

Lexington Dance Factory
PRESENTS

THE
Nutcracker



EKU CENTER FOR THE ARTS
RICHMOND, KY

Saturday, December 13, 2025
12:00 PM & 5:30 PM

The Nutcracker Story

The Nutcracker Ballet is based on the story "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice" written by E.T.A. Hoffman in 1816. It is the story of a young German girl who dreams of a Nutcracker Prince and a fierce battle against a Mouse King.

The Party Scene: It is Christmas Eve at the Stahlbaum house. The Stahlbaums are hosting their annual Christmas party. The children, Clara and Fritz, are dancing and playing as friends arrive. The party grows festive with music and dance as godfather Drosselmeyer and his nephew arrive. Drosselmeyer places a magic spell on Clara and his nephew as he plans Clara's magical adventure. Drosselmeyer draws everyone's attention as he presents life-size dolls. They are the delight of the party, each taking a turn to dance. The children begin to open gifts when Drosselmeyer presents his gifts to the Stahlbaum children. The girls love their presents, but Fritz is very jealous of Clara's special Nutcracker doll. So he decides to take it from her in a great tug of war that leaves the Nutcracker in pieces. Thankfully Godfather Drosselmeyer magically puts it back together and Clara and Drosselmeyer's nephew dance a special dance together. As the evening grows late, the guests depart and the Stahlbaum family retires for the evening. Clara, thinking of her beloved Nutcracker, sneaks to find him and falls asleep with him in her arms.

The Fight Scene: As the clock strikes midnight strange things begin to happen. Clara begins shrinking as her beautiful Christmas tree grows high above her. The toys around the tree come to life while the room fills with an army of mice, led by the fierce Rat King. The Rat King corners the Nutcracker and battles him one-on-one. After a fierce battle, with a final blow from the Nutcracker Prince, the Rat King is finally defeated!

The Land of Snow: The Nutcracker Doll turns into Drosselmeyer's nephew who is secretly the Nutcracker Prince. The Prince takes Clara on a journey to the Land of Snow, an enchanted forest wonderland where they are welcomed by the Guardian Angel and her Snow Angels. After watching the beautiful snowflakes dance, Clara joins them and then receives a beautiful crown from the Snow Queen.

The Land of Sweets: The Prince then escorts Clara to the Land of Sweets where they are greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy. The Prince tells her about their daring battle with the army of mice and she rewards them with Sweets and Treats from all over the world.

- The Angels
- Lollipop Princess and her Lollipops
- Peppermint Princess and her Mints
- Gumdrops
- Chocolate from Spain
- Tea from China
- Russian Trepak
- Coffee From Arabia
- Mother Ginger and her Polichinelles
- The Dance of the Toy Flutes
- Sugar Plum and her Cavalier
- The Waltz of Flowers

Clara awakens from her dream and finds herself by the Christmas tree with her beloved Nutcracker.



Creative Team

Executive Director

Lindsay Roberts

Choreographers

Mara Babb

Melanie Biggs

Dani Dunmire

Melissa Goble

Lauren Harshbarger

Grace Lyon

Leah Copley Summers

A Heartfelt Thank You

We extend our deepest gratitude to the One Love Dance Company Board and Committees for the countless hours volunteered to ensure the success of The Nutcracker—including the school shows, school outreach, the mini camp, sponsorships, costumes, props, photography, ornaments, and all the behind-the-scenes magic.

Your dedication, leadership, and generosity make the high caliber of LDF programming, community service, and performance opportunities possible. We are profoundly grateful for each of you.

One Love Dance Company Board

Marissa Boelhauf

Kristen Brown

Jennifer Brumagen

Kati Ellis

Vanessa Fletcher

Heather Hartley

Jessica Henz

Hanna Hoch

Brianna Legg

Kerri Montgomery

Katie Pridemore

Cassie Smith

Pratusha Vallabhaneni

Leah Waataja

**The following committee members
surpassed committee expectations to serve
this year's show, our dancers, and our
community in an exceptional way.**

Sarah Blackerby
Leanna Bosarge
Barbie Carpenter
Rusty Carpenter
Angie Doyle
Bethany Estep
Andrea Fast
Eva Foster
Jonathan Greene
Amy Harshbarger
Tom Merideth
Emily Robinson
Danielle Starr
Abby Stover
Wendy Van Meter

Special Thank You to -

Richmond Baymont Inn and Suites
Eastern Kentucky University
Lexington Christian Academy

*The LCA choir will be performing in the Friday school show
and the Saturday noon show. They have 34 kids from their
4-5th grade elementary chorus performing. The director's
name is Arianne Johnson. Thank you for being a part of our
production!*

Nutcracker Sponsors

Thank you!!

