

The **25th Anniversary** Ballet Etudes

The Nutcracker

Artistic Director:
Sasha Robertson

Assistant Directors:
Bridgette Burnett and Madison Simons

Guest Principal Artists:
Edward Johnson and Damian Kelly

Guest Artist:
Ian Roman

**Huntington Beach Union
High School Theatre and Bell Tower**

Saturday, December 4 @ 2p.m.

Saturday, December 4 @ 7p.m.

Sunday, December 5 @ 2p.m.

Sunday, December 5 @ 7p.m.



2021

www.balletetudes.com

Grace

You're beautiful in every way.



*We love you,
Mom and Dad*



Ballet Etudes Families and Patrons,

Welcome to our 25th season! What a great way to celebrate such a momentous occasion, by bringing The Nutcracker back to live audiences! We are so grateful to have the support of the Ballet Etudes' families and patrons over the past season while we adapted to the ever-changing regulations, but nothing makes our dancers, artistic directors and board members happier than to be back in the theater!

In celebration of our 25th, Alumni night will be Saturday, December 4th at 7pm. We hope to see all former Ballet Etudes' dancers, directors and cast at this special night.

Our mission is to expose a new generation of children, both performers and audience members, to the beauty, grace, and athleticism of ballet, and to offer this experience at affordable prices, and we were certainly able to do that throughout a very difficult season. Thank you all!

Sit back and enjoy Ballet Etudes' 25th Nutcracker!

Stephanie Aksdal
President, Ballet Etudes



Ballet Etudes Board of Directors

President: Stephanie Akسدal

Vice President: Laurie Conners

Treasurer: Dani Summers

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Artistic Direction: Kimberly McEachern

At Large: Megan Conlay, Larry Hersh, Mayumi Okura

Promotions Committee: Chrysti Polito, Jamie Ankeny

Huntington Academy of Dance Director: Kimberly McEachern

Artistic Director: Sasha Robertson

Co-Assistant Artistic Directors: Bridgette Burnett, Madison Simons

Managing Director: Kimberly McEachern

Artistic Advisors: Marnell Himes-Ushijima, Megan Pulfer

Administrative Assistant to the Artistic Directors: Megan Conlay

Important Announcement

**No food or drinks are allowed
in the auditorium.**

**NO PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOTAPING OR
RECORDING DEVICES PERMITTED.
TURN OFF ALL CELLULAR DEVICES.**

**A professional digital video recording
of the performance may be
purchased in the lobby.**

**Performance photographs
may be purchased through
Huntington Academy of Dance in January.**

**Our dancers appreciate applause,
rather than shouts.**

Thank you!

How can I support Ballet Etudes?

Ballet Etudes seeks support from those who have a vested interest in the quality and continued development of the performing arts. Please support Ballet Etudes by:

- Attending a Ballet Etudes performance
- Designating Ballet Etudes through United Way payroll deductions.
- Become a Patron. We accept cash, check, Visa, MasterCard or PayPal.
- Donate through Amazon Smile.
- Employee Donation Matching programs
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- Participation in a variety of community based events and programs
- Participation on the Board of Directors

YES! I want to be a part of building a strong foundation for the performing arts.

- \$1000+ Platinum
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Please check all that apply:

- My employer has a matching program
 I do not wish to designate my contribution
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\$_____ Other _____

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Thank you for your support!

Mail to: Ballet Etudes

6491 Edinger Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92647

(714) 847-6657

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Marnell Himes-Ushijima
Gary Joyce
Muriel Joyce
Gail Hobson
Kim Kaston
Elaine Keeley
Ramona Field
The Harenburg Family

Patrons (2021-2022)

Platinum (gift of \$1,000+)
Pacific Life Foundation
Gold (gift of \$500-999)
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Silver (gift of \$100-499)
Peppa Chindemi-Dodge
Larrazabal Family
Woods Family

Patrons (2021-2022)

Bronze (gift of <\$100)
Werner Family
Wendl Family
Anonymous

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Appreciations

Auditorium Manager: Josh Behrens, Academy for the Performing Arts at Huntington Beach High School (HBHS)
Stage Manager: Marie Hoffman
Technical Director: Academy for the Performing Arts at HBHS – Technical Theater Department
Lighting Designer: Academy for the Performing Arts at HBHS – Technical Theater Department
Sound: Academy for the Performing Arts at HBHS – Technical Theater Department
Follow Spot: Academy for the Performing Arts at HBHS – Technical Theater Department
Stage Hands: Academy for the Performing Arts at HBHS – Technical Theater Department
Volunteer Coordinator and Program Cover Design: Susie Ng
Wardrobe Mistress: Cheryl Beasley
House Manager: Cindy Pulfer
Costume and Quick Change Coordinator: Tara Gayler
Storage Manager: Eriko Kurimoto
Transportation Lead: Jason Hunter
Transportation Crew: Kazu Cardenas, Sherman Glenn, Jake Kuns, Dan Miles, Norman Wendl, Eric Yang
Sets and Drops: Ballet Etudes, Grosh Scenic, “Grandpa” Jim Wallace, Glenn Ushijima
Props: Jana Acciaccia, Brandy & Jason Mapel
Side Stage Lead: Isa Woolums
Side Stage Crew: Lori Davey, Mayumi Okura, Eriko Kurimoto, Dani Summers, Elise Conlay
Make-up Co-Leads: Stephanie Aksdal, Rebecca Ishii
Green Room Lead: Susie Ng
Dressing Room Leads: Dani Black, Erin Jasper
Merchandise Crew Leader: Stacy Brookhyser
Concessions Crew Leader: Mimi Stroman
Flower Crew Leader: Brandy Mapel
Ticket Coordinator: Lisa Hager
Promotions: Christine Wendl
Rehearsal Space Donated by: Huntington Academy of Dance
Tuxedos Donated by: Friar Tux
Pointe Shoe Sponsor: Dance Threadz
Program Photos Provided by: MAS Focus Photography
Performance Videography: Tom Badoud
Company Photos & Performance Photography: Kennedi Simons, Collyns Photography

This production of *The Nutcracker* would not be possible without the hard work of all of our crew members as well, from makeup to side stage to dressing rooms and more. To those of you who may not be named here, please know that your efforts are incredibly appreciated. Thank you so much!!

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Our Mission:

Ballet Etudes is a non-profit youth ballet company providing dancers character development through a professional performance experience. We provide outreach programs to enrich the arts community and expose a new generation to the beauty of ballet.

Non-Profit 501(c)(3)

www.BalletEtudes.com

HISTORY OF BALLET ETUDES

It all began 25 years ago...Well, actually... It really began more than 25 years ago.

Before Ballet Etudes began, the highest level dancers at Huntington Academy of Dance were called "Apprentices." They performed Nutcracker excerpts at the studio, schools, and community centers. Gary Joyce performed Drosselmeyer in a purple sweatsuit! The Apprentice dancers performed every single role in the second act. No one realized that they were learning much more than Ballet. Instead, they spent their Saturdays in the studio nursing sore muscles, and became a family – the family that would become Ballet Etudes.

Beginning with the Artistic Director and our staff. With Marnell Himes-Ushijima's vision and the support of the founders, Gary and Muriel Joyce took the lead on Artistic Direction, and Ballet Etudes was born. The company offered students the opportunity to grow in artistry and theatrical presentation with the larger-scale productions. Funds were raised through our generous supporters, commissioning our very own one-of-a-kind Parlor drop and Christmas tree that magically grows and lights up! And, we rehearsed and danced with new purpose. We touched audiences over generations as families made Ballet Etudes' Nutcracker their holiday tradition.

And things began to evolve; we had incredible Artistic Directors over the years. In addition to Marnell Himes-Ushijima, Gary and Muriel Joyce, we were joined by others such as Jewell Tweeton-Donnelly in 2000 and Sofia Carreras in 2002.

In 2003, Miss Judith Hawkesworth became Artistic Director during a time of transition for the company. She brought the company to new heights, and Ballet Etudes experienced incredible growth under her leadership as she began casting young children in the spring productions. The next year, Marie de la Palme joined the artistic staff and created the storyline that we have used until recent Covid disruptions.

Kimberly McEachern came back to Ballet Etudes as Artistic Director in 2006, and Julie Ertl and Tami Simons joined her. Ballet Etudes grew by leaps and bounds. Miss Kimberly and Miss Julie created several new ballets for the company including Bug's Life, Mulan, and Miss Kimberly's favorite, Candyland. We continue this dancing tradition today.

It does not stop there. In 2012, we sponsored our first Community Outreach Program. Nine years later, we are teaching after-school classes at three different schools for children who would otherwise not get the chance to learn about dance.

Ballet Etudes dancers become teachers, and then our teachers become Directors – this is a testament to the success of our program. Miss Sasha Robertson, having danced in our Nutcracker, is now our Artistic Director and brings you the Nutcracker. Over the past 9 years, Miss Sasha has exposed our dancers and audiences to the great classical ballets: Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, and Cinderella, along with other ballets such as A Knight's Quest for the Spanish Princess, Aladdin, Little Mermaid, Jungle Book, and Peter Pan.

And it still does not stop there. Ballet Etudes dancers have become doctors, attorneys, business owners, professional dancers and so much more. The kids you see on stage – they are all a part of our present and our future.

This is who we are, and where we came from.

***To our graduating seniors:
Special congratulations and lots of love to you,
Grace, Lily, Sarah, and Sophia. The joy of my life is
being part of my students' youth and watching you
grow and develop not only in dance but in character.
I am so blessed to have been a part of your life for
so many years. Can't wait to see where life takes
you next! Keep in touch & visit every day!
XOXOXO, Miss Kimberly***

**Congratulations to all of our
dancers on another successful
year of The Nutcracker! We are
so proud of all of your hard work
and dedication and are excited to
see you all shine on stage!**

**Your Ballet Etudes
Artistic Team**

The Nutcracker

In a nutshell...

Act 1

It's Christmas at the Stahlbaum family home. Many guests arrive to celebrate around the beautifully trimmed tree. Clara and her rambunctious brother, Fritz, await the arrival of their Godfather, the mysterious Herr Drosselmeyer and his nephew. When Drosselmeyer arrives, Clara discovers that despite his age, he is quite spunky. Amongst the dancing and revelry, Drosselmeyer entertains the crowd with three life-sized, dancing dolls, bringing a special magic to the party. Herr Drosselmeyer then gives gifts to all of the children, saving a very special gift for Clara: a Nutcracker. She adores her Nutcracker, but Fritz snatches it away and breaks it. Clara is upset, but Herr Drosselmeyer repairs the doll and gives it back to her.



After the final dance, the guests leave and the Stahlbaum family retires for the evening. Later that night, Clara steals downstairs to play with her Nutcracker. Suddenly, she is surrounded by mischievous, life-sized mice. Herr Drosselmeyer enters and rescues Clara. He then casts his magic, causing the Christmas tree and everything around it to grow! Drosselmeyer himself mysteriously becomes a young man again. His nephew is magically transformed into a life-size version of Clara's Nutcracker, who leads giant toy soldiers to battle against the mischievous mice and the evil Rat King.

Just when it seems the Rat King is about to defeat the Nutcracker, Clara throws her slipper at the Rat King, distracting him long enough for the Nutcracker to strike a fatal blow. All of the excitement is too much for Clara, who faints into her Godfather's arms.

