

# THE NUTCRACKER



PRESENTED BY  
**THE YARDLEY  
YOUTH BALLET**  
IN AFFILIATION WITH  
DANCE ARTS OF YARDLEY

December 16, 2023



# *The Yardley Youth Ballet Company*

The *Yardley Youth Ballet Company* is an in-house children's ballet company based at the studio of **Dance Arts of Yardley**. It was created in order to give serious ballet students the experience of belonging to a pre-professional dance company. Membership is open to students age nine and older and is by audition only. The company has a varied repertoire, which includes classical as well as contemporary ballet styles. The company members enjoy a structured dance curriculum and are offered a wider variety of opportunities to perform via parades, fairs, local community functions, lecture / demonstrations, and also national and international ballet competitions. Most recently, we have had ballet company members compete in the prestigious Youth American Grand Prix international ballet competition.

# *The Yardley Youth Ballet*

*In Affiliation with Dance Arts of Yardley  
presents*

# *The Nutcracker*

Music: *Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky*

Music Editing: *Craig Recording Studios*

Choreography:

*Christina Castro, Rachel Levy,*

*Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro*

Production Assistants/Wardrobe Dept.: *Jeannie Conner, Kelly Scheese*

Backstage Managers: *Lauren Dowling, Jen Powell*

Scenery/Lighting: *Villa Victoria Academy*

Costume Stylist/Designer: *Melissa Profy*

Rehearsal Directors: *Maddie Conner, Sakie Hachiya,*

*Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy*

Program Design: *Cathy Lautenbacher*

Videography: *Editing Life Videography - Matt Buerhaus*

Photography: *Barry Haven of Photo Haven Photography.*

## **CONTENTS**

<b>The Nutcracker Ballet Synopsis</b>	4
<b>11:00 a.m. Show</b>	24
<b>3:30 p.m. Show</b>	29
<b>Featured Artists</b>	34
<b>Choreographers</b>	35

# *Synopsis:*

## **ACT I**

Herr Stahlbaum and his wife are hosting a Christmas Party. Clara and Fritz, their children, are sneaking a peek to see what goodies await. The guests arrive along with Clara's mysterious Uncle Drosselmeyer. Uncle Drosselmeyer entertains the children with his magical tricks and life-size wind-up dolls.

The parents give presents to all the children. Uncle Drosselmeyer brings a special gift for Clara - a wooden nutcracker. In a jealous fit, Fritz breaks it. Drosselmeyer quickly repairs it.

The party ends, the guests leave, and the Stahlbaums retire for the night. Clara awakens to see tiny mice creeping into the room. The clock strikes midnight. Suddenly, the room fills with giant rats, led by the Rat King, who menace Clara. To Clara's amazement her Nutcracker comes to life and leads a troop of life-size toy soldiers to battle the rats. The King Rat tries to destroy the Nutcracker! Just when all looks lost, Clara throws her shoe at the Rat King and magically helps the Nutcracker win the battle.

After the battle Clara finds herself in the Land of Snow. Clara is spellbound watching the Snow Queen dance with the Snowflakes. The Snow Queen introduces Clara to a young Prince, who then escorts her to the Land of the Sweets.

## **ACT II**

Clara continues her journey to the Land of the Sweets, where she is greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy and a host of heavenly angels. In Clara's honor, the Sugar Plum Fairy arranges for the inhabitants of her kingdom to entertain her. Each dance represents a delicious food or drink: a Spanish Dance (chocolate); an Arabian Dance (coffee); and Chinese Dance (tea). Clara is also entertained by a Russian dance, Marzipan candy dancers playing flutes, Mother Ginger (Gingerbread) with her Pulchinelles (little clowns), and is mesmerized as a Dewdrop leads the Waltz of the Flowers. Then, the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier dance a Grand Pas de Deux. As the celebration draws to a close, Clara starts to feel sleepy. The next thing she knows, Clara awakens and wonders if it was all just a beautiful dream.

