

Hello Parents and Caregivers!

I am excited to announce that it is officially **Nutcracker Season!** We have already started choreography in many of our classes and are working toward another wonderful production of *The Nutcracker* at **Irvington Town Hall Theater!**

I am so excited about this performance, but I completely understand that not every dancer or family will want to participate. **If your child will NOT be participating, please email me as soon as possible** so that I can plan accordingly and notify their teachers.

If your child is not performing, they will still learn the choreography during class. Many of the steps and skills we are working on are part of our regular class curriculum and will be incorporated into the dances.

PERFORMANCE DAY — SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

We will have **two performances**:

Show 1 — 11:00 AM

This show will feature our younger dancers (**Pre-K–4th grade**), along with a few select older student classes.

Show 2 — 3:30 PM

This show will include our older students (**5th grade and up**), along with a few select younger students. This performance will be more of a full production, with three distinct acts.

Some students may perform in **both shows**. If this applies to your dancer, I will reach out to you directly within the next couple of weeks.

I will also be updating the *Nutcracker* section of the AKD website by early next week with a breakdown of **which classes are performing in each show**, so please be sure to check there.

REHEARSALS

Students performing in **Show 2 ONLY** will have a dress/tech rehearsal on **Friday, December 11**. At this point, we are planning to begin around **4:00 PM**, but please note that this time may change as we get closer to the performance.

Our younger dancers in **Show 1** will have a very brief staging rehearsal the morning of the performance.

As with any live production, exact running times can fluctuate. **Show 1 should run approximately one hour, and Show 2 approximately 1½ hours.**

PARTICIPATION FEE

As in past years, there is a participation fee to help cover **costumes and accessories, pre-production expenses, and a video of the performance.**

For students participating in multiple pieces, we do our best to purchase costume elements that can be reused whenever possible. I understand that participating in a production like this comes with a financial commitment for families, and I try to be mindful of that when planning and purchasing costumes.

One student / one class: \$110

Multiple classes OR siblings participating (up to 3 pieces): \$185 per household

For families with dancers participating in **more than three pieces per household**, I will reach out to you directly.

Payment must be received by October 23 in order to participate in *The Nutcracker*.

We special order many of our costumes, and some pieces are being handmade, so it is extremely important that we place our orders on time.

Please note that a \$25 late fee will apply to payments received beginning October 24. I plan to submit all costume orders by October 23, and any late orders may require expedited shipping to ensure costumes arrive in time for the performance. This fee will help cover those additional costs.

COSTUME SIZING — DUE OCTOBER 12

I need a little help from parents to make sure we are ordering the most accurate costume sizes possible!

We order costumes from a wide variety of sources — dancewear companies, costume shops, general clothing retailers, thrift/vintage sources, and more — so the sizing information you provide will help us tremendously when selecting the appropriate size for your child.

Please complete the **Costume Sizing Form by October 14:**

[Complete the Costume Sizing Form](#)

COSTUME PICKUP

Costumes will be available for parent pickup at **Amanda Kupillas Dance Studio on Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 AM–2:30 PM.**

Please note that some specially ordered or handmade costumes may require additional time to arrive. If that applies to your dancer, I will let you know.

TICKETS

Tickets will go on sale within the next couple of weeks. **Like last year you will be able to reserve your seats!** More information will be coming soon.

PAYMENT

Payment can be made via:

- **Zelle:** Amanda Kupillas Dance LLC — **917-217-1104** (*please use the phone number, not an email address*)
- **Check:** Payable to Amanda Kupillas Dance LLC
- **Square:** Through the **Events & Performances** section of the AKD website, you can make a payment via credit card. Please note there is a 3% fee.

I am very much looking forward to another fun and exciting *Nutcracker* with everyone! There is a lot happening behind the scenes already, and I can't wait to see it all come together. :)

[As always, please reach out if you have any questions and keep accessing the Nutcracker Page on our website for more information!](#)

Best,
Amanda Kupillas