

THE NUTCRACKER



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

December 21, 2025



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*

Production Support: *Heather Manley*

Backstage Manager: *Lauren Dowling*

Scenery/Lighting: *Villa Victoria Academy*

Costume Stylist/Designer: *Melissa Profy*

Rehearsal Directors: *Maddie Conner, Sakie Hachiya,
Rachel Levy, Marina Profy*

Program Design: *Cathy Lautenbacher*

Video and Photography: *Editing Life Video - Matt Buerhaus*

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Synopsis:

ACT I

In a small German town in a time long ago, Herr Stahlbaum and his wife are hosting a Christmas Eve 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 Rat King 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 handsome 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 Polichinelles (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.

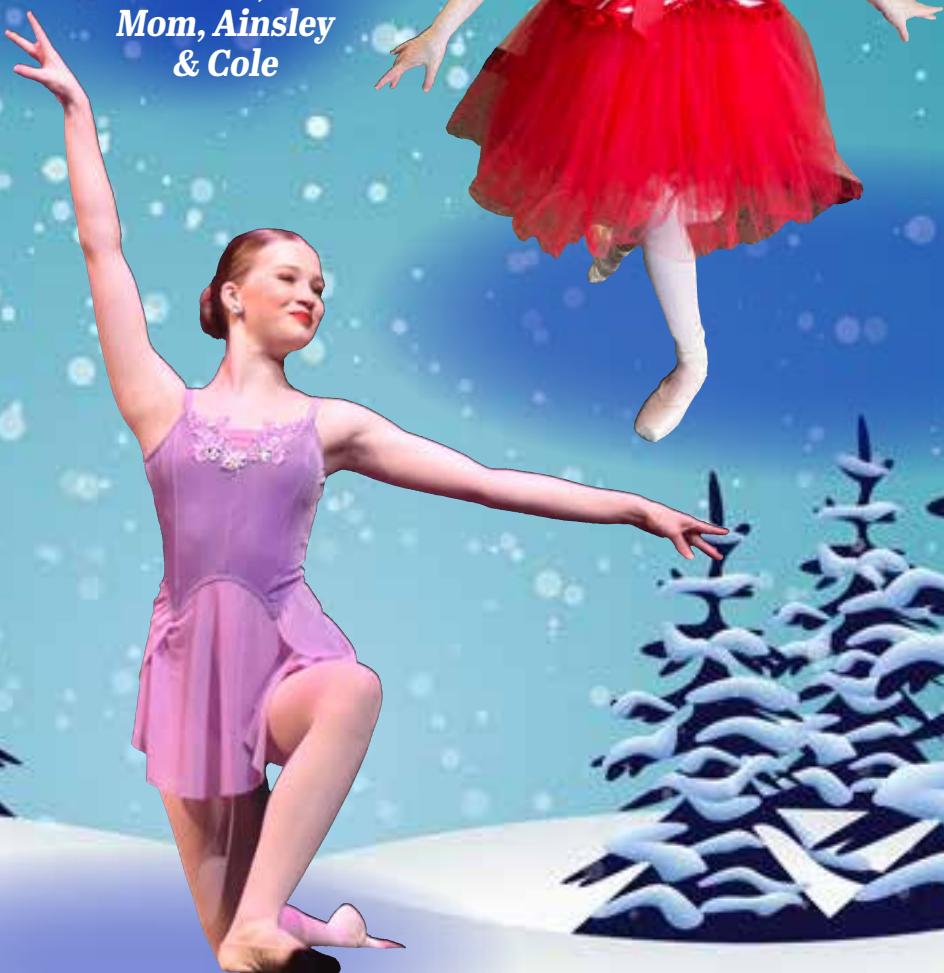
The End

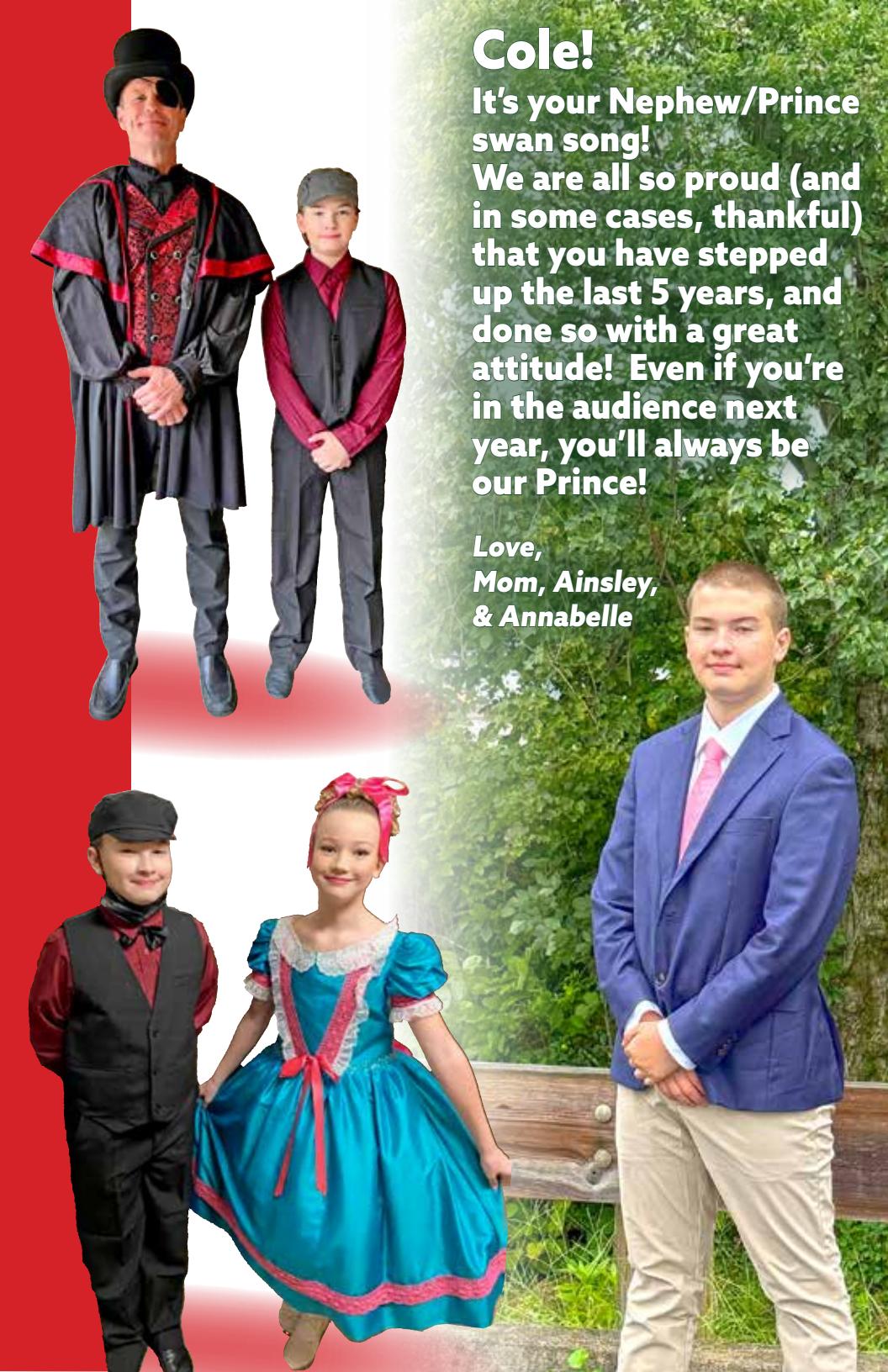
**To our Pixie Princess Gabby:
We love watching you shine on stage and
we are incredibly proud of the wonderful
dancer you are becoming. Keep up the
fantastic work! Love Mom, Dad and Gianna**



Annabelle,
From mouse to Marzipan,
we are so proud of all
you've accomplished! We
are constantly astounded
by how you handle an
incredible workload and
still remain kind and
helpful to others! You are
our favorite Snowflake!

