

# WSD Nutcracker 2021

## What is the WSD Nutcracker?

The Nutcracker is a 100+ year old ballet tradition that tells the story of Clara, her magical Nutcracker doll, and all of their Christmas Eve adventures. The WSD Nutcracker is our very own interpretation of this classical ballet, with a narration, a shortened running time and a cast of our very own WSD Ballet students.

The WSD Nutcracker will be performed in multiple performances Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at **Glacier Peak Performing Arts Center**. All participating dancers will be assigned at least one show, with some dancers double cast. Casting and performance times are dependent on participation and capacity limits at the theater. The performances will run approximately one hour.

**Performance assignments and casting of individual dances will not be announced until October 11th.**

## Who can take part in the performance?

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

To participate, dancers need to register through the parent portal, acknowledge the performance waiver and pay performance fees by October 9th. We encourage our WSD families to review the contract and the rehearsal schedule, and understand the commitment outside of class before committing to the performance.

## What precautions will be taken regarding COVID-19?

For performers - casting for each piece will be limited, so that we can maintain social distancing during in studio rehearsals and on stage. WSD COVID-19 Rules and Procedures will apply to all rehearsals and performances. Some rehearsals may be conducted online and costuming will incorporate masks.

**Performers may need to provide either proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test within three days of the scheduled Dress Rehearsal and Performance. While we have not confirmed that this will be required of our performers, we want to set the expectation ahead of time that these measures will be required so families can make a decision about participation in advance.**

For audiences – auditorium capacity is restricted by the theater. As the public health situation evolves, policies and procedures regarding events like ours are constantly being updated. We will be following the guidelines set by the Glacier Peak Performing Arts Center at the time of our

performance in December. While we cannot anticipate everything that will be required, we can expect masking, social distancing and health checks for audience members at a minimum. We are planning to offer a live streaming option for those who can't join us in the theater auditorium.

## 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.

Please read the **Rehearsal Schedule** carefully and make sure you understand the requirements of the pieces you are cast in.

- Each student is allowed to miss **ONE** non-mandatory rehearsal.
- **MANDATORY rehearsals must not be missed for any reason. There are no exceptions to this policy.**
- All performers must attend the Dress Rehearsal and all assigned Performances.

### **Dress Rehearsal (at Glacier Peak High School)**

Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm – 8:00pm (Cast #1 and Soloists)

Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm – 8:00pm (Cast #2 and #3)

Depending on capacity, we may be able to combine both casts into the Friday rehearsal. The final dress rehearsal schedule will be announced **October 11<sup>th</sup>**, along with performance assignments and casting.

- Dancers quarantined due to COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure will be allowed to be able to attend **MANDATORY** in studio rehearsals and non-mandatory rehearsals via Zoom and will not be counted as absent, however there will be no Zoom alternative for the Dress Rehearsals or Performances. Dancers and families should be aware there is a risk of not being able to participate in the WSD Nutcracker performance due to the timing of a COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure.
- Dancers stay backstage during the performances, and must be present for the entirety of the show.

## What happens if a dancer misses a rehearsal?

Dancers who miss a mandatory rehearsal, or who miss more than one non-mandatory rehearsal will be dismissed from the production. **There are no exceptions to this policy.** This is not intended to be punitive, but is merely the reality of staging a production of this size with limited rehearsal time. Dancers need to be present to learn the choreography and to feel confident for performance.

# 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
- Two (2) ticket vouchers for the live performance

The performance fee for Pre-Ballet/Tap dancers is \$95.00.

The performance fee for Level I and II dancers is \$115.00.

The performance fee for Level III, IV, V and Teen/Adult dancers is \$135.00. There is an additional \$35.00 fee for pointe dancers participating in Snow.

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

While dancers will not need tickets to the performances, friends and family who wish to be in the audience will need to purchase a ticket for the show, or use one of the two ticket vouchers provided for each participant.

**Tickets are \$17.00 per person.**

Theater capacity limits will be strictly enforced, and each person attending the performance will need a ticket of their own for that particular show.

We are also planning to offer live streaming of the performance, though availability and pricing are still being determined.

Tickets will go on sale November 15<sup>th</sup>, and more information will be available as that date approaches.

# Who can audition for the role of Clara?

Dancers currently enrolled in a Ballet I class can audition for the role of Clara. Clara auditions will be held at WSD Bothell on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 3:00pm. Pre-registration is required to audition here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45A8AD2CA7F9C43-clara>

# 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.

