



## **Welcome to Evolution Academy of Dance's First Annual Production of The Nutcracker!**

The Nutcracker is a beloved holiday classic, told in many different ways, yet always centered around Clara's magical dream and her journey to the Land of Sweets. Tonight's performance brings our version of this timeless story to life, featuring ballet students from Evolution Academy of Dance and special appearances by the dancers of our Étoile Ballet Company—now in its inaugural season.

***Thank you for joining us as we begin this new tradition. We are honored to share this magical holiday experience with you.***

Music Composed By: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky; Performed By: Bonn Classical Philharmonic

Choreography By: Evolution Academy of Dance Faculty

Étoile Ballet Company - Directed by Susanna Wesson

Studio Director: Kristen Wendorff

## **Jingle Show**

### **A Holiday Party**

Party Guests: Étoile Ballet Company Members  
Aleena Balthazar, Micah Barron, Hope Caldwell,  
Jaiden James, Piper Lutes, Emmarie Meeks

#### **Featuring:**

Emmarie Meeks as Clara  
Aleena Balthazar as Marie

### **Enjoying the Nutcracker**

Performers: Étoile Ballet Company Members  
Aleena Balthazar, Emmarie Meeks

#### **Featuring:**

Emmarie Meeks as Clara  
Aleena Balthazar as Marie

### **Battle of the Rat Queen**

Mice - Mini Movers (3 Year Olds)  
Eleanor Bendiksen, Everleigh Bendiksen, Zori Cooper,  
Amelia Crane, Delilah Dowell, Sofia Galindo, Everlee  
Rodriguez, Amelia Wendorff

#### **Featuring:**

Micah Barron as Rat Queen

Soldiers - Tappin' Tots Classes (4 & 5 Year Olds)  
Kendra Akpo, Victoria Browning, Yareli Bustamante,  
Isla Dousharm, Amelia Godinez, Teresa Hernandez,  
Zoë Holguin, Esi Ngozi-Ibeh, Leah Reyess, Leia  
Rodriguez, Gianna Rubio, Melanie Tolbert

## **Snow**

Performers: Ballet II Classes

Micah Barron, Hope Caldwell, Leah Marie Harris,  
Jaiden James, Jenessa Kozlowski, Piper Lutes,  
Amelia Rodriguez

## **Candy Cane**

Performers: Ballet I Classes

Zoey Delfosse, Eva Garcia, Leilani Harrison, Amiyah King,  
Ahni Neal, Sarah Robinson, Nora Wood

## **Pirouline Flutes**

Performers: Étoile Ballet Company Members

Aleena Balthazar, Hope Coldwell, Emmarie Meeks

**Featuring:**

Étoile Ballet Company Members

## **Chinese Tea**

Performers: Saturday Ballet I/II class

Aleena Balthazar, Hope Coldwell, Emmarie Meeks

## **Spanish Chocolate**

Performers: Étoile Ballet Company Members

Micah Barron, Jaiden James

**Featuring:**

Étoile Ballet Company Members

## **Gingerbread**

Performers: Jazzy Tots (4 & 5 Year Olds)

Evie Drevo, Emery Dumas, Thalia Esquivel, Ladonna Hernandez,  
Alina Luster, Lucia Mayo, Honour Romero, Leia Rodriguez,  
Gianna Rubio, Ellie Sheffield, Emma Suarez, Nel Szaflarski,  
Melanie Tolbert, Amelia Wendorff, Zoey Zanottie

## **Arabian Coffee**

Performers: Étoile Ballet Company Members

Hope Caldwell, Piper Lutes

**Featuring:**

Étoile Ballet Company Members

## **Waltz of Flowers**

Performers: Wednesday Ballet I/II Class

Aleena Balthazar, Camryn McCutchan, Emmarie  
Meeks, Thalia Osborne, Hattie Walker, Ella Zoelle

## **Sugar Plum Fairy**

Performers: Étoile Ballet Company Member

Jaiden James

**Featuring:**

Jaiden James as Sugar Plum Fairy

# **BOWS**

# Thank You

**Thank you for joining us for our First Annual Nutcracker, and first ballet production.**

We are excited to continue bringing classic ballets to our community, and we would love for you to be part of future performances. Keep an eye out for announcements about our next production—rehearsals begin in May 2026, and we can't wait to share the magic with you again.

# Welcome!



## **We're so glad you're here with us at Evolution Academy of Dance!**

### **Our Mission Statement:**

At Evolution Academy of Dance, we believe that dance education is about more than just dance technique, and more than what happens in the classroom. Evolution Academy of Dance Strives to be a guiding force in the evolution of the dance education industry by upholding a responsibility to add value to our students, staff and community.

We intend to accomplish this by:

- Advocating for dancers' physical, emotional and mental wellness
- Providing a supportive community that celebrates each others' victories
- Cultivating a culture that pursues and celebrates growth over perfection.
- Providing multiple program options that encourage a love of dance at any level of commitment from introductory to pre-professional.

### **Here is how our Holiday Showcase supports our Mission**

The Holiday Showcase is created as a joyful, low-pressure introduction to performing—an early-season celebration of all that our dancers have learned so far. While our studio has grown and we are thrilled to share this performance in a larger venue this year, the heart of the showcase remains intentionally warm, supportive, and relaxed.

While we are in a more theatrical space, you'll still see touches that keep the spirit of the showcase informal and encouraging—teachers assisting dancers onstage, gentle transitions, and an overall emphasis on building confidence rather than perfecting performance polish.

For many of our dancers, this is their very first time performing on stage. Some have been dancing with us for a little over two years, and others joined us as recently as six weeks ago. Today's performance celebrates each of them—wherever they are in their dance journey—and recognizes how much they have already accomplished this season.

We hope this showcase fills you with the joy and magic of the holidays, and that you'll join us again in May for our full-scale Spring Recital on Saturday May 16, where you'll see just how much these incredible dancers continue to grow.

**Thank you for celebrating with us today, and for supporting the dancers of  
Evolution Academy of Dance.**