NS Dance Academy Presents

Mutcracker Franklin's Holiday Spectacular

> NOVEMBER 16 SATURDAY, 6:30 NOVEMBER 17

SUNDAY, 2:00 & 6:30

Performing Arts Center

1030 Excellence Way Franklin, TN 37069 www.nsdanceacademy.com



A LETTER FROM NS DANCE ACADEMY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Welcome to the World Premiere of Nutcracker!

Dear Friends, Family, and Dance Enthusiasts,

On behalf of NS Dance Academy, it is my absolute pleasure to welcome you to this whimsical and enchanting journey to the Land of Sweets. This evening marks a monumental milestone as we present our very first full-length production of Nutcracker.

This performance is a true testament to the power of collaboration and creativity. It represents months of dedication, artistry, and hard work—from crafting sparkling costumes to designing breathtaking sets, all brought to life with a fresh musical twist. Tonight, Franklin gets its very own Nutcracker Holiday Spectacular, and we are overjoyed to share this magical dream with you.

As we celebrate this milestone, we also look ahead to our most ambitious season yet. In May 2025, NS Dance Academy will present a brand-new production of Frozen for our annual showcase. This captivating performance will blend stunning visuals, inspiring music, and extraordinary talent to tell an unforgettable story. Tickets are on sale now, and we can't wait to bring this vision to life with our dedicated NSDA dancers.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to our Gold Sponsors and Silver Sponsors. Your generosity and support make everything we do possible, and we are so grateful to have you as part of the NS Dance Academy family. To our audience, if you're interested in joining us as a sponsor for our next show, we would love to connect with you! Together, we can continue creating magical productions and celebrating the art of dance.

To our families, friends, and patrons of the arts—thank you. Your encouragement fuels our passion, and we are deeply grateful for your belief in NS Dance Academy.

Let us continue this beautiful journey together, creating and sharing the magic of dance. Now, without further ado, it's time to let Marie and her beloved Nutcracker guide us through this enchanting adventure. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the performance!

Warm regards,

Das Schener

Nicolas Scheuer Artistic Director/Founder NS Dance Academy

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SILVER (\$200 or more)



Want to see your logo here next performance? Email our PR Director at promotensda@gmail.com

Thank you to all of members of our dance family who volunteer their time to the show! We couldn't do it without all of you!

* NS Dance Academy Presents * NS Dance Academy Presents

List of Scenes

Scene 1: Overture Scene 2: The Decoration of The Christmas Tree Scene 3: March of The Toy Soldier Scene 4: Drosselmeyer's Magic Show Scene 5: Marie and The Nutcracker Scene 6: The Battle Scene 7: In The Pine Forest Scene 8: Waltz of the Snowflakes

-- 15 MINUTES INTERMISSION --

Scene 9: The Kingdom of Sweets Scene 10: Waltz of the Flowers Scene 11: Chocolate: Spanish Scene 12: Tea: Chinese Scene 13: Coffee: Arabian Scene 14: Trepak: Russian Scene 15: Gingerbread Scene 16: Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy Scene 17: Scene 18: Good Bye, Marie!

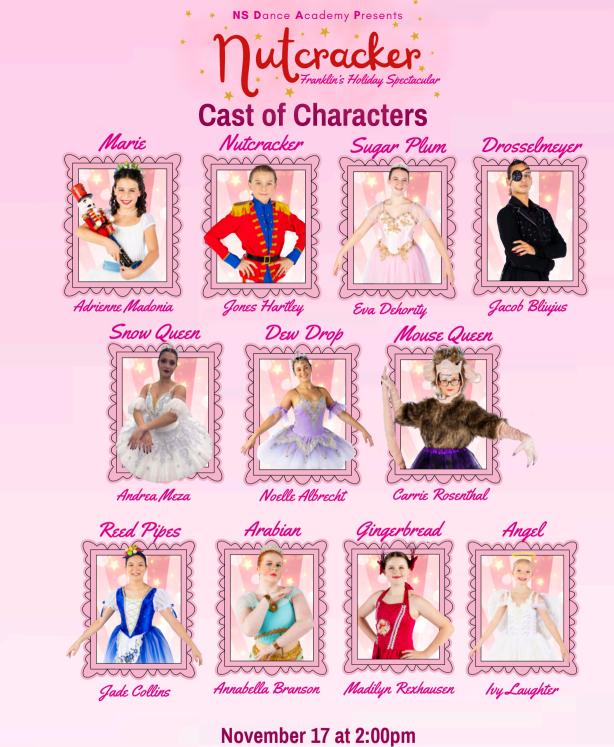
> Produced by Nicolas Scheuer Choreography and Story Interpretation by Nicolas Scheuer and Jacob Bliujus Costume Design by Nicolas Scheuer and Hilary Branson Set Design by Nicolas Scheuer Lighting and Effects by Kimberly Pukay





