



THE *Nutcracker* Ballet

December
10th, 2023
1:00pm
and
4:30pm



**THE DANCE ACADEMY
OF LOUDOUN**

FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL
25450 RIDING CENTER DRIVE SOUTH RIDING



The Dance Academy of Loudoun and
Leesburg Civic Ballet Present



THE *Nutcracker* Ballet

December 10, 2023

Sponsored By
Northern Virginia Performing Arts Company

Ballet Director: Kaitlin Ronayne
Ballet Master: Igor Sapotko
Choreographers: Kaleigh Augustine, Aleksandra Ordoñez,
Kaitlin Ronayne, Igor Sapotko, And Geralyn Ward
Studio Owner/Artistic Director: Elizabeth Boehnlein

Special Thank & Appreciation To:
Freedom High School For The Use Of Their Facility, Lighting And Sound
Jason Gantick and Brianne Szuch For Building And Transporting Sets
Nickolai Balatsenko For Videography



The Story of the Nutcracker

E.T.A. Hoffman
Adapted by Janet Schulman



Snow was falling gently on the street as people were hurrying home, their arms filled with gaily wrapped boxes and paper parcels from toy stores, candy shops and bakeries. For it was Christmas Eve, and as twilight fell, the children waited in hushed expectation for the night to arrive.

Inside the home of Dr. Stahlbaum, Fritz and his older sister, Clara, had stationed themselves at the door waiting for the guests to arrive. As they arrived, excitement filled the house. Presents were under the tree, drinks were passed around, and people were dancing. Uncle Drosselmeir made his usual magical entrance. He was an awesome man in both his appearance and accomplishments. He was a lovely uncle to the children. Never did he visit without bringing Clara and Fritz delightful toys he had invented. This Christmas he brought a wind up soldier that marched and saluted, and dolls that moved their arms up and down. It was a remarkable display, but Clara preferred the little man made out of wood wearing a military uniform with brass buttons and trousers to match. Clara fell in love with the toy at first sight. The longer she studied him the more clearly she saw what a sweet nature he had. Fritz saw the ugly little doll and slammed it on the floor and cracked it. Clara snatched it from her brother and cradled it in her arms. Clara's mother said it was very late; that perhaps they had had too much Christmas and it was time for the party to end.

After their guests said goodnight and departed, Clara and her family went upstairs to bed. As soon as everyone was asleep, Clara went back down to the drawing room to examine the Nutcracker's wounds. Just then the grandfather clock started wheezing and whirling, signaling its preparation for striking the hour. Then started the most extraordinary squeaking and scampering and glittering of, no, not lights, but tiny eyes from scores of mice and rats as they squeezed themselves through the cracks in the baseboard. As Clara ran for cover, the King of Rats appeared and piped his commands to his army of rats. Drum beat and trumpets blared as the toys came to life. The soldiers tried to fight off the rats. Then out leapt the Nutcracker leading the soldiers to battle. Deafening sounds of rifles and artillery rang out. Clara watched in horror as the Nutcracker's small army was pushed back further by the rats. The end was not a pretty sight, with both the King of the Rats and the Nutcracker slain by each other's swords. Clara wept with sorrow, but Drosselmeir knew what to do and soon the Nutcracker was brought back to life to dance with Clara.

The snow was falling thickly now, but it was not in the least bit cold. The Nutcracker had led Clara through the pine forest of dancing snowflakes to a kingdom with towers of marzipan, gates of candy canes, and the most beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy to greet her. In the courtyard, Clara was greeted by dancers with gifts of Spanish Hot Chocolate, Arabian Coffee, Chinese Tea, Prussian Candy Canes, Dutch Polichinelle, and Swiss Marzipan. The Sugar Plum Fairy led Clara to her throne to enjoy the lovely entertainment as they danced for her. Clara thought, "Everything and everyone is so lovable, wonderful and full of life. I wish I could stay forever." She knew; however, it must come to an end, so she waved goodbye to all her new friends to return home.



