

# 2009 Nutcracker In A Nutshell

## Performance Newsletter

Dear Parents/Students:

Tickets go on sale for this years' production of "*Nutcracker In A Nutshell*", on Sunday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Performances will be presented at the Rachel Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center at the NOVA Alexandria Campus, (3001 N. Beauregard St.) Performances are scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 and 7:30 p.m. , and Sunday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The casting will be posted before the Thanksgiving holiday (check the website.) Seating is reserved, so please purchase your tickets ASAP. All seats are \$18 at the studio, and will be \$20 at the door. These performances are not recommended for children under the age of three. All entering the theatre are required to have a ticketed seat. Be advised that there is a \$1 per/hr. parking fee for rehearsal days and \$6 for performances. Try to carpool if you can!

Please be reminded that December tuition, and/or, 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester payments must be paid for all performers in "*Nutcracker In A Nutshell*" before the performance weekend. (It is due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.) A late fee will be added to 2<sup>nd</sup> semester payments after Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> and to monthly tuition after the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Dancers must not miss rehearsal for any reason other than extreme illness, and the studio must be notified of such absence. During the course of the rehearsal season, all performers are also required to attend all classes regularly. Dancers will not perform that exercise excessive absence.

The 2009 season kicks off with **CAPs performances** ("Kingdom of Sweets") at Virginia Run Elementary School, in Centreville, on Wednesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. The second CAPs performance is Saturday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 p.m. at Chinn Park Library, in Woodbridge. All dancers should arrive at these venues 1 hour before the designated performance time. **Directions** will be available at the studio and on line. Casting for these performances will be posted before Thanksgiving.

**Dress Rehearsals** will be held at Rachel Schlesinger Concert Hall on **Thursday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** for **Cast A** and **Friday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>** for **Casts B and C**. All cast members should arrive at the theatre by **5:30 pm**. ready to begin by 6:30 pm. Dancers must warm themselves up for rehearsals. Dress Rehearsal is **mandatory** for all performers. Rehearsals will run to 9:00 p.m. (9:30 on Friday.)

**CALL** is at **1:30 (BAE) or 1:50 p.m.** for children in Sat. afternoon performances (**Casts A, C**) and **Warm-up class** is at **2:00 p.m.** **CALL** is at **6:00 (BAE) or 6:30 p.m.** for children in (**Cast B**) performance, Saturday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. **Warm-up class** will be given at **6:20 p.m.** All BAE members, dancers in Snow Scene and Party Children must attend the warm-up classes.

The **Cast Party** will be held at **CBA** on **Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>** , **6:00-8:00 p.m.** All dancers, volunteers and their families are welcome!

**Make-up**

*Dancers in CAPs performances on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, should wear heavy street make-up. Full stage make-up will be required for Dress Rehearsals and performances Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.*

**Children** - Eyeshadow - mauves and pinks, rosy pink blusher, deep rose lipstick, light mascara, if needed.

**Chinese Tea Children** - need eyeliner to be drawn on and extended to sides to create oriental look - **(to be done by backstage volunteers, please.)**

**Mice** - Need pink noses painted on (tip of nose only), and outlined with black pencil - Black pencil lines are then drawn on from nose out to cheeks. **(To be done by volunteers, please.)**

**Dolls and Soldiers** - Wear red felt dot cheeks that stick on ("Ballet eyes" as described below.)

**ALL BAE , Jr. Ensemble, Apprentices**, including: Party Children, Dolls, Soldiers, Polichinelles, Reeds, Snow Scene, Waltz and soloists: Foundation base make-up, "Ballet Eyes" - eyeshadow in mauves and pinks, mascara, eyeliner with lines drawn straight out, not curved. **BAE** soloists, Snowflakes, Snow Drops, Waltz, Arabian, Reeds, should wear **false eyelashes** .) **ALL** - Rosy pink blusher, deep rose lipstick for Caps shows **(Red lipstick** - Revlon "Certainly Red" or similar for Schlesinger Theatre. )

### **Tights, shoes, etc.**

**Angels** - White long sleeved leotard (provided by CBA) - Danskin 607 white tights and White ballet slippers, both available at the studio at a special reduced rate for performers. Sizes not in stock must be ordered by Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Russian** (girls) - Long sleeved white leotard and white Capezio wrap skirt (provided by CBA) Danskin 607 White tights and white ballet slippers (see Angels info. )

**Mice** - Light pink cotton long-sleeved leotard (provided by CBA) Danskin 607 theatrical pink tights and (Clean) pink ballet slippers.

**Chinese Tea** - Lt. Pink or white leotard to be worn under costume (short sleeved or sleeveless is best.) 607 theatrical pink tights and pink ballet slippers.

**Ice Fairies** - Danskin 607 theatrical pink tights pink tights and pink ballet slippers - all Jr. E girls should have Bloch split sole pink leather, which is preferred.

**Clown Polichinelles** - Lt. Blue leotard or camisole to be worn under costume with Danskin 607 theatrical pink tights and pink ballet slippers.