Tel: +1(615) 947-7679 Email: nsdancea@gmail.com

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Aurora Di Cristo









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Act 1 Ensemble Characters

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PROMOTE WITH US

INSIDE COVER ADVERTISEMENT	LAST PAGE ADVERTISEMENT	66 Note to a Dancer Have a great show! Mom & Dad loves you!
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SENIOR SHOUT-OUT!

Jade Collins



When you were 8 years old, you saw Nashville Ballet's *Nutcracker* at TPAC for the first time. You dreamed of being on stage in the youth cast, so you auditioned the next year and got your first role in Andrew Jackson's cavalry. The following year you were elated to be a lamb because Reed Pipes was your favorite dance. The next year you were a garden fairy. In 2020, you joined School of Nashville Ballet and got your dream role as a party girl . . . two years in a row! (with Mr. Nicolas performing the principal roles!)

At 18 years old, now you are in the adult cast roles in NSDA's *Nutcracker*! We are so excited to see you as both the Sugar Plum Fairy and Reed Pipes soloist in your final *Nutcracker*. What a joy it has been to watch you grow up loving and performing this endearing ballet classic.

~Love, Mom, Dad & Verona

Dear Jade,

Congratulations on your senior year of dance.

Your dedication and perseverance have been truly inspiring throughout your journey at NSDA. Thank you for sharing your incredible talent with us—it has been a joy to watch you grow and shine. I am so proud of your spirit and all that you've accomplished!

I can't wait to see what the next chapter holds for you. Keep shining bright!

as Schever

Isla Hartley

DANCER SHOUT-OUT!



Isla Blue... we are so proud of the brave, intelligent and kind girl you are. Congratulations on your first pas de deux!

Have fun and enjoy the show!

Mom, Dad, Jones, Taner





Dear Isla,

Yay!! Congratulations on your first pas de deux!

I am so incredibly proud of you and can't wait to see you shine on stage tonight. Smile big, enjoy every moment, and let your hard work and passion light up the performance!

Micolas Schever

Act 2 Ensemble Characters

Flowers	Annabella Branson Carrie Rosenthal Gigi Gultnieks	Tea Duet	Vannessa You Winnie Jones
	Madelyn Back Madilyn Rexhauser Vannessa You	Arabian Duet	Carrie Rosenthal Gigi Gultnieks
Angolo	Winnie Jones	Matryoshka Dolls	Blakely Toller Emerson Barrett
Angels	Isla Hartley Logan Rodrigue Naoma Grome Noelle Strong Mae Miles Henry Fox		Harper Lasda Krisha Goes Lillian Rodrigue Parker Markhart Elijah Albrecht
Demi Flowers	Andrea Meza Sam Atkinson	Gingerbread	Aishani Goel Aurora Di Cristo Adrienne Madonia Jinna Jinna Liu
Spanish Duet	Gabriele Redding Lauren Hill	Reed Pipes	Adelyn Rodrigue Audrey Douglas
Mini Spanish	Cecilia Ludvik Harper Lasda		Eva Dehority Madelyn Back Madeline Uhde
Matadors	Kyli DeMeyere Sophia Sorrick		Sira Sidibe Sophia Sorrick
Tea Quartet	Cameron Dravis Grace Hill Ivy Laughter Dyllan Markhart		
*Chinese Man	Liam Albrecht		



DANCER SHOUT-OUT!

Jones Hartley



Jonesy - we are so incredibly proud of you for being a hard-working, passionate, and gifted dancer, but even more so for the kind and intelligent young man you've become!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, Isla, Taner

Dear Jones,

Congratulations on this special milestone in your dance journey! Your dedication and passion have truly paid off, and I couldn't be prouder.

Enjoy every moment of your performance tonight—let your hard work and talent shine on stage.

Remember to smile and savor this incredible achievement! Go get that should sit!! YOU GOT YHIS!!