1:00PM SHOW ~ ACT I



Party Scene

CLARA – Gianna Cucchi

FRITZ – Aidan Plunkert

UNCLE DROSSELMAYER – Dino Coppa

CLARA'S FRIEND – Sonia Arbab

LEAD PARTY GIRLS – Danielle Chima-Orji, Cailynn Keefer

PARTY GIRLS – Lilly Alexander, Samantha DeMasi, Kinsey Eaton, Lillian Farmer, Lucy Fasenmyer, Madelyn Garrison, Asha Gillum, Aubrey Good, Lylah Maddens, Mary Panning, Harper Pinson, Ellarie Simon, Gia Stone, Madison Wright, Anna Yankoupe, Emerson Zinck

CLARA'S MOTHER – Michelle Taliaferro

CLARA'S FATHER – Igor Sapotko

ADULT PARTY GUESTS – Angelina Coppa, Isabel Frigault, Olivia Gordon, Nicole Jamieson, Jim Jamieson, Erica Parker, Russell Parker, Domina Mallette, Bailey Sadler, Abigail Taliaferro

BALLERINA DOLL – Olivia Hale

TAMBOURINE DOLL – Ari McKenzie

Clara's Dream

MICE – Brynn Good, Alivia Hickson, Genevieve MacDonald, Caroline Montgomery

RATS – Sidney Keppler, Kathryn Brander, Elina Abdelnoor, Luciana Leventry, Julianna Green, Elise Miller, Melania Jasinski

RAT KING – Abigail Taliaferro

NUTCRACKER PRINCE – Levi White

SOLDIERS – Peyton Reckner, Claire Campbell, Hadassah Kirker, Tania Katyal, Rylie McKenzie, Elaina Cost, Audrey Hill, Sasha Balasanyan

Snow Scene

SNOW QUEEN – Domina Mallette

SNOWFLAKES – Poppy Adler, Catherine Antonescu, Sasha Balasanyan, Madelyn Brosnan, Harper Buchman, Elaina Cost, Emory Dehler, Quincy Dehler, Gabriella Edwards, Lillian Farmer, Claire FitzGerald, Madelyn Garrison, Reilly Grant, Audrey Hill, Peyton Jamieson, Chiara Kerns, Alondra Martinez, Senna Mazzoni, Emma Morris, Finley Murafsky, Saylor Murafsky, Aidan Plunkert, Grace Remy, Violet Robinson, Claire Salamon, Maddox Stakem, Morgynn Szuch-Gantick, Harper Travis, Milly Winkler

SNOW CORPS – Elizabeth Abbott, Fallon Davis, Nirali Kandarpa, Christina Lobbin, Lauren Lobbin, Emilee Mansoor, Ari McKenzie, Emma Moreno, Simone Tidwell

INTERMISSION



1:00PM Show ~ ACT II

Land Of Sweets

ANGELS – Tasha Balasanyan, Emmeline Carr, Amalia Chevez, Avery Cowern, Delphine Cowern, Emma Fedorchak, Kaitlyn Herb, Mary Hodgins, Nora Kaiser, Olive Leatherman, Harper Mason, Pippin Meyer, Sloane Spurway, Maggie Sutton, Wynn Weimer

GUMDROPS – Katya Balasanyan, Pippa Bennett, Evelyn Betz, Charlotte Crouse, Charlotte FitzGerald, Liliana Gabel, Sydney Johns, Sophia Kindberg, Adelynn MacDonald, Maddyn McDonald, Adeline Palmer, Ava Rankin, Josie Steeprow, Aryana Thomas, Siena Wilson

SPANISH HOT CHOCOLATE – Elizabeth Abbott, Dakota Bodnar, Nikka Mallette, Katherine Smith

CHINESE TEA – Sarah Flynn, Caitlin Holland, Giuliana McKeon, Bethany Sutton

MOTHER GINGER — Angelina Coppa

POLICHINELLE – Gianna Giebel, Jamie Joachim, Amelia Larsen, Abby Poluikis, Lauren Roos, Addison Sandberg, Hadley Stagg, Catherine Tech, Clara Vernuccio, Charlotte Walsh, Olivia Wilkinson, Hazel Winkler

ARABIAN COFFEE – Iryne Jackson, Alexandra Steeprow, Melissa Vantine

MARZIPAN – Elise Ball, Olivia Beadle, Lucinda Benedict, Savannah Cagle, Kayleigh Castleman, Brooklyn Champney, Lucy Fassenmyer, Taylor Jamieson, Grace Kamin, Madeline Kamin, Cailynn Keefer, Sidney Keppler, Harper Machado, Mary Kate McConnell, Rylie McKenzie, Giuliana McKeon, Dorsa Navai, Ashley Parker, Peyton Reckner, Julia Sargent, Ellie Sesin, Bethany Sutton, Emily Van