*The End*



*Congratulations, Cole!  
You will always be our  
prince.*



*Love,  
Mom, Ainsley &  
Annabelle*



*Congratulations, Annabelle!  
We know this Nutcracker  
has been both challenging  
and a joy.  
You're doing great!*

*Love,  
Mom, Ainsley & Cole*





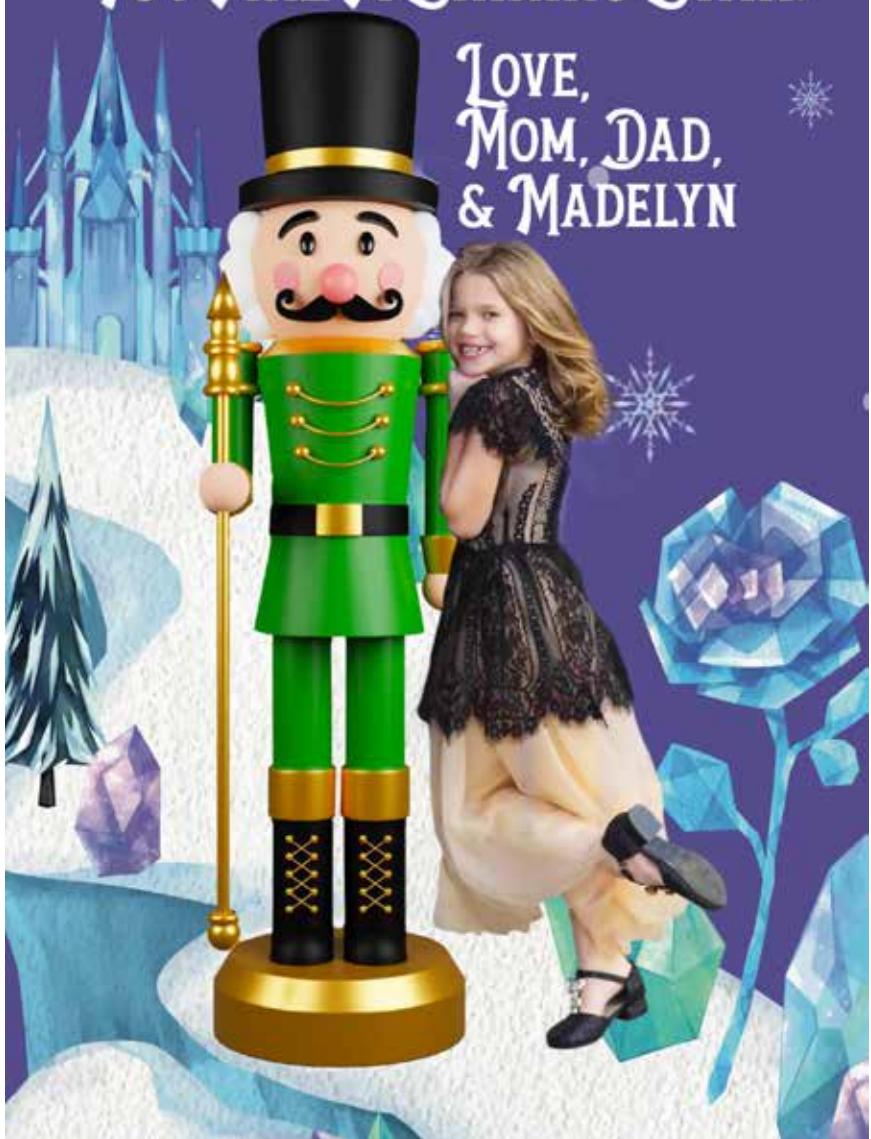
*Keira Rose Kiel*

Congratulations  
on your 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Nutcracker performance!  
• Daddy, Mommy & Cole



CONGRATULATIONS GRACE,  
WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!  
YOU ARE A SHINING STAR!

LOVE,  
MOM, DAD,  
& MADELYN





Congratulations  
Gia,

Keep dancing  
your heart out,  
our tiny little  
dancer. We are  
proud of you,  
keep shining.

Love  
Mom, Dad,  
and Vivien



**Congratulations Maddie! We are so  
proud of you and love watching you shine  
on stage! You are a beautiful dancer.  
Keep up the great work!**

**Love, Mommy, Daddy, Ryan, and Brady**

BEEN A MOUSE, AND AN ANGEL & ALL  
OF THE REST... AND NOW YOU ARE  
**CLARA,**  
OUR BEAUTIFUL  
**JESS**

With love,  
Madre, Padre  
& Teddy





From your first Nutcracker to your last,  
All the years of ballet went by so fast!  
Though DAY will soon be in your past,  
Watching you dance has been a blast!  
We love you, Elyse!

