

HOT SPRINGS CHILDREN'S DANCE THEATRE CO.

presents



The Nutcracker

NOV 28 • 7PM
NOV 29 • 1PM/7PM
LAKEPOINTE
CHURCH

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Composer

Edmond Cooper
Artistic Director

DEC 5
7:30PM
WOODLANDS
AUDITORIUM

WINTER 2025 PRODUCTION



Dorothy Morris
LEADERSHIP FUND





presents:

The Nutcracker

*Based on the Story by E.T.A. Hoffman
"The Nutcracker and the Rat King"*

Music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Choreography by Edmond Cooper after Lev Ivanov

Set Design

Sara Riley

Cover Artwork

Raven Cooper

Photography

Aaron Brewer

Production Manager

Josylie Bramlett

Stage Manager

Grace Millard

Stage Crew

Joe Bramlett

David Mills

Lighting / Sound Director

Phil Pearce

Box Office Managers

Alex Stafford

Robin Brown

Costume Designers

Professor William Henshaw

Costumes by Hannah

Graphic Design

Kwik Print

Greetings

from the Artistic Director



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre Company's production of *The Nutcracker*! The HSCDTC is honored to be celebrating its thirteen year anniversary in Hot Springs as a theatrical dance production company. Founded in 2013, the express purpose of the HSCDTC is to create quality theatrical dance performances, and is proudly fulfilling that mission. Although many may believe that HSCDTC operates as a dance studio, we are actually an independent incorporated, non-profit dance theater. Our performers come from a wide variety of training and experiences, and are chosen for each production through auditions open to dancers ages five years old and up who are currently enrolled in a weekly dance class(es) in and around our community. Actors of all ages are also encouraged to audition.

In the short time we have been present in the community, we have been able to give hundreds of students the opportunity to experience the performing arts and to experience educational programs incorporating history, art, and literature—all through the art of ballet. The generosity of our corporate sponsors also allows for children in some classrooms to experience performances free of charge. We are invested in enabling students to thrive through the arts and hope you will join us in continuing that mission.

Whenever you attend a HSCDTC production, you are truly supporting the arts in our community. Our talented dancers have trained in the Hot Springs and Central Arkansas area, and exemplify how hard work, dedication, and passion can make dreams come true! Additionally, as with each production, our dancers have the privilege of sharing the stage with a renowned professional dancer.

We are proud to be the only children's dance theatre to present two major full-length classical ballets a year; the "season" starting with *"The Nutcracker"* and ending with varied ballets. Previously, the HSCDTC has presented *"A Midsummer Nights Dream," "Cinderella," "Peter Pan," Coppelia* and *"The Sleeping Beauty"*. We thank you for your patronage and support and hope you will treasure tonight's magical performance!



Edmond Cooper

WINTER 2025

THE NUTCRACKER

Scenes and Cast



Act I The Party Scene

Herr Drosselmeyer, a magician who makes mechanical dolls, invented a mousetrap that killed off half the mice that lived in a Royal Palace. In revenge the King of Mice transformed his nephew, Hans Peter, into an ugly Nutcracker doll. Only by killing the King of the Mice and Rats and being loved by a young girl can he be released from the spell. Drosselmeyer, invited to the Stahlbaum's party, takes the Nutcracker as a gift for their daughter Clara. Clara falls in love with the doll. After the Christmas party, Clara creeps downstairs to find her Nutcracker.

Clara Stahlbaum	Hannah Uldrich
Fritz Stahlbaum	Jack Falck
Herr Drosselmeyer	Thomas Cooper
Drosselmeyer's Apprentice	Frank West
Mrs. Stahlbaum	Samantha Millard
Mayor Stahlbaum	Michael Millard
Grandfather	Thomas Cooper
Grandmother	Maria Flores
Maid	Malia Bramlett
Fritz's Friends	Simon Grise, Hazel Hill, Carlie Elder
Clara's Friends	Ashley Elder, Evelyn Headlee, Charlee Porter Melody Markham, Cassidy Sparks, Abbi Phelps
Adult Party Guests	Carlie Elder, Simon Grise
Dowdy Lady	Kodie Brown
Aristocratic Lady	Tina Cooper
Angel	Tabitha Uldrich
Harlequin Doll	Emmakate Franz
National Doll	Laila Diaz

Scenes and Cast



Act I The Battle Scene

Drosselmeyer transforms the room into a battlefield where the Nutcracker leads an army of toy soldiers to fight the mice. With Clara's help, the Nutcracker kills the Mouse King and is turned back into Hans-Peter. Drosselmeyer sends them both on a journey through the Land of Snow and to the Kingdom of Sweets.

