



A NUTCRACKER FANTASY 2021 AUDITION INFORMATION PACKET

Please:

- Read this booklet from cover to cover.
- Make a decision that participation in the production of *Winter Suite - A Nutcracker Fantasy* and rehearsal/performances fit into your schedule.
- Fill out the on-line registration form (no fee required to register to audition).
- Make sure your dancer is registered for the Menlo Park Academy of Dance curriculum for the 2021-2022 School Year prior to August 29th, 2021.
- Auditions open to Ballet 1 through Advanced dancers.

Auditions will be held Sunday August 29th in Studio 2 & 3 at Menlo Park Academy of Dance, 1137 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

- 9:30am - Registration for Intermediate Dancers
- 10:00-10:45am - Audition for Intermediate Dancers
- 10:15am - Registration for Advanced Dancers
- 10:45-11:45am - Audition for Advanced Dancers
- 11:15am - Registration for Ballet Five Dancers
- 11:45-12:15pm - Audition for Ballet Five Dancers
- 11:45am - Registration for Ballet One Dancers
- 12:15-12:30pm - Audition for Ballet One Dancers
- 12:15pm - Registration for Ballet Two Dancers
- 12:30-1:00pm - Audition for Ballet Two Dancers
- 12:30pm - Registration for Ballet Three Dancers
- 1:00-1:30pm - Audition for Ballet Three Dancers
- 1:00pm - Registration for Ballet Four Dancers
- 1:30-2:00pm - Audition for Ballet Four Dancers

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Winter Suite - A Nutcracker Fantasy is a brand new production created by Menlowe Ballet Artistic Director Michael Lowe and Associate Artistic Directors Sarah-Jane Measor and Julie Lowe to showcase students of the Menlo Park Academy of Dance. Artists from Menlowe Ballet will appear as guests. Each performance is one hour in length.

Attending the August 29th audition is an absolute necessity if your child wants to be considered for a role. Audition results will be emailed within a week of the audition. **Please do not call the office for audition results. Roles and casting are assigned by the Artistic Directors; ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**

Please consider the following conditions carefully before making the decision to allow your child to audition, as you automatically agree and commit to them if you choose to attend. While participation in *Winter Suite - A Nutcracker Fantasy* is an exciting, educational, and fun experience for your dancer, it is also a very serious commitment.

Faithful and punctual attendance at rehearsals and performance is required.

It is vital the entire cast attend every assigned rehearsal without fail. There is much material to be learned so your full support is crucial to the success of the production.

Rehearsal will begin on September 11th & 12th. The rehearsal period runs through beginning of December. **Parts rehearse on a rotating schedule; not every part will rehearse each weekend.**

All rehearsal will take place between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on Saturdays (Intermediate and Advanced Students only), and 11:00am and 3:00pm on Sundays (any level may be called). **Each rehearsal typically runs 30-45 minutes.**

The initial rehearsal schedule for **Sept 11th-Oct 17th** will be provided with casting invitations in the audition results. Rehearsals will take place at the Menlo Park Academy of Dance Studios. Schedules are subject to change.

Availability for ALL performances is mandatory.

No cast member has the option of choosing her/his cast, role, or performances nor your participation cannot be dependent upon transportation provide by another cast member.

We do not have availability for complimentary tickets or passes to performances.

There is no waiting area for parents at the theater during performances. Performing children will be monitored backstage by selected volunteer MPAD parents. More details on parent volunteer roles/expectations to be distributed in early fall.

Participation fee: \$250 is due in full by Sept 7th and is non-refundable.

This flat fee per dancer goes towards the cost of rehearsals, costume maintenance, and includes **1 pair performance tights and 1 pair canvas slippers**, as well as a *Winter Suite* t-shirt. **There will be a bulk order for those items so that parents do not have to order on their own.** This fee secures your dancer's role in the production; any role not secured by September 7th will be immediately recast on September 8th.

Production make-up is the responsibility of parents; a detailed list will be provided by November 1st.

NO VIDEOTAPING OR RECORDING of any portion or all of any rehearsal or performance is allowed. A flash drive of the final performance will be available.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

An outline of the theatre rehearsal and performance schedule is below. Younger students will be released earlier than 9pm on December 3rd. Call times for each show are typically one hour prior to curtain but may be modified for our youngest student dancers.

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND: Please note that rehearsals the weekend prior to Thanksgiving, November 20th & 21st are **MANDATORY**.

THEATRE REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, December 3rd	4:00pm - 9:00pm	Dress and Tech Rehearsal
Saturday, December 4th	1:00pm and 4:00pm	Performances
Sunday, December 5th	11:00am and 2:00pm	Performances

THE AUDITION DAY

Students should come to the audition in leotard/tights/ballet slippers with hair in ballet bun. Your child will be given an audition number.

Parents will not be permitted to watch the audition as it can be distracting to the students. Please return to the registration table at the end of the audition to escort your child from the building.

It is not necessary to prepare any steps or a solo for the audition.

At the end of the audition process, the students will be gathered together in the lobby for pick-up. Please arrive at designated finish time of the audition.

Results of the audition will be emailed to all audition participants.

