

# Littleton Youth Ballet and Littleton Ballet Academy

## Nutcracker Information

### Pre-Professional Division (LYB)

1st Nutcracker letter

August 1st, 2017

#### Important Dates

##### **Friday, August 25th**

LYB Auditions: Ballet 3 and 4A 4:30 to 6:00 pm, Ballet 4B and 5 6:15 to 7:45 pm

##### **Saturday, August 26th**

LYB Auditions: Ballet 6, 7, and 8 10:00 to 12:00 pm

##### **Tuesday, September 12th to Thursday, September 28th**

Nutcracker T-Shirts on sale

##### **Friday, September 15th**

LYB contract due

##### **Tuesday, September 19th**

Rehearsals begin for The Nutcracker (depending on casting)

##### **Friday, September 22nd**

Nutcracker contract due

##### **Friday, September 29th**

Final deadline for Nutcracker contract due

##### **Saturday, September 30th**

Final deadline LYB contract due

##### **Wednesday, October 11th**

Nutcracker tickets go on sale

##### **Saturday, November 11th**

Nutcracker Cast Chili Party 6:30 to 9:00 pm

##### **Sunday, November 12th**

Sugar Plum Fairy Tea

##### **Monday, November 20th to Thursday, December 14th**

Nutcracker Outreaches (Schedule will be provided in October)

##### **Wednesday, November 29th**

Mandatory Tech Rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 5:00 to 9:00 pm All Casts

##### **Thursday, November 30th**

Mandatory Dress Rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 5:00 to 9:00 pm All Casts

## Friday, December 1st

Performances at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 7:00 pm

## Saturday, December 2nd

Performances at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 2:00 and 7:00 pm

## Sunday, December 3rd

Performances at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 12:00 and 4:00 pm

## General Information

- All dancers must have a current registration completed as well as tuition and registration fee paid before the auditions in August.
- **Nutcracker contracts are now required.** Please fill out the Nutcracker contract by September 22nd. Final deadline is September 29th. The form can be found online. Go to the Family Portal and go to EVENT REGISTRATION. Click on the button and a calendar will open up. At the bottom, left hand side (the last **Monday** of the month) there is a **pink** event called Nutcracker Contract. Please fill this form out (it only takes a few minutes) and make sure you read the agreement text.
- Rehearsals may take place during the following times: Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:30 pm (not Ballet 5), Fridays from 5:00 to 8:15 pm, and Saturdays between 2:00 and 6:30 pm.
- Rehearsals for The Nutcracker are NOT done during class time.
- There will be no Sunday rehearsals.
- Generally, Saturday rehearsals may be kept to a minimum until October 21st for dancers in Ballet 7 and 8 depending on casting.
- There will be three rehearsals during the week of November 27th. There will be a run-through on Tuesday, November 28th at LBA. All dancers will be required to be at **mandatory** tech rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre on Wednesday, November 29th and a **mandatory** dress rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre on Thursday, November 30th.
- All dancers may also need to come to some additional costume fittings. (These will be scheduled around classes and rehearsals). Some costume fittings will occur during class or rehearsal times. LBA provides all costumes. No one is allowed to keep any costumes.
- There is a lunch break from 1:30 to 2:00 pm for dancers who are here all day. All dancers are expected to clean up after themselves. If you spill something we ask that you let a staff member know immediately.
- We ARE having rehearsals Thanksgiving weekend. Dancers will have the opportunity to participate in some outreaches during this week. All dancers will have rehearsals Saturday, November 25th.
- We also have some outreaches scheduled in December. A complete schedule and sign up instructions will be sent out in October.
- Dancers are allowed two EXCUSED absences only. **All absences must be excused in advance and need to be in writing, including the reason.** Email is sufficient. If you send us an email excusing an absence you will receive a response within a day. If you don't please resend the message. **If a student is sick on a rehearsal day, please send us an email to ballerinalba@gmail.com AND call the front desk at (303)794-6694. If no one answers the phone, LEAVE a message.** Dancers with unexcused absences MAY be dismissed from the production and no fees will be refunded. This has happened last year so please don't test us on

this issue. Reasons for missing rehearsals are family vacations, mandatory school functions, and illness.

- PLEASE BE **10 minutes early** for rehearsals. If a student is constantly late he/she may be dismissed from the production and no fees will be refunded. **Even being five minutes late can be problematic.** You may drop students off early if necessary.
- All dancers need to attend the entire rehearsal she or he is scheduled for. Do NOT ask to be excused early. **This will count as an absence.**
- Most parts will be double and maybe triple cast. We will let you know final casting by the middle of October (before tickets go on sale).
- If you have questions or problems, please let us know in advance.
- We had a lot of issues with complaints about casting in the past so we have instituted the following policies:
  - You have the right to ask about casting but you may not receive the answer you want and it most likely won't change anything.
  - Observe the 24-hour rule: you have 24 hours to be sad if you did not receive the part you want. After that, you need to accept your part and work hard to be the best cast member you can be.
  - Casting is a difficult process and we try to be fair. Students may be asked to learn a few different roles in the beginning to make sure we have made solid decisions.
  - If a student or parent complains about casting verbally, through texts, or on social media sites, the student may be dismissed from the production and all fees will be forfeited.
  - There are NO specific level parts and casting is not always done by level. (For example: the role of Candy Canes has ranged from levels Ballet 2 to Ballet 4 because the costumes are easily adaptable.)
  - Please keep in mind that dancers need to fit into the costumes we already have.
  - It is VERY likely that students will repeat parts. We cannot promise that dancers will receive new parts every year! But just because a dancer did one part last year doesn't mean they will do that role the following year.
  - Casting is ALWAYS subject to change and we may ask some students to understudy a role in addition to participating in their own role or roles in case of injury or illness.
  - Please remember that taking part in The Nutcracker is an amazing experience and students should be honored to be a part of the production.
- All students must continue coming to regular ballet classes in order to participate in performances. Rehearsals do not take the place of class.
- December tuition will be due for all dancers performing in The Nutcracker.
- Please let the front desk know ASAP if you cannot participate in the Sunday performance due to religious reasons.
- You will receive a 2nd Nutcracker letter closer to performance. PLEASE read this carefully. Let us know if you have any questions.
- There are plenty of volunteer jobs available. A Sign-Up Genius email goes out closer to the performance date.
- Valid sources of information are included in emails sent from Littleton Ballet Academy, any paperwork we hand out and post on the bulletin board, as well as the following people: Bobbie and Ali Jaramillo who are the co-directors of LBA and our staff at the front desk: Anna Rutter Jennifer Haws, and Christene Woodward. Please make sure questions are first directed to us or our staff so we don't have misinformation circulating.

# The Nutcracker

Presented by Littleton Youth Ballet and Littleton Ballet Academy

Joanna Ramsey Theatre

6933 Raleigh St. Westminster, CO 80030

Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$32 for reserved tickets purchased in advance.

Tickets are \$2 higher if purchased on the day of the show.

Participating in The Nutcracker is often a dance student's dream! It is an honor and privilege to perform in The Nutcracker and we are delighted that you are taking part. And if anyone asks if this is the "real" Nutcracker ask all of our young dancers who are so excited to be part of this production! It's definitely real!