After Clara wakes, Drosselmeyer encourages her to dance again and turns the Nutcracker into a handsome Prince, who thanks Clara for saving his life. Led by precious Snow Babies, they travel through the Kingdom of Snow, where they are welcomed by the lovely Snow Queen, her Princesses, and the Snowflake Court.

Act 2

As they leave the Kingdom of Snow, they are greeted by Angels, who lead them into the Land of Sweets to meet the Court of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. Drosselmeyer tells of Clara's bravery in helping the Nutcracker Prince defeat the Rat King. The Court cheers, and the Sugar Plum Fairy calls for a celebration. Clara is delighted as she is entertained by the members of the court, all representing some delicious confection: Chocolate, Coffee, Tea, Peppermint, Marzipan and Gingerbread. The celebration culminates with a beautiful pas de deux (dance of two) with the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. The Sugar Plum Fairy and Dewdrop Fairy invite Clara to join in the dancing, and she eagerly accepts.

As the celebration comes to an end, Clara has fallen asleep. The Land of Sweets slowly fades away, as Herr Drosselmeyer returns Clara to her home. As he leaves, his youth fades and he returns to his present age. Clara wakes as he is leaving and thanks him for the most magical Christmas night. She returns to her chair and hugs her Nutcracker. A dream? Reality? You decide... but the Christmas magic will live on.



The Nutcracker Artistic Team



Sasha Robertson (Artistic Director): Sasha has been a part of the Ballet Etudes' artistic staff for 15 years and has been directing since 2012. She began her ballet training with Marnell Himes-Ushijima as well as Gary and Muriel Joyce at Huntington Academy of Dance at age 5, studying and examining in the Cecchetti method. She continued her training with advanced commercial dance in high school and college but began to focus her attention on teaching. After more than 17 years, Sasha remains on HAD's faculty and has obtained her Associate teacher certification through Cecchetti USA. As an alumna of Ballet Etudes, Sasha has performed in the company's Nutcracker countless times, starting with BE's very first Nutcracker 25 years ago, dancing roles from Mouse to Snow Princess to Spanish lead, just to name a few. She has also danced lead roles in other Ballet Etudes productions, such as Cinderella, the Little Mermaid, and Snow White and the Magnificent 7. Sasha has directed and/or helped produce many Ballet Etudes productions, including The Nutcracker (2012-2020), Swan Lake (2016), Jungle Book (2017 and 2021), Sleeping Beauty (2017), Aladdin (2018), Don Quixote (2018), Beauty and the Beast (2019), Alice in Wonderland (2012 and 2019) and Hercules (2020). Sasha graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Southern California with bachelor degrees in theatre and environmental social sciences. While at USC, she performed in several School of Theatre productions and was also fortunate to be selected to choreograph a full dance accompaniment to the Greek tragedy, "Agamemnon." Sasha holds her J.D. from USC Gould School of Law and works as a project development and finance attorney at Troutman Sanders LLP. She is grateful to be able to balance her legal career by sharing her love of dance with the upcoming generation of Ballet Etudes' ballerinas. When she's not working, Sasha enjoys spending time with her husband, two children and two Weimaraners.



Madison Simons (Co-Assistant Director): Madison Simons was born and raised in Huntington Beach, Calif. She grew up dancing at Huntington Academy of Dance under the direction of Marnell Himes-Ushijima. She was a company member with Ballet Etudes Youth Ballet Company for five years, in which she performed roles such as Alice in Alice in Wonderland, Wendy in Peter Pan, and Snow Queen and Sugar Plum in The Nutcracker. Madison is classically trained in the Cecchetti Method of ballet, and has passed her Cecchetti Final Diploma exam. Madison also holds her bachelor's degree in dance science from Cal State Long Beach and is a certified Pilates instructor. She now resides in Colorado and is so grateful to continue working with Ballet Etudes remotely. She is so excited to see the girls dance their first live performance since the pandemic and wishes all the dancers to "break a leg" and enjoy every moment on that stage!



Bridgette Burnett (Co-Assistant Director): Born and raised in Huntington Beach, Calif., Bridgette received her early training at Huntington Academy of Dance under the direction of Marnell Himes and was a part of Ballet Etudes for eight years. She continued her training at Southland Ballet Academy. She competed in and won the Orange County Star's of Tomorrow competition at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in 2005 and 2006 and was a semi-finalist in 2005 and 2006 for the Spotlight Music Awards Competition. She went on to spend five years with Festival Ballet Theater, directed by Salwa Rizkalla, where she performed a wide range of soloist and principal roles in productions of Sleeping Beauty, Don Quixote, and Swan Lake and worked with choreographers such as Jodi Gates, David Allen, Molly Lynch, and Edwaard Liang. Bridgette received the Carolyn Cunningham scholarship at Cal State University Long Beach, where she received her B.A. in dance and performed works by Sophie Monat and Lorin Johnson. In 2009, she joined Monat Dance under the direction of Sophie Monat and performed principal roles at various galas such as the McCallum Theater's Dance under the Stars Choreography Festival and Celebrate Dance in Los Angeles. She participated in the National Choreographer's Initiative in 2012, directed by Molly Lynch where she performed works by Thang Dao and Darrell Grand Moultrie. She then went on to join Smuin Ballet in San Francisco and performed works by Adam Hougland, Michael Smuin and Amy Seiwart. She took some time off to have her two beautiful babies and is now back teaching and dancing at Huntington Academy of Dance, where she first fell in love with this art form and ultimately found her passion for dance. She now manages HAD Conservatory, where she works with students to help them reach their goal of dancing professionally and has watched her dancers receive offers from Joffrey Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet and Alberta Ballet. She is thrilled to be working with the next generation of HAD ballerinas and instilling her knowledge and love of dance into each and every one of them!



Kimberly McEachern (Managing Director): Kimberly is the owner and Artistic Director of Huntington Academy of Dance, Managing Director of Ballet Etudes, and the Director of "DANCE HB!" for Huntington Beach Parks & Recreation. Kimberly, who received her training from Brenda Joyce, Marnell Himes-Ushijima, Gary Joyce and Rebecca Wright of ABT, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from UCLA in 2000 and holds her Licentiate certification with Cecchetti USA. In 2011, she was awarded the prestigious Enrico Cecchetti Final Diploma. Kimberly has been training dancers for over 25 years, and her students have gone on to professional dance careers, received dance merit scholarships at universities, and won numerous national and international dance competitions. Kimberly enjoys teaching and coaching students and is committed to promoting classical ballet in Orange County. As a mother of three young boys, she enjoys working with and is honored to mentor the young ladies at the dance studio.



Marnell Himes-Ushijima (Director Emeritus, Huntington Academy of Dance & Founder, Ballet Etudes): Ms. Marnell is a Fellow of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance, Cecchetti Branch, where she holds the Final Diploma. Ms. Marnell has served as Executive Director of Cecchetti USA and USA delegate to Cecchetti International. She began her training with Sheila Darby and continued at the National Ballet School in Toronto, Canada, and has extensive professional performing experience. Ms. Marnell has traveled throughout the United States and internationally teaching master classes and examining for Cecchetti USA. She was honored by the Allied Arts Board of the City of Huntington Beach as Arts Educator of the Year and received the Integrity in Business Award from the Rotary Club of Huntington Beach. Her former

students have danced professionally with companies such as NYC, Miami City, San Jose, Joffery, Ballet Pacifica, and LA Ballet, and in musical theatre, and have become dance teachers, choreographers, and artists. She is also very proud of her students who have gone on to many other professions, such as doctors, teachers, therapists, etc. She is also pleased to see the children of former students at HAD.



Melody Plastow (Rehearsal Assistant): Melody began her training in Sacramento at First Covenant Dance Studio, performing with the company and teaching there for 2 ½ years. She attended CSU Long Beach where she was able to train with Lisa Johnson, Andy Vaca, and Jenny Lee Stevens. She graduated in 2010 with her bachelor's in history, and then moved to Mississippi where she trained with Ballet Magnificat! In Mississippi she had the privilege to be taught by founder of the company Kathy Thibodeaux and Jiri Sebastian Voborsky. Melody graduated from the trainee program in 2012 and moved back to California. Upon moving back, she found Huntington Academy of Dance and is so thankful she did! She began teaching for HAD and Ballet Etudes in 2013 and though she is lucky to teach at multiple studios in the area, considers HAD her home. Melody is thankful to have danced for 4 years with Emergent, is a registered yoga teacher and recently passed the Cecchetti Associates teaching exam. She started graduate school this summer for Dance/Movement Therapy and is excited for this new chapter!



Megan Pulfer (Rehearsal Assistant): Megan Pulfer received her classical ballet training at Huntington Academy of Dance. At 16, she was accepted to North Carolina School of the Arts to study ballet. Megan first danced professionally with Cedar Lake 2, Missouri Contemporary Ballet, and Quixotic. In 2010, Megan went to Israel to dance with Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company's Dance Journey for a year. She later signed a two-year contract with Kamea Dance Company. After moving back to California, she danced with Clairobscur Dance Company in Los Angeles. Megan served as the Co-Artistic Director of Ballet Etudes from 2014-2019. She is the Artistic Director and choreographer of Emergent Dance Company. Megan is currently pursuing her second career in Interior Design where she works on high-end residential homes at Harte Brownlee & Associates.



Kim Serany (Rehearsal Assistant): Kim has over 20 years of experience as an instructor of dance teaching classes in Hip Hop, Jazz, Ballet and Character. Her students range in age from 18 months to adult. She grew up in Northern Ca and relocated to Orange County to work at Disneyland where she has performed in numerous parades and special events. She has toured internationally representing the United States as a member of the All American Dance Team with Karen Stanger - Kovak. Under the direction of Tony Gonzalez, she competed and performed with the hip hop troupe "Tony G". Thru Dick Clark Productions, she was a member of "Alvin and the Chipmunks" touring company. She traveled across the US and Canada as both a performer/dance lead and stage manager.



Kennedi Simons (Rehearsal Assistant): Kennedi has trained at Huntington Academy of Dance since the age of 3, has passed her Grade 10 Cecchetti ballet exam, and her TC-1 Cecchetti Teaching Exam. In 2014 she competed in the Cecchetti International Classical Ballet Competition in Richmond, VA. She was a company member with Ballet Etudes Youth Ballet Company for six years and this is now her eighth year as a rehearsal assistant. When she's not teaching, she can be found studying! Kennedi attends California State University, Long Beach where she is studying to become a speech-language pathologist. She looks forward to seeing her students perform in this year's production of The Nutcracker.



Erin Connors (Rehearsal Assistant): Erin Connors has been a Ballet Etudes Rehearsal Assistant since 2015. Erin has been dancing at Huntington Academy of Dance since the first grade and performed in many Ballet Etudes' Nutcracker productions. She has also performed in several other Ballet Etudes productions performing as the Evil Stepmother in Cinderella, Captain Hook in Peter Pan, and the Mad Hatter in Alice in Wonderland. Erin has been on staff at Huntington Academy of Dance since senior year of high school and has completed her first and second teacher certification exams with Cecchetti USA. Erin is an elementary school teacher, but still fondly thinks of teaching dance her primary profession. Erin would like to thank Kimberly McEachern for being an inspiring ballet instructor, mentor, and role model. She would also like to thank Miss Sasha and Miss Megan for allowing her to continue to take part in this Nutcracker tradition behind the scenes.