Titanium Sponsors:

(our biggest sponsors for the ballet)

Rhea Lana of Lexington

Ellie at the Brokerage

Trash Pandas

Guardian Angel:

SumTax LLC & Asa Pham - Allstate

Ballerina Doll:

The Borntraeger Family

Grandparents:

The Tuttle Family

Butterflies:

The Hartley Family, The Williams Family

Lollipops:

The Robinson Family

Mints:

Sumtax LLC

Party Girls:

The Montgomery Family

Polichinelles:

The Hartley Family

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

ACT 1, SCENE 1- CLARA'S HOME

CLARA

ALLISON BRANHAM (CAST A), HADLEY ROBINSON (CAST B)

DROSSELMAYER'S NEPHEW

JOSEPH EDMONDS, JR.

DROSSELMAYER

TOM MERIDETH (CAST A), MATT HOCH (CAST B)

FRITZ

GONZALO CASTILLO-QUINTANA

CLARA'S MOM

ELLA SWANAGIN (CAST A), TAYLOR ADAMS (CAST B)

PARTY ADULTS

KEN HARSHBARGER, HANNA HOCH, MATT HOCH, TOM MERIDETH,
KRISTEN SPENCE, MIKE SWANAGIN, ARIANA SWENTZEL, BROCK
SWENTZEL, LEAH WAATAJA

MAIDS

CAROLINE GROTE; CAROLINE VAN METER

GRANDPARENTS

HAYLEY BEST; ADDISON TUTTLE

CLARA'S SISTERS

(CAST A)

KEIRA BOGGS, ADALYN LEE, KILEY SWENTZEL, ALEXIS TALBERT

(CAST B)

VICTORIA GATEWOOD, BROOKLYN MITCHELL, EMMERSYN
SHELTON, ABBY STIVERS

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

ACT 1, SCENE 1- CLARA'S HOME CONTINUED

PARTY BOYS

HENRY HOCH, IAN LEGG, GIANNI THORNBERRY, ASA WAATAJA,
JAMES YADEN

PARTY GIRLS

(CAST A)

MAELYNN BLACKERBY, LANEY CARPENTER, AUDREY COX, YULIANA
GOMEZ, RAEGAN GREENE, VIVIAN MERIDETH, SUTTON
MONTGOMERY, AVA MORGAN, HENLEY SARDAM, SAWYER SEWELL,
NOELLE SWENTZEL, ELIZABETH WAATAJA

(CAST B)

REEVES CLINKENBEARD, JULIANNE DAVIS, CALLIE MCGUIRE, SAKI
NISHINO, ADDISON PAYNE, ANSLEY RICKS, AAHANA SARMA, AROHI
SARMA, MILLY KATE STUMP

LITTLE MISS DOLLS

(CAST A)

PIPER CROUCH /LIVY DUNCAN

(CAST B)

BAILEY LEGG/KATIE BRUMAGEN

SOLDIER DOLL

MATTHEW FLETCHER

BALLERINA DOLL

KAMRYN BORNTAEGER

GYPSY DOLLS

KENDALL CARPENTER, KIKI BROWN, NORIAH ITOULA

ACT 1, SCENE 2- LATER THAT NIGHT

NUTCRACKER PRINCE

JOSEPH EDMONDS, JR.