~ Eden, Dad, Mom, and Nellie Rae ~

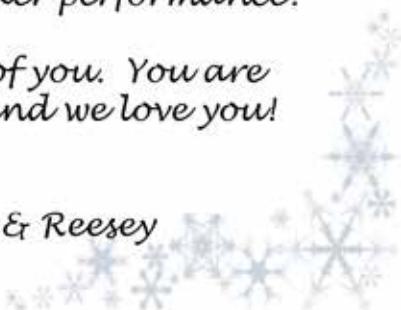


*Violette,*

*Congratulations on another  
beautiful Nutcracker performance!*

*We are so proud of you. You are  
our shining star and we love you!*

*Love,  
Mom, Dad, Mason & Reesey*





**Sarah,**

You are an amazing dancer, and we are so proud of how hard you work.

Keep reaching for the stars!!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Caroline, Dan, Tim, Kimmie, and Cynthia

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of Yardley

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Maxwell & Hippel LLP



We are so proud of you Brooke and all the hard work you put into dancing the Nutcracker!

Love, Mom, Dad, Adin, and Brisk





# NUTCRACKER 2023



Sugar Plum Fairy  
Party Girl

Sugar Plum Fairy  
Party Girl



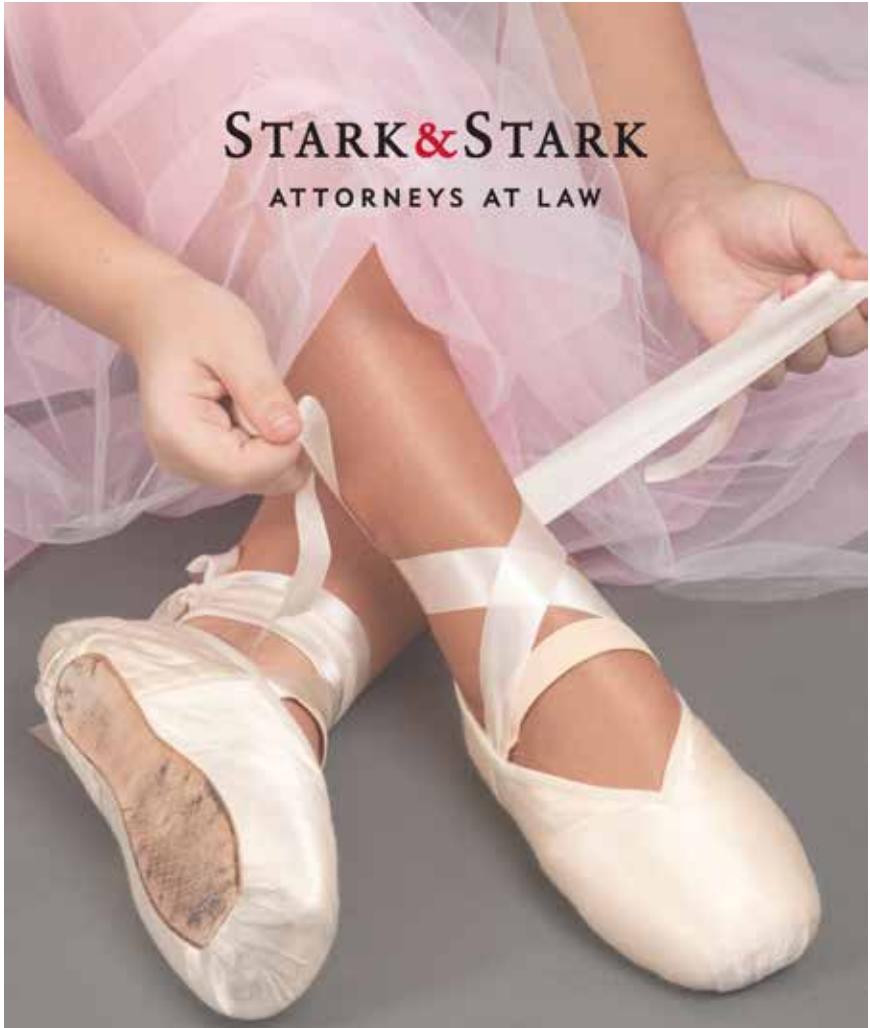
KAYLIN  
~  
ISABELLA  
~  
ELIANA

Congratulations to our  
beautiful girls on another  
year of Nutcracker! We are  
excited to see each of you  
perform in new roles this  
year.

Dance your hearts out!

We love you and are so  
proud of you!  
Mom & Dad





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Stark & Stark is proud to support  
**Dance Arts of Yardley**  
*2024 Production of The Nutcracker*

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Erin,

We are so proud as you take the stage for one last Nutcracker performance. You shine both on and off the stage. Your dancing has brought us many happy memories that we will cherish forever. Enjoy your special day!