Jessica Austin (Rehearsal Assistant): Jessica has danced at Huntington Academy of Dance since the age of 6, where she participated in the Cecchetti exam program and was a member of the Ballet Etudes Youth Company. She has been teaching at Huntington Academy of Dance for over 5 years, and this is her third year as a Ballet Etudes Rehearsal Assistant. Jessica is preparing to complete her first teacher certification exam through Cecchetti USA later this year. She loves watching her students perform and grow, and is grateful for the opportunity to continue teaching at the studio where she learned so much. When she's not teaching she enjoys spending time and dancing at home with her husband and two sons.



Kristin Hagen (Rehearsal Assistant): Kristin began dancing at age two at Murdy Park and began her training at HAD at age 6. She has successfully completed eleven Cecchetti exams and is currently working towards her Cecchetti Teacher certification exam. She has performed in numerous Ballet Etudes productions including Alice in Wonderland, Don Quixote, Sleeping Beauty, and The Jungle Book where she performed the role of Mowgli. She has performed in BE's production of The Nutcracker for nine years where she has performed roles such as Clara, Candy Cane Lead, Arabian Princess, and Snow Princess. She has competed in solo and group pieces in KAR, YAGP, and California Dance Classics. She is currently a senior at Huntington Beach High School. She is so excited to become a teacher at the studio she grew up in and share her knowledge and enthusiasm for dance with younger dancers.



Gunta Liepina-Miller (Rehearsal Assistant): Gunta is a Latvian choreographer, dancer, dance instructor, and Fulbright scholar currently working in Southern California. She got her MFA in Dance at University of California, Irvine, and her BFA in dance in Jazeps Vitols Latvian Academy of Music. In addition, she has studied at CODARTS Rotterdam Dance Academy in the Netherlands, Tsech summer academy in Moscow, Mark Morris, Complexions contemporary ballet, and many more. As a dancer she has performed with ballet company Grande, Indra Reinholde chamber ballet, contemporary dance company Kairos in Los Angeles, and has worked with such choreographers as Lisa Naugle, Jessica Torres, Keith Derreck – Randolph, Mario Camacho, Anouk van Dijk, Hans van Manen, Lorand Zachar. She has also worked as a commercial dancer and choreographer for TV shows The X Factor and Your Face Sounds Familiar. Gunta’s works have been showcased in many prestigious places including Highways Space in Santa Monica, The Latvian National Opera, Latvian National Dance Group. Gunta’s reimagined Nutcracker was nominated for the Latvian Dance Awards and received the audience choice award. Her choreography and dancers advanced to the semi finals in the TV show Dance Revolution in Lithuania. Her choreography has been showcased in the USA, Latvia, Lithuania, Thailand, China, Russia, Italy, Bulgaria, Lithuania, etc. Together with her husband Stefan Miller she has established Young Artist Residency in Kuldiga, Latvia for young emerging singers and dancers.

Guest Principal Artist

Edward Johnson ~ Herr Drosselmeyer

Edward Johnson is a BFA graduate with honors from the University of California at Irvine, having earned degrees in dance, vocal music, and drama. He also holds a master’s degree in education, and is in pursuit of his doctorate. He is the head of the University High School Dance Department in Irvine. Mr. Johnson maintains an active teaching schedule in the Southern California area, including lecture demonstrations and presentations at festivals and dance conferences. He is a sought-after partnering coach and offers workshops in both classical pas de deux and contemporary partnering.

Mr. Johnson received the majority of his preliminary dance training under the tutelage of the UCI Dance faculty including Janice Plastino, James Penrod, Israel “El” Gabriel, Bernard Johnson, David Allan and Donald Mckayle, among other notable instructors. He has pursued a variety of dance disciplines, including swing, modern, Balinese dance, lindy hop, ballet, African, Afro-Haitian/Dunham-based technique and tap.

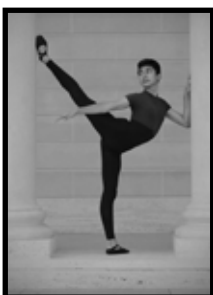
As a professional artist, Mr. Johnson was a soloist and principal dancer with the Anaheim Ballet Company under the artistic direction of Larry and Sarma Rosenberg, beginning in 1998. He continues to work in many dance, music and theatrical venues, both nationally and internationally.



Guest Principal Artist

Damian Kelly ~ Cavalier

Damian is currently part the Anaheim Ballet company and has performed in their productions of The Nutcracker since 2016. He also currently teaches weekly ballet classes at both Kimberly’s Dance Studio & Elevation Studios. While training in ballet for the last 12 years he has performed with Disneyland parades, Coast City Ballet, Akomi, & The Dance Co in the past. This is his first performance with Ballet Etudes.



Guest Artist

Ian Roman ~ The Nutcracker, The Nephew & The Prince

Ian Roman began his ballet training at the age of 9 at The Wooden Floor. He later trained under the direction of Merle Sepel and attended Orange County School of the Arts for Classical Dance where he trained with Steven Hyde. Since then, he has attended summer programs with San Francisco Ballet School, Royal Ballet School, and Anaheim Ballet. He now currently trains under the direction of Michael Houston. This is his third Nutcracker with Ballet Etudes.



*Congratulations to Ballet Etudes on their 25th Season!
Cheers to The Nutcrackers of years past!*

25th *Ballet* Etudes



The Nutcracker

Artistic Director: Sasha Robertson

Co-Assistant Artistic Directors: Bridgette Burnett and Madison Simons

Original Choreography by: Marnell Himes-Ushijima, Gary Joyce, Muriel Joyce, Judith Hawkesworth, Marie de la Palme

Music by: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Additional Choreography and Restaging by:

Sasha Robertson, Bridgette Burnett, Madison Simons, Jessica Austin, Erin Connors, Kristin Hagen, Gunta Liepina-Miller, Melody Plastow, Megan Pulfer, Kim Serany, Kennedy Simons

Additional Coaching by: Edward Johnson

Act 1

The Toy Shop

Herr Drosselmeyer: Edward Johnson, Guest Principal Artist

The Nephew: Ian Roman, Guest Artist

Columbine Doll: Ella Glenn

Harlequin Doll: Lynnea Conlay

Soldier Doll: Makayla Arakaki

Jack-in-the-Box: Elizabeth Volonte

Jill-in-the-Box: Addison Kovaleski

The Christmas Party

Clara: Grace Wendl

Fritz: Ria Melwani

Mr. Stahlbaum: Mike Conlay

Mrs. Stahlbaum: Madison Simons

Maid: Rachel Jaskowiak

Grandmother: Jana Acciaccia

Party Teens: Roxie Brookhyser, Sydney Hunter, Jada Kuns, Lauren Wendl

Party Girls: Jackie Gayler, Mackenzie Jasper, Kaylee Smith, Kiana Smith

Party Boys: Priscilla Blum, Lylee Hunter, Caitlyn Nguyen, Sydney Scott

The Battle

The Nutcracker Soldier: Ian Roman, Guest Artist

Rat King: Madeline Gerber

Rat Squires: Kaitlin Black, Nicolette Kasravi

Nutcracker's Lieutenant: Monica Camacho

White Mouse: Shayne Swan

Gray Mice: Aubrey Erickson, Kylie Gadberry, Nyla Lin, Elise Paulikas, Brie Polito

Soldiers: Taylor Ankeny, Natalie Luna, Logan Ostaszewski, Cici Strub, Natalie Zylstra

Kingdom of Snow

Snow Queen: Grace Ng (pointe shoes sponsored by Dance Threadz)

Snow Princesses: Sophia Cardenas, Sarah Hom, Lily Kurimoto, Sophia Rodriguez

Snow Court: Sarah Beyer, Alison Conlay, Grace Hager, Julie Kurimoto, Isabella Long, Eden Mapel, Harper Turpin, Haylee Vujicic

Snow Pages: Kaylee Smith, Kiana Smith

Snow Babies: Taylor Ankeny, Seika Chen, Lilah Fenton, Mikayla Kaplan, Nyla Lin, Logan Ostaszewski, Juliana Claire Peralta, Ellie Pobiega, Gwendolyn Woods

The Nutcracker

Act 2

The Land of Sweets

Young Herr Drosselmeyer: Edward Johnson, Guest Principal Artist

Sugar Plum Fairy: Sierra Woolums (pointe shoes sponsored by Dance Threadz)

Cavalier: Damian Kelly, Guest Principal Artist

The Nutcracker Prince: Ian Roman, Guest Artist

Court Jesters: Elizabeth Volonte, Addison Kovaleski

Lead Angel: Sami Summers

Angels: Seika Chen, Gwendolyn Woods

Coffee

Arabian Princess: Sophia Rodriguez

Arabian Handmaidens: Kayla Aviles, Roxie Brookhyser, Madeline Gerber, Sydney Hunter, Makayla Ishii, Jada Kuns, Avery Ward, Lauren Wendl

Gingerbread

Mother Ginger: Mike Conlay

Lead Bakers: Madison Okura, Mia Yang

Bakers: Natalie Brill, Mia Dreger, Grace Halligan, Amaya Lesley

Ponchinellas: Sharaya Dunsford, Aubrey Erickson, Kylie Gadberry, Rose Halligan, Vivian Larrazabal, Natalie Luna, Kyra Miller, Brie Polito, Cici Strub, Shayne Swan, Natalie Zylstra

Marzipan

Lead Mirliton: Sophia Cardenas

Mirlitons: Grace Hager, Julie Kurimoto, Eden Mapel, Haylee Vujicic

Shepherdesses: Olivia Blake, Priscilla Blum, Lily Fraser, Ava Perreira, Emmalyn Wood

Black Lamb: Presley Yang

Lambs: Serena Lukich, Abigail Reese, Elizabeth Woods, Harper Yang

Chocolate

Spanish Princess: Grace Ng

Senoritas: Sarah Beyer, Alison Conlay

Tea

Chinese Leads: Isabella Long, Sami Summers, Harper Turpin

Chinese Chorus: Abrielle Berghammer, Mia Dreger, Jackie Gayler, Lylee Hunter, Mackenzie Jasper, Amaya Lesley, Caitlyn Nguyen, Kaylee Smith, Kiana Smith

Peppermint

Candy Cane Lead: Rachel Jaskowiak

Candy Cane Chorus: Priscilla Blum, Natalie Brill, Lily Fraser, Grace Halligan, Ria Melwani, Ava Perreira, Sydney Scott, Emmalyn Wood

The Nutcracker

Act 2 (continued)

Waltz of the Flowers

Dewdrop Fairy: Lily Kurimoto

Roses: Makayla Arakaki, Lynnea Conlay, Ella Glenn, Sarah Hom

Fuchsia Flowers: Kayla Aviles, Roxie Brookhyser, Grace Hager, Ella Henderson, Makayla Ishii, Avery Ward

Pink Flowers: Kaitlin Black, Monica Camacho, Addison Kovaleski, Madison Okura, Elizabeth Volonte, Mia Yang

Grand Pas de Deux

Cavalier: Damian Kelly, Guest Principal Artist

Sugar Plum Fairy: Sierra Woolums (pointe shoes sponsored by Dance Threadz)

Apotheosis (Finale)

Dancers from the Second Act



Fairy Tale Day Camp
Nutcracker and Friends
Saturday, December 11th
1:30 - 4:00 pm
\$35 pp.