RAT KING

SILAS ROBERTS

MICE

TANAY BASNETH, QUINN CAMIC, LAILA DELK, BRYNN FAST, MARGARET HOCH, LILIANA HUNT, SOPHIE MINER, HADLEY PASSAGE, FAITH SPENCE

SOLDIERS

KEIRA BOGGS, MATTHEW FLETCHER, VICTORIA GATEWOOD, NORIAH ITOULA, ADALYN LEE, BROOKLYN MITCHELL, TORI MUNDY, EMMERSYN SHELTON, KILEY SWENTZEL, ALEXIS TALBERT, LOVÉ THOMPSON

ACT 1, SCENE 3-LAND OF SNOW

GUARDIAN ANGEL

CHARLOTTE PHAM

SNOW ANGELS

KLAIRE BAUM, OLIVIA BOELHAUF, AVERY BRANCATO, CATE COPECK, GRACEN DANIEL, ASHLYN DOUGLAS, DELILAH FIZER, CECE HUBBARD, LOTTIE HUBBARD, IZZY INIGUEZ, ELLA KITE, MOLLY MINER, CLAUDIA NEWCOMB, ELLE NEWCOMB

SNOW FAIRIES

ALLISON BRANHAM, JASIE BROWN, KENZLIE BROWN, KENDALL CARPENTER, BELLA DOYLE, MADELYN GAMBREL, LILY KATE HALL, KIRA KNUDSEN, SYLVIE ROBERTS, HADLEY ROBINSON, KARSON SIMS, KAITLYN TUTTLE, NICOLE WILLIAMS

SNOW QUEEN

ALLISON BURCH

SNOW KING

JENS LEE

INTERMISSION



ACT 2, SCENE 1- THE LAND OF THE SWEETS

ANGELS

(CAST A)

COLLYNS BALL, PALMER BROOKSHIRE, RIVER CLINKENBEARD, ADRIANNA DAVIS, CAROLINE JARRELL, ADALIND JOHNSON, AVERY MCCUDDY, RYAN MCDONALD, BRAELYN MILLER, EMMERSYN MORRIS, MERRITT POWELL, ELLA PROBST, ALIANA RHODUS, AUBREE RIGGLE, HADLEY SMITH, ARIE THOMPSON, MARY ELLEN THOMPSON, CARSON WOOLUMS

(CAST B)

MADISON CASEBOLT, LEIGHTON DARNELL, MILA DIAZ, ADELINE ELLIOTT, KAROLINE FANNIN, MARY ADDISON GREENE, BOBBIELYNN HOFFMAN-STARR, LUNA MARION, JOSIE MODENBACH, SOFIA RINCON, MARY MARGARET WHELAN, KENSLEE WRIGHT

LOLLIPOP PRINCESS

ELIN THOMAS

LOLLIPOPS

GEORGIA GRACE BORCHERS, KAITLYNN BOSARGE, ABBY MAE CLARK, GONZALO CASTILLO-QUINTANA, MARTA CASTILLO-QUINTANA, LEXI DRYDEN, EMERSUN FALLOWAY, SOPHIE GILLISPIE, EMMA GRACE HALL, PIPER HOVERTER, KAYLYNN JONES, GRACE KENNON, JO PHILLIPS, NOVA ROBINSON, CAROLINE RUSSELL, MOLLY SHEPHERD, ERIN SINKOVITS, ELLIE SODA, KRISTINA STEPANOV

PEPPERMINT PRINCESS

AMELIA HARSHBARGER

MINTS

CAMDYN CHILDERS, EMERSON CHURCH, RANSOM CORSO, HAZEL ELLIS, HEIDI FAST, ALLIE INIGUEZ, SOPHIE INIGUEZ, MIYU KASUYA, GEMMA MITCHELL, KEELY PRIDEMORE, MABEL RANSOM, KENDALL REEDY, COLLINS SMITH, MARY GRACE STUART

SUGARPLUM FAIRY

MADELYN GAMBREL

CAVALIER

JENS LEE



LEAD CHINESE

JASIE BROWN

CHINESE CORPS

PAIGE ANGELLUCI, NORA BRANCATO, QUINN CAMIC, CATE COPECK,
LAILA DELK, BRYNN FAST, ZOEY LEGG, ANGELA LIN, SOPHIE MINER,
YURA NISHIMO

