

# THE NUTCRACKER

Music by Tchaikovsky  
Director: Kimberly Larson  
Artistic Director: Alexis McLaughlin



MIDWEST BALLET COLLECTIVE

THE RIALTO SQUARE  
★ THEATER ★  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 7P

Join us for a magical family tradition!

## **ACT I**

Clara: Emily Starkey

Fritz: Alex Rosenberg

Mr. Stahlbaum: Keenan Orr

Mrs. Stahlbaum: Addison Rosenberg

Drosselmeyer: Alexis McLaughlin

Maids: Chella Kuyper, Kara Malone, Sally Clifford, Alivia White

Dolls: Kennedy Larson & Ava Spicer

Mr Nutty: Ella White

Sugar Bear: Vanna Winchell

Parents: Jessie Nash & Rodney Horton, & Phillip Larson, Sammie Wesner & Grant Landis, Kaitlyn White & Antonio DeFily

Teenagers: Sara Borik, Ivy Bruner, Lyla Bruner, Aubrey Bryant, Kara Keslin, Ava Spicer

Children: Samantha Boudreau, Kassidy Brodnick, Audrey Gaffney, Evelyn Gaffney, Ellie Gillis, Viola Hawks, Charlotte Lambert, Emmalin Stephens, Mackenzie Gillis, Lilly Herbold, Mikenzee Molenaar, Hadley Rodriguez, Evelyn Turley, Ana Carroll, Amelia Stephens, Lily Turley, Emellyn Winchell, Drake Aichele, Harley Kral, Ethan Nelson, Tommy Parker, Alex Rosenberg, Skylar Carter, Callie Provance

Rascals: Kaylie Brodnick, Maeve Bryant, Alice Lambert, Arielle Starkey

Mouse King: Lyla Bruner

Nutcracker: Ella White

Mice: Samantha Boudreau, Kassidy Brodnick, Audrey Gaffney, Evelyn Gaffney, Ellie Gillis, Mackenzie Gillis, Viola Hawks, Charlotte Lambert, Emmalin Stephens

Soldiers: Kaylie Brodnick, Maeve Byrant, Ana Carroll, Alice Lambert, Kaylee Lovig, Layla Pape, Arielle Starkey. Amelia Stephens, Lily Turley, Emellyn Winchell

Snow Queen: Addison Rosenberg

Snow King: Keenan Orr

Snow: Sara Borik, Ivy Bruner, Lyla Bruner, Aubrey Bryant, Kara Keslin, Kennedy Larson, Ava Spicer, Vanna Winchell

Frost: Kaylie Brodnick, Maeve Bryant, Ana Carroll, Sally Clifford, Chella Kuyper, Alice Lambert, Kara Malone, Arielle Starkey, Amelia Stephens, Lily Turley, Alivia White, Emellyn Winchell

**INTERMISSION: 20 MINUTES**

## **ACT II**

Stars: Kassidy Brodnick, Quinn Bigg, Audrey Gaffney, Evelyn Gaffney, Callie Provance

Angels: Kaylie Brodnick, Sally Clifford, Alice Lambert, Maeve Bryant, Ana Carroll, Amelia Stephens, Emellyn Winchell

Sugar Plum Fairy: Sara Borik

Arabian Coffee: Lyla Bruner & Phillip Larson  
Ivy Bruner, Kara Keslin, Addison Rosenberg, Vanna Winchell  
Aria Jandeska, Harley Kral, Kaylee Lovig, Ethan Nelson, Layla Pape,  
Devyn Pomykala

Chinese Tea: Sara Borik, Kennedy Larson, Ava Spicer  
Skyler Carter, Autumn Cartwright, Lilly Donnelly, Mia Guevara, Ashtyn Hoffman, Madison Hoffman

Spanish Chocolate: Ivy Bruner  
Matador: Aiden Morenburg

Marzipan: Aubrey Bryant,  
Reed Pipes: Kennedy Larson, Addison Rosenberg, Vanna Winchell, Chella Kuyper

Russian: Kaylie Brodnick, Sally Clifford, Alice Lambert, Kara Malone, Lily Turley, Alivia White  
Russian Tumblers: Ivy Bruner, Vanna Winchell, Addison Rosenberg, Kara Keslin, Phillip Larson

Mother Ginger: Maecyn Rodriguez  
Pralines: Sara Borik, Lyla Bruner, Chella Kuyper, Ava Spicer  
Taffy: Lilly Herbold, Mikenzee Molenaar, Hadley Rodriguez, Evelyn Turley  
Macaroons: Maeve Bryant, Ana Carroll, Amelia Stephens, Emellyn Winchell  
Gum Drops: Samantha Boudreau, Cassidy Brodnick, Audrey Gaffney, Evelyn Gaffney,  
Mackenzie Gillis, Charlotte Lambert  
Bon Bom: Paige Alderson, Octavia Bieda, Quinn Bigg, Lexi Claypool, Lucy Donnelly, Mabel Francis, Ellie Gillis, Ada Gutknech, Viola Hawks, Lennox Horvath, Merida Kral, Annabelle Shell, Callie Provance, Emmalin Stephens