Ages 4-7 yrs
Includes a ballet lesson, story time, craft, and a take-home treat.

HUNTINGTON ACADEMY OF DANCE
Nurture • Challenge • Inspire



Fairy Tale Day Camp
the **ELF** on the **SHELF**
Saturday
December 18
1:30 - 4:00 pm
\$35 pp.

Ages 4-7 yrs
Includes a ballet lesson, story time, craft, and a take-home treat.

HUNTINGTON ACADEMY OF DANCE
Nurture • Challenge • Inspire



Nutty Understudies

To our fantastic understudies: Your hard work and dedication to our Nutcracker production is most appreciated. Great work, dancers!

~Your Artistic Directors

Sugar Plum Fairy	Lily Kurimoto
Snow Queen	Makayla Arakaki
Dewdrop Fairy	Sarah Hom
Clara	Sophia Rodriguez
Arabian Princess	Lynnea Conlay
Spanish Princess	Ella Glenn
Snow Princess	Julie Kurimoto
Mirliton Lead	Ella Glenn
Mirlitons	Alison Conlay
Columbine Doll	Grace Hager
Harlequin Doll	Eden Mapel
Soldier Doll	Haylee Vujicic
Chinese Leads	Sarah Beyer
Candy Cane Lead	Sami Summers
Snow Court	Jada Kuns
Spanish Senioritas	Harper Turpin
Lead Angel	Sydney Hunter
Maid	Isabella Long
Arabian Handmaidens	Autrina Kasravi
Jack & Jill-in-the-Box	Mia Yang
Rat King	Avery Ward
Rat Squires	Madison Okura
Party Teens	Makayla Ishii
Party Girls	Lylee Hunter
Fritz	Grace Halligan
Party Boys	Emmalyn Wood
Shepherdesses	Natalie Brill
Angels	Taylor Ankeny

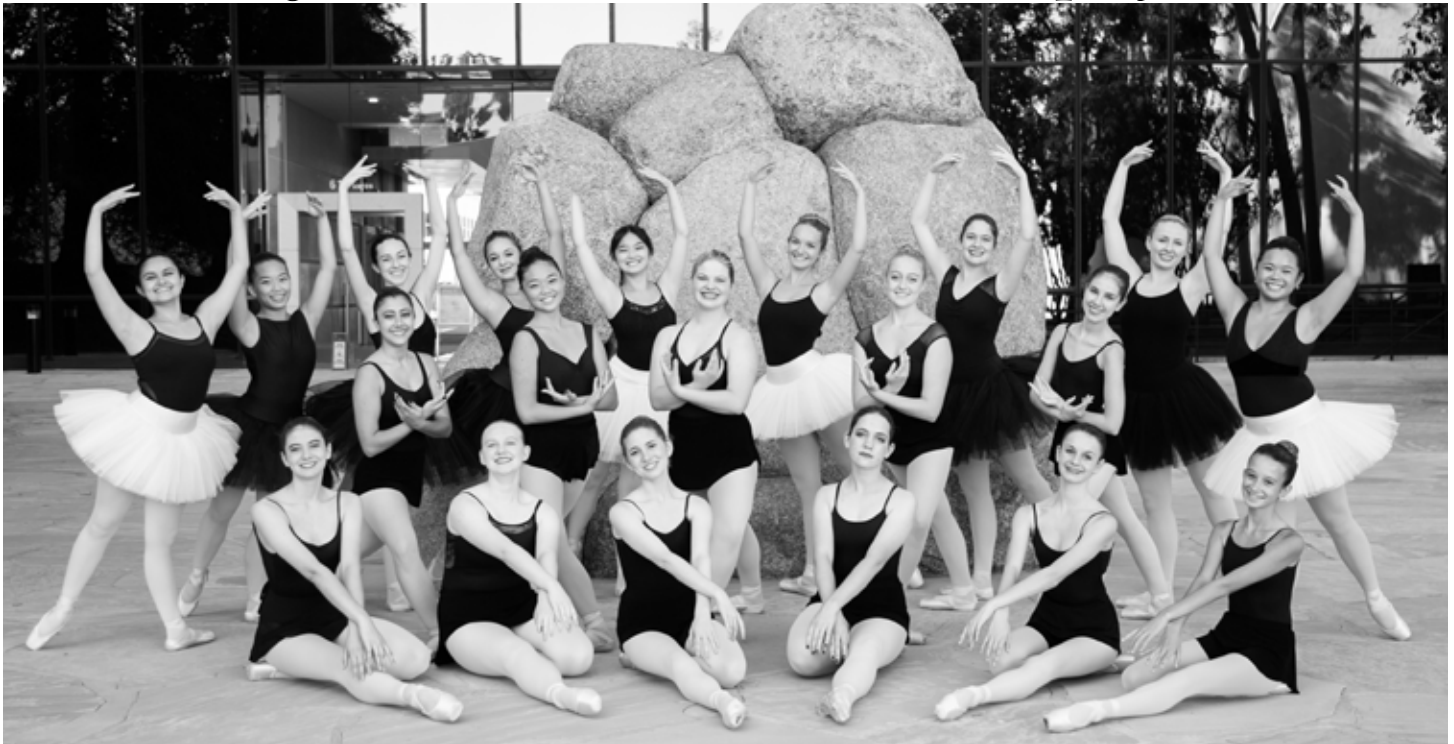
To our graduating seniors

Grace, Lily, Sophia & Sarah ~ We are incredibly proud of the young women you are, the impact you've had on our Company, and the role models you are to our younger dancers. Grace, Lily and Sophia, we have seen you blossom and watched you develop your beautiful dancing and your strong character throughout so, so many years of Nutcrackers, and Sarah, while this is your first Nutcracker with BE, we are so grateful you chose to spend it with us and that our Company has been blessed with your genuine kindness. We know this year's shows are bittersweet in that you are dancing at the top of your game but ending a chapter with Ballet Etudes.

Enjoy your time ON STAGE this year, and on behalf of your fellow Company dancers and teachers, we love you and will cherish these magical Nutcracker moments with you!

-Miss Sasha, Miss Madison & Miss Bridgette

Presenting the 2021-2022 Ballet Etudes Company Members



Left to right: **Back row:** Sophia Cardenas, Sarah Hom, Sophia Rodriguez, Grace Ng, Lily Kurimoto, Sierra Woolums, Lynnea Conlay, Ella Glenn, Makayla Arakaki **Middle Row:** Haylee Vujicic, Julie Kurimoto, Eden Mapel, Grace Hager, Grace Wendl **Front row:** Harper Turpin, Sarah Beyer, Isabella Long, Alison Conlay, Rachel Jaskowiak, Sami Summers



Senior Company Member

Sophia Cardenas

17 years old

Senior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#mirlitoninerrday



Senior Company Member

Sarah Hom

17 years old

Senior @ Sophos Christian Academy

My hashtag is:

#merryandbright



Senior Company Member

Lily Kurimoto

17 years old

Senior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#justdewit



Senior Company Member

Grace Ng

17 years old

Senior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#letitsnow



Senior Company Member

Lynnea Conlay

17 years old

Junior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#crushedit



Senior Company Member

Ella Glenn

16 years old

Junior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#baddie



Senior Company Member

Sophia Rodriguez

16 years old

Junior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#icedcoffee



Senior Company Member

Makayla Arakaki

15 years old

Sophomore @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#alldolledup



Senior Company Member

Sierra Woolums

16 years old

Sophomore @ Edison High

My hashtag is:

#spf sunscreen



Junior Company Member

Grace Hager

16 years old

Junior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#feeltheflurry



Junior Company Member

Eden Mapel

16 years old

Junior @ Pacific Coast High

My hashtag is:

#waitarentweanutfreestudio



Junior Company Member

Haylee Vujicic

16 years old

Junior @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#backupplan



Junior Company Member

Julie Kurimoto

15 years old

Sophomore @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#bromode



Junior Company Member

Grace Wendt

16 years old

Sophomore @ Mater Dei High

My hashtag is:

#grindneverstops



Apprentice Company Member

Sarah Beyer

15 years old

Sophomore @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#Jesusisthereason



Apprentice Company Member

Alison Conlay

16 years old

Sophomore @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#spicysnowflake



Apprentice Company Member

Rachel Jaskowiak

15 years old

Sophomore @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#mintyfresh



Apprentice Company Member

Isabella Long

16 years old

Sophomore @ St. Joseph High

My hashtag is:

#snowwhite



Apprentice Company Member

Harper Turpin

16 years old

Sophomore @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#nuttinbutagoodtime



Apprentice Company Member

Samantha Summers

14 years old

Freshman @ Huntington Beach High

My hashtag is:

#treetopper



HUNTINGTON
ACADEMY OF DANCE
Nurture • Challenge • Inspire

Huntington Academy of Dance would like to thank the Directors, Rehearsal Assistants, Volunteers and Board of Directors of Ballet Etudes for all of their efforts in making The Nutcracker possible this year.

We are proud of our dancers and are honored to be able to provide the rehearsal space necessary to make such a wonderful production possible.

We wish all of our dancers, faculty, staff and friends near and far a very Happy Holiday and much peace, love and health in the New Year!

Keep Dancing, Ballet Etudes dancers!