Micolas Schever







Our Story...

Soon after Nicolas Scheuer opened NS Dance Academy in 2021. Mr. Nicolas, has began seeing the benefits of dance on my students. Mr. Nicolas knew his mission would not be to teach kids to make great dancers but rather to teach dance to make great kids.

Mr. Nicolas, knew from my personal experiences as a child the financial obstacles facing young dancers in the community. I wanted to ensure all local kids had a chance to dance. I began subsidizing the cost of classes for students who needed help. Since then, I have given away more than \$8,400 in dance scholarships.

Mr. Nicolas would love to start NSDA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, to broaden the scope of giving and increase access for local families to the numerous benefits of dance.

Today, NSDA Foundation provides financial assistance for dance training through a variety of memorial and opportunity fund scholarships to children in the region. Scholarships are awarded to students ages 3 to 19 who demonstrate leadership, a positive work ethic, school and community involvement, and academic achievement in addition to the potential to benefit from dance.



Help Our Cause

Your support and contributions will enable us to meet our goals and improve conditions.

DONATE 🎔

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DANCER SHOUT-OUT!

Eva Dehority



Congratulations Eva! We are so excited to celebrate your debut as the Sugar Plum Fairy! Your dedication to excellence is inspiring! Love, Mom, Dad, Maya, Clara and

Noelle Strong

Zerti



Noelle - We are so proud of you and all your hard work dancing as a little mouse and angel! We love you, Mom, Dad, and Charlotte

Cami Dravis



Congrats Cami! We are so proud of you and cannot wait to watch you dance this weekend. We love you! Mommy, Daddy, Michael and Betty

Aurora Di Cristo



Aurora Have wonderful recital. Brava on your hard work. You are perfect to play Marie. Enjoy your performance.

Love you Grandpa and Grandma

Gigi Gultnieks



Gigi,

We love watching you shine in your element and doing what you love!

Love,

Mommy, Daddy, Josh, Gramma and June

Annabella Branson



Meema loves you, you're such an amazing and beautiful dancer, hope to see you soon!

Grandma, Norma Acosta



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SYNOPSIS

Act 1

PROLOGUE

It is Christmas Eve in Franklin, in the 1820s. In the town square, the mysterious Drosselmeyer presents a performance with his best friend and then they dance and talk to a fabulous Christmas party with his gifts.

The Party Scene

Family and friends gather to celebrate the holiday. The children are excited to receive Christmas gifts, and Marie is especially delighted with a pair of ballet shoes. Marie and her brother Fritz's favorite uncle, Drosselmeyer, arrives late. In his usual manner, Drosselmeyer becomes the heart of the party, entertaining the children with a toy theatre and a mechanical ballerina and harlequin dolls. The children are delighted and eagerly ask him for more. Drosselmeyer has one more surprise up his sleeve as he presents his favorite creation, the wooden Nutcracker. To his disappointment the children are not interested, with the exception of Marie, who immediately falls in love with the Nutcracker and begs Drosselmeyer to make it life-size. Disenchanted with his own gift, Fritz becomes jealous and breaks Marie's Nutcracker. Drosselmeyer repairs him and Marie and her friends rock their dolls to sleep with a lullaby. With the children tired, the party winds down, and the guests depart.

The Transformation

Marie is too excited to sleep as she sneaks back to the living room to find the Nutcracker and falls asleep on the sofa. With the house quiet, the mice begin to appear. The clock strikes midnight and Drosselmeyer appears to rescue Marie and he magically makes the house and the Christmas tree grow. He then grants Marie's wish for a life-size Nutcracker, and her Nutcracker Prince appears.

The Battle Scene

The Nutcracker Prince and his tin soldiers battle the mischievous mice. The monstrous Mouse Queen appears and the battle intensifies. The Mouse Queen seems to have the upper hand when Marie, frightened, throws her slipper at him, enabling the Nutcracker Prince to slay the distracted Mouse King.

The Snow Scene

The grateful Nutcracker Prince invites Clara to join him on a journey through the Magical Forest, where they meet the Snow Queen and see the Snowflakes dance. Marie and the Nutcracker Prince continue on their journey as they travel on a cloud to the Kingdom of the Sweets.