The Nutcracker Prince	Noah Long
Rat King	Frank West
Soldiers	Simon Grise, Hazel Hill, Ashley Elder Ariel Dupuy, Carlie Elder
Bunny	Abbi Phelps
Toy Dolls	Charlotte Falck (Japanese Doll) Malia Bramlett (Flamenco Doll)
Mice	Charlee Porter, Melody Markham Evelyn Headlee, Cassidy Sparks
Snow Queen	Emmakate Franz
Snowflakes	Tabitha Uldrich, Malia Bramlett, Laila Diaz Charlotte Falck, Lilly Pritsch, Martina Flores

Intermission



CLEAN SWEEP

CHIMNEY SERVICE, INC.

P.O. Box 8292
Hot Springs, AR 71910
(501) 922-0490
(501) 525-4733
cleansweepchimneyservice1979.com



- Buck Stove Dealer
- Chimney Sweeping
- Chimney Caps
- Custom Chimney Caps
- Dryer Vent Cleaning
- Waterproofing
- Closed Circuit Video Inspection
- UL Listed Relining System



Act II The Land of the Sweets

A Christmas Angel leads Hans-Peter and Clara to meet the Sugar Plum Fairy. Hans-Peter tells them of their adventure, and they join in the entertainment, which Drosselmeyer has organized in their honor. Hans-Peter returns to Drosselmeyer’s workshop since the spell has finally been broken.

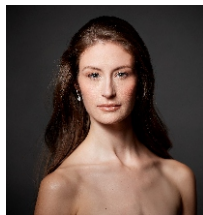
Angels . . .	Ashley Elder, Evelyn Headlee, Melody Markham, Charlee Porter
Spanish	Emmakate Franz
Arabian	Martina Flores, Frank West
Chinese	Tabitha Uldrich
Russians.	Lilly Pritsch, Laila Diaz
	Charlotte Falck, Hazel Hill
Reed Flutes	Martina Flores, Malia Bramlett
Mother Ginger.	Erin Holliday
Gingerbread Cookies.	Cassidy Sparks, Evelyn Headlee
	Charlee Porter, Melody Markham, Ariel Dupuy
Gingerbread Baker	Abbi Phelps
Waltz of the Flowers	Dew Drop Fairy: Martina Flores
	Flowers: Charlotte Falck, Hazel Hill, Malia Bramlett
	Lilly Pritsch, Tabitha Uldrich, Hannah Uldrich
Sugar Plum Fairy	Deanna K. Stanton (Nov. 28/29)
	Gretchen Vander Bloomer (Dec. 5)
Cavalier	Noah Long



Guest Artists



**The Company of the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre would like to welcome to our stage featured guest artists,
Deanna K. Stanton, Noah Long,
Gretchen Vander Bloomer, Emma Kate Franz, and Thomas Cooper.**



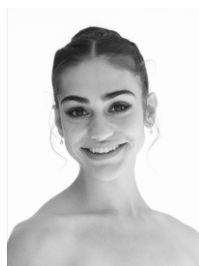
DEANNA K. STANTON (Sugar Plum Fairy - Nov 28/29)

Deanna Karlheim Stanton began dancing in her hometown of Clarksville, Maryland. She credits her early training to time spent at the Baltimore School for the Arts. She graduated with a BFA in Ballet from the University of Cincinnati, where she studied under Jiang Qi and Deirdre Carberry at the College-Conservatory of Music. For two seasons, she was a trainee with Ballet West and has been with Ballet Arkansas for twelve years. Mrs. Stanton is appearing through the courtesy of Ballet Arkansas.