**All dancers** should wear clean tights without holes or runs and no panties worn underneath. Ballet slippers should look neat with strings trimmed and tucked into shoes. All hair done up neat into a bun, slicked back with gel and hair sprayed.

**Party Children, Dolls, Gold Polichinelles, Arabian, Snowflakes, Icicles** wear BAE "Company tights" and Bloch split-sole pink leather ballet slippers (Icicles pointe shoes.) **(Party Children** that are **Ice Fairies** and **Clown Polichinelles** wear Danskin 607 theatrical pink tights .)

**ALL : Snow Drops, Reeds, Waltz, Soloists** wear BAE "Company tights" - (Prima Soft #100 seamed in ballet pink). Girls cast in pointe roles must have more than one pair of relatively new, clean properly broken pointe shoes. All **pointe shoes** will be **calomined** for "Nutcracker" at the studio, on **Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>** and **15<sup>th</sup>**. All shoes must be broken in by Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> .

**Girls** wear may **camisole style # N8301** in nude w/ nude straps (no plastic straps), **ONLY**, under costumes, if they prefer. This is not required, however; no other style or color camisole may be worn. These camisoles may be ordered thru CBA for \$25.20 (Child M,L, Adult P,S,M,L). All orders must be placed and prepaid by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> .

**Soldiers** - Black jazz shoes, black thin socks over pink tights

**Russian soloists, boys and Harlequins** - black tights and black ballet slippers

**Party Children, Dolls, Gold Polichinelles, Snowflakes, Arabian - Bloch** spilt-sole pink leather ballet slippers.

**Party Scene Boys** - White knee socks (provided), black jazz shoes

**Gypsy Doll** - Lt. Suntan tights w/ pancaked pointe shoes to match (pink for CAPs)

## Hair

Hair should be neatly pinned up in a bun hair-sprayed securely for all parts (except boys.) Bangs should be pulled back and slicked back with gel and/or sprayed for all but Mice, Chinese Tea and Angels. **No hair accessories are to be added !** Party Children may wear hair down, curled and pulled back off face with barette or ponytail holder - unless they have a part following that requires a bun. Bows may be added that match party dress.

## Backstage Rules

**There is to be no eating or drinking while in costume (except for water). All warm-ups should be done in practice clothes, NOT in costume. No one is allowed to sit or stretch on the floor while in costume. No one is allowed to leave the backstage area while in costume. No jewelry, nail polish or accessories of any kind are to be worn onstage (with the exception of Party Scene Parents and diamond/ zircon stud earrings to be worn in "Snow Scene" and by soloists, approved by Director).**

## Volunteers

**We need your help! Everyone that applied for children to perform in "Nutcracker In A Nutshell" was required to volunteer to help in some area, and will be expected to fulfill the commitment.** Remember that all backstage chaperones and stage crew members must attend the dress rehearsal that corresponds to the performance date. Students in need of service hours for school are encouraged to help backstage as chaperones or as ushers or "Nutcracker Notes" delivery persons during performances that they are not cast in !

Those helping with transport of costumes (as well as dancers transporting their own costumes) should return costumes to the studio after the matinee performance on Sunday, if possible (or make arrangements for Monday.) It will be appreciated if you do not return them during the Cast Party.

## Performance Information

The BAE Guild will sponsor the following fundraisers during "Nutcracker" :

"**Nutcracker Notes**" (Messages for good luck!) may be sent to dancers backstage for \$1. **Rose bouquets** will be available at \$10 ea. (3 roses), 2 for \$18, or \$15 ea. (6 roses) , or 2 for \$27. Reserve your bouquet and honor your little "star" as well as the BAE. A well stocked "**Nutcracker Boutique**" will feature great *Nutcracker* oriented **stocking stuffers** as well as **t-shirts** . The Guild will also serve refreshments at performances and food between performances on Saturday. **Nutcracker themed dolls** will be raffled off at performances (tba) to benefit the BAE. Raffle tickets are \$1 ea. or 6 for \$5.

The BAE Guild will sponsor the "Toys for Tots" campaign in support of the United States Marine Corps. program. Donate a new, unwrapped toy and bring joy to needy children this holiday season. The U.S. Marine Corps will attend the Sunday matinee performance to collect the toys. All who donate will receive a free raffle ticket for a "Dew Drop Fairy" doll !

All performances on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> will be professionally videotaped and available for purchase. Order forms will be available at the studio, at Dress rehearsals and on performance days. Make checks payable to: **Stonewall Video Productions.**

Personal **videotaping** is allowed at each of the CAPs performances and during Dress Rehearsals, but is absolutely **prohibited** during performances held on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. **Photography of any kind** is also **prohibited** during the performances. Those unwilling to comply may be asked to leave the theater.

Please note that there will be class schedule changes at CBA due to rehearsals and performances. We encourage all dancers to keep up with their classes to be in best form for performing. If class is being held on a day that they do not rehearse or perform, they should attend.

We encourage everyone to feel free to take posters, flyers to schools, churches, grocery stores, etc. We thank all of those volunteering to help with performances for their much needed support! We congratulate the dancers on their hard work so far, and look forward to enjoying their performances! *Happy Holidays!*