We love you,  
Mom, Dad,  
Brian, and  
the gang

# REAGAN DINNEEN

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

AFTER YEARS OF HARD WORK,  
YOUR FIRST NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCE!  
WE ARE ALL SO PROUD OF YOU!  
LOVE, MOM, DAD, RONIN AND FAMILY



# Dear Katie and Alli Carpenter,

Daddy and Mommy love you both very much and are proud of the hard work you do every year for your Nutcracker.

Keep shining and remember to have fun!

Xoxo

Daddy, Mommy, Charlie and Annie (your kitties!)



*Congratulations Ava Sophie,  
Mia, Stella, and Josie on your Nutcracker  
performances in Marzipan Lead,  
Pixie Princess, Pixie, and Mouse.  
We love watching you all perform with  
such beauty and grace.*

*Have fun in your first Nutcracker, Josie!  
We love you girls!*





**Annie and Molly, you continue to amaze us with your hard work and the way you both light up the stage. We are so excited to see you back in this year's Nutcracker as Clara, Ballerina Doll, Dew Drop, Snow Princess, Party Girl, Rat, Marzipan Lead, Flower Petal, Demi-Dew and Snowflake.**

**Love, Mommy, Daddy, and Harry**



# The Yardley Youth Ballet

*In Affiliation with Dance Arts of Yardley  
presents*

# The Nutcracker

Saturday • December 16, 2023

Curtain Time 11:00 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones. No photography, or videography is permitted during the performance by audience members.

## ACT I

### **The Party Scene**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy*

Clara: . . . . .	Jessica Joniak
Fritz . . . . .	Eleanor Manley
Mrs. Stahlbaum . . . . .	Sofia Garberina
Mr. Stahlbaum . . . . .	Michael Scheese
Maid . . . . .	Elyse Bloom
Drosselmeyer . . . . .	Matt Garberina
Nephew/Young Prince . . . . .	Cole Swayze
Soldier Doll . . . . .	Katie Carpenter
Ballerina Doll . . . . .	Lily Sterkel
Nutcracker . . . . .	Paige Gilton
Rat King . . . . .	Ava Garberina
Snow Queen . . . . .	Ava Candela
Sugar Plum Fairy . . . . .	Marina Profy
Cavalier . . . . .	James Felton

Party Parents . . . . . Wives: Melissa Allen, Lynette Belardo,  
Kim Kampe, Heather Manley  
Husbands: Chris Boyle, Jeff Goldberg,  
Brian Joniak, Michael Rizzo

Party Children . . . . . Party Children: Ella Adamczyk,  
Brielle Beach, Chiara Borchert, Chantelle Borchert,  
Charlotte Farrell, Isabella Kampe, Keira Kiel,  
Gianna LaBella, Claire Leonard, Eve Markey,  
Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany, Audrina Pitonyak,  
Guiliana Puglisi, Julia Smith, Austin Vrtaric

## **The Battle Scene**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy*

Mice . . . . . Lead Mice: Claire MacLean, Collette Reiss  
Mice: Josie Boland, Kora Broussard, Reese Doto,  
McKenna Goulet, Claire Herman, Margot Holloway,  
Juliette Holloway, Clare Karpink, Caroline Kasper,  
Emily Ritter, Lily Samson, Maeve Wolf

Rat King . . . . . Ava Garberina

Rats . . . . . Ava Sophie Boland, Rachel Bressler,  
Alli Carpenter, Katie Carpenter,  
Sophie Eren, Kaylin Kampe, Emily Moonay,  
Molly Scheese, Geeta Vinnakota

Red Soldiers . . . . . Ester Broussard, Brynn Coleman,  
Ellie Fantazier, Charlotte Farrell, Jada Fortunato,  
Gia Gallo, Claire Leonard, Daenerys McBride,  
Piper Muller, Grace Rabe, Julia Strouse,  
Avery Vichko

Blue Soldiers . . . . . Chantelle Borchert, Chiara Borchert,  
Paisley Bryan, Olivia Cumberland, Hazel De Santis,  
Violette Hausner, Kensington Keller, Gemma Kemp,  
Sophie Pearson, Julia Smith, Scarlet Swirble,  
Austin Vrtaric