*Love,
Mom, Ainsley
& Cole*





Cole!

**It's your Nephew/Prince
swan song!
We are all so proud (and
in some cases, thankful)
that you have stepped
up the last 5 years, and
done so with a great
attitude! Even if you're
in the audience next
year, you'll always be
our Prince!**

*Love,
Mom, Ainsley,
& Annabelle*



GRACE

Rabe

TO OUR BLUE-TIFUL SOLDIER -

YOUR NUTCRACKER
PERFORMANCE WAS
PURE MAGIC!

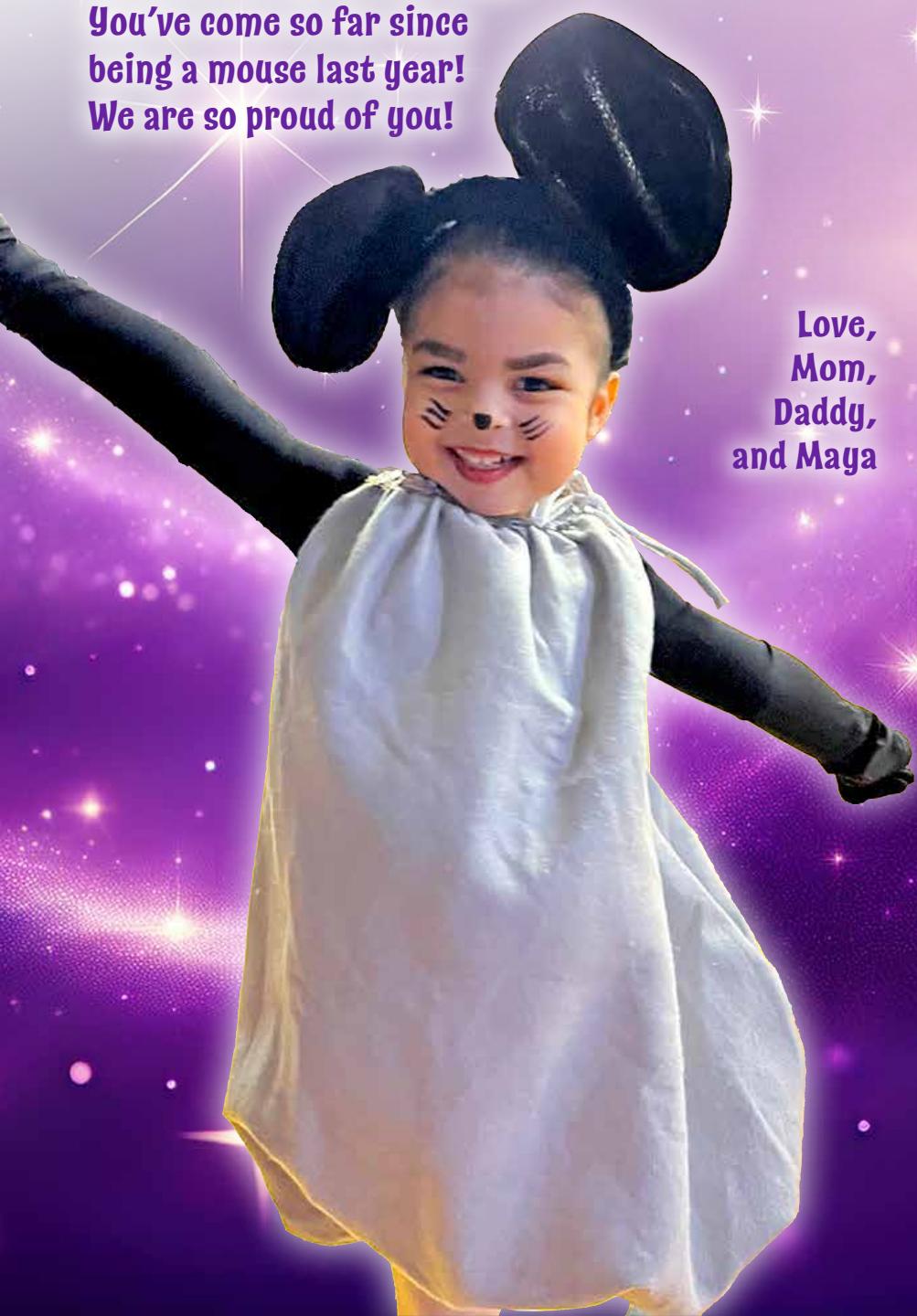
LOVE, MOM, DAD & MADELYN



Lilith:

