

Dear Parents,

It's that magical time of the year again! The HDA faculty is proud to announce that we will be presenting our 13th annual Nutcracker on **November 21st, 22nd, 23rd**! There will be four performances, one on **Friday at 7 pm**, one on **Saturday at 6 pm**, and two on **Sunday at 11 am & 2:30 pm**. After the 2:30pm show, there will be an audience meet and greet called "Meet The Sweets" in the lobby following the performance.

Nutcracker provides young dancers with the exciting opportunity to perform on stage in a professional level production with beautiful costumes and lights. At HDA, even though most of our show is cast with young and aspiring dancers, we spare no detail when showcasing this classic ballet. For these dancers, it's a rite of passage that offers them the invaluable experience of rehearsing their skills and then that wonderful feeling of accomplishment when they finally showcase their hard work to family and friends. As parents, Nutcracker creates special holiday memories of your child/children that will last a lifetime! Additionally, Nutcracker allows parents and students to witness the performances of older, more advanced dancers, giving everyone something to look forward to in the future!

This letter contains essential information, so please read it in its entirety, as we have quite a bit to cover and want to ensure everything is easily accessible and in one place.

HDA is so looking forward to sharing this incredible experience with you and your child! It is sure to be an event that will be remembered for decades to come. Thank you, again, for choosing HDA for your child's dance education. We hold ourselves to the highest standard when it comes to providing your children with elite dance training and facilities. We believe in not only creating dancers, but well-versed individuals who will grow into prosperous, creative, and confident adults.

Sincerely yours,

The Hinsdale Dance Academy

Rehearsals will begin on September 6th. Please note: **Ms. Grace** is handling ALL communications regarding the 2025 Nutcracker, please email her at **admissions@hinsdaledanceacademy.com** for anything regarding Nutcracker, however please review this document in its entirety as many answers can be found here!

Nutcracker Contract

ONLY FOR DANCERS who are NOT in PDC, JUCO, HDP, & HBT

The Nutcracker contract needs to be e-signed, or printed and signed, then emailed to admissions@hinsdaledanceacademy.com any time before the first day of rehearsals on September 6th.

Click here to read, sign, send either as a pdf or take a picture!

Rehearsal Schedule

This is a preliminary schedule. This schedule is subject to change but is here to help you with planning. Please note, the male guest artists will be in attendance on some weekends (TBD), the schedule will be altered on those weeks when they are confirmed.

Nutcracker Cast List

Nutcracker Costume and Makeup Needs

Nutcracker Calendar:

Aug 23rd 2025: Auditions

Aug 25th 2025: Casting released!

Sep 6th 2025: Rehearsals start! Non-company dancer's contracts due. Rehearsal conflicts due.

Sep 13th 2025: Nutcracker Costume Fittings.

Oct 1st 2025: Parent and Business Ads due

Oct 3rd 2025: Nutcracker Production Fees Due.

Oct 13th 2025: Tickets go on Sale.

Nov 1st 2025: Nutcracker Story Hour (Casting TBD)

Nov 3rd 2025: Parent Volunteer Sign Up Closed

Nov 7th 2025: Non-Volunteer Fees Charged

Nov 8th and 9th 2025: MANDATORY Dress Rehearsal at HDA. Costumes (with the listed costume needs) and hair, NO Makeup.

Nov 15th & 16th 2025: MANDATORY Dress Rehearsal at HDA. Costumes (with the listed costume needs) and hair, NO Makeup.

Nov 18th, 19th & 20th 2025: Tech Week at St. Francis High School-Kuhn Cultural Arts Center.

Nov 21st, 22nd and 23rd: Performances!

Meet the Sweets:

Selected dancers from the final performance will have the opportunity to stay for a meet and greet with the audience so they can take photos and hand out candy. You can find casting for Meet The Sweets on the 2025 Nutcracker Cast Sheet.

Enjoy an unforgettable experience where patrons can meet and take photos with the Sugarplum Fairy and all of her delectable subjects, including Clara, the Snow Queen, and the divertissements from the Land of Sweets.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals take place outside of class, as not all our students decide to do Nutcracker. Please keep your Saturdays (*and Sundays in November!*) as free as possible! As with all our productions we do at HDA, the Nutcracker is produced and rehearsed at a professional standard. We hold each of our students to that high level, which is the reason only one absence is allowed from 9/6-11/1 and **NO ABSENCES are allowed 11/8-11/20**. Your dancer's commitment and dedication are crucial to the success of the production.

Nutcracker Production Fee (Fee due on October 3rd, 2025)

Why do we have to pay a production fee?"

It costs many thousands of dollars to produce a dance production. Here is just a quick list of some of the major expenses The Nutcracker fees help to cover: rehearsals, costumes &

alterations, sets, props and their maintenance, auditorium/stage rental (for the show, dress, and technical rehearsals), professional lighting equipment rental and lighting designer, scenery rental, marketing/advertising, production crew members (8 crew @12 hour days at union scale), several buildings and ground maintenance and janitorial staff members (minimum 2 crew @12 hour days at union scale), the entire staff of HDA, professional dancers who travel from out of town, their accommodations (per diem), insurance, etc. to name few.

Academy Production Fee: \$325.00 (per dancer for the entire production)

Company Production Fee: As stated in your contracts

Pictures

Pictures will also be taken of the live performances and will be available for purchase after the show run is completed.

We will be selling videos of this year's production of The Nutcracker! You will receive a pre-order form and also be able to purchase them at or after the show.

Please note: Photography and videography are strictly prohibited during the performances as it is distracting to the dancers and audience members. If you are caught recording or photographing, you will be expelled from the theater. No refunds.

Tickets

Tickets will go on sale Monday, October 13th at NOON. Please note that HDA has sold out our Nutcracker performances since 2013, **be sure to purchase early! If you do not get tickets for your dancer's performance, your dancer is still required to perform.**

T-Shirts

Stay tuned for the sales launch!

Parent Ads/Business Ads

Parent ads are a great way to show how proud you are of your dancer(s) and they also make a great keepsake for first-time dancers and seasoned dancers! You can also place a Business Ad to advertise your company as we reach nearly 2,000 local patrons at our performances! All parent ads and business ads will be featured in our playbill for all four shows!

Please Note: the deadline for Parents Ads/Business Ads is October 1st, 2025

Parent Ads Form

Business Ads Form