LEAD SPANISH

SYLVIE ROBERTS

SPANISH CORPS

SARA INSKO, KARSON SIMS, KAITLYN TUTTLE, NICOLE WILLIAMS

LEAD RUSSIAN

BRYNN COLLINS

RUSSIAN CORPS

EMORY BOELHAUF, HEIDI FAST, GEMMA MITCHELL, BLAKE MOORE,
ABBY STIVERS, MARY GRACE STUART, ALLIE YORK

GUMDROP PRINCESS

ROSEADELE WHELAN

GUMDROPS

NORA ADAMS, CORA BRADLEY, ISABELLA CARTER, LAINEY DOANE, ASAH
DOWELL, RYLEE FLEENOR, HANNAH GIBSON, EILEY GILLESPIE, LAYLA
HICKS, SELVY HOSKINS, GRACE MINNER, ELOISE POWELL, MEREDITH
PROBST, SAARA SENTHIL, MARY-ELIZABETH SHIREY, HOPE SPENCE,
MACY THOMAS, EDEN WILSON, SCARLETT WOOMER

LEAD ARABIAN

BELLA DOYLE

ARABIAN CORPS

LILY KATE HALL, SARA INSKO

ARABIAN SILKS

TANAY BASNETH, IZZY INGUEZ

MOTHER GINGER

GRACEN DANIEL

POLICHINELLES

LEAH ANGELUCCI, AMELIA RAE BACH, HOLLYN DANIEL, RUBY ECKMAN, AVA ERNST, HADLEY ESTEP, WREN ESTEP, ADELAIDE HARTLEY, HENRY HOCH, ANSLEY KEINATH, MOLLY KATE RUSSEL, CAROLINE SMITH, NATALIE STOVER, GIANNA THORNBERRY, GIANNI THORNBERRY, RINLEIGH TICHENOR, CRISTINA CALDESI VALERI, FINLEY WEEKLY

FLUTES

PAIGE ANGELUCCI, MARY CLAY BARR, EMORY BOELHAUF, NORA BRANCATO, KAITLYN DAVIES, ZOEY LEGG, ANGELA LIN, BLAKE MOORE, YURA NISHINO, ABBY STIVERS, MILLIE STUART, ALLIE YORK

DEWDROP

KIRA KNUDSEN

WALTZ BUTTERFLIES

CHARLOTTE BYRD, KINLEY CARTER, ELLORY CURRY, BEXLEY GRAY, MACKENZIE HARTLEY, LINDSEY INIGUEZ, SAMANTHA LOWE, CECILIA LUCY, EMMA MITCHELL, LUCY NOEL, BRITTON REUNING, ALANA ROTH, OLIVIA RUSSEL, HALLIE SARDAM, MILLER VAN DYKE, ENSLEY WILLIAMS, JAMES YADEN

WALTZ GARLAND

OLIVIA BOELHAUF, AVERY BRANCATO, DELILAH FIZER, LOTTIE HUBBARD, MOLLY MINER, HADLEY PASSAGE

WALTZ OF THE FLOWERS

HAYLEY BEST, KAMRYN BORNTAEGER, KATIE BRUMAGEN, LILY BUFFINGTON, ARABELLA COLLIER, BRYNN COLLINS, PIPER CROUCH, LIVY DUNCAN, ELIN FOLEY, CAROLINE GROTE, AMELIA HARSHBARGER, BAILEY LEGG, CAMILLA RANSOM, AINSLEY SANGER, ELIN THOMAS, ADDISON TUTTLE, CAROLINE VAN METER, ROSEADELE WHELAN