## **The Land of Snow**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro*

### **Waltz of the Snowflakes**

Snow Queen . . . . .	Ava Candela
Snow Princesses . . . . .	Erin Flatley, Brooke Goldberg, Maggie Manley, Madison Pape, Annie Scheese, Lily Sterkel
Snowflakes . . . . .	Elyse Bloom, Ava Sophie Boland, Alli Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Sophie Eren, Kaylin Kampe, Emily Moonay, Julia Paccapaniccia, Molly Scheese, Annabelle Swayze
Snow Corps. . . . .	Brooke Beach, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Bella Escobar, Lila Garberina, Maggie Leonard, Elizabeth Marsden, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither, Cara Rizzo, Lilee Schneider
Snow Flurries . . . . .	Lead Flurry: Anna Gray Snow Flurries: Lucy Allen, Ella Bailey, Gianna Calantoni, Kelley Carroll, Cassidy Costello, Sydney Feltz, Ella McCormick, Kylie Michael, Olivia Strouse, Simone Weisberg, Catie Wojcik, Juliette Young

*Intermission 15 minutes*

## **ACT II**

### **The Land of the Sweets**

Sugar Plum Fairy . . . . .	Marina Profy
Cavalier . . . . .	James Felton

Angels . . . . .	<i>Choreography – Rachel Levy</i> Aria Adamczyk, Ellie Brecko, Elizabeth Britton, Adeline Gigliotti, Penelope Hartman, Leilani Knight, Lilah McCaughey, Avery McDonald, Serenity Risley, June Robinson, Annika Singh, Victoria Spina, Anina Uzupis, Madison Vichko, Ella Walker
Sugar Plum Pixies . . . . .	Pixie Prince: Austin Vrtaric Pixie Princess: Mia Boland Pixies: Ella Adamczyk, Stella Boland, Kinley Costello, Delaney DePrince, Hadley Hankins, Eliana Kampe, Keira Kiel, Gianna LaBella, Claire Leonard, Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany

### **The Divertissements**

<i>Choreography - Christina Castro, Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro</i>	
Spanish . . . . .	Leads: Sophie Eren, Brooke Goldberg Corps: Brooke Beach, Ava Sophie Boland, Katie Carpenter, Paige Gilton, Emily Moonay, Sarah Rehbit
Arabian . . . . .	Leads: Elyse Boom, Maggie Manley, Lily Sterkel Corps: Ella Bailey, Gianna Calantoni, Kelley Carroll, Cassidy Costello, Brin Markey, Kylie Michael, Juliette Young
Chinese . . . . .	Leads: Alli Carpenter, Kaylin Kampe, Elizabeth Marsden, Annabelle Swayze Corps: Maelyn Coons, Reagan Dinneen, Evelyn Harmon, Abby Herbert, Mya Marota, Sophia Nesta, Julia Perri, Giuliana Puglisi, Simone Weisberg, Catie Wojcik
Candy Canes . . . . .	Leads: Ava Candela, Katie Carpenter, Emily Moonay Corps: Lila Garberina, Maggie Leonard, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither, Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider

Marzipan . . . . . Leads: Ava Sophie Boland, Erin Flatley,  
Brooke Goldberg, Annie Scheese  
Corps: Brooke Beach, Rachel Bressler,  
Alli Carpenter, Paige Gilton, Kaylin Kampe,  
Annabelle Swayze, Geeta Vinnakota

Polchinelles . . . . . Mother Ginger: Jeff Goldberg  
Polichinelles: Lyla Innes, Charlotte Farrell,  
Brielle Beach, Mia Boland, Chiara Borchert,  
Chantelle Borchert, Isabella Kampe,  
Eleanor Manley, Audrina Pitonyak

### **Waltz of the Flowers**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy, Jaime Santoro*

Dew Drop . . . . . Madison Pape

Demi-Dews . . . . . Ava Candela, Erin Flatley,  
Annie Scheese, Lily Sterkel

Flower Petals . . . . . Elyse Bloom, Ava Sophie Boland, Alli Carpenter,  
Katie Carpenter, Sophie Eren, Brooke Goldberg,  
Kaylin Kampe, Maggie Manley, Emily Moonay,  
Julia Paccapaniccia, Molly Swayze,  
Annabelle Swayze

Flower Corps . . . . . Brooke Beach, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey,  
Bella Escobar, Lila Garberina, Maggie Leonard,  
Elizabeth Marsden, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither,  
Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider

Flower Leaves . . . . . Lucy Allen, Sydney Feltz, Rachel Bressler,  
Anna Gray, Ella McCormick, Olivia Strouse,  
Geeta Vinnakota

### **The Grand Pas de Deux**

Sugar Plum Fairy . . . . . Marina Profy  
Cavalier . . . . . James Felton



**Finale**



# *The Yardley Youth Ballet*

*In Affiliation with Dance Arts of Yardley  
presents*

# *The Nutcracker*

Saturday • December 16, 2023

Curtain Time 3:30 p.m.