The Nutcracker Cast

Cast photos donated by Michael Salcido Photography



Sugar Plum Fairy
Sierra Woolums



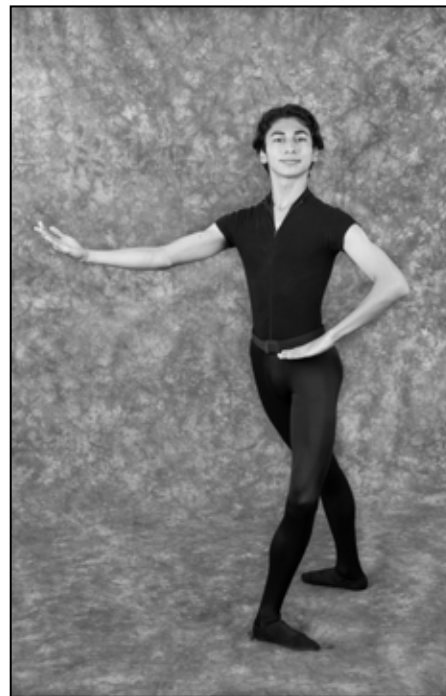
Snow Queen
Grace Ng



Dew Drop Fairy
Lily Kurimoto



Clara
Grace Wendl



The Nutcracker & Prince
Ian Roman



Arabian Princess
Sophia Rodriguez



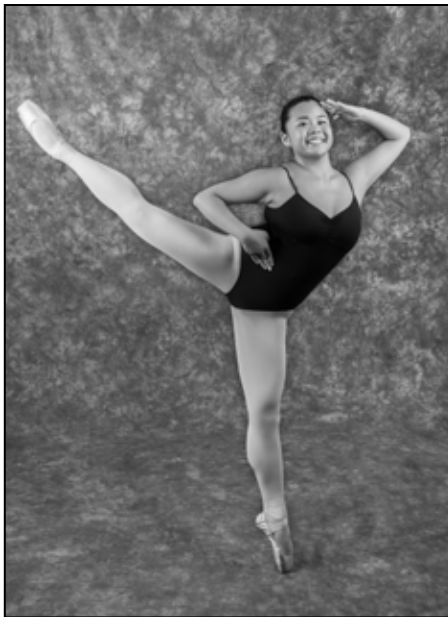
Mrs. Stahlbaum
Madison Simons



Mr. Stahlbaum
Mike Conlay



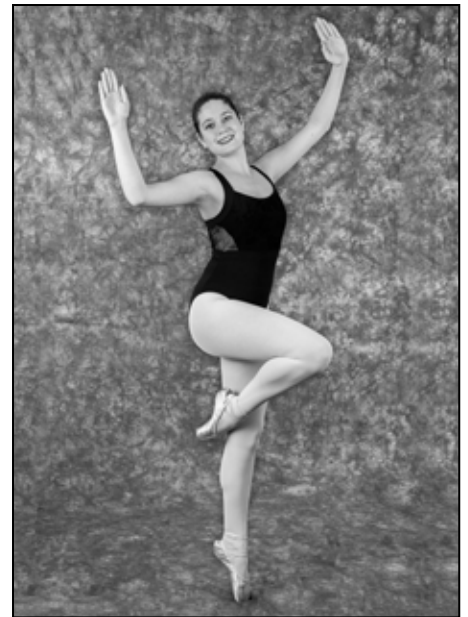
Grandmother
Jana Acciaccia



Soldier Doll
Makayla Arakaki



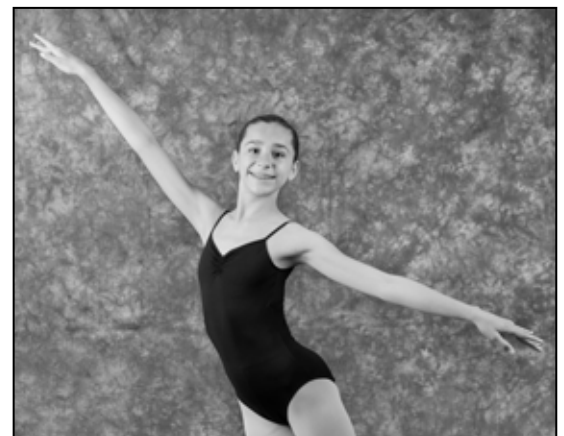
Columbine Doll
Ella Glenn



Harlequin Doll
Lynnea Conlay



Party Teen
Roxie Brookhyser



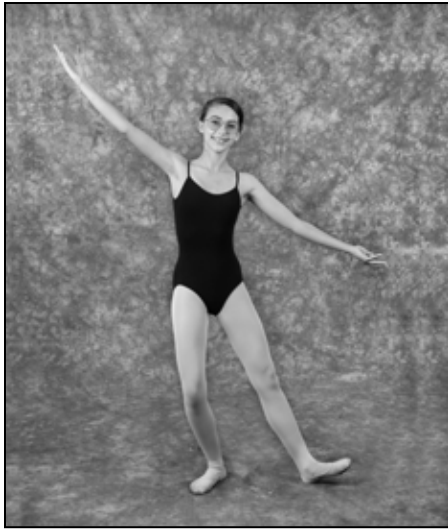
Party Teen
Sydney Hunter



Party Teen
Jada Kuns



Party Teen
Lauren Wendl



Jack-in-the-Box
Elizabeth Volonte



Jill-in-the-Box
Addison Kovaleski



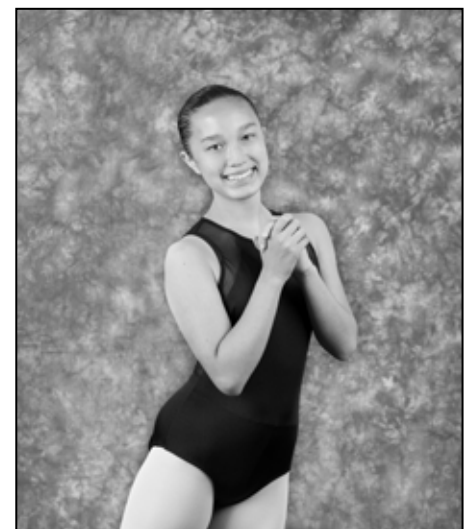
Party Girl
Jackie Gayler



Party Girl
Mackenzie Jasper



Party Girl
Kaylee Smith



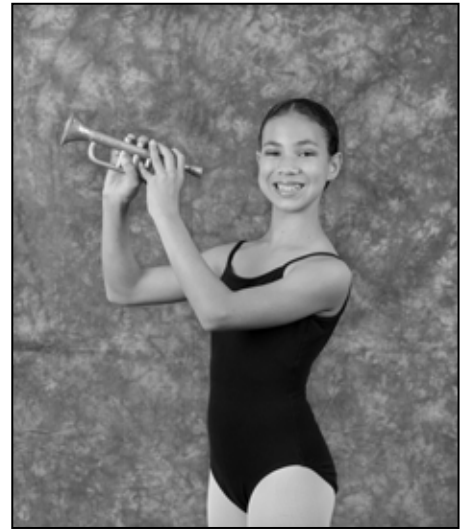
Party Girl
Kiana Smith



The Maid
Rachel Jaskowiak



Fritz
Ria Melwani



Party Boy
Priscilla Blum



Party Boy
Lylee Hunter



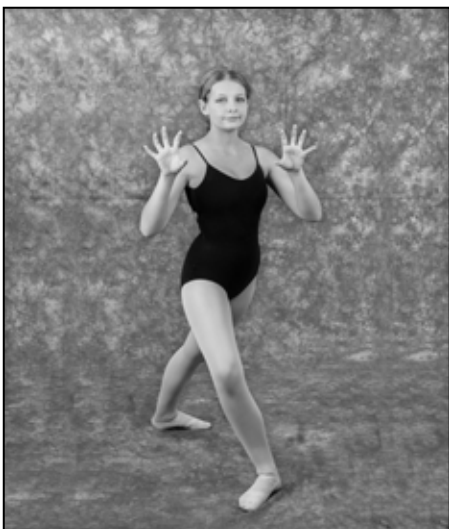
Party Boy
Caitlyn Nguyen



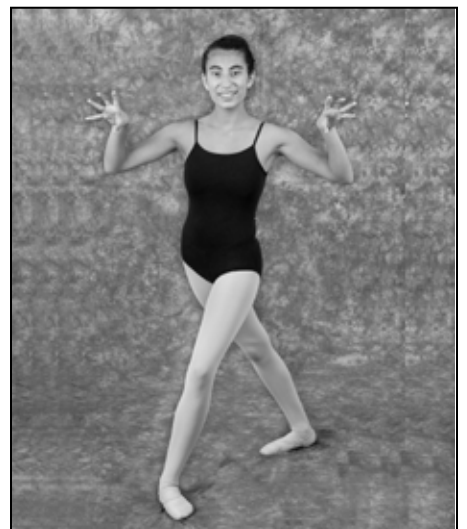
Party Boy
Sydney Scott



Rat King
Madeline Gerber



Rat Squire
Kaitlin Black



Rat Squire
Nicolette Kasravi



White Mouse
Shayne Swan



Mouse
Aubrey Erickson



Mouse
Kylie Gadberry



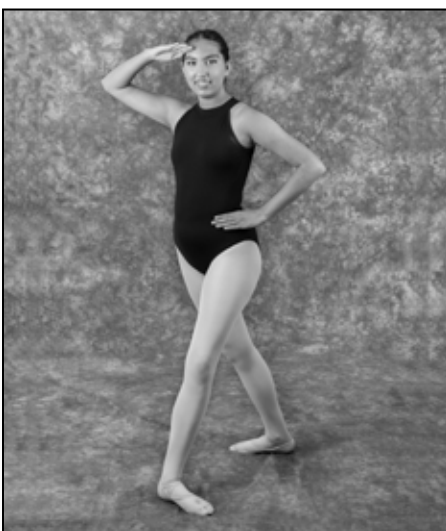
Mouse
Nyla Lin



Mouse
Elise Paulikas



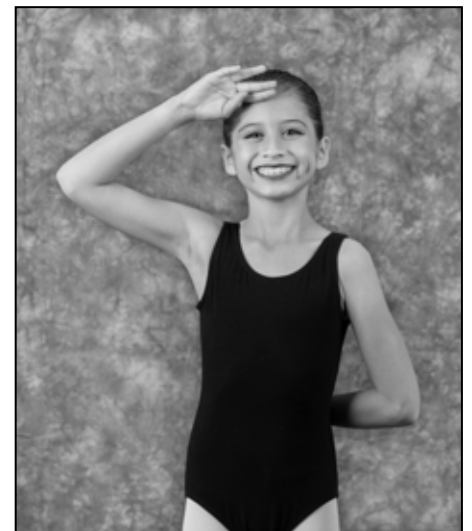
Mouse
Brie Polito



Nutcracker's Lieutenant
Monica Camacho



Soldier
Taylor Ankeny



Soldier
Natalie Luna



Soldier
Logan Ostaszewski



Soldier
Cici Strub



Soldier
Natalie Zylstra



Snow Princess
Sophia Cardenas



Snow Princess
Sarah Hom



Snow Princess
Lily Kurimoto



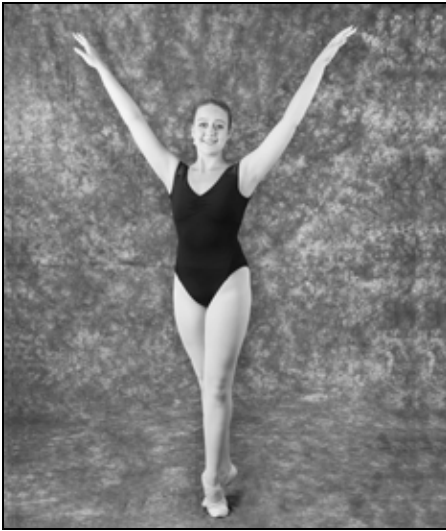
Snow Princess
Sophia Rodriguez



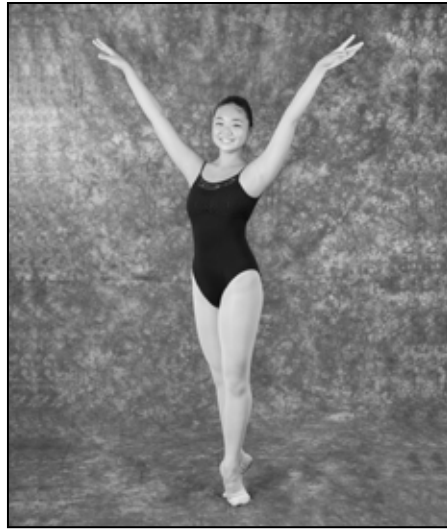
Snow Court
Sarah Beyer



Snow Court
Alison Conlay



Snow Court
Grace Hager



Snow Court
Julie Kurimoto



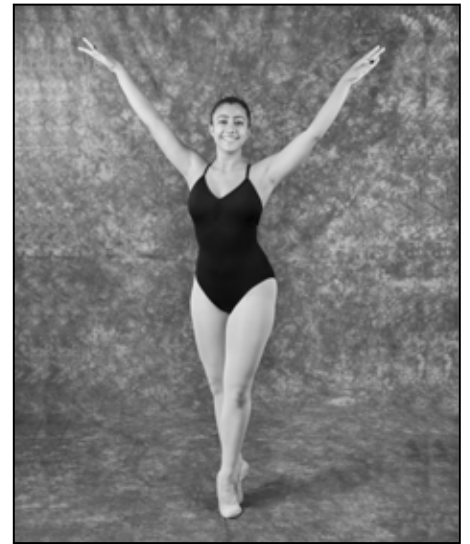
Snow Court
Isabella Long



Snow Court
Eden Mapel



Snow Court
Harper Turpin



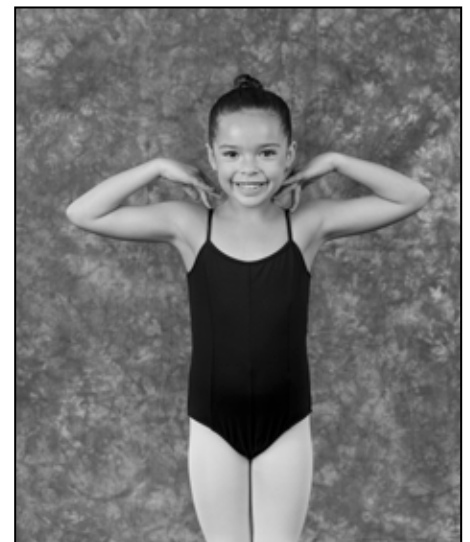
Snow Court
Haylee Vujicic



Snow Baby
Taylor Ankeny



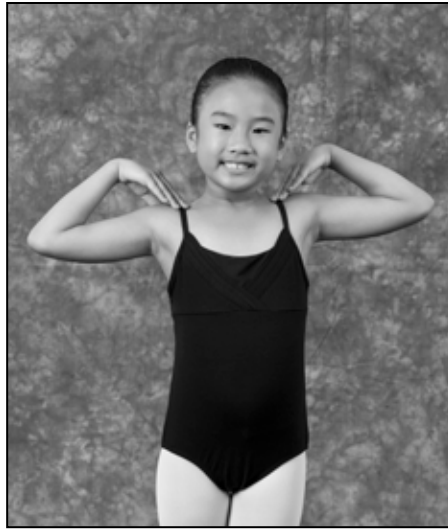
Snow Baby
Seika Chen



Snow Baby
Lilah Fenton



Snow Baby
Mikayla Kaplan



Snow Baby
Nyla Lin



Snow Baby
Logan Ostaszewski



Snow Baby
Juliana Claire Peralta



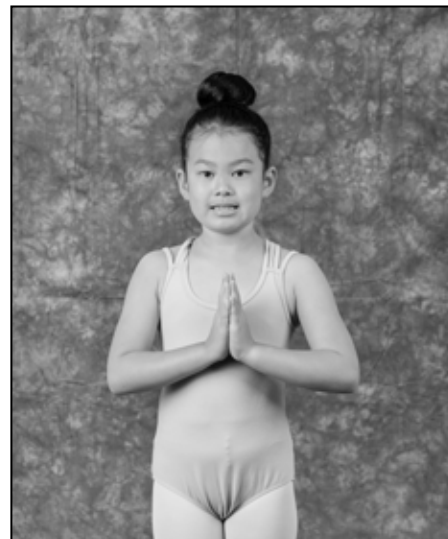
Snow Baby
Ellie Pobiega



Snow Baby
Gwendolyn Woods



Lead Angel
Samantha Summers



Angel
Seika Chen



Angel
Gwendolyn Woods



Arabian Handmaiden
Kayla Aviles



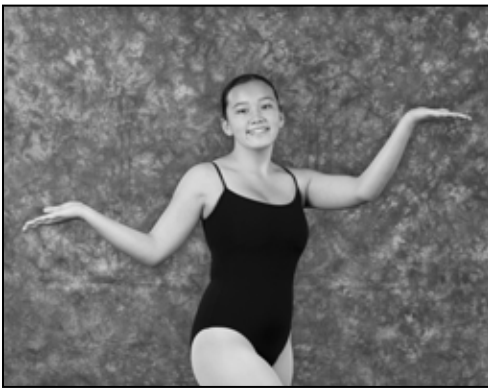
