

BECK CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Dance Education presents

# THE NUTCRACKER

Dec 2-10, 2023  
WRITTEN BY TCHAIKOVSKY



OATEY STAGE  
RECITAL HALL IN  
THE MCAT BUILDING

90<sup>th</sup> Beck Center  
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ANNIVERSARY

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# Act one begins

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Riley Candow, Andrew Flinn, Mike Jones.....Facilities

## ABOUT BECK CENTER

Beck Center for the Arts is proud to be a part of Northeast Ohio's professional theater landscape. Like our colleagues Playhouse Square, Cleveland Play House, Dobama Theatre, and Great Lakes Theater, Beck Center has a letter of agreement with Actors' Equity Association. We hire professional actors from the Northeast Ohio region, including members of Actors' Equity. Specifically, we are a Small Professional Theater (SPT) based on the number of seats, number of our performances, and the maximum weekly hours of work we provide to actors. We are also a producing theater. We produce every show on our stages. Meaning we choose the play, cast and rehearse it, build the sets, props, and costumes, direct and perform the music, and design lights and sound, utilizing regional resources and talent, all for you, our valued patron of the arts. Thank you for supporting live theater!

## HOUSE INFORMATION

**CAMERAS OR RECORDING DEVICES** – Copyrights strictly prohibit the photographing, audio or video recording of all productions. Cameras and cell phones may be confiscated.

**CELL PHONES** – Please turn off all cell phones and audible devices as the sound and screen light are distracting to the audience and especially the cast. Texting is not permitted during performances.

**ACCESSIBILITY** – Wheelchair ramps, an elevator, and accessible restrooms make all areas of Beck Center accommodating to patrons. *Theatergoers in wheelchairs should request seats in Row J.*

**LARGE PRINT PLAYBILLS** – Available upon request at our Customer Service desk.

**PARKING** – Convenient, free, on-site parking.

**RESTROOMS** – Restrooms are located on the ground floor near the Senney Theater, the garden court at the west end of the Galleria, and on the second floor just outside the elevator.

**SMOKING** – Beck Center is a non-smoking facility. Smoking is permitted outdoors.

**FIRE** – Exits indicated by red lights are the shortest route to safety. In case of an emergency, please walk to the nearest exit.

**LOST & FOUND** – Customer Service maintains a Lost & Found service as a courtesy to our patrons. Please report any misplaced items, lost or found, immediately.

**RECYCLING** – Beck Center believes in recycling! If you decide to discard your playbill, bottles or cans, please do so in the designated recycling receptacles.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE HOURS** – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; and open through intermission on performance dates. For ticket information visit [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or call 216.521.2540.



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## ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

**ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES (ALDS)** amplify and clarify sound by cutting down or eliminating ambient noise. Assistive Listening Systems are installed in both the Senney Theater and the Studio Theater and were completely overhauled during the summer of 2021 to improve sound quality and performance. Headsets may be used at any seat and, with the upgrade, induction neck loops are also now available for patrons who use hearing aids and cochlear implants with a “T” switch. Ask your audiologist whether your hearing aid or cochlear implant has a “T” switch (telecoil) and how to use it with an assistive listening headset.

### WHO CAN USE AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE?

Everyone! While induction neck-loops are only compatible with hearing aids and cochlear implants that include a “T” switch, the ear speaker can be used by anyone who wants a little volume boost.

### WILL THE PATRONS NEXT TO ME BE DISTURBED BY THE ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE?

ALDs are designed to deliver sound directly to an individual and work using specific reserved radio frequencies so as to not conflict with any other devices or equipment in use by the theatre or our patrons. In addition, the ear speakers and the neck loops are designed to be as inconspicuous as possible. It’s likely no one will even know you’re using one.

### ARE ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES AVAILABLE FOR EVERY SHOW AND EVENT AT BECK CENTER?

YES! As long as the event is held inside the Senney or Studio Theater.

### DO I NEED TO REQUEST AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE IN ADVANCE?

You do not need to request an ALD in advance of arriving at the theatre and an ALD can be requested at any time during an event. ALDs are distributed on a first-come-first-served basis free of charge. You may request your ALD at the Customer Service desk in the Beck Center lobby.

**IS THERE A COST FOR USING AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE?** No, ALDs are distributed free of charge on a first-come-first-served basis.

**DO I NEED TO SIT IN A SPECIFIC PLACE TO USE AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE?** No, all of our ALDs will work from any seat in any of our three theatres.

**DO YOU CLEAN YOUR ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES?** Yes, we follow the manufactures maintenance recommendations and use antimicrobial wipes to clean all earpieces and neckloops when they are returned before placing them back into storage.

**DO I NEED TO ARRIVE EARLY TO OBTAIN AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE?** While obtaining an ALD will not take very long, we strongly recommend that all patrons arrive AT LEAST 20 minutes before the performance to allow time to park, get to the theatre, and find your seat.

