

Introducing...

The WSD Nutcracker Sweets



Each December, WSD produces a Nutcracker Ballet. While the pandemic has limited our ability to perform live, we are meeting the challenge of this season with a new performance that celebrates our WSD Nutcracker tradition and allows our students to perform for a virtual audience. WSD ballet students will dance “The WSD Nutcracker Sweets” featuring music and choreography from the Nutcracker Ballet with a focus on Act II dances. Our dancers will be filmed in small groups, and the resulting ballet will be live streamed for a worldwide audience!

Dancers will rehearse both online and in studio throughout the month of November. Filming will take place **Saturday, December 5th and Sunday, December 6th** at the Bothell studio. A full filming schedule will not be available until enrollment is complete, so please mark both dates on your calendar. The full production will have its live stream debut on **Saturday, December 19 at 7:00pm PST**.

Who can take part in the performance?

All Series II Ballet students from Pre-Ballet/Tap to Ballet V are eligible to participate in the WSD Nutcracker Sweets. Participating in Nutcracker is like adding an additional class (or more for our older dancers) to your weekly schedule for the months of November and December. Nutcracker dances are not practiced in weekly technique classes, however dancers must be enrolled in a ballet class for Series II and maintain regular attendance in their weekly technique classes to be eligible to perform.

PBT, Level I and Level II dancers will dance one piece within the full production. Upper Level Dancers will dance one piece plus the Waltz of the Flowers finale. Dancers may have the option of adding additional pieces to their schedule once enrollment is completed.

To participate, dancers will need to register for their Nutcracker Group through the Parent Portal by Thursday, **November 5th**. Groups are divided by Level (PBT, Level I, Level II, Upper Level) We encourage our WSD families to review this handout, the “how to register” handout and the rehearsal schedule, and understand the commitment outside of class before committing to the performance.

What is the time commitment for performers and their families?

We have high expectations of those who chose to perform. It’s important to understand the commitment of performance ahead of time. Dancers must attend all of their scheduled rehearsals.

Additionally, dancers will need to practice their choreography outside of scheduled rehearsals. Dancers will be provided with video and music to help practice at home.

What is the financial commitment for performers and their families?

Each participant will be assessed a non-refundable performance fee, due at registration. This year's performance fee includes:

- Choreography and rehearsal time
- Rental of costumes pieces from the WSD costume collection
- One (1) virtual ticket providing access for a single device to the live stream performance
- One (1) copy of the full production DVD

The performance fee for PBT, Level I and Level II dancers is \$95.00.

The performance fee for Level III, IV, V and Teen/Adult dancers is \$125.00.

Dancers will need to provide their own black tank style leotard, pink tights and pink ballet shoes.

Additional live stream performance tickets will be available for sale for \$20.00 per access code. More information about ticketing will be available December 1st.

What precautions will be taken regarding COVID-19?

Each piece within the full production will be limited to 5 dancers, so that we can maintain social distancing during any in studio rehearsals and filming. Some rehearsals will be conducted online. Costuming will incorporate masks.

What is the rehearsal schedule?

A draft rehearsal schedule has been provided. Adjustments to the schedule may be necessary depending on the size of the cast, and if a particular group needs extra studio time. We will do our best to keep to the draft schedule so our dancers can plan far in advance.

What options are available for dancers who cannot participate in studio for rehearsals or filming?

Some of our dancers are not able to participate in studio at this time, so we have created a section of our performance that is 100% virtual. Dancers interested in this option should register for the "All Ages Party Scene" piece. All rehearsals and filming for the performance will be done virtually.

If you have questions about the WSD Nutcracker, please call us at 425-481-7899 or email info@washingtonschoolofdance.com