NOAH LONG (Cavalier, Nutcracker Prince)

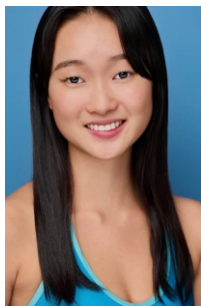
Noah Long, born in Toronto, Canada, started his ballet training at Canada's National Ballet School. He received much of his pre-professional training at the Goh Ballet Academy in Vancouver, British Columbia, before becoming a member of the National Ballet of Canada. Noah has also been a guest artist with the Billy Elliot touring company and Ghostlight Productions. He has also held the position of Ballet Master with the Port Angeles City Ballet. Noah is currently with Ballet Memphis in TN. Noah Long is appearing through the courtesy of Ballet Memphis under the Artistic Direction of Steven McMahon.



GRETCHEN VANDER BLOOMER (Sugar Plum Fairy - Dec 5)

Gretchen Vander Bloomer grew up in Illinois, where she trained at the Dance Academy of Libertyville until the age of 17. She then attended Colorado Ballet's pre-professional program before becoming a trainee with Richmond Ballet. Gretchen was at Alabama Ballet prior to joining Ballet Memphis in 2021. Gretchen is appearing through the courtesy of Ballet Memphis under the Artistic Direction of Steven McMahon.

Guest Artists



EMMAKATE FRANZ (*Snow Queen, Harlequin Doll, Spanish*)

Ms. Franz was born in China and grew up in West Virginia. She first learned how to dance in church and local dance studios. She received a grant scholarship from The Marion Park Lewis Foundation and attended Maryland Youth Ballet. After receiving a scholarship from The Joffrey Chicago and graduating, she performed with Ballet Austin, Milwaukee Ballet, and Ballet Arkansas.



THOMAS COOPER (*Drosselmeyer*)


Thomas Cooper has been involved in several productions of the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre playing everything from *Peter Pan's* Captain Hook to the intellectually challenged step sister of *Cinderella*. Thomas has a B.A. in theatre and has been involved in local professional theatre for the last 15 years. When not performing, Thomas enjoys tending to the critters on his small farm near Lake Ouachita and spoiling his beloved granddaughters Abigail, Rebekah and Nora.



Jack Falck and Hannah Uldrich



Edmond began his formal ballet training under the direction of Fernando Schaffenburg, founder and artistic director of the Fort Worth Ballet. Subsequently, Edmond was awarded the Texas Christian University Nordan Scholar and later went on to train extensively under the direction of the world-renowned teacher David Howard in New York.

 He has performed professionally with the Fort Worth Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Southwest Ballet, and Ballet Arizona, directed by John Paul Comelin, former ballet master of the Stuttgart Ballet.

He was the 1986 recipient of the National Association of Regional Ballet Young Choreographers award, adjudicated and awarded by David Barnet, former artistic director of the Atlanta Ballet. Edmond served as choreographer for the Fort Worth Opera, Hawaii Opera Theatre, and Interlochen School of the Performing Arts.

His greatest choreographic success was his collaboration with Stewart Copeland on Copeland's original opera, *Holy Blood and Crescent Moon*, which premiered in 1994 with the Fort Worth Opera.

PHILLIP PIERCE PHOTOS

**+ 24-48 HOUR
TURNAROUND TIME**

**DIGITAL ALBUM DOWNLOAD
ALWAYS INCLUDED**

**MLS UPLOAD AVAILABLE
UPON REQUEST**



 Less than 2,249 sqft \$100	 Drone \$100
 2,250 - 2,999 sqft \$150	 Basic Floor Plan \$25
 3,000 - 3,999 sqft \$200	 Interactive Floor Plan \$60
 4,000 - 4,999 sqft \$300	 Video Tour \$150

First Time?
New clients receive 10% off their first shoot!

Enjoy working with me?
Receive a free drone shoot for every TWO referrals!