-- 15 MINUTES INTERMISSION --



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SYNOPSIS

Act 2

The Kingdom of the Sweets

Marie and the Nutcracker Prince arrive at the cloud-covered gates of the Kingdom of the Sweets, where the Sugar Plum Fairy reigns. The Nutcracker Prince tells the Sugar Plum fairy how Marie saved his life. In gratitude, the Sugar Plum Fairy presents Clara with a crown, and festivities commence in Marie's honor. Showcasing international flair, Spanish Chocolate performs with passion and flourish. Arabian Coffee mesmerizes the

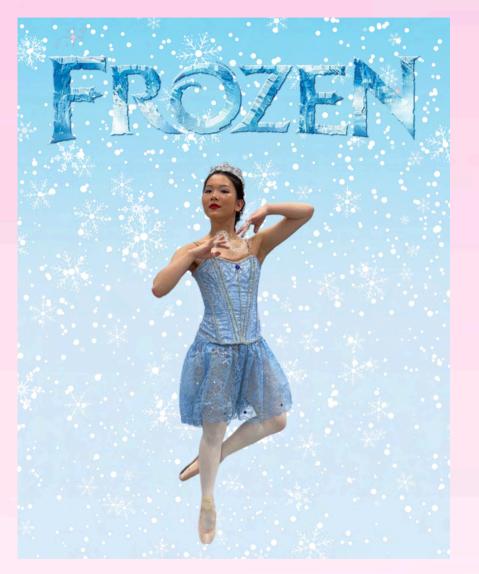
court, followed by the playful Chinese Tea, and a sweet French Dance of the Reed Pipes.

The spectacular Russians Troika entertain by The Nutcracker and Dewdrop and her Flowers dance a lilting waltz. The Sugar Plum Fairy honor Marie with a grand variation, and the entire court joins in the finale.

As the night goes on and the dream continues, the pages of the Kingdom guide Clara on her journey back home.



Season 2024/2025



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Adrienne Madonia



DANCER SHOUT-OUT!

Adrienne,

We are so excited to see the result of all your hard work rehearsing over the past several months finally play out on stage! Your commitment, focus and discipline is inspiring. You must be so proud!

It's so special getting to see you grow into the dancer you are meant to be! We will never tire of watching you and seeing you live what you love. Proud of you Enne girl! Have a great show and have the MOST fun!

With all our Love, Mom, Dad and Cam





you be you...as well as all the those other characters in between.

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NS DANCE ACADEMY LEADERSHIP AND ARTISTIC STAFF



Nicolas Scheuer, Artistic Director

Originally from Joinville, Brazil, NS Dance Academy Artistic Director Nicolas Scheuer is a nationally and internationally leading figure in the field of performing arts. Mr. Nicolas has been sharing his knowledge with young dancers in the Nashville area since 2014.

In 2002, Bolshoi Theater auditioned 500 dancers to study dance at an intensive eight-year program including classes in Ballet Technique, Variations, Pas de Deux, Contemporary, Jazz, Musical Theater, Music and Gymnastics.

Mr. Nicolas was awarded a full scholarship to begin ballet studies at the Bolshoi Theatre School of Brazil, affiliated with the prestigious Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, Russia.

During Nicolas's time at Bolshoi Theatre School, he had the opportunity to learn and perform notable productions such as The Nutcracker, Don Quixote, Giselle and Prince Igor, choreographed by male dancer of the 20th century Vladimir Vasiliev. His dance school trajectory was a big achievement, graduating at the top of his class and getting to perform with world stars such as Natalia Osipova, Ivan Vasiliev, Ekaterina Krysanova, Andrei Bolotin. He also worked with well-known artists and choreographers such as Ekatarina Maksimova, Galina Kravchenko, Cecília Kerche, Dimitry Afanasyev, Dennys Nevidommy and Anna Russkikh.

As a professional dancer, he was offered his first contract at the age of 17 at The Theatro Municipal Rio de Janeiro. Instead, Nicolas took the skills he learned from Bolshoi to Boston Ballet School, where he continued his dance education on a full scholarship as Trainee. He performed alongside Boston Ballet's company in large-scale productions such as Midsummer Night's Dream by George Balanchine, The Nutcracker choreographed by the Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen, La Bayadère by Florence Clerc and Romeo and Juliet choreographed by the famous choreographer John Cranko.