Arabian Handmaiden
Roxie Brookhyser



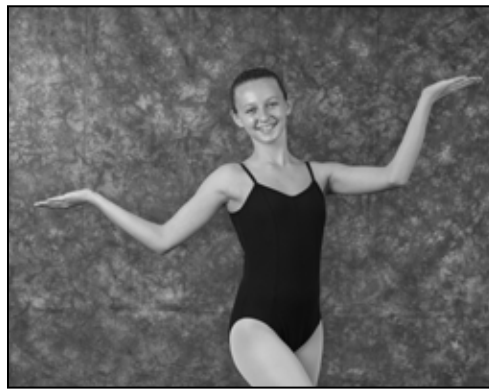
Arabian Handmaiden
Madeline Gerber



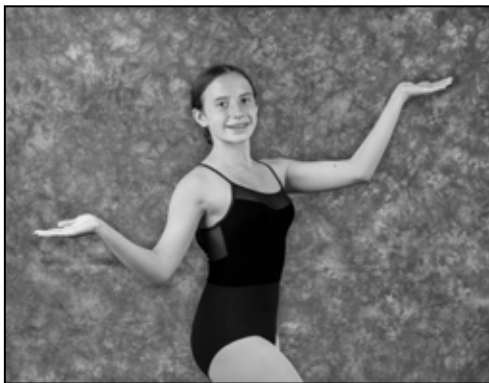
Arabian Handmaiden
Sydney Hunter



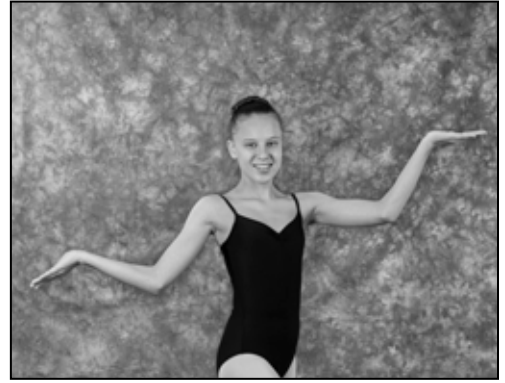
Arabian Handmaiden
Makayla Ishii



Arabian Handmaiden
Jada Kuns



Arabian Handmaiden
Avery Ward



Arabian Handmaiden
Lauren Wendl



Lead Baker
Madison Okura



Lead Baker
Mia Yang



Baker
Natalie Brill



Baker
Mia Dreger



Baker
Grace Halligan



Baker
Amaya Lesley



Mother Ginger
Mike Conlay



Ponchinella
Sharaya Dunsford



Ponchinella
Aubrey Erickson



Ponchinella
Kylie Gadberry



Ponchinella
Rose Halligan



Ponchinella
Vivian Larrazabal



Ponchinella
Natalie Luna



Ponchinella
Kyra Miller



Ponchinella
Brie Polito



Ponchinella
Cici Strub



Ponchinella
Shayne Swan



Ponchinella
Natalie Zylstra



Lead Mirliton
Sophia Cardenas



Mirliton
Grace Hager



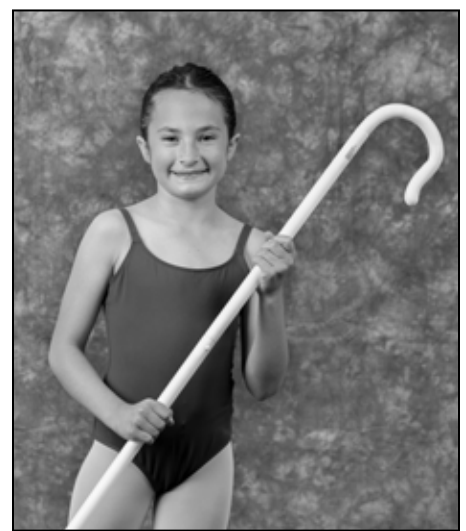
Mirliton
Julie Kurimoto



Mirliton
Eden Mapel



Mirliton
Haylee Vujcic



Shepherdess
Olivia Blake



Shepherdess
Priscilla Blum



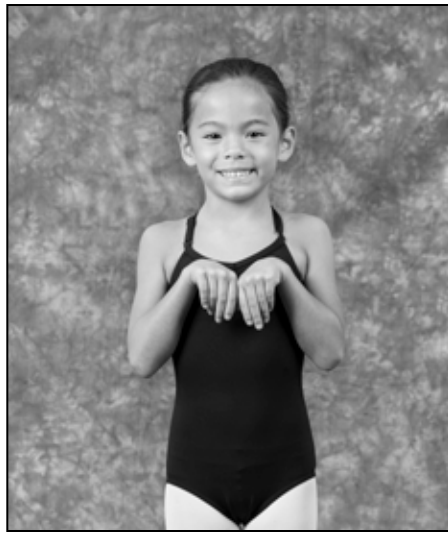
Shepherdess
Lily Fraser



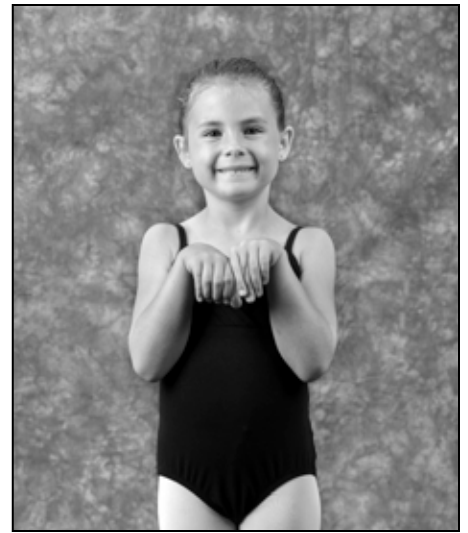
Shepherdess
Ava Perreira



Shepherdess
Emmalyn Wood



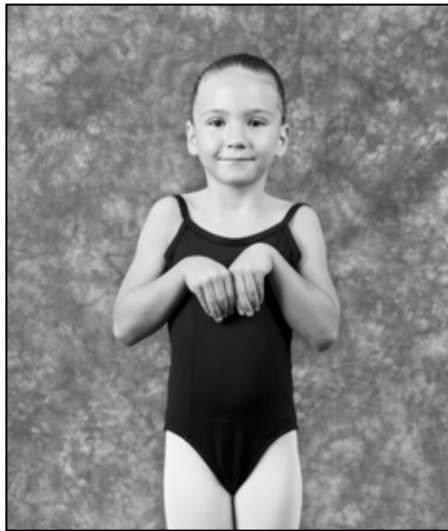
Black Lamb
Presley Yang



Lamb
Serena Lukich



Lamb
Abigail Reese



Lamb
Elizabeth Woods



Lamb
Harper Yang



Spanish Princess
Grace Ng



Spanish Senorita
Sarah Beyer



Spanish Senorita
Alison Conlay



Chinese Lead
Isabella Long



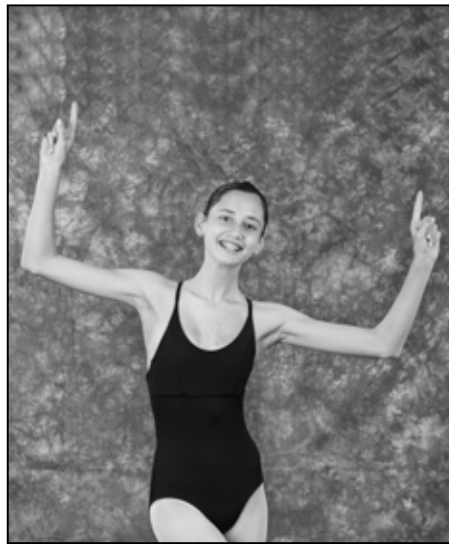
Chinese Lead
Samantha Summers



Chinese Lead
Harper Turpin



Chinese Chorus
Abrielle Berghammer



Chinese Chorus
Mia Dreger



Chinese Chorus
Jackie Gayler



Chinese Chorus
Lylee Hunter



Chinese Chorus
Mackenzie Jasper



Chinese Chorus
Amaya Lesley



Chinese Chorus
Caitlyn Nguyen



Chinese Chorus
Kaylee Smith



Chinese Chorus
Kiana Smith



Candy Cane Lead
Rachel Jaskowiak



Candy Cane
Priscilla Blum



Candy Cane
Natalie Brill



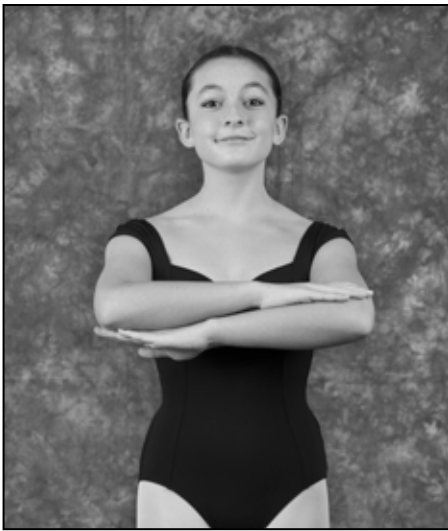
Candy Cane
Lily Fraser



Candy Cane
Grace Halligan



Candy Cane
Ria Melwani



Candy Cane
Ava Perreira



Candy Cane
Sydney Scott



Candy Cane
Emmalyn Wood



Rose
Makayla Arakaki



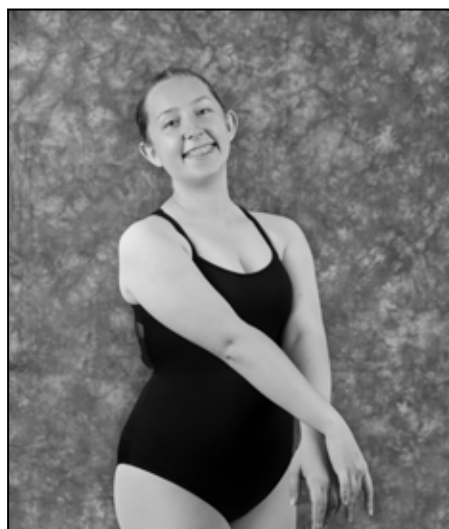
Rose
Lynnea Conlay



Rose
Ella Glenn



Rose
Sarah Hom



Fuchsia Flower
Kayla Aviles



Fuchsia Flower
Roxie Brookhyser



Fuchsia Flower
Ella Henderson



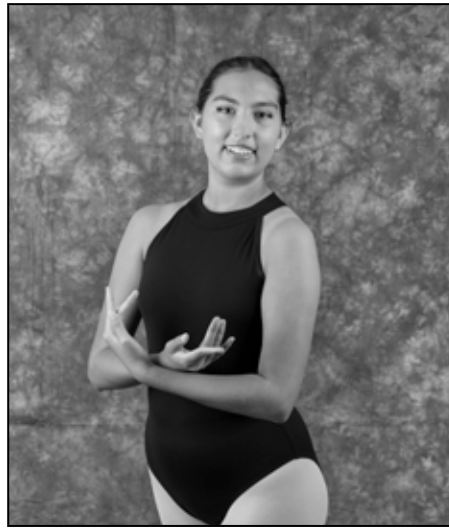
Fuchsia Flower
Makayla Ishii



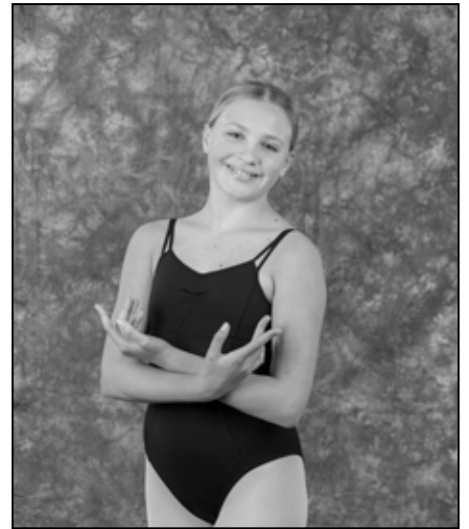
Fuchsia Flower
Avery Ward



Pink Flower
Kaitlin Black



Pink Flower
Monica Camacho



Pink Flower
Addison Kovaleski



Pink Flower
Madison Okura



Pink Flower
Elizabeth Volonte