**You will always be our star!
You've come so far since
being a mouse last year!
We are so proud of you!**

**Love,
Mom,
Daddy,
and Maga**



Lili!!!

**You are so
special to us!
We will always
love you and
are so excited
to watch you
grow!**

**Ainsley, Annabelle
and Cole**



Ava Sophie, Mia, Stella, and Josie:

As you step onto the stage for another Nutcracker performance, know that our hearts are filled with pride. Your dedication, grace, and passion shine through every performance. Enjoy and continue chasing your dreams and putting in the work to make them come true. We love you all!





SARAH,

Watching you grow as a
dancer and a person has
been a joy for all of us

We are so proud of you!!

Keep working hard and
shining on stage.

All our love - Mom, Dad, and
the whole crew

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www.danceartsofyardley.com

The Yardley Youth Ballet

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presents

The Nutcracker

Saturday • December 21, 2025

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	Maggie Leonard
Fritz	Delaney DePrince
Mrs. Stahlbaum	Heather Manley
Mr. Stahlbaum	Michael Scheese
Maid	Eszter Harsanyi
Drosselmeyer	Steven Smith
Nephew/Young Prince	Cole Swayze
Soldier Doll	Molly Scheese
Ballerina Doll	Ava Sophie Boland
Harlequin Doll	Mia Boland
Nutcracker	Julia Paccapaniccia
Rat King	Emily Moonay
Snow Queen	Annie Scheese
Sugar Plum Fairy	Maddie Conner
Cavalier	An Phan

Party Parents Wives: Christine Beach, Kim Kampe,
Amanda Schopfer, Ashleigh Swayze
Husbands: Chris Boyle, Jeff Goldberg,
Brian Joniak, Michael Rizzo

Party Children Party Girls: Ella Adamczyk, Aria Adamczyk,
Stella Boland, Hadley Hankins, Eliana Kampe,
Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany,
Abby Powell, Juliana Zynch
Party Boys: Ellie Brecko, Sofia Guarnieri,
Penelope Hartman, Keira Kiel, Ella Merksamer,
Olivia Morris, Piper Muller, Molly Schopfer,
Scarlet Swirble

The Battle Scene

Choreography - Rachel Levy

Mice Lead Mice: Allegra Clinton, Vivienne Mooney
Mice: Mia Carr, Margo Clancy, Viona Gujar,
Lucy Lastinger, Greta Mancuso,
Theresa McCarthy, Nadiya Shah

Rats Sarah Agajanian, Kelley Carroll,
Eszter Harsanyi, Abby Herbert, Sophia Nesta,
Isabella Scaccetti, Maria Smith,
Simone Weisberg, Juliet Young

Red Soldiers Juliette Allen, Stella Boland, Elizabeth Britton, Paisley Bryan, Delaney DePrince, Hazel DeSantis, Adeline Gigliotti, Adeline Price, Colette Reiss, Calliope Sodano, Finley Szathmary, Savannah Torrente

Blue Soldiers Eliana Kampe, Lilah McCaughey, Abby Powell,
Grace Rabe, Amelia Reiss, Victoria Spina,
Scarlet Swirble, Emerson Szathmary,
Anina Uzupis, Madison Vichko,
Ava Williams, Juliana Zynch