After two years at Boston Ballet School, he began his full-time performance career at the New English Ballet Theatre in London, United Kingdom where he took on the lead roles in Classical Symphony by Jenna Lee, Le Carnaval de Vérités by Andrew McNicol, Bright Young Things a neoclassical piece by Ernst Meisner, and Resolution by former English National Ballet's Artistic Director Wayne Eagling.

In 2012, Nicolas joined the Nashville Ballet as an Apprentice and was quickly promoted to Male Lead Dancer. He continues to be a major part of Nashville's artistic community. He has performed principal roles in Nashville Ballet Artistic Director Paul Vasterling's full length ballet performances of Swan Lake as Siegfried, Romeo & Juliet as Romeo, The Sleeping Beauty as Prince Desire, Peter Pan as John Darling and the remarkable production of Nashville's Nutcracker as Sugar Plum Fairy's Cavalier and Snow King, as well as soloist roles in notable neoclassical performances such as The Ben Folds Project: Concerto performed at Kennedy center, Seasons, Time, Return and Memory, Carmina Burana as The Sun, and the world premiere of Lucy Negro, Redux as Fair Youth, featuring an original score by Grammy Award-winning artist and MacArthur "Genius".

Nicolas has had the privilege of performing magnificent full-length ballets by one of the most influential 20th century choreographers in the world George Balanchine as the male lead, The Waltz Man, in Serenade, Duo Concertan, and The Scherzo pas de deux in Western Symphony. In addition, Nicolas successfully performed Petite Mort and Sechs Tänze by Jirí Kylián, the title role in Afternoon of a Faun by Salvatore Aiello, The Lottery by Val Caniparoli, Light, The Holocaust & Humanity Project by Stephen Mills, Fanfare by Graham Lustig, Chopin Tributes by James Sewell and as a soloist in Ghosts by Tony Award winner Christopher Wheeldon, Resident Choreographer at The Royal Ballet.

NS DANCE ACADEMY LEADERSHIP AND ARTISTIC STAFF

In 2016, Nicolas was awarded to perform the grand pas de deux of Le Corsaire with Alexandra Meister-Upleger, Grand Rapids Ballet's Principal Dancer, at 2016 International Ballet Competition in Varna, Bulgaria, the world's largest ballet competition.

In 2017, Nicolas was one of 16 dancers chosen from throughout the United States by Molly Lynch to join the National Choreographers Initiative. He performed pieces such as We Remain by Suzanne Haag, Resident Choreographer at Eugene Ballet, and Dreams of Flying by Robert Mill, Artistic Director of Oklahoma City Ballet.

Most recently, Nicolas aired his talent on NewsChannel 5 Nashville, Apple TV, ROKU and Amazon in a glorious full performance of Nashville's Nutcracker as Sugar Plum Fairy's Cavalier. The performance was televised and streamed online to thousands of dance lovers.

As a dance teacher, Nicolas has been sharing his wisdom and passion in Tennessee area, teaching Ballet Technique, Leaps & Turns and Acrobatics; and choreographing dance competitions and recitals. After 11 years as a professional dancer and 8 years as a top dance instructor, Nicolas has helped dancers improve their technique, win competitions and job offers all over the United States.

Nicolas is truly excited to invite you to be part of NS Dance Academy and to share his knowledge with dancers to achieve their goals and become professional dancers.



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Jacob Bliujus, Contemporary Instructor

Jacob has been dancing since the age of twelve originating in the Chicago area. He originally was trained in classical ballet before falling in love with the competition and contemporary world. Jacob has been principle roles in shows including cinderella, nutcracker, and Aladdin, as well as won many competitions across the Midwest area. He is making it his goal to change the dance world to be a more inclusive and accepting space one dance class at a time.



Suzanne Holmes, Ballet Instructor

Suzanne was born in Durban, South Africa where she received 13 years of ballet training in the Royal Academy of Dance classical ballet method. Upon completion of all her RAD ballet examinations she was accepted at the Royal Ballet School in London, UK where she furthered her training.

She then went on to have a 10 year career as a professional ballet dancer with PACT Ballet Company in

Pretoria, South Africa. After 'retiring' from the stage she made the transition to a ballet teacher after studying and passing her Royal Academy of Dance Teacher's examination. Suzanne immigrated to the USA in 2018 and continued her love of teaching ballet in California. She relocated to Nashville TN in 2020 and is enjoying sharing her lifelong passion of ballet with students at NS Dance Academy.





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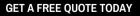
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