

# *The Nutcracker*

## HANDBOOK

2024

STUDIO FOR THE LIVING ARTS  
DANCE COMPLEX



***Dear Parents and Performers,***

In this handbook, you will find information about all aspects of the production: casting, rehearsals, performances, volunteering, and more. Please read over this booklet carefully, as it contains the answers to many questions that you might have. We thank you for making this production happen and hope that you have a fantastic time as part of our Nutcracker family tradition. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are looking forward to another wonderful Nutcracker performing season!

Susan Cloutier, Owner/ Director  
Studio for the Living Arts Dance Complex

**Studio for the Living Arts Dance Complex Ballet Students**  
**Ballet Level 1/2+ are invited to participate in**  
**“The Nutcracker” with Artistic Directors Elizabeth Avantaggio and Kate Smedal**

It's already time to start thinking about our annual production of “The Nutcracker” which is held at one of our local theaters ( tba pending availability).

**DETAILS:** Each year Studio for the Living Arts performs a full-length production of the Christmas classic, The Nutcracker Ballet. There will be two performances.

The cast will bring the magical tale of the Nutcracker to life on December 13: Evening Performance: 6:30pm , and December 14: Matinee performance at 1:00pm. The performances are held at the Windham Performing Arts Center/ Windham High School. Each performance is approximately 1.5 hrs. in length with one intermission. Dancers will appear in both performances and some dancers will be double cast.

**NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

*Wed. December 11, 2024* DRESS REHEARSAL THE THEATER 4:30PM

(Some of our older dancers may be asked to arrive at 2:30pm)

**AUDITIONS HELD @ SFLA Dance Complex**

**Friday, September 27, 2024**

5:45-6:45pm SFLA Ballet Students Level 4-6

6:45-7:15pm SFLA Ballet Students Levels 2+3

\* Attire: Black Leotard, Pink tights

*\*Ballet Level 1/2 is not required to audition. Dancers will learn their Nutcracker role in their weekly class, and will attend some Saturday rehearsals.*

**October 1, 2024** “The Nutcracker” cast list will be emailed.

**PRE-REGISTER: NUTCRACKER AUDITION LINK REQUIRED:**

All Ballet students in Level 2+ : Please complete and submit the Audition Form by 9/25/24.

Form: <https://form.jotform.com/242493088196164>

**Rehearsals**

Saturday dates:

A majority of all cast members are only scheduled to be at rehearsals for only 1-2 hours within the rehearsal dates below. A detailed schedule is set for each role following auditions and casting.

We try to keep time commitments to a minimum; therefore, it is important to attend all dates and make the rehearsals a priority over other activities. Please stay informed about the rehearsal schedules and inform us immediately about any rehearsal conflicts. Any dancer who misses more than two rehearsals may need to be dropped from the performance. If you are going to miss a rehearsal due to an illness or other situation, please inform us before the rehearsal begins by emailing the studio:

[studiofortheivingarts@yahoo.com](mailto:studiofortheivingarts@yahoo.com).

Performers are only required to be at the following in-studio rehearsals only during the allotted time slot for their role. Detailed schedule is released following auditions.

SAT. OCTOBER 5, 2024 starts at 11:00am (individual cast times will be sent soon)

SAT. OCTOBER 19, 2024 starts at 11:00am (individual cast times will be sent soon)

SAT. OCTOBER 26, 2024 starts at 11:00am (individual cast times will be sent soon)

SAT. NOVEMBER 2, 2024 starts at 11:00am (individual cast times will be sent soon)

SAT. NOVEMBER 16, 2024 starts at 11:00am (individual cast times will be sent soon)

SAT. NOVEMBER 23, 2024 starts at 11:00am (individual cast times will be sent soon)

SUN. DECEMBER 1, 2024 TIME: 2:00–4:00pm FULL CAST

### **SNOW DATE Tentative** Sunday, December 15, 2024

In the event of a storm cancellation we will hold both performances on 12/15/24 (late morning and early afternoon performances). If the event is rescheduled for 12/15 (or a later date if necessary). All tickets are valid for the rescheduled date. Refunds are not issued.

**NUTCRACKER COSTUMES POLICIES:** There are no costume purchase fees as all costumes are owned by Studio for the Living Arts and they are loaned to the cast members. Tights and leotard or leggings (if applicable) to be worn under costumes, are the responsibility of the student to purchase. Please note that all tights are purchased at SFLA to ensure they are the same brand/color. Some dancers may be required to purchase a tiara or other small accessory .

**NUTCRACKER REHEARSAL FEES** There is a \$55 Production Rehearsal fee that offsets costs for the cast member's rehearsals and costume preparation. The Production Rehearsal Fee is billed to the student's online account following casting.

- **Communication:** Look for our Nutcracker News e-mail which will be sent to the cast. Performers and their families are responsible for staying informed about all aspects of the production. Please be sure to read all communications and respond as needed.
- **Volunteering:** In order to keep costs down, we rely on parents to help with various aspects of the productions. There are lots of different opportunities. Sign-ups will be sent in October.

### **NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCE TICKETS**

Nutcracker Tickets are on sale at the dance studio beginning November 2 (1pm-3pm) through December 12 at the dance studio. After Opening Ticket Day, on 11/2, tickets can be purchased at the studio during office hours Monday-Friday or over the phone (207) 657-3006. Advance Ticket cost is \$20, and \$25 at the door, cash/check. We are unable to accept credit cards for ticket sales. All seating is reserved so the earlier you purchase, the better seating options you will have. There is no limit to ticket purchases.

***Refunds & exchanges policy:*** Performance exchanges are allowed if you purchase to the wrong show. Exchanges for wrong performance are made but no refunds are issued once tickets have been purchased.

- **MEDIA FEE** There will be a \$25 media fee per family for dancers in the performance. This fee will appear on your Dance Account. This fee will cover a digital copy of the Performance video that is yours to keep forever. "Keeping Pace" Video productions will be filming.

- All families pay the media fee in order to participate in the Nutcracker performance and they will receive a download link once the videographer has the finished product complete. Due to the ease of sharing digital content, the media fee is mandatory. We have worked with “Keeping Pace” in the past and we know you will love the finished product!

*Thank you for joining us for Nutcracker 2024*

*Susan Cloutier, Director/Owner*

*Elizabeth Advantage, Kate Smedal, Nutcracker Artistic Directors*

*Studio for the Living Arts Dance Complex*