

Winter Suite

WINTER SUITE - A NUTCRACKER FANTASY 2024 AUDITION INFORMATION PACKET

Please:

- Read this booklet from cover to cover
- Make a decision that participation in this production of *Winter Suite – A Nutcracker Fantasy* and rehearsal/performance 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 required Menlo Park Academy of Dance Curriculum for the 2024-25 School Year before August 25th, 2024
- Auditions open to Ballet 1 through Advanced dancers.

Auditions will be held Sunday, August 25th in Studio 2, 3 and 4 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 (bring pointe shoes)
- 11:15am – Registration for Ballet Five Dancers
- 11:45 – 12:15am – Audition for Ballet Five Dancers
- 11:45am – Registration for Ballet One Dancers
- 12:15pm – 12:30pm – Audition for Ballet One Dancers
- 12:15pm – Registration for Ballet Two Dancers
- 12:30pm – 1:00pm – Audition for Ballet Two Dancers
- 12:30pm – Registration for Ballet Three Dancers
- 1:00pm -1:30pm – Audition for Ballet Three Dancers
- 1:00pm – Registration for Ballet Four Dancers
- 1:30pm -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.

Attending the August 25th 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 Director; ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.

Please consider the following conditions carefully before making the family 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, please do not forget that it is also a very serious commitment for your entire family.

Faithful and punctual attendance at rehearsals and performance is mandatory.

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 7th and 8th. The rehearsal period runs through December 15th.

All rehearsal will take place between 4:00pm and 7:00pm on Saturdays (Intermediate and Advanced students only), and 9:00am and 2:00pm on Sundays (any level may be called). Each rehearsal typically runs 30-60 minutes depending on amount of practice needed.

Rehearsals will take place at the Menlo Park Academy of Dance Studios. Schedule 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. A parent of each participating dancer is asked to volunteer for at least one role at the theatre. Sign up details will be emailed with audition results.

Participation fee: \$300 is due in full by Sept 1st and is non-refundable.

This flat fee per dancer goes towards the cost of rehearsals, costume fitting and maintenance, and includes 1 pair of performance socks, and 1 or 2 pairs of canvas slippers. There will be a bulk order for those items so that parents do not have to order on their own. The participation fee along with

your confirmed volunteer slot secures your dancer's role in the production. Any role not secured by September 1st will be immediately recast on September 2nd.

Student make-up is the responsibility of parent and a detailed list will be provided at the beginning of November.

NO VIDEOTAPING OR RECORDING of any portion or all any rehearsal or performance is allowed. A Flash drive of the entire performance will be available for purchase.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please note the following rehearsals during the final weeks leading up to the Winter Suite - A Nutcracker Fantasy performance dates:

Weekend prior to Thanksgiving **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23RD & SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24TH: MANDATORY FULL CAST REHEARSALS.**

Weekend of Thanksgiving **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH & SUNDAY DECEMBER 1ST: NO REHEARSALS.**

Weekend of **SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH & SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH: MANDATORY FULL CAST REHEARSALS.**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH: MANDATORY FULL CAST REHEARSALS.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15TH: Rehearsals for younger cast members and professional dancers. High School Students will have NO rehearsals this day in for preparation for High School Finals.

An outline of the theater rehearsal and performance schedule is below. Call times for each show are typically one hour prior to curtain but may be modified for our youngest student dancers.

THEATRE REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE AT MENLO-ATHERTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER.

Friday, December 20 th	4:00pm – 8:30pm	Dress and Tech Rehearsal
Saturday, December 21 st	1:00pm and 4:00pm	Performances
Sunday, December 22 nd	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. We are grateful for your interest and look forward to seeing your dancer on August 25th.