



BALLET
CO. LABORATORY

2018 NUTCRACKER IN WONDERLAND PERFORMANCE GUIDE
for parents and students

Welcome to Nutcracker in Wonderland 2018! We are very excited for this brand new production and hope you are too. This guide was created to help create a positive and successful production week experience. Parents and students should review this guide so they know what to expect at the theater. You will also find information on what items students need to bring to production week rehearsals and performances.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Story of <i>Nutcracker in Wonderland</i>	2
Production Week Schedule	3
Sign In/Sign Out Procedures	4
Production Week Quick Tips	4
Location & Contact Information	4
Theater Etiquette & Expectations	5
Photos & Videos	5
Costumes	6
Hair, & Makeup	7
Volunteers	8

Act I

On Christmas Eve, the Stahlbaum family throws their annual holiday party. A studious Clara is home from college for the holidays, and reluctant to engage in her brother Fritz's merry-making. Fritz attempts to steal one of her favorite childhood books: *Wonderland*. As their party guests begin to arrive, excited about the holiday celebration, Clara is absorbed in rediscovering the story of *Wonderland* and takes little interest in the festivities.

Clara emerges from her book when a latecomer arrives. It's Patty, a grade school friend of Clara's. They haven't seen each other in ages and Patty has brought Clara a gift—a beautiful, classic Nutcracker from Germany. Patty's joy is contagious, and she manages to persuade Clara to join the dancing.

The final arrival to the party is Clara's eccentric Uncle Drosselmeyer. Everyone is thrilled when he begins to perform magic tricks. Clara is apprehensive when Uncle Drosselmeyer takes her book, but she begins to relax with the other guests and enjoy his theatrical descriptions of magical *Wonderland*. Then Clara asks him to tell the Nutcracker's story. Although Clara knows that these tales could only exist in her imagination, she cannot help but feel something tangible when Uncle Drosselmeyer finishes his storytelling. Soon after, Patty has to leave the party and Clara is saddened by her departure. She decides to retire to her room early, taking the Nutcracker and the *Wonderland* book along.

Clara reads her book until she grows tired and falls asleep on her desk, Nutcracker in her arms. The door to her bedroom opens and the White Rabbit sticks her nose out to explore. Who is this creature asleep with this book? Suddenly, the clock strikes midnight! The White Rabbit has lost track of time and departs quickly. Clara awakens, surrounded by rats who have crept in while she was sleeping. As they spin her around the room, Uncle Drosselmeyer enters...but something is different about him. All at once, the room begins to shrink and the Rat Queen and King emerge from the shadows. Clara begins to panic, but Patty arrives on the scene. A battle ensues as Patty tries to protect Clara and guide her to the door. This upsets the Rat Queen and she commands the rats to close in on the pair. Clara chooses to face the Rat Queen to save Patty, and the pair are able to escape through the door.

Shocked by her own boldness, Clara runs away. Patty follows her, reassuring her that she has been brave. As they dance together, Clara begins to gain confidence in herself. Bonded by their battle and rediscovered friendship, Clara and Patty waltz into a flurry of snowflakes that transport them to the whimsical world of *Wonderland*.

Act II

Clara and Patty travel through this strange new place, looking for someone to direct them. All the inhabitants of *Wonderland*, including the Mad Hatter, begin to gather to ponder their unfamiliar guests. Little do Clara and Patty know as they set out to explore that the Queen of Hearts had seen them enter her *Wonderland*. Along their journey, Clara and Patty encounter the mischievous Cheshire Cat and the mesmerizing Caterpillar who gives them treats. The Flamingos play a lively game of croquet, and the ever-late White Rabbit bounces in again, racing Time. Clara and Patty join their new acquaintances at the Tea Party, hosted by the Mad Hatter. After the party, Clara and Patty happen upon the Cards, who trail behind the spiteful Queen of Hearts. She is not happy that Clara and Patty have disrupted her realm and wants them gone. She bellows to the Cards, "Off with their heads!" Clara and Patty hide behind the rose bushes and manage to get away from the Queen. Flowers waltz outside the palace, and in a final whirlwind, Clara and Patty sneak back home.

Suddenly, Clara awakes to find herself back in her bedroom. Could it have all been a dream?