The Land of Snow

Choreography - Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro

Waltz of the Snowflakes

Snow Queen	Annie Scheese
Snow Princesses	Maggie Manley, Ava Sophie Boland, Brooke Goldberg, Jessica Joniak, Madison Pape, Lily Sterkel
Snowflakes	Alli Carpenter, Ava Garberina, Elizabeth Marsden, Bernadette Merksamer, Emily Moonay, Julia Paccapaniccia, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither, Molly Scheese, Annabelle Swayze
Snow Corps	Eleanor Manley, Brielle Beach, Mia Boland, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Elizabeth Corte, Lila Garberina, Lyla Innes, Clara Merksamer, Audrina Pitonyak, Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider
Snow Flurries	Ella Adamczyk, Chiara Borchert, Chantelle Borchert, Aubrey Camp, Kelley Carroll, Maelyn Coons, Gianna LaBella, Angelina Merksamer, Maddie Mocarski, Julia Perri, Julia Smith

Intermission 15 minutes

ACT II

The Land of the Sweets

Sugar Plum Fairy	Maddie Conner
Cavalier	An Phan

Night Stars	Josie Boland, Elizabeth Figueroa, Cecilia Gigliotti, Magnolia Heilig, Reagan Loeper, Marlowe Szathmary
Angels	<i>Choreography – Rachel Levy</i> Kasey Cartlidge, Harper Dougherty, Julia Dowling, McKenna Goulet, Mary Figueroa, Claire Herman, Cecelia Hosler, Clare Karpink, Caroline Kasper, Lillian Kimtis, Annabelle Lastinger, Claire MacLean, Avery Potteiger, Ava Quirk, Ellie Zaba
Sugar Plum Pixies	Pixie Princess: Gabby McAnany Pixies: Aria Adamczyk, Ellie Brecko, Sofia Guarnieri, Penelope Hartman, Ella Merksamer, Olivia Morris, Piper Muller, Molly Schopfer, Calliope Sodano, Savannah Torrente, Juliana Zynch

The Divertissements

<i>Choreography - Christina Castro, Rachel Levy, Melissa Profy, Jaime Santoro</i>	
Spanish	Leads: Jessica Joniak, Brooke Goldberg Corps: Brielle Beach, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Alli Carpenter, Eszter Harsanyi, Juliet Young
Arabian	Leads: Maggie Manley, Emily Moonay, Annie Scheese Corps: Juliette Allen, Aubrey Camp, Gia Gallo, Marissa Kelley, Gianna LaBella, Angelina Merksamer, Maddie Mocarski, Julia Perri, Maria Smith, Avery Vichko
Chinese	Soloist: Elizabeth Marsden Leads: Ava Garberina, Lyla Innes, Bernadette Merksamer, Cara Rizzo Chinese Corps: Ester Broussard, Jada Fortunato, Sophie Grenier, Gianna Martin, Daenerys McBride, Charlotte McElfatrick, Macey Moyer, Alex Whiteside

Candy Canes	Leads: Mia Boland, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither Corps: Megan Carey, Elizabeth Corte, Lila Garberina, Clara Merksamer, Audrina Pitonyak, Lillee Schneider
Marzipan	Soloist: Lily Sterkel Leads: Ava Sophie Boland, Alli Carpenter, Molly Scheese, Annabelle Swayze Marzipan Corps: Sarah Agajanian, Chiara Borchert, Chantelle Borchert, Kelley Carroll, Abby Herbert, Isabella Scaccetti, Simone Weisberg
Polchinelles	Mother Ginger: Jeff Goldberg Polchinelles: Stella Boland, Ella Adamczyk, Brooklyn Camp, Delaney DePrince, Hadley Hankins, Eliana Kampe, Keira Kiel, Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany, Julia Smith, Scarlet Swirble

Waltz of the Flowers

Choreography - Rachel Levy, Jaime Santoro

Dew Drop	Madison Pape
Demi-Dews	Jessica Joniak, Maggie Manley, Annie Scheese, Lily Sterkel
Flower Petals	Brooke Goldberg, Ava Sophie Boland, Alli Carpenter, Ava Garberina, Elizabeth Marsden, Bernadette Merksamer, Emily Moonay, Julia Paccapaniccia, Sarah Rehbit, Maddie Reither, Molly Scheese, Annabelle Swayze
Flower Corps	Eleanor Manley, Brielle Beach, Mia Boland, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Elizabeth Corte, Lila Garberina, Lyla Innes, Clara Merksamer, Audrina Pitonyak, Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider

Flower Leaves Sarah Agajanian, Eszter Harsanyi,
Abby Herbert, Sophia Nesta,
Isabella Scaccetti, Maria Smith,
Simone Weisberg, Juliet Young

The Grand Pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy Maddie Conner
Cavalier An Phan

Finale



The Yardley Youth Ballet

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The Nutcracker

Saturday • December 21, 2025

Curtain Time 3:30 p.m.

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is permitted during the performance by audience members.*

ACT I

The Party Scene

Choreography - Rachel Levy

Clara	Eleanor Manley
Fritz	Brooklyn Camp
Mrs. Stahlbaum	Heather Manley
Mr. Stahlbaum	Michael Scheese
Maid	Ava Garberina
Drosselmeyer	Steven Smith
Nephew/Young Prince	Cole Swayze
Soldier Doll	Annabelle Swayze
Ballerina Doll	Emily Moonay
Harlequin Doll	Mia Boland
Nutcracker	Julia Paccapaniccia
Rat King	Emily Moonay
Snow Queen	Maggie Manley
Sugar Plum Fairy	Maddie Conner
Cavalier	An Phan

Party Parents Wives: Christine Beach, Kim Kampe,
Tricia Borchert, Monica Weisberg
Husbands: Sam Merksamer, Jeff Goldberg,
Brian Joniak, Michael Rizzo

Party Children Party Girls: Ella Adamczyk, Aria Adamczyk,
Stella Boland, Hadley Hankins, Eliana Kampe,
Maezi Marota, Gabby McAnany,
Abby Powell, Juliana Zinych
Party Boys: Ellie Brecko, Sofia Guarnieri,
Penelope Hartman, Keira Kiel,
Ella Merksamer, Olivia Morris,
Piper Muller, Molly Schopfer,
Scarlet Swirble

The Battle Scene

Choreography - Rachel Levy

Mice Lead Mice: Allegra Clinton, Vivienne Mooney
Mice: Kiera Brennan, Emily Dowling,
Louisa Hosler, Forrest Lowe,
Violet Lowe, Ella Quirk

Rat King Emily Moonay

Rats Sarah Agajanian, Kelley Carroll, Eszter Harsanyi,
Abby Herbert, Sophia Nesta, Isabella Scaccetti,
Maria Smith, Simone Weisberg, Juliet Young

Red Soldiers Juliette Allen, Stella Boland, Elizabeth Britton,
Paisley Bryan, Delaney DePrince, Hazel DeSantis,
Adeline Gigliotti, Adeline Price, Colette Reiss,
Calliope Sodano, Finley Szathmary,
Savannah Torrente

Blue Soldiers Eliana Kampe, Lilah McCaughey,
Abby Powell, Grace Rabe, Amelia Reiss,
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Emerson Szathmary, Anina Uzupis,
Madison Vichko, Ava Williams,
Juliana Zinych

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Waltz of the Snowflakes

Snow Queen	Maggie Manley
Snow Princesses	Annie Scheese, Ava Sophie Boland, Brooke Goldberg, Jessica Joniak, Madison Pape, Lily Sterkel
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Snow Corps.....	Maggie Leonard, Brielle Beach, Mia Boland, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Elizabeth Corte, Lila Garberina, Lyla Innes, Clara Merksamer, Audrina Pitonyak, Cara Rizzo, Lillee Schneider
Snow Flurries	Ella Adamczyk, Chiara Borchert, Chantelle Borchert, Aubrey Camp, Kelley Carroll, Maelyn Coons, Gianna LaBella, Angelina Merksamer, Maddie Mocarski, Julia Perri, Julia Smith

