***The Nutcracker Ballet***

**The 28th Year of our Holiday Tradition**

**Audition/Production Handbook 2024**

**A Holiday Tradition**

**Presented by**

**Decatur Community Dance**

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

**FOR *THE NUTCRACKER BALLET***

**Dancing**

**Decatur Community Dance**

Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/decaturdance

On-Line Registration for classes: https://decaturcommunity.dance

For information: info@decaturcommunity.dance

For **donations**, please make checks payable to Decatur Community Dance.

As a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (EIN #87-0887558), every donation makes an impact, and we are so thankful for your support!

**Decatur Community Dance *NUTCRACKER BALLET* Directing Staff**

Nancy McReynolds, Artistic Director

Associate Artistic Directors

Melissa Girardi

Jennifer Power

Amy Ziettlow

***The Nutcracker Ballet***

**AUDITION/PRODUCTION HANDBOOK 2024**

**PRODUCTION/TECH WEEK**

(Tech week: December 1 to December 8)

**PERFORMANCES in Shilling Auditorium at Richland Community College**

**2024 Public Performances**

Thursday, December 5: Dress rehearsal and pictures (Individuals start at 4:30 p.m.)

Friday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 7, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8, 2:00 p.m.

**Decatur Community Dance Auditions**

Richland Community College

One College Park, Room SC54 and XX

Decatur, IL 62521-8513

***The Nutcracker Ballet***

**AUDITION/PRODUCTION HANDBOOK 2024**

The Decatur Community Dance Staff and Parent Advocates would like to welcome you to the 28th production of *The Nutcracker Ballet*. This Audition/Production Handbook has been created to expedite your audition/rehearsal process. The directors expect complete compliance and cooperation with their decisions and policies. Please read all the audition material included in this Handbook and fill out the google form that will be emailed to you prior to auditions. All those who audition will become a part of an exciting performance.

Communication is important; therefore, it is your responsibility to check for the most current information. Updates/notes will be as follows: 1) Distributed during rehearsals and posted in the doorway of SC54; 2) Posted on the 2024 Nutcracker Facebook group page; 3) Emailed from Class Manager. Please make sure your email is up-to-date in Class Manager.

***The Nutcracker Ballet***

**Twenty-Eight Years of a Holiday Tradition**

he Richland Ballet has performed *The Nutcracker Ballet* annually since 1995.  This year would have marked the twenty-third *Nutcracker Ballet*. However, this

Decatur Community Dance will again produce *The Nutcracker Ballet* as a dance production. This offers a wonderful opportunity for our dance students and community members to participate in this traditional and well-loved ballet.

Classes do not participate, and dances are not taught during class times. A separate rehearsal is held on Sunday afternoons in SC54 and XX.

Public performances are held Friday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, December 7, 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 8, 2:00 pm.

Participation is through selection from open auditions. Ages five through adult are welcome in the dance audition. Participants wanting non-dancing roles are welcome to register and fill out the forms designating what role you are interested in that does not require dancing (see page 5).

**PROCEDURES FOR THE AUDITION**

1. For current DCD students, login to class manager and enroll in Nutcracker Dancing class if interested in dancing.
2. Arrive on audition day 30 minutes early to finish registration.
3. You will be called by one of the Dance directors to enter SC54 for auditions.
4. Dance Rehearsal schedule will be available in this handbook, posted outside SC54, and on the Decatur Community Dance website & Facebook page.
5. Cast List will be posted after 3 pm on Thursday, September 12th outside SC54 and will be emailed via class manager to all participants and for the public.
6. It is important to note that each family needs to volunteer to assist in the production in some manner. “Sign-up genius” forms will be emailed to each participant.
7. You will be emailed an invoice for the production fee on 9/12/24 and payment will be due by 9/15/24:
	1. Dancing Fee as posted in class manager: $100.00 (covers participation for 1 to 3 dances; however, dancers are only guaranteed to be cast in one dance)
	2. Non-Dancing Fee as posted in class manger: $30.00
8. All fees are nonrefundable.

**The Nutcracker Ballet: Audition Schedule**

Please arrive 30 minutes before scheduled audition time in order to fill out the required paperwork. Dancers preferably register on line before hand.

Dancers should come prepared wearing a solid color leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes. Hair should be in a neat bun. Pointe shoes must be worn in the audition at the appropriate time if the dancer expects to be cast in a pointe number.

Participants only need to audition one day; however, students are welcome to come both days.