DEW DROP – Sophia Steele

FLOWER SOLOIST 1 – Alexis Leung

FLOWER SOLOIST 2 – Isabel Frigault

FLOWERS – Sonia Arbab, Angelina Coppa, Elaina Crabtree, Gianna Cucchi, Isabel Frigault, Aubrey Hartman, Iryne Jackson, Alexis Leung, Domina Mallette, Rosie McConnell, Emma Millar, Kylie Pitsch, Bailey Sadler, Sophia Steele, Alexandra Steeprow, Abigail Taliaferro, Melissa Vantine

CANDY CANES – Adelyn Briggs, Hailey Carter, Everly Crince, Parker Deputy, Loula Dintini, Everley Farmer, Aimee Gardiner, Audrey Gerami, Melania Jasinski, Ellen Lim, Kora Middleton, Ephie Slater, Ellie Smith, Josie Steeprow, Vivienne Vary

SUGAR PLUM COURT – Sabrina Atienza, Madeline Bascom, Dakota Bodnar, Danielle Chima-Orji, Sarah Flynn, Kyra Gordon, Olivia Hale, Caitlin Holland, Nikka Mallette, Gretchen Mayo, Emersyn Moskal, Tristin Pitsch, Eva Port, Katherine Smith, Bethany Sutton, Levi White

SUGAR PLUM FAIRY – Bailey Sadler

CAVALIER – Levi White

FINALE



4:30PM SHOW ~ ACT I



Party Scene

CLARA – Emma Millar

FRITZ – Aidan Plunkert

UNCLE DROSSELMAYER – Eric Sutton

CLARA'S FRIEND – Kyra Gordon

LEAD PARTY GIRLS – Emersyn Moskal, Bethany Sutton

PARTY GIRLS - Lilly Alexander, Samantha DeMasi, Kinsey Eaton, Lillian Farmer, Lucy Fassenmyer, Madelyn Garrison, Asha Gillum, Aubrey Good, Lylah Maddens, Mary Panning, Harper Pinson, Ellarie Simon, Gia Stone, Madison Wright, Anna Yankoupe, Emerson Zinck

CLARA'S MOTHER – Michelle Taliaferro

CLARA'S FATHER – Igor Sapotko

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BALLERINA DOLL – Gretchen Mayo

TAMBOURINE DOLL – Ari McKenzie

Clara's Dream

MICE – Everleigh Briggs, Esmeralda Chevez, Chloe Everling, Arrow Fleming, Gracie Hopkins, Sophia Laughlin, Penelope Orellana, Cressa Phillips, Brynn Spano, Maisie Stemen, Mary Yankoupe, Olivia Zapata

RATS – Peyton Reckner, Claire Campbell, Hadassah Kirker, Tania Katyal, Rylie McKenzie, Elaina Cost, Audrey Hill, Sasha Balasanyan

RAT KING – Bailey Sadler

NUTCRACKER PRINCE — Levi White

SOLDIERS – Sidney Keppler, Kathryn Brander, Elina Abdelnoor, Luciana Leventry, Julianna Green, Elise Miller, Melania Jasinski

Snow Scene

SNOW QUEEN – Angelina Coppa

SNOW FLAKES – Poppy Adler, Catherine Antonescu, Sasha Balasanyan, Madelyn Brosnan, Harper Buchman, Elaina Cost, Emory Dehler, Gabriella Edwards, Lillian Farmer, Claire FitzGerald, Madelyn Garrison, Reilly Grant, Audrey Hill, Peyton Jamieson, Chiara Kerns, Alondra Martinez, Senna Mazzoni, Emma Morris, Finley Murafsky, Saylor Murafsky, Aidan Plunkert, Grace Remy, Violet Robinson, Claire Salamon, Maddox Stakem, Morgynn Szuch-Gantick, Harper Travis, Milly Winkler

SNOW CORPS – Elizabeth Abbott, Fallon Davis, Nirali Kandarpa, Christina Lobbin, Lauren Lobbin, Emilee Mansoor, Ari McKenzie, Emma Moreno, Simone Tidwell

Intermission



4:30PM Show ~ACT II

Land Of Sweets

ANGELS – Gia Asma, Ada Brown, Brooklyn Erickson, Catherine Fries, Tallulah Giebel, Giuliana Lincoln, Annaliese McLachlan, Penelope Nedl, Paige Norbo, Elle Ryan, Ava Setser, Madison Traylor, Adalyn Wagner, Zoe Wagner, Karissa Wilson

