



Dear Parents,

It's that magical time of the year again! The HDA faculty is proud to announce that we will be presenting our 12th annual Nutcracker on **November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**! 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**.

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

### **Nutcracker Calendar:**

Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 2024: Auditions

Aug 26<sup>th</sup> 2024: Casting released!

Sep 7<sup>th</sup> 2024: Rehearsals start! Non-company dancer's contracts due. Rehearsal conflicts due.

Sep 13<sup>th</sup> 2024: Nutcracker Production Fees Due.

Sep 28<sup>th</sup> 2024: Nutcracker Costume Fittings (Beginning at noon).

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 2024: Tickets go on Sale.

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 2024: Parent and Business Ads due

Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024: Nutcracker Story Hour (Casting Listed on Cast Sheet)

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 2024: Parent Volunteer Sign Up Closed

Nov 8<sup>th</sup> 2024: Non-Volunteer Fees Charged

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 2024: Nutcracker Story Hour (Casting Listed on Cast Sheet)

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 2024: MANDATORY Dress Rehearsal at HDA! Costumes (with the listed costume needs) only, NO Makeup.

Nov 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 2024: MANDATORY Dress Rehearsal at HDA! FULL HAIR, MAKEUP AND COSTUMES

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> 2024: Tech Week at St. Francis Highschool.

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>: 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. Dancers will be selected at a later date:

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. Before the Sweets return to their magical land, all attendees will receive a special take-home gift and adult patrons will receive one drink ticket to enjoy a libation from our lobby bar during the event.

Meet the Sweets will take place at the conclusion of our final performance on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Admission is \$22. Tickets may be purchased when you purchase your Nutcracker performance tickets and also at the venue.

## 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 9/7-9/10/26 and **NO ABSENCES are allowed 11/9-11/17**. Your dancer's commitment and dedication are crucial to the success of the production.

## Nutcracker Production Fee (Fee due on September 13th, 2024)

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 do not sell the video of our Nutcracker production! We want to keep the magic in the LIVE performance.

***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 Saturday, October 1st 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

[Parent Ads Form Link](#)

[Business Ads Form Link](#)

## **Costume and Makeup Needs:**

Below is a list of items, hair, and accessories that dancers need for each role. You will need to purchase these items for your dancer to go along with their costumes and ensure their hair is styled as specified below for each role. The list is organized by act, scene, and role. All items should be purchased through Saxton Dance Shoppe. Please send your order, including the student's name, specific items, and sizes, to the store manager, Maribeth, via email at [manager@saxtondance.com](mailto:manager@saxtondance.com). This way, your order can be put aside for quick pick-up and payment during store hours. We suggest placing your order as soon as possible to allow time for any additional items that may need to be ordered. *\*Pancake for pointe shoes will be provided by HDA.*

There is no need to worry about purchasing the costumes themselves, as we provide our dancers with their costumes and do any tailoring in house. The Costume Fee is included in the Production Fee. Please note: The costumes are not yours to keep; you are renting the costume.

**Please note that no nail polish, glitter, or jewelry is allowed, except for company crystal earrings (when stated as needed on Costume Needs) for dress rehearsal and performances. We kindly request that you check your dancer for nail polish and jewelry before arriving at the studio for dress rehearsal and performances!**

Hair must be SLICKED BACK using hair gel, hairspray, thick elastic hair tie, bobby pins, and HAIR NET. Bobby pins and hairnets available at Saxton's:

Please bring your own make-up, DO NOT SHARE MAKE-UP!

If you see FULL STAGE MAKE-UP, this is what's required:

**Full Stage Make-up: Liquid foundation, setting powder, bright pink blush, brown eyeshadow in the crease (dark!) white eyeshadow on lid and under brow, black eyeliner, fake eyelashes, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Maybelline Super Stay Matte Ink in the shade 'Dancer').**

## **Act I, Scene I- Party Scene:**

**Maids:** Capezio black tights, black character shoes

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Soldier Doll:** Capezio black tights, Capezio black “Hanami” canvas ballet shoes, black camisole leotard.

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up. Red circles for cheeks are provided.

**Hair:** low bun, no part.

**Kissy Doll:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up. Red circles for cheeks are provided.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Clara:** Capezio pink tights, pink pancaked pointe shoes, Nude leotard, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up.

**Hair:** Half up, half down with ringlets.

**Party Girls:** Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas ballet slippers with Russian Pointe All Stretch ribbons sewn on (party girls), nude camisole leotard, company crystal earrings, curly hairpiece.