**Dancing Audition with Nancy, Melissa, Jennifer, and Amy**

 **Friday: September 6, 2024; 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. (SC54)**

5:00 – 5:15 p.m. Beginning students (Ages 3 -5)

 (Angels, Brittle Boys, party children [non-dancing], mice)

5:15 – 5:45 p.m. Beginning/intermediate (Ages 6 – Intermediate Ballet)

 (corps work, party children, Bon Bons, Arabian Corps,

 Russian)

5:45 – 6:15 p.m. Intermediate/Advanced

 (Corps work, Centers, Mouse King, Nutcracker Doll)

6:15 – 6:30 p.m. Pointe

**Saturday: September 7, 2024; 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. (SC54)**

2:00 – 2:15 p.m. Beginning students (Ages 3 -5)

 (Angels, Brittle Boys, party children [non-dancing], mice)

2:15 – 2:45 p.m. Beginning/intermediate (Ages 6 – Intermediate Ballet)

 (corps work, party children, Bon Bons, Arabian Corps,

 Russian)

2:45 – 3:15 p.m. Intermediate/Advanced

 (Corps work, Centers, Mouse King, Nutcracker Doll)

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Pointe

Dances:

 Act I: Crossover, Clara, Fritz, and Marie prepare for guests with parents (Seiberhaus)

Entrance of guests, Drosselmeyer’s magic and Dolls, Christmas Angel, Party children’s

dance, Party Parents’ dance, Dolly Dance, End of party dance with adults and children,

Mice attack Clara, Soldiers fight mice, battle between Mouse King and Nutcracker

Doll, Snowflake dance with Snow Queen

Act II: Angels, Entrance of the Land of Sweets, Spanish (Chocolate) with Center, Mother

Ginger with her Bon Bons, Peppermint with Center, Chinese (Tea) center, Sailor (Taffy),

Arabian (Coffee), Russian (Teacakes), Waltz of the Flowers with Dewdrop, and Finale

with Sugar Plum.

Non-Dancing parts: Fritz, Party Parents (minimal), Mr. & Mrs. Sieberhaus, Drosselmeyer,

 Maids, Butlers, Mother Ginger, party boys, Party children and brittle boys (minimal)

The Cast list will be posted on the door to the rehearsal Room SC54 on Thursday, September 12, after 3:00 p.m. The cast list will also be emailed from class manager. YOU WILL NOT BE NOTIFIED BY PHONE. You must check the cast list and be prepared to begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 15th in SC54 and SC01 for dancing.

**Dance Rehearsals with Nancy, Melissa, and Jennifer in SC54 and SC01**

Sundays: September 15, 22, 29; October 6,13, 20, 27 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

(Soloists/Duets, etc. must make an appointment with directors for rehearsal.)

**Rehearsal in SC54**

12:30 to 1:15 Snow

1:15 to 1:45 Peppermint/Spanish

1:45 to 2:30 Battle Scene (Soldiers, Clara, Nutcracker Doll, mice)

2:30 to 3:00 Chinese

3:00 to 3:45 Party Girls

3:45 to 4:35 Waltz of the Flowers (inside/outside)

**Rehearsal in SC01**

1:15 to 1:45 Russian

1:45 to 2:30 Battle Scene (Soldiers, Clara, Nutcracker Doll, mice)

2:30 to 3:00 Angels

3:00 to 3:45 Bon Bons

3:45 to 4:30 Waltz of the Flowers (inside/outside)

October 20 and 27 3:45-4:30: **Party “Dolly Dance”** rehearsals

**Party Parents:**

Sundays: September 29 1:30-3:00pm,

October 13 and 20: 1:30-4:00pm

Saturday: November 2nd TBD for blocking and acting

(party boys, party girls, dolls, Christmas Angel, Drosselmeyer)

**November Rehearsal Schedule (November 3, 10, 17, 24; December 1)**

**Full Rehearsal of Act I from 1-2:30 pm**

Act I includes the following dancers: Clara, Fritz, Marie, Maids, errand boy, Party Parents, Mrs. Sieberhaus, Mr. Sieberhaus, Drosselmeyer, Nutcracker, Mice, Soldiers, Mouse King, Party Children (dancers & non-dancers), Snowflakes, and Snow Queen.

**Full Rehearsal of Act II from 2:30-4:00 pm**

Act II includes the following dancers: Angels, Clara, Mother Ginger, Sugar Plum,

Bon Bons, Peppermints, Spanish, Arabian, Sailor, Chinese, Russian, Waltz of Flowers , and finale.

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