GUMDROPS – Katya Balasanyan, Pippa Bennett, Evelyn Betz, Charlotte Crouse, Charlotte FitzGerald, Liliana Gabel, Sydney Johnson, Sophia Kindberg, Adelynn MacDonald, Maddyn McDonald, Adeline Palmer, Ava Rankin, Josie Steeprow, Aryana Thomas, Siena Wilson

SPANISH HOT CHOCOLATE – Christina Lobbin, Emilee Mansoor, Emma Moreno, Simone Tidwell

CHINESE TEA – Sarah Flynn, Caitlin Holland, Giuliana McKeon, Bethany Sutton

MOTHER GINGER – Domina Mallette

POLICHINELLE – Reese Alexander, Olive Arena, Vera Booksing, Charlotte Fisher, Penny Gander, Sophia Gardiner, Emilia Luppino-Esposito, Lilith Moore, Hadley Nyaz, Brynlee Piotrowski, Elsie Stannard

ARABIAN COFFEE – Iryne Jackson, Alexandra Steeprow, Melissa Vantine

MARZIPAN – Elise Ball, Olivia Beadle, Lucinda Benedict, Savannah Cagle, Kayleigh Castleman, Brooklyn Champney, Lucy Fasenmyer, Taylor Jamieson, Grace Kamin, Madeline Kamin, Cailynn Keefer, Sidney Keppler, Harper Machado, Mary Kate McConnell, Rylie McKenzie, Giuliana McKeon, Dorsa Navai, Ashley Parker, Peyton Reckner, Julia Sargent, Ellie Sesin, Bethany Sutton, Emily Van

DEW DROP – Aubrey Hartman

FLOWER SOLOIST 1 – Alexis Leung

FLOWER SOLOIST 2 – Rosie McConnell

FLOWERS – Sonia Arbab, Angelina Coppa, Elaina Crabtree, Gianna Cucchi, Isabel Frigault, Aubrey Hartman, Iryne Jackson, Alexis Leung, Domina Mallette, Rosie McConnell, Emma Millar, Kylie Pitsch, Bailey Sadler, Sophia Steele, Alexandra Steeprow, Abigail Taliaferro, Melissa Vantine

CANDY CANES – Adelyn Briggs, Hailey Carter, Everly Crince, Parker Deputy, Loula Dintini, Everley Farmer, Aimee Gardiner, Audrey Gerami, Melania Jasinski, Ellen Lim, Kora Middleton, Ephie Slater, Ellie Smith, Josie Steeprow, Vivienne Vary

SUGAR PLUM COURT – Sabrina Atienza, Madeline Bascom, Dakota Bodnar, Danielle Chima-Orji, Sarah Flynn, Kyra Gordon, Olivia Hale, Caitlin Holland, Nikka Mallette, Gretchen Mayo, Emersyn Moskal, Tristin Pitsch, Eva Port, Katherine Smith, Bethany Sutton, Levi White

SUGAR PLUM FAIRY – Abigail Taliaferro

CAVALIER – Levi White

FINALE



LEADING PERFORMERS



Elizabeth Abbott (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is in the 9th grade at Loudoun County High School. She has been dancing at DAL since she was 5 years old and is a member of the competition team, Pre-Professional program, and the ballet company. She is excited to be performing as Spanish Hot Chocolate and in the Snow Corps. Elizabeth wishes her fellow dancers good luck and hopes you enjoy the show!



Sonia Arbab (Clara's Friend) is a 9th grader at Woodgrove High School and she is very excited to be a part of the Nutcracker as the leading role of Clara's Friend. She would like to thank all of her teachers. She is thrilled to share her love of ballet on stage and wishes everyone a Happy Holiday!



Dakota Bodnar (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is in the 8th grade at Providence Academy. Her favorite holiday is Christmas and she especially enjoys the seasonal Nutcracker dance and traveling to NYC to see the Rockettes. She has dreamt of dancing en pointe for years, and is so excited to have a role as Spanish Chocolate. Her previous roles include Angel, Rat, Soldier, Little Party Guest, and Little Snow.



Danielle Chima-Orji (Lead Party Girl) is a young talented dancer who is ready to perform and dreams to inspire others with her presence onstage. She goes to Willard Middle School and is in 7th grade. She has been dancing since she was 3. She is excited to perform her first lead role. Her other interests include writing, listening to music, and reading. She wishes her fellow dancers a wonderful performance.