### I HAVE A HEARING AID OR COCHLEAR IMPLANT, WILL AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE WORK FOR ME?

Induction neckloops are also now available for patrons who use hearing aids and cochlear implants with a “T” switch. Ask your audiologist whether your hearing aid or cochlear implant has a “T” switch (telecoil) and how to use it with an assistive listening headset. Patrons find this to be the best way to use the ALD’s.

**I HAVE SEVERE HEARING LOSS, WILL AN ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE WORK FOR ME?** ALDs will generally help anyone who can understand normal conversation either without aid or with a hearing aid. For more severe hearing loss, an ALD alone may not be enough.

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact customer services at 216.521.2540 or email [boxoffice@beckcener.org](mailto:boxoffice@beckcener.org). Hours of operations; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; and open through intermission on performance dates.

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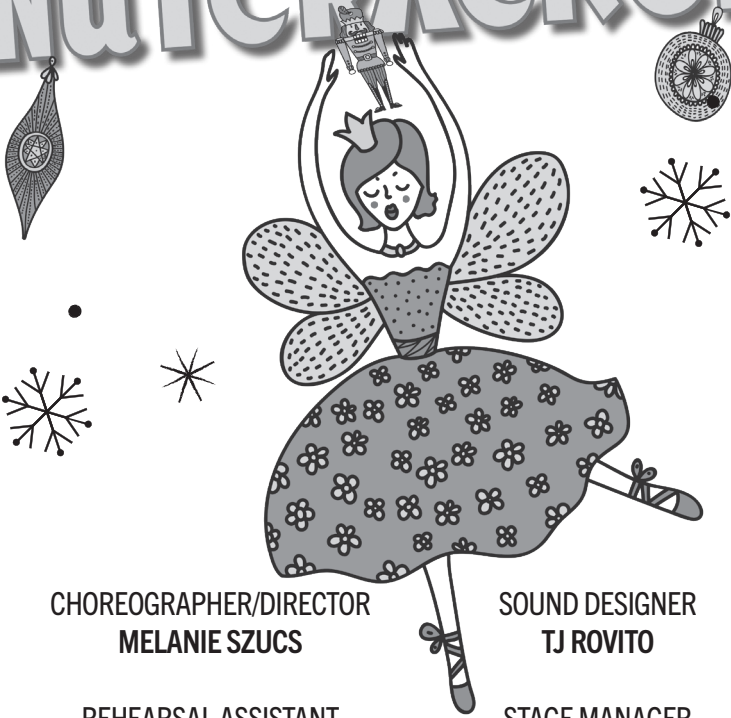
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# THE NUTCRACKER



CHOREOGRAPHER/DIRECTOR  
MELANIE SZUCS

SOUND DESIGNER  
TJ ROVITO

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# CAST OF CHARACTERS

Maids.....	Isabelle Armstrong, Olivia Neal
Mrs. Stallbaum .....	Persis Sosiak
Clara .....	Audrey Willmer
Clara's Friends .....	Stella Arsena, Clare Stock
Party Guests .....	Marie Albano, Judi Bar, Norah DiIulio, Elizabeth Harrison, Liliana Harrison, Lia Hileman, Sara Lance, Clare Stafford, Kate Wainwright
Mouse Doll .....	Violet Hills
Ballerina Doll.....	Veronica Hess
Soldier Doll .....	Edie Barcelona (12/3 2P, 12/9), Paige Cipollo (12/2, 12/10), Lauren Eberly (12/3 6P, 12/8)
Mice .....	Selin Cakaloglu, Suzette D'Agostino, Sarah Dowling, Katherine Miketo
Soldiers .....	Sofia Brown, Gemma Denton, Rose DiBiase, Vera Dodyk, Danica Herberger, Ingrid Matera, Mackenna Muzychenko, Emma Phillips, Shikchhya Pradhan, Bridget Schuler, Anne Singler, Charlotte Watts
Snowflakes .....	Edie Barcelona, Audrey Boetger, Paige Cipollo, Lauren Eberly, Marissa Ferner, Veronica Hess, Violet Hills, Elise Thomas, Paige Thomas, Riley Stallbaum
Angels .....	Annette Baron, Noora Coppola, Illy DeAloia, Nora Demmitt, Della McBride, Lyanna Payton, Elizabeth Pruchenski, Bernadette Scali, Hannah Theofilis, Ava Vranesevic
Spanish.....	Edie Barcelona (12/2, 12/3 6P, 12/10), Paige Cipollo (12/3 2P, 12/8, 12/9)
Russian.....	Nora Christel, Taylor Cipollo, Lauren Eberly, Madison Greene, Abigail Lance, Ariana Marich, Milena Osborne, Riley Stallbaum, Nidea Stevenson, Chloe Wozniak
Chinese.....	Elise Thomas (12/2, 12/8, 12/10), Paige Thomas (12/3 2P&6P, 12/9)
Arabian.....	Marissa Ferner
Flutes .....	Isabelle Armstrong, Nora Christel, Abigail Lance, Ariana Marich, Olivia Neal, Milena Osborne, Nidea Stevenson