Dew Drop Fairy: Kennedy Larson  
Petals: Ivy Bruner, Lyla Bruner, Maeve Bryant, Sally Clifford, Kara Keslin, Chella Kuyper, Ava Spicer, Alivia White  
Demi Soloists: Aubrey Bryant, Addison Rosenberg, Arielle Starkey, Vanna Winchell

Sugar Plum Fairy & Cavalier: Sara Borik & Chandler Paskett

Angels: Parker Bigg, Kaylie Brodnick, Maeve Bryant, Ana Carroll, Zoey Carroll, Sophia Guevara, Mackenzie Gillis, Lilly Herbold, Shirley Jarrett, Alice Lambert, Mikenzee Molenaar, Layna Pasteris, Madilynn Reigh, Hadley Rodriguez, Amelia Stephens, Evelyn Turley, Lily Turley, Emellyn Winchell, Paige Alderson, Quinn Alderson, Callie Providence

Finale

## **About Us:**

Welcome to Midwest Ballet Collective, where creativity meets opportunity! Our mission is to foster industry connections in the classroom, providing a dynamic platform for artists and performers to explore and excel.

## **Our Mission Statement :**

"At Midwest Ballet Collective, MBC, we aim to foster industry connections in the classroom, creating a platform that offers artists and performers opportunities for growth."

## **Who We Are:**

We are a dedicated team passionate about bridging the gap between education and industry. Our commitment is to provide a space where aspiring artists and performers can connect with industry professionals, turning their passion into a pathway for growth and success.

## **What Sets Us Apart:**

**\*\*Classroom Integration\*\*** We believe in bringing the industry experience directly into the classroom. Our platform seamlessly integrates with educational settings, ensuring students have access to real-world opportunities while they learn.

**\*\*Networking Hub\*\*** Midwest Ballet Collective, MBC, serves as a thriving hub for networking. Artists and performers can connect with mentors, industry leaders, and fellow creatives, establishing valuable connections that pave the way for future collaborations.

**\*\*Opportunities for Growth\*\*** Beyond traditional education, we provide tangible opportunities for growth. Whether it's through internships, projects, or exclusive events, we strive to be the catalyst for our users' professional development.

## **Our Vision:**

We envision a world where every artist and performer has the chance to turn their passion into a successful career. By creating a collaborative and supportive environment, we aim to empower the next generation of creative professionals.

## **Get Involved:**

Join us on this exciting journey of creativity, collaboration, and growth. Explore the possibilities, connect with industry experts, and pave the way for your success in the dynamic world of arts and performance

At Midwest Ballet Collective, MBC, we're not just fostering connections; we're building bridges to a brighter future for all aspiring artists and performers.

### **Kimberly Larson, Founder**

Proudly spending nearly 3 decades in the dance world, Kimberly has dedicated herself to the art of teaching movement across generations. From the delightful chaos of toddlers to the disciplined strides of adults, her passion for dance and fitness has found expression in classrooms that cater to all ages. As the CEO of Finale Corp., she has cultivated an environment of learning and creativity, fostering a love for dance that transcends boundaries.

Beyond the studio, she wears multiple hats as the CEO of Precision Arts, Inc. and Luxxe Arts, Inc., where she has seamlessly blended business acumen with artistic expression. Additionally, her role as President of Diamond Dance Co, a non-profit 501(c) organization, has allowed her to channel her enthusiasm into community-driven initiatives. Over the years, Kimberly has directed 50 original shows, marrying the realms of dance and musical theater since 2001, leaving an indelible mark on both local and national stages. Her commitment extends beyond performances, as she actively participates in the dance community through memberships in the Association of Dance Competitions and Conventions (ADCC), as well as the Dance Competitions and Conventions Collective (DCC), fostering connections and contributing to the vibrant dance landscape.

Kimberly started the Midwest Ballet Collective where she sits on the board of directors to support and drive the mission where "We aim to foster industry connections in the classroom, creating a platform that offers artists and performers opportunities for growth."

### **Jennifer Rosenburg, Operations Director**

With over two decades dedicated to the art of dance, my journey encompasses a rich tapestry of experiences. As a seasoned educator, I've passionately guided students of all ages, from toddlers to adults, nurturing their dance prowess and fostering a love for movement and fitness in the classroom. Serving as the COO of Precision Arts, Inc and Luxxe Arts, Inc, I've led these organizations with a vision for excellence, overseeing their operations and contributing to their growth. Additionally, my role as Assistant Director for 50 original shows has allowed me to fuse dance and musical theater, crafting immersive performances that captivate audiences locally and nationally since 2004.