Intermission 15 minutes

ACT II

The Land of the Sweets

Sugar Plum Fairy	Maddie Conner
Cavalier	An Phan

Night Stars	Amelia Andrews, Josie Merksamer, Hannah O'Shaughnessy, Dara Rawal, Maeve Wolf, Lilith Woods
Angels	Kasey Cartlidge, Harper Dougherty, Julia Dowling, McKenna Goulet, Mary Figueroa, Claire Herman, Cecelia Hosler, Clare Karpink, Caroline Kasper, Lillian Kimtis, Annabelle Lastinger, Claire MacLean, Avery Potteiger, Ava Quirk, Ellie Zaba
Sugar Plum Pixies	Pixie Princess: Brooklyn Camp Pixies: Aria Adamczyk, Ellie Brecko, Sofia Guarnieri, Penelope Hartman, Ella Merksamer, Olivia Morris, Piper Muller, Molly Schopfer, Calliope Sodano, Savannah Torrente, Juliana Zynch

The Divertissements

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

Spanish	Leads: Jessica Joniak, Madison Pape Corps: Brielle Beach, Lexi Boyle, Megan Carey, Alli Carpenter, Eszter Harsanyi, Juliet Young
Arabian	Leads: Maggie Manley, Emily Moonay, Annie Scheese Corps: Juliette Allen, Aubrey Camp, Gia Gallo, Marissa Kelley, Gianna LaBella, Angelina Merksamer, Maddie Mocarski, Julia Perri, Maria Smith, Avery Vichko
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Choreography - Rachel Levy, Jaime Santoro

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Flower Leaves Sarah Agajanian, Eszter Harsanyi,
Abby Herbert, Sophia Nesta, Isabella Scaccetti,
Maria Smith, Simone Weisberg, Juliet Young

The Grand Pas de Deux

Sugar Plum Fairy Maddie Conner
Cavalier An Phan



~ Guest Artists ~



Sugar Plum Fairy

MADDIE CONNER began her dance training at Dance Arts of Yardley at the age of three, eventually progressing into a senior competition dancer studying Jazz, Ballet, and Hip-Hop. Throughout her competitive career, she participated in numerous regional and tri-state area competitions where she earned multiple First Overall placements, Special Judges' Awards, and Title recognitions for her performances. In

addition to her achievements as a performer, Miss Maddie has also been recognized for her choreography—earning several First Overall awards for pieces she created for Dance Arts of Yardley. Miss Maddie went on to train full-time at The Rock School for Dance Education in Philadelphia, completing both her academic studies and dance training before graduating in 2020. She has furthered her education through summer intensive programs with The Rock School for Dance Education, Pennsylvania Ballet, and Orlando Ballet School in Jacksonville, FL. Her performance experience includes featured roles in Rock School galas and special productions, as well as guest artist appearances with Yardley Youth Ballet Company performing as the Snow Queen and the Sugar Plum Fairy. She has also competed solo variations at the prestigious Youth America Grand Prix international ballet competition. Miss Maddie has been teaching for several years and has experience instructing all styles and levels. She enjoys sharing her love of dance with students at Dance Arts of Yardley and other area schools, inspiring the next generation of dancers with her passion. She is so excited to be returning to the stage for this year's performance of The Nutcracker!



Cavalier

AN PHAN started dancing at the age of nine at Honolulu Dance Studio. He spent his last three years of high school at Interlochen Arts Academy training under Joseph Morrissey. During his time at Interlochen, An performed principal roles in full-length ballets including The Nutcracker, The Sleeping Beauty, and Swan Lake. He's also performed in smaller excerpts from Le Corsaire, Giselle, La Sylphide, Raymonda, and Paquita. He joined the School of Philadelphia Ballet as a trainee in 2022. An has received third place at the YAGP

Chicago Semi-finals (2019), first place at the YAGP Pittsburgh Semi-finals (2020), and first place at the YAGP Philadelphia Semi-finals (2023), where he advanced to the final round at YAGP Finals in Tampa. An has performed as a principal guest artist with the Japan International Youth Ballet, City Ballet of Houston, Phoenix Ballet, Chicago International Dance Festival, Pennsylvania Ballet Academy, and Philadelphia Charter School Ballet.

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.