[https://www.amazon.com/WeKen-Medium-Curly-Synthetic-Hairpiece/dp/B01N0RVADP/ref=sr\\_1\\_4\\_a\\_it?ie=UTF8&qid=1539887841&sr=8-4&keywords=curly%2Bhairpiece&th=1](https://www.amazon.com/WeKen-Medium-Curly-Synthetic-Hairpiece/dp/B01N0RVADP/ref=sr_1_4_a_it?ie=UTF8&qid=1539887841&sr=8-4&keywords=curly%2Bhairpiece&th=1)

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part, curly hairpiece.

**Party Boys & Fritz:** Capezio white tights, black camisole leotard, Capezio "Daisy" black leather ballet shoes with **white elastics.**

**Makeup:** Pink blush and nude/pink lipstick (Brand: Milani I am Radiant AVAILABLE AT SAXTON'S).

**Hair:** Flat braids, French braids, or pin curls attached tightly to head to fit under wig.

## **Act I, Scene II- Battle Scene:**

**Cheese:** Capezio “Hanami” white canvas ballet slippers (*please drop off the shoes at the front desk by October 30<sup>th</sup> for dying*), tights provided by HDA.

**Makeup:** Pink blush and nude/pink lipstick (Brand: Milani I am Radiant AVAILABLE AT SAXTON’S).

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Big Rats:** Capezio “Hanami” white canvas ballet slippers (*please drop off the shoes by October 30<sup>th</sup> for dying*), black leotard as undergarment.

**Makeup:** Faces are completely covered by the rat heads, so no make-up is required.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Medium Rats:** Capezio “Hanami” white canvas ballet slippers (*please drop off the shoes by October 30<sup>th</sup> for dying*), black leotard as undergarment.

**Makeup:** Pink blush and pink lipstick (Brand: Milani I am Radiant AVAILABLE AT SAXTON’S).

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Baby Mice:** Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas ballet shoes.

**Makeup:** Red lipstick (Brand: Maybelline “Dancer” AVAILABLE AT SAXTON’S)

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Soldiers:** Black camisole leotard, Capezio black tights, Capezio "Daisy" black leather shoes with **white elastics**.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup, red circles for cheeks are provided.

**Hair:** bun DIRECTLY on top of the head (to fit under hat).

## **Act I, Scene III- Snow Scene:**

**Snowflakes and Snow Queen:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Reindeer:** Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas shoes.

**Makeup:** Pink blush, red lipstick (Brand: Maybelline Dancer AVAILABLE AT SAXTON'S)

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

## **Act II Costume Needs**

**Angels:** White camisole leotard, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas shoes.

**Makeup:** Bright pink blush, black mascara, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Maybelline Dancer).

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Sugar Plum Attendants:** Nude camisole leotard, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas ballet slippers, Capezio pink tights, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Bright pink blush, black mascara, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Maybelline Dancer).

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Sugar Plum Fairy:** Pink pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** HIGH BUN no part.

**Princess Lollipop:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part, super flat to fit under the wig.

**Gumdrops:** Capezio "Hanami" pink canvas ballet slippers, Capezio pink tights, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Bright pink blush, black mascara, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Maybelline Dancer).

**Hair:** Low slicked back pony tail, so no hairs escape from the hat!

**Spanish:** Black character shoes, black tights, Capezio pink briefs under black tights.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** Low bun, left part.

**Arabian:** Flesh colored pointe shoes (use foundation 1-2 shades darker than your skin tone to color them), no tights, Capezio pink briefs.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Arabian Attendants:** Capezio "Hanami" flesh toned flat shoe (there are different options for flesh tone, please ask Saxton's for details), no tights, Capezio pink briefs.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Marzipan:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Shepherdesses:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage makeup.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Lead Mints/Candy Canes:** Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas ballet shoes, nude camisole leotard, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Bright pink blush, black mascara, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Mabelline Dancer).

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Clowns:** Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas ballet slippers, black camisole leotard.

**Makeup:** Bright pink blush, black mascara, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Mabelline Dancer)

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Gingerbreads:** Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink "Hanami" canvas ballet slippers.

**Makeup:** Bright pink blush, black mascara, color in brows if they are not dark, red lipstick (Brand: Mabelline Dancer).



**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Dew Drop Fairy:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs.

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.

**Flowers:** Pink pancaked pointe shoes, Capezio pink tights, Capezio pink briefs, company crystal earrings.

**Makeup:** Full stage make-up.

**Hair:** Low bun, no part.