My commitment to the dance community extends beyond the stage. As an active member of the Association of Dance Competitions and Conventions, my involvement has evolved from a dedicated board member to a returning Executive Board Member, steering the organization's initiatives and advancing its mission. Furthermore, my participation in the Dance Competitions and Conventions Collective reflects my dedication to collaborative efforts aimed at elevating the dance industry, fostering connections, and promoting the art form on a broader scale.

### **Samantha McCreery, Producer**

Samantha McCreery emerges as a luminary in the dance world, wielding an impressive 12-year tenure as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Precision Arts, Inc and Luxxe Arts Inc. What sets her apart is not just her financial acumen but her distinct role as a skilled integrator and financial director. In this capacity, Samantha seamlessly harmonizes artistic creativity with financial responsibility, ensuring a synergy that propels these dance organizations to new heights.

Beyond her CFO duties, Samantha assumes the pivotal role of a Controller, strategically navigating the financial landscape to fortify the economic foundation of these renowned dance entities. Her membership in Vistage underscores her commitment to not only financial excellence but also leadership in guiding these organizations toward sustained growth. As a member of the Association of Dance Competitions and Conventions and the Dance Competitions and Conventions Collective, Samantha not only shapes financial strategies but actively collaborates with the broader dance community. Samantha McCreery's professional narrative is a testament to her unique ability to seamlessly integrate financial precision with artistic passion, making her an indispensable force in driving the holistic success of Precision Arts, Inc, Luxxe Arts Inc, and the dance industry at large.

### **Alexus McLaughlin, Artistic Director**

Alexus McLaughlin, with over two decades of dedication to dance, is the Artistic Director of the Midwest Ballet Collective, orchestrating mesmerizing performances, including the annual Nutcracker. Since 2019, she has also directed Finale Academy of the Arts' spring productions, solidifying her role in the performing arts community.

Her rich background in Musical Theatre and Ballet instruction extends beyond the stage, with notable performances in shows like The Addams Family, Legally Blonde, and Lucky Stiff. A proficient musician for 17 years, she specializes in the French horn and Classical Guitar. Alexis has also contributed to local high school programs, serving as a Feet and Technicality specialist, acting coach at Romeoville High School, and as an Assistant Coach for the Minooka High School Indoor Percussion Line and Wilmington High School Color guard. Through her multifaceted artistic talents and unwavering commitment to mentorship, Alexis McLaughlin leaves an enduring mark on the world of performing arts.

### **Jessie Nash, Ballet Mistress**

With a rich background spanning ten years in the field of dance education, Jessie Nash, originally hailing from Chicago, Illinois, has emerged as a distinguished Ballet Mistress of the Midwest Ballet Collective and award-winning choreographer. Her journey began with a profound fascination for dance, cultivated during her formative years in the Chicago suburbs. A recipient of numerous scholarships and exceptional opportunities, Jessie's talent caught the eye of renowned brands like Revolution Dancewear, where she not only taught but also became a sought-after model for dancewear and costumes. Her stage presence extends to prestigious events such as the Dupree Dance All-Star and Las Vegas Showcase, showcasing her prowess in the dance domain.

Now, as an Executive Producer with The PAC Collective, Jessie Nash brings her wealth of experience to the forefront, channeling her passion for dance into mentoring young talents who share her devotion to the art. Whether teaching novice dancers or guiding pre-professional adults, Jessie's commitment to the world of dance is evident in her multifaceted career, marked by both educational excellence and creative accomplishment.

### **The Joy of Donating!**

Experience the joy of supporting the arts by visiting the Midwest Ballet Collective's website and contributing to their mission. Your donation plays a crucial role in fostering the growth of ballet and ensuring the beauty of this expressive art form continues to flourish in the heart of the Midwest. Join us in nurturing talent, inspiring creativity, and building a vibrant community around the enchanting world of ballet. Your generosity makes a difference, empowering dancers and enhancing cultural experiences. Visit our website today to make a meaningful impact through your support of the Midwest Ballet Collective.

Reach out to [midwestballetcollective@gmail.com](mailto:midwestballetcollective@gmail.com)

Would your dancer or studio like to become involved in the Midwest Ballet Collective in 2024? If so, submit an application TODAY through our website and you will be contacted for auditions. [www.midwestballetcollective.com](http://www.midwestballetcollective.com)

### **2024 AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD**

**The week of August 5-9 - 9:00-2:00p (Principal)**

**Saturday, August 10 9:00-12:00p (Corps)**

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JOIN THE MIDWEST BALLET COLLECTIVE  
IN 2024!  
AUDITIONS - PRINCIPAL AUGUST 5-9  
AUDITIONS - CORPS AUGUST 10  
WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING  
STUDIOS AND INDIVIDUAL APPLICATIONS.  
CHECK OUT OR  
[WWW.MIDWESTBALLETCOLLECTIVE.COM](http://WWW.MIDWESTBALLETCOLLECTIVE.COM)  
FOR MORE INFO.

 **MIDWEST BALLET COLLECTIVE**