Angelina Coppa (Snow Queen) is a senior at Loudoun County High School. She started dancing when she was 3, and has loved it ever since. This year she will be performing Snow Queen in her 13th and final Nutcracker with DAL. She is so excited and undoubtedly grateful to get to dance this role. She sends love to her fellow dancers and hopes that her last Nutcracker with them can be as magical as all the rest!



Dino Coppa (Uncle Drosselmeyer) is very happy to return one more time to play Uncle Drosselmeyer! After playing the role for almost 10 years, he took a break but wanted to return to be on stage with his wonderful daughter Angelina in her senior season. Dino has about 30 years of stage acting experience with roles that include Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof" and Max Bialystock in "The Producers."



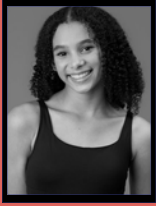
Gianna Cucchi (Clara) has been at DAL since she was 6 years old. She's on the competition team and in the Pre-Professional program. She has a passion for ballet and contemporary styles. Gianna attended Joffrey Ballet Advanced Summer Intensive 3 week program in Chicago this summer, and has attended YAGP semi-finals since 2021. She is a freshman at Woodgrove High School. She is excited to perform as Clara in the Nutcracker.



Sarah Flynn (Chinese Tea) has been dancing since she was 4 years old, and this is her 7th year at DAL. She is currently a 7th grader at J.L. Simpson Middle School. This is her 3rd year in ballet company and she is also a member of the competition team. Her previous Nutcracker roles are Little Flowers and Snow Corps. Outside of dance, Sarah loves to hang out with her friends.



Isabel Frigault (Flower Soloist) Izzy has been dancing since the age of 3 and is so excited to be performing in a lead role as a Flower Soloist! Izzy is a junior at Tuscarora High School and is part of the DAL competition team. The Nutcracker is Izzy's favorite time of the year. She has held prior lead roles as Arabian Coffee, Spanish Chocolate, Lead Angel, and Chinese Tea.



Kyra Gordon (Clara's Friend) is currently an 8th grader at J. Michael Lunsford Middle School. Kyra began dancing at DAL at 3, and is now a member of their Pre-Professional program and competition team. Kyra is excited to be dancing with her friends in this festive holiday tradition. She sends warm wishes for a joyful holiday season to all. Enjoy the magic of the Nutcracker!



Olivia Hale (Ballerina Doll) is 13 years old and attends Belmont Ridge Middle School. She has been dancing since she was 3, and has participated on the competition team for 9 years. Olivia is participates in the DAL Pre-Professional Program. She has attended YAGP, NYCDA, and CLI for competitions and intensives. She enjoys being with her friends, traveling, watching sports, and shopping for sneakers. Happy holidays!



Aubrey Hartman (Dew Drop) is 16 years old and in 11th grade at Loudoun Valley High School. She's been dancing since the age of 9 and she is beyond excited to be dancing the role of Dew Drop in the 2023 DAL Nutcracker Ballet. She wishes everyone the best of luck and knows all of the dancers will do amazing! She would love to wish everyone Happy Holidays!



Caitlin Holland (Chinese Tea) is 12 years old and a 7th grader at Willard Middle School. She began dancing at the age of 3 at the Vandenberg SFB Youth Center in California. Caitlin joined the Dance Academy of Loudoun 3.5 years ago, and this is her 3rd year on competition team. Caitlin loves all styles of dance—especially ballet, contemporary, and tap. She is excited to perform her first lead role!



Iryne Jackson (Arabian Coffee) is a 14 year old at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. She has been dancing since she was 4, and enjoys reading and biology. Her past roles have been Tea and Clara. This summer she spent 4 weeks at the Alvin Ailey Summer Intensive. She hopes you enjoy the show and wishes everyone a Happy Holiday.



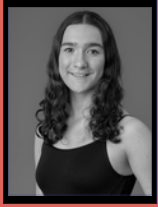
Cailynn Keefer (Lead Party Girl) is 13 years old and is very excited for her first Nutcracker lead role! She has been dancing in the Nutcracker since she was 6, starting out as a mouse. She was on the performance team for two years and this is her fourth year on the competition team. She attends 7th grade at Simpson Middle School and would love to pursue a college degree in dance. Happy Holidays!