PRODUCTION WEEK SCHEDULE

TECH REHEARSAL - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20 3:15-8:30pm			
Level	Call Time	Spacing on Stage/Dress Rehearsal	Rehearsal End Time
Little Party Children	4:00pm	4:30pm	7:30pm
Time	3:45pm	4:15pm	8:30pm
Caterers	3:30pm	4:00pm	8:30pm
Tea Party Attendees	3:15pm	3:30pm	8:30pm
SCHOOL PERFORMANCE - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 1:00PM			
Level	Call Time for more spacing	Class Start Time	End Time
Little Party Children	10:00am	11:30am	2:15pm
Time	10:00am	11:00am	2:30pm
Caterers	10:00am	11:00am	2:30pm
Tea Party Attendees	10:00am	11:00am	2:30pm
EVENING PERFORMANCE - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 7:30PM			
Level	Call Time	Class Start Time	End Time
Little Party Children	6:00pm	6:15pm	9:15pm
Time	5:30pm	5:45pm	9:15pm
Caterers	5:30pm	5:45pm	9:15pm
Tea Party Attendees	5:30pm	5:45pm	9:15pm
MATINEE PERFORMANCE - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22 10:00AM			
Level	Call Time	Class Start Time	End Time
Little Party Children	8:30am	8:45am	11:45am
Time	8:00am	8:15am	11:45am
Caterers	8:00am	8:15am	11:45am
Tea Party Attendees	8:00am	8:15am	11:45am

SCHEDULE NOTES

- ★ Arrive as close to the call time as possible. Arriving too early can impact check-in processes and chaperone/costumers may not be on site yet.
- ★ The performance run time is approximately 90 minutes. Students will be dismissed at the end of each performance after they have changed - pick up times are approximate.
- ★ We will do our best to start and end all rehearsals on time. On occasion, a rehearsal or performance may run over. Thank you for your patience and flexibility!

SIGN IN/SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

Students must be signed in and out by a parent/guardian/trusted adult each day.

- ★ Please walk your student into the theater and sign in with Miss Amy.
- ★ At the end of each rehearsal and performance, send one parent/guardian to sign out with Miss Amy.

QUICK TIPS FOR PRODUCTION WEEK

- ★ Students should wear their regular class attire and warm-up clothes for Thursday's tech rehearsal.
- ★ Full costume, hair, and makeup is needed for Friday and Saturday performances. Students are welcome to do a 'test run' of hair and make up for the Thursday rehearsal.
- ★ Students may bring homework, books, or quiet activities to stay busy when they have down time.

LOCATION & CONTACT INFORMATION

LOCATION

All production week rehearsals and performances will be held at the Mabel Tainter Center for the Arts. Enter through the lobby doors. Street parking is available.

Mabel Tainter Center for the Arts

205 Main Street E, Menomonie, WI

CONTACT

Day-of-Performance Emergencies For day-of emergencies during production week, such as an illness, contact Amy Trayers 651.331.1850.

Ballet Co.Laboratory For general questions, contact Director, Zoé Emilie Henrot at 303.247.1039 or zhenrot@balletcolaboratory.org.

THEATER ETIQUETTE & EXPECTATIONS

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Professional behavior is expected of all students at all times. Students must conduct themselves in a kind, respectful, and responsible manner during all rehearsals and performances. All students should follow the below guidelines at the theater:

- ★ Work together and help one another backstage.
- ★ Be respectful towards ballet staff, directors, stage crew, chaperones, volunteers, fellow students, etc.
- ★ No running, horseplay, pushing, shoving, or negative language
- ★ No talking is allowed backstage during dress rehearsals and performances.
- ★ Clean up after yourselves and keep all areas including restrooms, dressing rooms, and backstage areas in the manner in which you found them (or better!)
- ★ Remain backstage until the end of each performance. Students will not be permitted into the house or the lobby during the show.
- ★ Parents and guests are not permitted backstage. Students may visit with family and friends in the lobby after the performance.
- ★ After performances, change into street clothes before going into the lobby.

FOOD AT THE THEATER

When possible, students should eat before arriving to the theater (particularly during tech rehearsal and all performances). Bring your own snacks if needed. Snacks should be non-messy (example: don't bring Cheetos). Students should bring a filled water bottle each day. Food and drinks are not allowed near costumes, on stage, or in the house.

BACKSTAGE SUPERVISION & CHAPERONES

At the theater, students are supervised by parent volunteer chaperones and BCL staff. Chaperones will ensure students are escorted through the building and are signed in and out to a parent/guardian each night. However, volunteers and trusted adults are available and present backstage should they need something.

While students are encouraged to bring activities to keep them busy during down time, chaperones may also bring quiet, non-messy activities or electronic devices with video for dress rehearsals or performances to help entertain our younger students when they have a break.

PHOTOS & VIDEOS

Photography and video of all rehearsals and performances is prohibited (except when organized by Ballet Co.Laboratory). Copyright of this production is owned by Ballet Co.Laboratory.