*Please silence your cell phones. No photography, or videography  
is permitted during the performance by audience members.*

## **ACT I**

### **The Party Scene**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy*

Clara.....	Molly Scheese
Fritz .....	Eve Markey
Mrs. Stahlbaum.....	Sofia Garberina
Mr. Stahlbaum .....	Michael Scheese
Maid.....	Julia Schuman
Drosselmeyer .....	Matt Garberina
Nephew/Young Prince.....	Cole Swayze
Soldier Doll.....	Emily Moonay
Ballerina Doll .....	Annie Scheese
Nutcracker.....	Julia Paccapaniccia
Rat King.....	Sophie Eren
Snow Queen .....	Erin Flatley
Sugar Plum Fairy .....	Marina Profy
Cavalier .....	James Felton

Party Parents ..... Wives: Christine Beach, Lynette Belardo,  
Kim Kampe, Heather Manley  
Husbands: Chris Boyle, Jeff Goldberg,  
Brian Joniak, Michael Rizzo

Party Children ..... Ella Adamczyk, Brielle Beach,  
Chiara Borchert, Chantelle Borchert,  
Charlotte Farrell, Isabella Kampe, Keira Kiel,  
Gianna LaBella, Claire Leonard, Eleanor Manley,  
Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany, Audrina Pitonyak,  
Guiliana Puglisi, Julia Smith, Austin Vrtaric

### **The Battle Scene**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy*

Mice ..... Lead Mice: Claire MacLean, Collette Reiss  
Mice: Josie Boland, Kora Broussard,  
Reese Doto, McKenna Goulet, Claire Herman,  
Margot Holloway, Juliette Holloway, Clare Karpink,  
Caroline Kasper, Emily Ritter,  
Lily Samson, Maeve Wolf

Rat King ..... Sophie Eren

Rats ..... Ava Sophie Boland, Rachel Bressler,  
Alli Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Ava Garberina,  
Kaylin Kampe, Emily Moonay, Jessica Joniak,  
Geeta Vinnakota

Red Soldiers ..... Ester Broussard, Brynn Coleman,  
Ellie Fantazier, Charlotte Farrell, Jada Fortunato,  
Gia Gallo, Claire Leonard, Daenerys McBride,  
Piper Muller, Grace Rabe, Julia Strouse,  
Avery Vichko

Blue Soldiers ..... Chantelle Borchert, Chiara Borchert,  
Paisley Bryan, Olivia Cumberland, Hazel De Santis,  
Violette Hausner, Kensington Keller, Gemma Kemp,  
Sophie Pearson, Julia Smith, Scarlet Swirble,  
Austin Vrtaric

## **The Land of Snow**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro*

### **Waltz of the Snowflakes**

Snow Queen .....	Erin Flatley
Snow Princesses .....	Ava Candela, Brooke Goldberg, Maggie Manley, Madison Pape, Annie Scheese, Lily Sterkel
Snowflakes .....	Elyse Bloom, Ava Sophie Boland, Alli Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Sophie Eren, Kaylin Kampe, Emily Moonay, Julia Paccapaniccia, Jessica Joniak, Annabelle Swayze
Snow Corps.....	Brooke Beach, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Bella Escobar, Lila Garberina, Maggie Leonard, Elizabeth Marsden, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither, Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider
Snow Flurries .....	Lead Flurry: Anna Gray Snow Flurries: Lucy Allen, Ella Bailey, Gianna Calantoni, Kelley Carroll, Cassidy Costello, Sydney Feltz, Ella McCormick, Kylie Michael, Olivia Strouse, Simone Weisberg, Catie Wojcik, Juliette Young

*Intermission 15 minutes*

## **ACT II**

### **The Land of the Sweets**

Sugar Plum Fairy .....	Marina Profy
Cavalier .....	James Felton

Angels ..... Aria Adamczyk, Ellie Brecko, Elizabeth Britton, Adeline Gigliotti, Penelope Hartman, Leilani Knight, Lilah McCaughey, Avery McDonald, Serenity Risley, June Robinson, Annika Singh, Victoria Spina, Anina Uzupis, Madison Vichko, Ella Walker