Pink Flower
Mia Yang

Our "Sweets" Lilah Mae

We are so proud of how much you've grown in dancing, and can't wait to see you take your dreams further. We love you very much and Congratulations on your Nutcracker role!



*Love,
Daddy, Mommy
and Colton*

MICHAEL SALCIDO - PHOTOGRAPHER



@mas.focus
562.336.2056
masfocusphotography@gmail.com

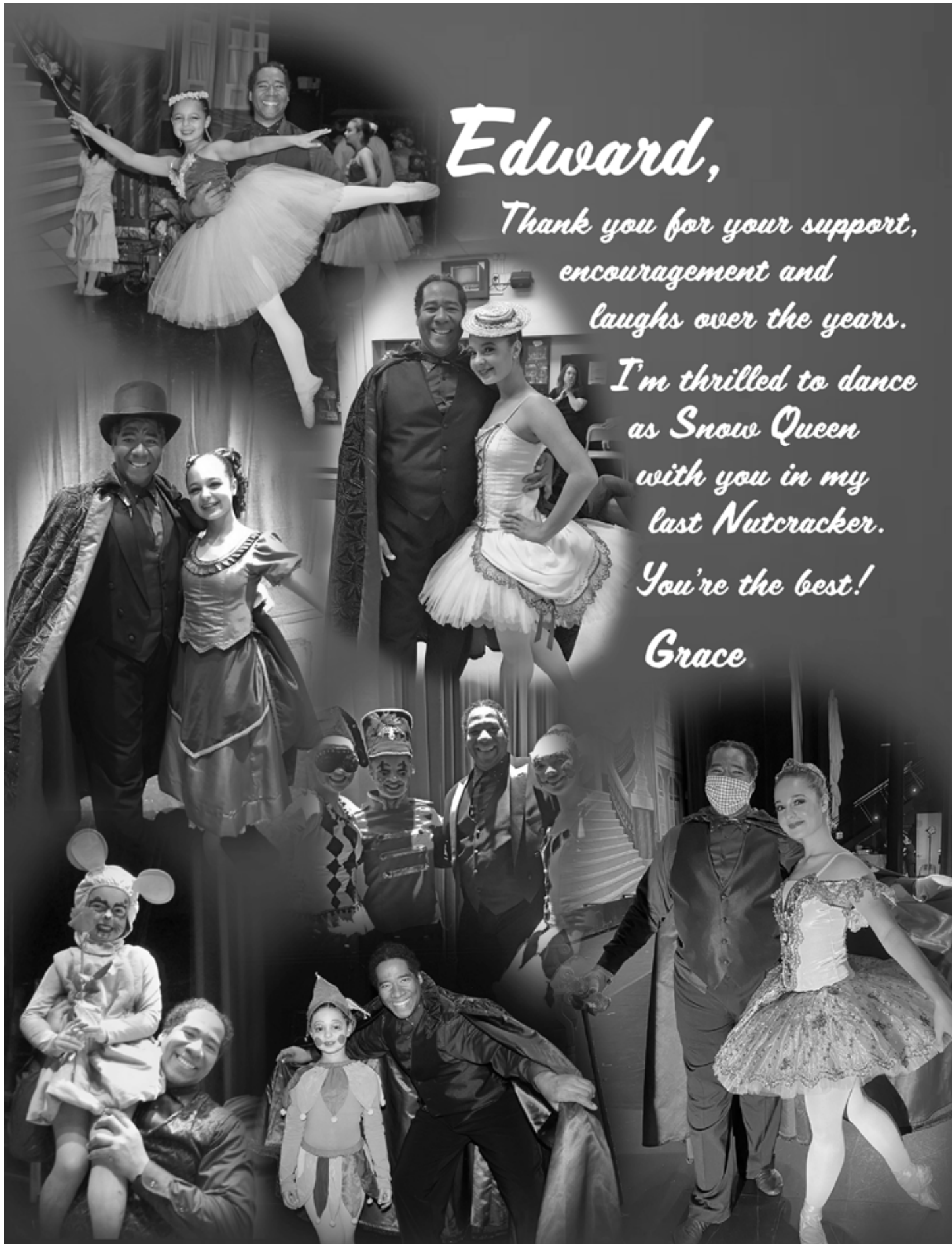


Sophia,
we love
you so
much for
being
YOU!



And we can't wait to cheer for you on your next chapter. ♥ Mami y papi





Edward,

*Thank you for your support,
encouragement and
laughs over the years.*

*I'm thrilled to dance
as Snow Queen
with you in my
last Nutcracker.*

You're the best!

Grace



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Register and pay for January
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No Enrollment Fee.

*Valid for
Ballet 1, Tap 1 and Jazz 1
classes only.

Offer ends January 31, 2022.
No cash or credit value.
May not be combined with other offers.

Winter Dance Schedule

Register NOW to save your spot!

Jazz 1

6+ yrs. * Monday * 4:30pm * Miss Allison

Ballet Level 1A and 1B

7+ yrs. * Ballet 1A * Tuesday * 4:30 pm * Miss Jessica

7+ yrs. * Ballet 1A/1B * Monday * 3:30 pm * Miss Jessica

7+ yrs. * Ballet 1A/1B * Saturday * 9:00 am * Miss Jessica

7+ yrs. * Ballet 1B * Wednesday * 5:30 pm * Miss Jessica

Tap 1

Wednesday * 4:30pm * Miss Jana



714.847.6657 * www.HAD4Dance.com * info@HAD4Dance.com
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LULLI
NIKOLAY
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SÓ DANÇA
SUFFOLK
WEAR MOI



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714-377-9902 • @dancethreadz



*Congrats on your 10th Nutcracker with Ballet Etudes!
You will make a beautiful Clara! We love you so much and
are so proud of you! Love, Dad, Mom, Lauren & Anya*



Sophia



*We are so proud of the beautiful dancer you have become, and
the commitment to your passion! Enjoy every moment of it!
Love Always – Mom, Dad, Lizzie, and your entire family.
We love you!*

Nicolette

Congratulations on your 10th Nutcracker!!

lots of love.... dad, mom, ryan, yiyaya, papou, cookies & squeaks



Lamb



Snowbaby



Party Girl



Candy Cane



Ponchi



Mouse



Chinese



Soldier



Party Boy



Angel



Mouse



Chinese



Soldier



Pink Flower

Taylor

How excited we are for your very first Nutcracker! We are so proud of you for everything you've done on and off the stage. We hope you enjoy every minute of this Nutcracker experience as much as your mommy enjoyed her time in the Nutcracker too. The very first gift we got in the hospital after you were born was from your Great-Aunt Tami Simons which was a sweatshirt that said, "Future Sugar Plum Fairy."