Volunteer chaperones may take pictures of students in costume in the dressing rooms. Chaperones may not take pictures backstage or from the wings during performances or rehearsals.

COSTUMES

COSTUME HANDLING RULES

What you need to know

- ★ Absolutely no eating or drinking anything other than water in your costume.
- ★ All costumes must be hung after use. Do not leave them on the floor in a heap.
- ★ Please hang all costumes on the rack so that the front faces left. Pin the nametag on the left sleeve/left side of the costume so that it is visible while hanging. This makes them easier to sort through and keep organized.
- ★ Be gentle while pulling up your costumes. Start pulling at the waist until it is over your hips. Then, pull by the straps.
- ★ If your costume has a tutu, do not sit in a chair or lie down while wearing your tutu. Do not pull the sides of your tutu up into a “taco” while going through doorways - doing so rips out the tacking in the tutu and causes wrinkles. Instead, tilt your skirt to clear the frame.
- ★ Costumes do not leave the studio or theater without expressed permission from the Costume Manager (Hope) or Artistic Director (Zoé).

Additional costume, makeup, and hair notes

- ★ Arrive to the theater in your warm ups, tights, and leotard with hair done.
- ★ All students should bring supplies to the theater to fix hair if necessary (hairbrush, hairspray, bobby pins, binders, etc.).
- ★ Students are encouraged to not share hair brushes or combs
- ★ Performance ready hair means no wisps. Use hairspray or gel.
- ★ Boys do not need to wear mascara or lipstick. Light stage makeup is encouraged.
- ★ Ballet pink briefs (if required for your role) are to be worn over the leotard/tights.
- ★ Do not wear any jewelry. Personal jewelry is best left at home.
- ★ Remove any nail polish on fingernails before arriving to the theater.

COSTUME SUPPLEMENTS TO BE PROVIDED BY STUDENT					
Role	Level	Leotard	Tights	Other	Shoes
Party Children	Level 1	Nude camisole leotard	Pink footed tights	Ballet pink briefs	Pink ballet shoes
Time	Level 3	Nude camisole leotard	Pink footed tights	n/a	Pink ballet shoes
Caterers	Level 3	Nude camisole leotard	Black footed tights	n/a	Black jazz shoes*
Tea Party Guests (girls)	Level 4	Nude camisole leotard	Pink tights	Ballet pink briefs	Pointe shoes

MAKEUP TO BE PROVIDED BY ROLE

Level	Makeup List	Instructions
Little Party Children	Pink Lipstick (warm tone) Pink Blush (warm tone) Make-up remover wipes	Bring makeup in a small bag, Makeup will be applied by volunteers at the theater. Label all items with student's name.
Time and Caterers	Foundation (to match skin tone) Powder (to match skin tone) Black liquid or pencil eyeliner Black Mascara Nude eyeshadow palette Pink blush (warm tone) Pink Lipstick (warm tone, natural looking, not bold) Make-up remover	Apply all foundation and eye makeup before arriving to the theater. Apply blush, lipstick, and other touch-ups as needed after warm-up class.
Tea Party Attendees	Foundation (to match skin tone) Powder (to match skin tone) Eyelashes and glue Black liquid or pencil eyeliner White Kohl pencil Black Mascara Nude eyeshadow palette Eyebrow pencil (to match your natural color) Pink blush (warm tone) Red Lipstick (warm tone, natural looking, not bold) Make-up remover	Students may apply foundation and eye makeup before arriving to the theater if they prefer. Apply blush, lipstick, and other touch-ups (or all makeup) as needed after warm-up class.

HAIRSTYLES

All Levels	Hair Instructions
Girls	<p>Party Children & Party Teens: Wear hair half up, half down, away from the face.</p> <p>For all other roles - Long hair: Wear hair in a neat, high bun at crown of head. Use a hairspray and hairnet. Use a bun form if needed for medium length hair.</p> <p>Short hair: Ensure hair is away from the face and not brushing past eyebrows. No pony tails.</p>
Boys	<p>Party scene: Current/trendy hairstyles. Use hairspray as needed.</p> <p>Act II: Ensure hair is away from the face and not brushing past eyebrows. Use hairspray as needed.</p>

VOLUNTEERS

At Ballet Co.Laboratory collaboration is at the heart of everything we do - and that includes family engagement during production weeks. What better way to get a sneak peek of all the behind-the-scenes action than by volunteering?! We need YOU to help make this show a success! Volunteer jobs range from costume and prop transportation to chaperoning dancers during rehearsals and performances. **Please reach out to Amy Trayers if you are interested in volunteering for this production!**