Alexis Leung (Flower Soloist) is a junior at Independence High School. She has been dancing since the age of 3, accumulating a love for the style of contemporary. She is excited to be dancing the role of Lead Flower Soloist in addition to Flower Corps this Nutcracker season. Alexis is thankful for the memories she has gained at DAL and wishes the best of luck to all of her fellow dancers and friends for this performance!



Christina Lobbin (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is a senior at Loudoun County High School and has been dancing since 5th grade. Last year was her first year at DAL and this is her second time performing in the Nutcracker! Besides ballet, she is on competition team and takes tap, jazz, contemporary, and hip hop. She'd like to thank her family, friends, and teachers for all their support. Enjoy the show!



Domina Mallette (Snow Queen) is a senior at Loudoun Valley High School. She has been dancing for 13 years, and ballet has always been her favorite style. She is thrilled to dance one of her dream roles, the Snow Queen, in her 11th and final Nutcracker. Domina is beyond grateful for the memories she has made performing in this magical ballet and wishes the best of luck to her fellow dancers as she takes the stage with them one last time!



Nikka Mallette (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is an 8th grader at Blue Ridge Middle School. She has been dancing for a total of 11 years. This is her 9th year dancing in the Nutcracker. She is so excited to be performing the role of Spanish Hot Chocolate. She wants to wish luck to all her fellow dancers, and hopes that everyone enjoys the show.



Emilee Mansoor (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is in 10th grade at Loudoun Valley High School. She has been dancing since the age of 2, and is excited to be performing in the Nutcracker this year. Emilee appreciates the love and support of her family and teachers and hopes everyone enjoys the show. Happy Holidays to all!



Gretchen Mayo (Ballerina Doll) is 14 years old and a freshman at Loudoun County High School. She has been training with the Dance Academy of Loudoun for 11 years and has been on the competition team for 7. This year she was accepted into the Pre-Professional program and is working hard towards her goals. She is very excited to be performing her 3rd lead role as the Ballerina Doll.



Rosie McConnell (Flower Soloist) is very happy to be a part of the DAL ballet company and Pre-Professional program. She has danced competitively for 13 years and on pointe for 4. She was awarded a full tuition ballet scholarship and attended Joffrey Pre-Professional company in NYC. She hopes to go to Joffrey again this summer and Next Steps Dance Intensive on scholarship. All the best to all the dancers!



Ari McKenzie (Tambourine Doll) is a senior and has been dancing at DAL for 5 years. She is so excited to be able to dance in her final Nutcracker this year. Ari dances for the competition team at DAL. She would like to thank all of her teachers for all the opportunities she's been given over the years. She would like to wish everyone a happy holiday season!



Giuliana McKeon (Chinese Tea) is so excited for her first lead role as Tea. She has been dancing in the Nutcracker since she was 4. She loves the Nutcracker season. Her favorite memories have been being a Mouse and Rat over the years. She has been in ballet company since she was 8. She is a 7th grader at Harmony Middle School and loves arts and crafts, going to Disney and swimming in the summer. She enjoys hanging out with her friends in her free time.



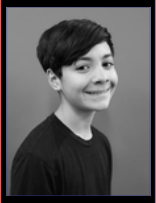
Emma Millar (Clara) is a 9th grader at Heritage High School. She is a member of the DAL Pre-Professional program and ballet company. She will compete in the Youth American Grand Prix for her 4th year. She was selected to attend Prix Challenge Intensive at Cary Ballet in North Carolina this past summer, and also trained at The Rock School of Dance in Philadelphia. She will also dance in Waltz of the Flowers. Merde to her fellow dancers and Merry Christmas to all!



Emma Moreno (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is a freshman at Heritage High School. She has been dancing for 11 years. Her past Nutcracker roles include Party Girl, Little Snow, Gum Drop, Marzipan and Tea. Emma's main styles are contemporary, modern and hip hop and she participates in summer intensives each year to focus on these styles. Emma enjoys participating in the Nutcracker each year as it gets her in the holiday spirit dancing with her friends.



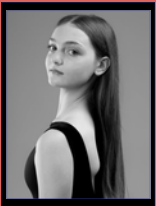
Emersyn Moskal (Lead Party Girl) is performing in her 3rd Nutcracker and this is her first lead role. She joined the DAL competition team and ballet company in 2021. She is in the 8th grade at Simpson Middle School. In addition to dance, Emersyn loves musical theater. She wishes everyone a Happy Holiday and hopes you enjoy the show!



