

## **General Audition Information** ***The Nutcracker – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

Please carefully read the Letter of Agreement including Terms and Conditions for a detailed description of the rehearsal and performance schedule for *The Nutcracker* 2017, absence policy, fees, mandatory family meetings, and family and dancer volunteer requirements. Below is an introduction to auditions and a brief overview of the time and financial commitments involved in taking part in *The Nutcracker*.

### **Nutcracker Performance Dates**

CU Ballet's *The Nutcracker* will be performed December 1-3 and December 8-10, 2017 at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. There will be two casts of performers. Most cast members will dance in all performances.

The performance dates are as follows:

<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 1 at 7:30pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 2 at 2:00pm and 7:30pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 3 at 2:00pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 8 at 7:30pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 9 at 2:00pm and 7:30pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 10 at 2:00pm</b>

### **Thanksgiving Weekend Rehearsal**

Due to the two-weekend performance schedule this year, there will be no rehearsal from Thursday, November 23rd through Sunday, November 26th. Happy Thanksgiving!

### **Audition Registration and Check-In**

Auditions will take place at Champaign Ballet Academy, 2810 W. Clark Road in Champaign on Saturday, August 26th. Dancers auditioning for *The Nutcracker* must complete and submit the online audition registration form by noon on Friday, August 18th. The \$10 audition fee (cash or check) is due at audition check-in.

### **Audition Class Schedule**

Experienced dancers age 10-12 audition from 10:30am – 12:15pm

*Some dancers may be asked to stay for the afternoon auditions.*

Experienced dancers age 13-25 audition from 12:30 – 4:00pm

*Some dancers may be excused earlier than the published ending time.*

### **Audition Attire**

Male and female dancers should wear ballet class attire. Dancers on pointe should bring their pointe shoes.

### **Posting of Audition Results**

Audition results will be announced by 5pm Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The cast list will be posted online at [www.cuballet.com](http://www.cuballet.com) and posted on the door at Champaign Urbana Ballet, 2816 W. Clark Road.

### **Performance and Fees**

Dancers 13-years of age and older audition simultaneously for a position in Champaign Urbana Ballet Company and a role in *The Nutcracker*. It is not necessary to be an Apprentice or Company member to perform in *The Nutcracker*. Dancers 10-12 years of age audition simultaneously for Apprentice Dancer membership in CU Ballet and a role in *The Nutcracker*. Should a dancer be accepted to and choose to join CU Ballet, he/she will attend a mandatory company class from 12:30-2:00pm each Saturday, prior to rehearsals. In addition, dancers who accept membership as an Apprentice or Company member are committing to participating in the

spring production of *Sleeping Beauty* at the discretion of the Artistic Director on May 4 through May 5, 2018.

To participate in *The Nutcracker*, there is a non-refundable cast fee of \$200 which must be paid by cash or check at the **mandatory** Family Meeting on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. If more than one member of an immediate family is cast in the Nutcracker, the fee is \$300/family. This fee covers rehearsals, costuming, cast party attendance, and a commemorative tee shirt. There is a separate \$200 casting fee before participation in the spring production of *Sleeping Beauty*. The costume itself will remain the property of the ballet company. Dancers are responsible for his/her tights, shoes, make-up, hair products and other personal items. Professional videographers will record the performance and produce a DVD. An experienced dance photographer will take action photos of *The Nutcracker*. If you wish to order a DVD of the performance or photos of your dancer, you will have that opportunity. CU Ballet does not receive any profit or portion of sales from those items.

A limited number of scholarships are available to cover the cast fee described above. Please contact CU Ballet Executive Director Kay Greene should you be in need of such a scholarship.

### **Terms and Conditions - Letter of Agreement**

A signed Letter of Agreement, including Terms and Conditions, is required for all cast members and must be turned in at the September 15<sup>th</sup> Family Meeting. Dancers 18 years of age and older must sign this letter. A parent or guardian must sign for each cast member younger than 18 years of age.

### **Family Commitment**

- 1. Rehearsals:** Rehearsals will begin on September 16<sup>th</sup>. With only 10 weeks to prepare, attendance at rehearsals is mandatory. Should an emergency arise, dancers must contact Rehearsal Assistant Ginny Martinez at [ginny@cuballet.com](mailto:ginny@cuballet.com). See Terms and Conditions for more detailed information on rehearsal schedules.
- 2. Company and Apprentice Classes:** Company and apprentice classes, held each Saturday from 12:30-2:00 are **mandatory**.
- 3. Costume Fittings:** All scheduled costume fittings are mandatory. Dancers should not schedule regular activities on Saturdays between 10am and 12:30pm, because on some Saturdays (announced in advance), costume fittings will be held during this time period.
- 4. Family meetings:** A **mandatory** family meeting will be held on **Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30pm**. **All dancers** along with **any first-time Nutcracker parent(s)** must attend this meeting. A second family meeting will take place on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> for parents new to *The Nutcracker*.
- 5. Service hours:** Every cast member family has a service hour requirement of 12 hours minimum leading up to or during the production.
- 6. Company Dancer Service Hours:** Company members are required to complete 15 hours of service. Apprentice dancers will be asked to provide service hours when possible. A dancer's service hour requirement is in *addition* to the family's service hour requirement. Many service hour opportunities will take place on Saturday mornings before company class.