ACT 2, SCENE 2- CLARA'S HOME THE NEXT MORNING

Jens Lee

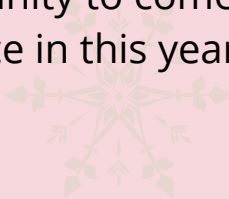


Jens Lee is an internationally known and acclaimed Professional Dancer/Teacher/Choreographer in dance styles such as Ballet, Jazz, Modern (Horton), Tap, Contemporary, Musical Theatre and Ballroom. Starting at a young age in Theatre, Jens has been in over 100 productions throughout the East Coast. He recently was highlighted in the 100th year Gala for the Cleveland Foundation. Jens's Training in dance started with Classical Ballet with the Cecchetti style and later on to Vaganova and French styles of ballet. Jens is also a trained medal winning Triathlete/Marathon runner. Certified in the 13 styles of American Ballroom/Rhythm, Jens was personally trained and coached by the World Ballroom/Theatre Arts Champion George Hendricks and the Former 10 Dance Champion Martin Lamb. As a Professional Instructor and trainer, Jens has taught thousands of students all around the world from age 3-92. He has also been the Ballet Master for multiple Studios including Cleveland School of the Arts, Elite Dance of Brunswick, Ohio and Bingham Center of Midland, Texas. His professional credits as a Guest Artist has been in numerous ballets including the Nutcracker, Cinderella, Peter Pan, Paquita, Heinz Poll Pas and Inamorata. Other Regional credits included CHRISTMAS ON ICE for SPIRIT OF THE DANCE at the Palace Theatre in Myrtle Beach. He was also with Princess Cruise lines as one of their Professional Dancers and was recently awarded their CONSUMMATE HOST OF THE MONTH for a heroic action. Sailing with Princess, Jens has had the honor to dance and teach for tens of thousands of people and see such places as the Caribbean, West Coast USA, Alaska, Hawaii, South Pacific islands, New Zealand, Australia, and South East Asia from Thailand to Japan. As a Competitive Judge, Jens has taught Master Classes and Judge for TURN IT AROUND TOUR & Dance Masters of America.

Joseph "Jo Jo" Edmonds



Joseph "JoJo" Edmonds Jr is currently a senior at the University of Kentucky where he is a Dance Major. JoJo is most proud of accomplishing becoming the first male to EVER make and dance on the UKDT. After graduation JoJo plans to pursue a career in commercial dance, becoming a choreographer and just all things dance. JoJo is a former dancer of Lexington Dance Factory so he was thrilled to be given the opportunity to come back to his home studio to dance in this year's Nutcracker.



Our Seniors Bella Doyle



For me, Nutcracker is a time when everyone comes together to create special holiday memories that I will cherish forever. My favorite memories always include the downtime in between shows where we eat and participate in a big group secret Santa. This year, I was casted as lead Arabian, which I am extremely excited to perform. I am so sad to say this is my last Nutcracker ever, but I hope you all enjoy!!



Our Seniors *Karson Sims*



The Lexington Dance Factory Nutcracker has always been dear to my heart! My favorite nutcracker memory is secret Santa in between shows with my friends. This year I am so excited to be a snowflake for the first time ever.



Our Seniors *Kira Knudsen*



Kira is so excited for her last LDF Nutcracker! She has loved spending her holiday season dancing with the people that inspire her for over ten years. Her favorite Nutcracker memories are when snow begins to fall while she is dancing during Snow and when she can watch her friends dance from the wings. She is thrilled to be Dewdrop this year.



Our Seniors *Lily Kate Hall*



Being in The Nutcracker is really fun and magical. Dancing with friends on stage and seeing the audience happy makes it special and exciting. With all the rehearsals and performances, my favorite moments were definitely the times spent laughing and hanging out with my friends backstage. I'm grateful for all the memories dance has given me and excited for what comes next.



Our Seniors *Nicole Williams*



I am a senior here at LDF and am thrilled to be a part of this year's production of The Nutcracker! I have loved dancing in The Nutcracker in the past and this year I will be dancing as a Snowflake and in the Spanish Corps! I'm grateful for my LDF family, the amazing memories, and the lifelong friendships I've gained over the years!



Our Seniors

Sara Insko



The Nutcracker season is one of my favorites! I've always loved the super high energy of Russian; it's definitely my favorite part I've had. But honestly, the best tradition backstage is the Secret Santa in between shows; it's so much fun and always a surprise. But overall, the music is the thing that makes the whole show feel magical every single year. I love it!



Our Seniors *Sylvie Roberts*



Nutcracker for me has always been a wonderful Christmas tradition in my family! I have been in every single Nutcracker since the beginning! And while this is my last one performing, I look forward to working behind the scenes next year! I have gotten to perform so many roles but my favorite was performing grandpa with my best friend last year!