Sugar Plum Pixies ..... Pixie Prince: Austin Vrtaric  
Pixie Princess: Lyla Innes  
Pixies: Ella Adamczyk, Stella Boland, Kinley Costello, Delaney DePrince, Hadley Hankins, Eliana Kampe, Keira Kiel, Gianna LaBella, Claire Leonard, Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany

### **The Divertissements**

*Choreography - Christina Castro, Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro*

Spanish ..... Leads: Sophie Eren, Brooke Goldberg  
Corps: Brooke Beach, Ava Sophie Boland, Katie Carpenter, Paige Gilton, Emily Moonay, Sarah Rehbit

Arabian ..... Leads: Elyse Boom, Maggie Manley, Lily Sterkel  
Corps: Ella Bailey, Gianna Calantoni, Kelley Carroll, Cassidy Costello, Brin Markey, Kylie Michael, Juliette Young

Chinese ..... Leads: Alli Carpenter, Kaylin Kampe, Elizabeth Marsden, Annabelle Swayze  
Corps: Maelyn Coons, Reagan Dinneen, Evelyn Harmon, Abby Herbert, Mya Marota, Sophia Nesta, Julia Perri, Guiliana Puglisi, Simone Weisberg, Catie Wojcik

Candy Canes ..... Leads: Jessica Joniak, Katie Carpenter, Emily Moonay  
Corps: Lila Garberina, Maggie Leonard, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither, Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider

Marzipan ..... Leads: Ava Sophie Boland, Erin Flatley, Brooke Goldberg, Madison Pape

Corps: Brooke Beach, Rachel Bressler,  
Alli Carpenter, Paige Gilton, Kaylin Kampe,  
Annabelle Swayze, Geeta Vinnakota

Polchinelles ..... Mother Ginger: Jeff Goldberg  
Polchinelles: Eve Markey, Julia Smith, Brielle Beach,  
Mia Boland, Chiara Borchert, Chantelle Borchert,  
Isabella Kampe, Eleanor Manley, Audrina Pitonyak

### **Waltz of the Flowers**

*Choreography - Rachel Levy, Jaime Santoro*

Dew Drop ..... Annie Scheese  
Demi-Dews ..... Ava Candela, Erin Flatley,  
Madison Pape, Lily Sterkel  
Flower Petals ..... Elyse Bloom, Ava Sophie Boland,  
Alli Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Sophie Eren,  
Brooke Goldberg, Kaylin Kampe, Maggie Manley,  
Emily Moonay, Julia Paccapaniccia,  
Jessica Joniak, Annabelle Swayze  
Flower Corps ..... Brooke Beach, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey,  
Bella Escobar, Lila Garberina, Maggie Leonard,  
Elizabeth Marsden, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither,  
Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider  
Flower Leaves ..... Lucy Allen, Sydney Feltz, Rachel Bressler,  
Anna Gray, Ella McCormick,  
Olivia Strouse, Geeta Vinnakota

### **The Grand Pas de Deux**

Sugar Plum Fairy ..... Marina Profy  
Cavalier ..... James Felton

### **Finale**



# ~ Guest Artists ~



## **JAMES FELTON II**

Michigan native James Felton II is a New York based Dancer, Choreographer, and PBT™ certified Teaching Artist. James trained at the Flint School of Performing Arts and spent his summers at Grand Rapids Ballet and Collage Dance Collective before receiving his BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography from Western Michigan University in 2021. Since graduating, James has appeared as a Company Artist with Confluence Ballet, Ballet Theatre Company, and most recently Eglevsky Ballet. James' repertoire includes works by Amy Hall Garner, Darrel Moultrie, Jennifer Archibald, Gabrielle Lamb, Durante Verzola, Mike Ezperanza, George Balanchine and more. James has appeared as a guest artist with City Ballet of Boston, Dimensional Dance, Playhouse On Park Theatre, Flint Institute of Music, in addition to projects with Seyong Kim. Utilizing his extensive training in ballet, modern, and jazz, James's dynamic choreographic voice has been invited to perform for Detroit Dance City Festival, Kalamazoo Pride, Ballet Theatre Company in addition to numerous schools and theaters throughout the Midwest and New England. When James isn't dancing he enjoys spending quality time with his roommates and cat, Louie.