We know Aunt Tami and big brother Carter will have the best view watching your debut in The Nutcracker this year. We can't wait to watch you perform as a soldier and snowbaby in your first Nutcracker! CONGRATS on all of your hard work! We love you so much!

Love, Mommy, Daddy, and Carter

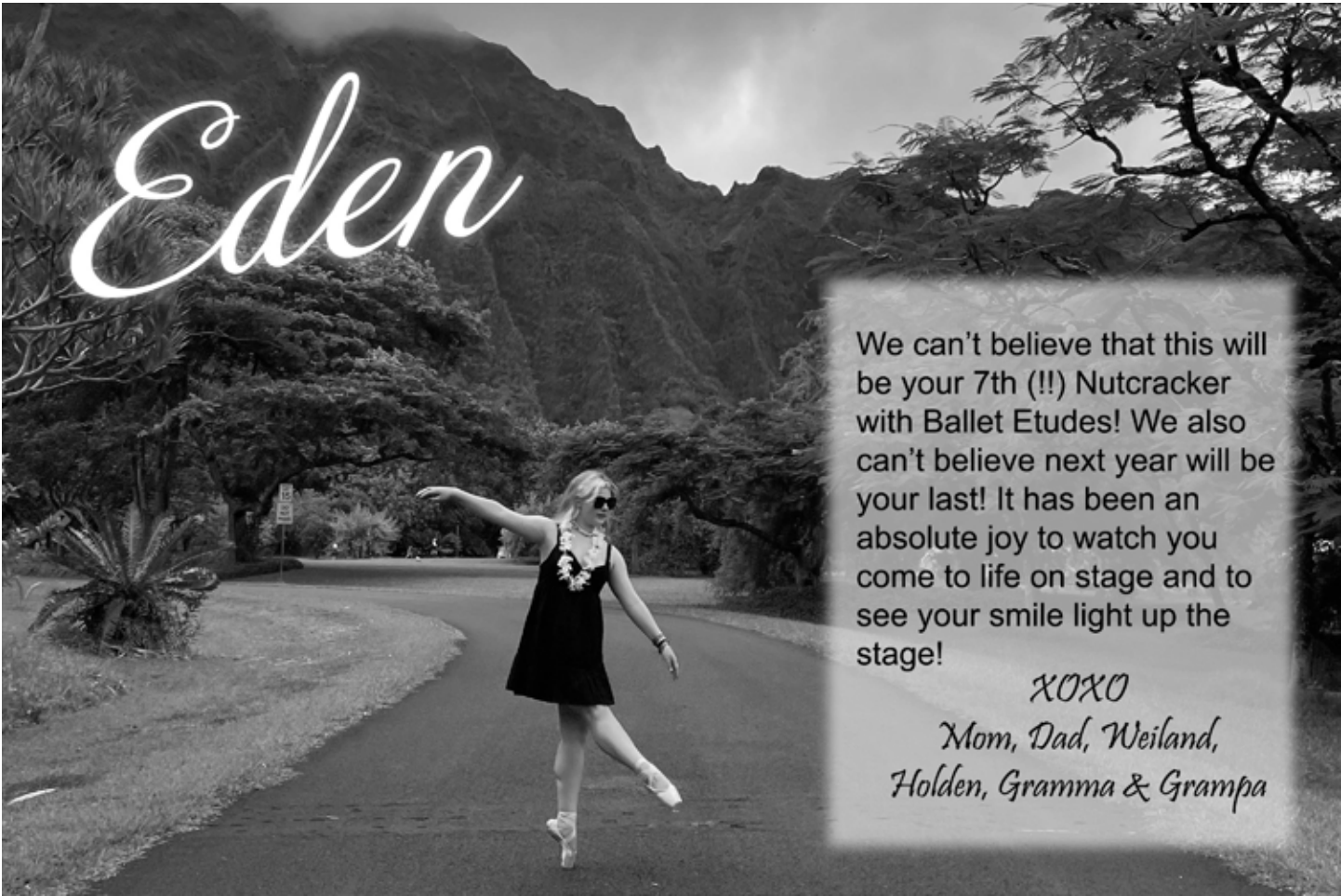




From a beautiful Snow Baby to a gorgeous Mirliton and a stunning member of Snow Court. Haylee, you have become an amazing dancer! We hope you enjoy every moment of this Nutcracker season! We love you! ~Papa, Mommy and Luka



Congratulations on your 6th Nutcracker! We love you! ~ Mom, Dad, Grace & Anya



Eden

We can't believe that this will be your 7th (!!) Nutcracker with Ballet Etudes! We also can't believe next year will be your last! It has been an absolute joy to watch you come to life on stage and to see your smile light up the stage!

*XOXO
Mom, Dad, Weiland,
Holden, Gramma & Grampa*



Makayla

We are all so thrilled to be able to see you back on that stage "LIVE" and in action again! Continue to work hard and keep up with your beautiful art of dance with great joy, grace and enthusiasm! Proud of you! Can't believe you were once our little black lamb and now you're the Soldier Doll and a beautiful Rose in your 10th Nutcracker performance! Bravo Mak!!

*Love you.
Mom, Dad,
Mylee, Mason
Grandmas & Grandpas
Arakaki & Ly*



Dear Grace . . .

We are so excited to see you back on the stage!

We hope you enjoy every moment doing what you love!

Mom, Nick, Grandma, Grandpa, Auntie, Uncle, James and Jackson



Dear Ella,
 We can't wait to watch you perform as
 Columbine Doll and Rose in your 10th
 Nutcracker!
 You amaze us every single day with the amount you
 can accomplish with basically no sleep.
 We love you!
 Mom & Dad



*Love mom, dad, Kiran
 and Sarina*



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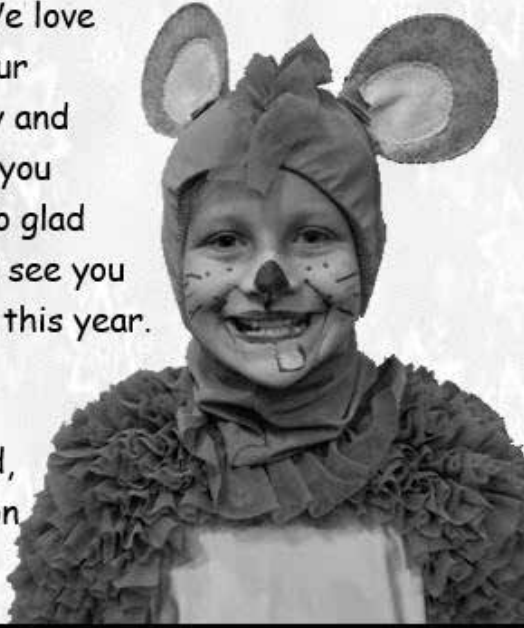
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Kaitlin,

From cute little mouse to mischievous rat squire, we love watching you grow. We are so proud of you in everything you do. We love seeing your creativity and joy when you dance. So glad we get to see you in person this year.

Love,
Mom, Dad,
& Jameson



Dear Kaitlin,
We love and support you in your love of ballet. We are so proud of your hard work year-round. We cannot wait to see you dance in person again!
Love and hugs,
Grammy T &
Grammy
Bonnie

Congratulations Monica



We look forward to watching you dance as the Nutcracker Lieutenant and a Pink Flower. 
Love, Mom, Poppy, Maclovia & Julian

Natalie

We are so proud of you and all of your hard work and dedication. Your love for dance shows as you shine on stage. We are excited to see you dance as a Baker and a Candy Cane this year.

We love you so much!
Mom, Dad and Chase

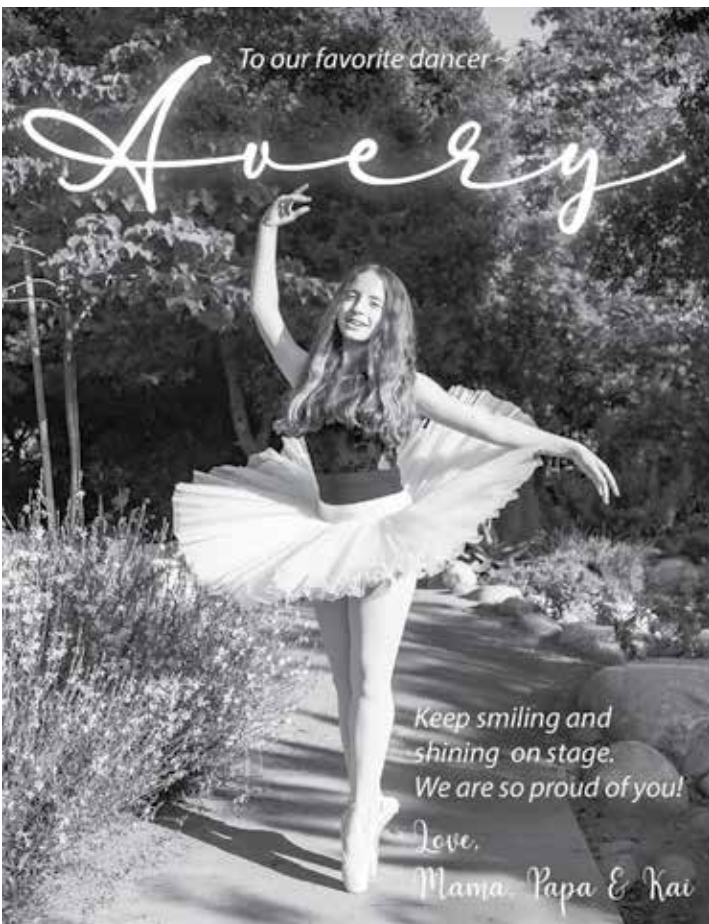
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Arabian

Handmaidens



Avery



Jada



Kayla



Lauren



Maddie



Makayla



Roxie



Sydney

Senior 2 Performing Group

Personal Lines

Grace and Rose: Congratulations! We are so proud of your dedication and hard work!
Love, Mom and Dad

Shayne: Congratulations on your role as the White Mouse! You always give your all when you walk through those doors. Your hard work is paying off and Mama and Daddy can see the passion in you. We love you so much! Love, Daddy, Mama, Carson, Chase and Jordyn

Dear Taylor: We can't wait to see you dance in your first Nutcracker! We know you will shine! Have fun!
Love, Grandma and Grandpa Franz

Jada: We are so proud of you! You are such a joy to watch and a beautiful dancer. Your dedication, perseverance and love of dance really shine! Love, Mom, Dad, Avery, Barkley & Hazel



Sierra

*Our sweet Sugar Plum
Dance with your
Heart*

*Let go, live in the
moment, trust yourself.*

*You are going to be
beautiful!*

*We believe in you and are
so very proud of you!*



*All of our love,
Mom, Dad,
Trevor, Papa
& Chloe*