## Waltz of the Flowers

Dew Drop Fairy .....	Paige Thomas (12/2, 12/8, 12/10), Elise Thomas (12/3 2 & 6P, 12/9)
Flowers .....	Edie Barcelona, Audrey Boetger, Paige Cipollo, Taylor Cipollo, Lauren Eberly, Marissa Ferner, Madison Greene, Veronica Hess, Violet Hills, Riley Stallbaum, Elise Thomas, Paige Thomas, Chloe Wozniak
Garland Girls .....	Emme Eberly, Annie Kloepfer, Kaja McKelway, Mackenna Muzychenko, Maggy Whiteamire
Mother Ginger .....	Kate Wainwright
Polinchenelles.....	Joanna Bindernagel, Josie Busic, Emma Christel, Juliet Cox, Ellya Crute, Aine Donovan, Annie Kloepfer, Izzie Lombardo, Sonia Singler, Evangelene Vieaux
Sugar Plum Fairy .....	Audrey Boetger



## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

*The Nutcracker Ballet* premiered in the U.S. in 1944 by the San Francisco Ballet. It gained popularity ten years later with George Balanchine's version for New York City Ballet. Today it is the most popular ballet in the world.

Beck Center's production has been danced by our students for twenty years. In 2003 only Act II was presented. A few years later the party scene was added. Last to be added was the scene with the mice and soldiers!

My children grew up attending a live performance of the *Nutcracker* every year. Even my boys loved it although I must confess their favorite part was the soldiers and the cannon blasts! It's just a magical story with rich music and colorful costumes and is the perfect way to usher in the holiday season.

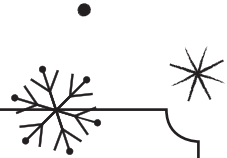
Thank you for supporting our dancers. Each one loves to dance and is filled with such enthusiasm and joy. They can't wait to share their dancing with you!

*Peace and Joy,*

**Melanie Szucs**

Associate Director of Dance Education

P.S. Please join us again in April for our spring ballet *The Ugly Duckling*, presented in the Senney Theater April 13-15, 2024.

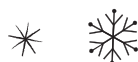


### **Special Thanks**

*To all of the volunteers who contributed to the success of this event – we could not attempt it without you! I am thankful to have your support and assistance.*

*To the cast for their enthusiasm,  
hard work, and dedication.*

*To DABC (Dance Alliance of Beck Center) for their continued efforts on behalf of Dance Education at Beck Center.*



## Nutcracker 2023 Dedications

**To KAM, our darling mouse!**  
*Love, Mom, Dad, John, Luke, Mary*

**Riley S., You are graceful like the falling snow, exacting like a Russian dancer, and beautiful like a flower. We are very proud of you and we love watching you dance!**  
*Love, Mom and Dad*

**We love you, Squeak-zette Luise!**  
*XOXO, Mommy, Daddy, E & A*

**Brava, Vera! You deserve a trophy!**  
*Love, Joe*

**Dette, We are proud of you & can't wait to see you shine on stage! Love you!**

**To our Angel Ava - We are proud of you!**  
*Love, your family.*

**Vera, You go girl! You're the best!**  
*We love you Vera! GJGJ*

**To our beautiful ballerina, Izzie. We're so proud of you! Break a leg!**  
*Love Mom, Dad, and Cooper*

**Marissa, We are so proud of you!**  
*Love, Mom, Dad & Alexa*

**We are so looking forward to watching you dance in the Nutcracker. You have such beauty and grace as you dance. This is just the beginning ballerina Bernadette!**  
*We love you. Nana and Papa*

**Vera, dance, dance wherever you may be.**  
*Gram & Gramps Dodyk*

**Vera, U got this, ur pliés & pirouettes R more magical than a twerking unicorn. Break a leg, but not 4 realz.**  
*We love U & R so proud of U Dad & Jen*

**Emme-From the court to the stage, keep shining in everything you do. Hold those flowers high! Love Mom & Dad**

**Vera, you'll always be my tiny dancer and as you've grown I have loved watching you dance your little heart out.**  
*Love, Mom*

**Lauren-Your dedication and grace make us proud. Perseverance and hard work will take you far. Watch out for the mice!**  
*Love Mom & Dad*

**Emma, We are so proud of your hard work. We love seeing your dancing spirit on stage!**  
*Love, Mom, Dad & Jack*

**Graceful as a snowflake, beautiful as a flower, quick as a mouse.**  
*Bravo, Violet! We love you!*

**Congratulations Aine! We are so proud of you.**  
*Love, Mom & Dad*

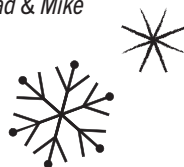
**To our Aunt Joan – we want to thank you for supporting our passion for dance.**  
*Love, Emma and Nora.*

**WTG, Vera! We love you in your dance era!**  
*Jack, Oliver & Otto*

**Ellie - We are so proud of you and all your hard work! Love, Mom & Dad**

**Annie J - We are so proud of you and love to watch you dance! Love, Mom & Dad**

**Mackenna, We enjoy watching how graceful you are. You are our talented and beautiful ballerina! Love, Mom, Dad & Mike**



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Marilee MacAskill  
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