## **MARINA PROFY**

Marina grew up in Pennsylvania where she began her dance training with Dance Arts of Yardley. She continued her professional training at the Rock School for Dance Education with a full scholarship under direction of Bo and Stephanie Spassoff. Marina has performed numerous featured roles and solo variations as a student in the Rock School's galas and festivals. She has performed various roles in The Nutcracker, including Arabian Princess, Dew Drop Fairy, Snow Queen, and the Sugar Plum Fairy. Marina has competed in the international Youth America Grand Prix Ballet Competition (YAGP) and earned top placements in each of the last four years for both her classical and contemporary solos. She earned a finalist placement at the YAGP Philadelphia regionals in both 2020 and 2021. Upon graduation Marina danced professionally with First State Ballet Theatre in Delaware and Nashville Ballet's Second company. Marina has now joined United Ballet Theatre for their 2023-2024 season. When Marina is in the area she loves sharing her knowledge of dance while teaching classes at Dance Arts of Yardley!

# *Yardley Youth Ballet Choreographers*

**CHRISTINA CASTRO** has a BA in dance from Point Park University. She has also completed the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet's teacher training seminar. Miss Christina has performed with Ballet Classico of Havana Cuba and the Colorado Ballet, along with numerous other Modern and Ballet Companies. Miss Christina has been teaching for nearly 15 years. She has taught all levels of Ballet, Pointe, Modern and Jazz. She has served as an adjunct faculty for Ballet at Brenau University, Gainesville GA, and a principal teacher at the Gainesville School of Ballet. Miss Christina served as the Jr. company director for the Gainesville Ballet Company, GA where she was responsible for staging, choreographing and rehearsing an annual Nutcracker and Spring Concert, among other works. Miss Christina is currently pursuing a Masters of Fine Arts in Dance at Temple University.

**RACHEL LEVY** earned her B.F.A. in Jazz Dance Performance from the University of the Arts. And received the Promising Artist Award from 2001-2006. She has studied ballet extensively with Princeton Ballet School's Professional Training Program and performed with the American Repertory Ballet's pre-company. Miss Rachel's performance experience includes various shows at the Meriam Theatre, including a piece by Roni Koresh. Most recently she has danced in numerous projects for MTV including the VMAs and MTV's New Year's Special as a back-up dancer for Snoop Dog, Ja Rule, Green Day and Kelly Clarkson. She has been instructing Ballet and Jazz for students in the Philadelphia area.

**MELISSA PROFY** is the owner/director of D.A.Y. She has had over 20 years of teaching and professional dance experience. She has trained with former stars of the American Ballet Theatre, the Pennsylvania Ballet, and others. Miss Melissa was a principal dancer with the Atlantic Contemporary Ballet Theatre, Ballet Theatre of Miami, and Ballet South of New Jersey. She also performed as a dancer and ice-skater in 'Glitter' at Trump's Castle in Atlantic City. She has instructed all ages and levels of dance. From 1989 - 1992, Miss Melissa served as the Artistic Director of the Eastern Youth Ballet of New Jersey. Her choreography has won first place awards in nationally recognized dance competitions. Miss Melissa has had students accepted into the prestigious summer programs of the School of American Ballet, the North Carolina School of the Arts, American Repertory Ballet, and The Rock School of the Pennsylvania Ballet. Moreover, some of these students are now performing with professional ballet companies.

**SAKIE HACHIYA** was born in Tokyo, Japan and began her Classic Ballet training at the young age of 3 in Japan, where she received disciplined, intense and high quality training and performed with many ballet schools, performing principal and soloist roles. Sakie also graduated from the Showa Ballet School for Performing Arts, and went on to work with Inoue Ballet, where she continued to perform featured roles from the classical repertoire. It was at this time that she also began to teach at Ballet Schools and was responsible for teaching, choreographing and stage managing for Ballet School Performances, and was coaching students for competitions. Sakie then moved to New York City in 2011, where she worked for Staten Island Ballet and Felice Lesser Dance Theater, and worked as a guest dancer for Vangeline Theater, Great Neck Ballet School and Aika Ballet. She also performed for and worked with New Contemporary Ballet Project (Principal role) and The Next Stage Project for The Sandy Relief Benefit. She was also teaching Classic Ballet at Ballet Schools and Dance Schools in New York, at the same time, and has a track record of inspiring a love for Ballet in her students, by passionately teaching a high quality lesson and correct techniques.

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