Aidan Plunkert (Fritz) is a 6th grader at Blue Ridge Middle School and has been dancing for just over 2 years. He enjoys acting, singing, playing guitar, and anything else that allows him to showcase his creativity and love of performing. This is his second year dancing in DAL's production of The Nutcracker and is very excited to be taking on the role of Fritz.



Bailey Sadler (Sugar Plum Fairy) is a senior at Heritage HS. After graduation she looks forward to attending a 4-year university, majoring in dance. This is her 11th year performing in DAL's Nutcracker. She is excited to be a part of the new Pre-Professional dance program at the studio this year. This past summer Bailey attended The Shenandoah University and The University of the Arts Summer Intensives. Bailey wishes good luck to all the performers, and Happy Holidays to all!



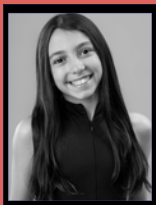
Katherine Smith (Spanish Hot Chocolate) is 13 years old and has been dancing at DAL for 7 years. This is her 6th Nutcracker performance, and her first performance as a lead. She is in the 7th grade at Blue Ridge Middle School in Purcellville. She is excited to perform as Spanish Hot Chocolate as well as in the Sugar Plum Court. Katherine wishes you Happy Holidays and would like to thank her teachers for their support.



Sophia Steele (Dew Drop) is a senior at Riverside High School and has been dancing at DAL for 16 years. She is looking forward to performing in her final Nutcracker and is excited to dance the role of Dew Drop for a second time. Her past favorite roles were Sugar Plum, Snow Queen and Arabian. Sophia would like to wish her friends all the best in this performance and thank her teachers for their support over the years.



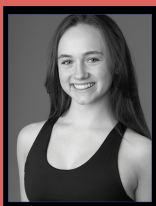
Alexandra Steeprow (Arabian Coffee) is 15 years old and in 10th grade at Tuscarora High School. This is her 3rd year dancing in DAL's Nutcracker and she will perform the role of Arabian and Flower Corps. She has had an amazing time preparing for this performance and dancing with her friends. She can't wait for everyone to see it! Aly would like to thank Ms. Kaitlin, Ms. Aleks and Mr. Igor for their support.



Bethany Sutton (Lead Party Girl) is excited to be performing in her 7th Nutcracker and her first lead role! She has been dancing at DAL since the age of 2, and on competition team since 5. As a part of the Pre-Professional program, she is currently training for her 2nd year competing at YAGP. She attends Simpson Middle School and enjoys reading and spending time with her family. She wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas!



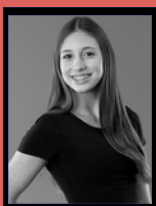
Eric Sutton (Uncle Drosselmeyer) is professionally trained by Mr. Igor. Eric is performing this role for his 4th season. He is a public affairs executive by day and TikTok influencer and dance dad of three by night. Eric has been part of the DAL family since 2009.



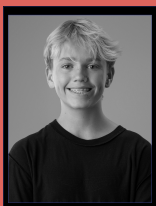
Abigail Taliaferro (Sugar Plum Fairy) is an 11th grader at Loudoun County High School. Abby has been dancing at DAL since she was 3, and this is her 11th year performing in the Nutcracker. She has looked up to past Sugar Plum Fairies, and is honored to join their ranks. Sharing the roles of Sugar Plum and Rat King with one of her closest friends, Bailey, is a bonus. Abby thanks her teachers, family and friends, and good luck to all!



Simone Tidwell (Spanish Hot Chocolate) has loved performing in The Nutcracker since she was 2 years old. She loves dancing with her friends in this classic every year. Her favorite scene is the party scene. She's excited to be in Spanish Chocolate and wishes everyone a joyous holiday season. Enjoy the show!



Melissa Vantine (Arabian Coffee) is a 15 year old sophomore at Heritage High School. She has been dancing at DAL since she was 3. She is very excited to perform the role of Arabian Coffee, which has always been one of her favorites. Her past lead roles include Chinese Tea, Columbine Doll and Clara. She thanks her dance teachers for all their support and wishes good luck to her fellow dancers.



Levi White (Nutcracker Prince/Cavalier) is thrilled to be performing in his 3rd Nutcracker performance! Levi is in 8th grade at Simpson Middle School, and while he spends most of his time dancing at the DAL studio, in his off time he likes skiing and hanging out with friends, the beach, bike rides and summer! This summer he was able to attend the CLI Conservatory summer intensive in Massachusetts and had the time of his life!





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