lucille Kohlstedt
Penelope Paurus (2), Philo Lee Dixon, Raina Barin (1), Sabana Sotillo, Sitara Kaul
Sloane Kohlstedt, Summer DeBoer

Mice:

Amaara Chopra, Gavin Bodell, Kaisa Cross
Lila Strautz (2), Lilah Bodell, Mara Stainbrook

Margaret Scott, Naomi Eickholt
Rosalie Strautz, Siyona Banik (1)
Sterling Barrett, Taylor Thompson,
Zoe Stainbrook

Rats:

Camilla Stommes, Grace Gustafson
Hannah Laatz, Inga Monsen, Lucille Kohlstedt
Mabel Holm (1), Mariah Espinosa, Marta Gadd (2)
Nola Snyder (1), Olivia Platt (2), Sitara Kaul
Sloan Kohlstedt, Sophia Lee Dixon, Victoria Li

Soldiers & Horse Riders:

Annabelle Provencher, Annika Kieffer
Averi Dirige, Beatrix Snyder
Carolina Miller, Celine Mack
Elizabeth Scott, Evelyn Frazier
Freya Lohnes, Gustav Monsen
Lennica Barrett, Natalie Lilja
Penelope Paurus, Philo Lee Dixon
Raina Barin, Aurora Coplin
Sabana Sotillo, Summer DeBoer
Vivian Cornelius, Zoe Nicole Henke

Rat King:

Alec Trelstad (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Snow Princess:

Catherine Le Grand, Kaitlin Kuhry (Sat. 6pm)

Snow Prince:

Sam Neale (*Featured Guest Artist*)

Little Snowflakes:

Amaara Chopra, Aviva Brenner
Kaisa Cross, Lila Strautz, Madelyn Marcus
Margaret Scott, Naomi Eickholt
Siyona Banik, Zoe Stainbrook

Snowflakes Solo:

Mariah Schilling (1) - Kaitlin Kuhry (1)
Mariah Schilling (2) - Catherine Le Grand (Sat. 6pm)

Snow Corps de Ballet:

Ada Koski, Camilla Stommes
Grace Gustafson, Hannah Laatz
Inga Monsen, Mabel Holm (1)
Mariah Espinosa, Marta Gadd (2)
Nola Snyder, Olivia Platt, Sabana Sotillo
Sophia Lee Dixon, Victoria Li

~Cast~

ACT II

Sugar Plum:

Elena Olshin
(Featured Guest Artist)

Cavalier:

Jonathan Walter Robbins
(Featured Guest Artist)

Angels:

Amaara Chopra, Kaisa Cross, Lila Strautz
Mara Stainbrook, Margaret Scott
Naomi Eickholt, Rosalie Strautz
Siyona Banik, Taylor Thompson

Butterflies:

Carolina Miller, Inga Monsen
Sabana Sotillo, Summer DeBoer

Rats Act II:

Annabelle Provencher, Celine Mack
Elizabeth Scott, Freya Lohnes
Gustav Monsen, Natalie Lilja
Philo Lee Dixon, Rory Coplin
Vivian Cornelius, Zoe Nicole Henke

Spanish:

Sam Neale (Featured Guest Artist) -
Catherine Le Grand (1), Kaitlin Kuhry (2)

Arabian Solo:

Catherine Le Grand (2), Kaitlin Kuhry (1)

Arabian Corps:

Evelyn Frazier, Grace Gustafson
Mabel Holm (1), Marta Gadd (2)
Nola Snyder (2), Olivia Platt (1)
Sitara Kaul, Sophia Lee Dixon

Chinese Solo:

Nola Snyder (1), Olivia Platt (2)

Chinese Corps:

Annika Kieffer, Lennica Barrett
Penelope Paurus, Raina Barin

Pas-de-Trois:

Sam Neale (Featured Guest Artist)
Camilla Stommes (1) - Victoria Li (1)
Ada Koski (2) - Mariah Espinosa (2)

Trepak:

Averi Dirige, Beatrix Snyder
Lucille Kohlstedt, Sloan Kohlstedt

Trepak Solo:

Ada Koski (1) - Mariah Espinosa (1)
Camilla Stommes (2) - Hannah Laatz (2)

Mother Ginger:

Matt Miller

Clowns:

Amaara Chopra, Gavin Bodell, Kaisa Cross
Lilah Bodell, Mara Stainbrook
Margaret Scott, Naomi Eickholt
Rosalie Strautz, Sterling Barrett
Zoe Stainbrook

Waltz of the Flowers Solo:

Ada Koski (2) - Catherine Le Grand (2)
Kaitlin Kuhry (1) - Mariah Schilling (1)

Waltz of the Flowers Little:

Averi Dirige, Beatrix Snyder
Carolina Miller, Inga Monsen
Lucille Kohlstedt, Sabana Sotillo
Sloane Kohlstedt, Summer DeBoer

Waltz of the Flowers Big:

Ada Koski (1), Camilla Stommes
Catherine Le Grand (1), Grace Gustafson
Hannah Laatz, Kaitlin Kuhry (2)
Mabel Holm (1), Mariah Espinosa
Mariah Schilling (2), Marta Gadd (2)
Nola Snyder, Olivia Platt
Sophia Lee Dixon, Victoria Li
Evelyn Frazier

FEATURED DANCER: Kaitlin Kuhry

Le Corsaire
Youth America Grand Prix, 2024



Congratulations Kaitlin!



Clown, 2011



Clara, 2019



Snow Princess, 2023

In your 15th year with the MBS and your 14th Nutcracker performance, you continue to defy gravity—not just with your incredible skills, but through your unwavering hard work and dedication. Your passion for dance inspires everyone around you and fills our lives with joy. We are so proud of all that you've accomplished and can't wait to see what you achieve next!

With Love, Your Family

FEATURED DANCER: Olivia Platt

Highlights from the Ballet Sleeping Beauty
Spring Gala, 2023



Chinese, 2023



Olivia joined MBS in 9th grade and dedicated her high school years to practicing the classical Russian ballet method and performing in multiple seasons of The Nutcracker. Her hard work and discipline earned her solo roles during her junior and senior years.

Her family is incredibly proud of her dedication to ballet over the past four years!

UPCOMING PRODUCTION: Peter and The Wolf & Paquita • March 21, 2025

 **SPRING PRODUCTION AUDITIONS**
• Peter and The Wolf & Paquita • *Open to ALL!*

Auditions: December 22 • Performance: March 21



Sunday, December 22
10:00AM–11:00 AM: Ages 8–13 • 11:30 AM–12:30 PM: Ages 13–19

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Proud father of two Nutcracker dancers!

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2025

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DON'T MISS MBS The Best of Classics Spring Gala Performance May 10, 2025

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 and Dr. Ronda Fara 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.