☎ 501-762-6388

📷 @PhillipPiercePhotos

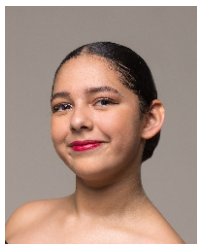


* prices shown do not include taxes
** Referral rewards apply to booked sessions only





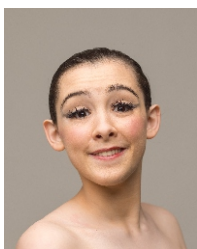




LAILA DIAZ (*National Doll*)

Laila Diaz, 12, is a dancer and student in the Hot Springs School District. She currently trains under Amy Bramlett-Turner and Edmond Cooper and is a member of the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre Company. Laila has performed in *The Nutcracker*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Sleeping Beauty* and with the school district's dance program. She is especially grateful for the support of her teachers and family. With every performance, Laila aims to bring emotion, energy, and excellence to the stage as she

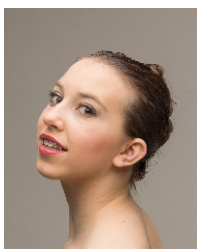
continues her performing arts journey.



MALIA BRAMLETT (*Reed Flutes*)

Malia Bramlett is eighteen years old and is homeschooled. She began her dance training when she was five years old at Techniques, the school of the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre Co., in 2013. Since then, she has performed in the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre Company's *The Nutcracker* as well as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Coppelia*, *Peter Pan*, and *Cinderella*. She has studied classical ballet with amazing guest instructors such as Dagny Hanrahan, Cyrus Bridewell,

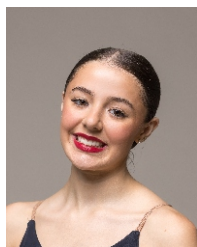
Deanna Karlheim Stanton, Serene Wong, and Amy Bramlett Turner. She has also performed with The Muses Creative Artistry Project.



TABITHA ULDRICH (*Chinese*)

Tabitha, an eighth grader at Lakeside Junior High School, has been dancing and performing with The Hot Springs Children's Dance Theater Company for seven years. She has taken Master Classes taught by Dagny Hanrahan-Chastain, Deanna Stanton, and Cyrus Birdwell. Tabitha has participated in the For His Glory Ballet Competition, and an upper level/pre-professional Summer Intensive in NWA with Rejoice Ballet Studio. At school Tabitha enjoys choir and theater. As a focused and dedicated ballet

student, her goal is to continue to perform and study ballet and pointe.



MARTINA FLORES (*Dew Drop Fairy*)

Martina Flores, age 16, began dancing at age five and currently trains with Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre Co. She has performed in *The Nutcracker* seven seasons including the role of Clara in 2023, as well as performing in *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, *Coppelia*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She attended Tulsa Ballet's Senior Summer Intensive (2024) and has furthered her training through master classes.



Lake Hamilton & Hot Springs Animal Hospitals



Where Every Pet Is Family

Lake Hamilton and Hot Springs Animal Hospitals have been helping pets and their people since 1984. Happy, healthy pets are the main focus of both facilities, and our knowledgeable staff is always available to answer any questions!



**Check us out
on FaceBook!**

Hot Springs Animal Hospital

1533 Malvern Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

501*623*2411
hotspringsvet.com

♥ Dr. Brian, his associates, and staff ♥
strive to provide the best quality
veterinary care and client service.
As well as, to raise awareness of
achieving and maintaining good
healthcare for every pet.

**Schedule your
appointment
today at
either location!**



Lake Hamilton Animal Hospital

1525 Airport Road
Hot Springs, AR 71913

501*767*8503
lakehamiltonanimalhospital.com

Family Owned Since 1984

Special Thanks



The Company of the Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre would also like to express our deep gratitude to all of our generous supporters.

The support by our patrons will provide:

- Funding to go toward set construction and performance costuming for two major ballet productions per year.
- Access to professional guest artists from around the country to inspire and motivate the production, while performing alongside our local young artists.
- Help for coverage of promotional costs and advertising to reach more gifted artists to join the HSCDT family.
- Educational programs and community outreach.
- Traveling expenses to take The Ballet into underserved communities.

Thank you for your support!

Please check out our current performance schedule at www.hscdtc.org.

For more information, call 501-655-6815 or email hotspringschildrensdt@gmail.com.



A special thank you to the parents of the dancers who have tirelessly given of their time and energy in support of our dancers! Our amazing "Parents Guild" works hard behind the scenes helping the HSCDT with fundraising efforts, ticket sales, boutique sales, snacks and costuming. The tremendous support and dedication of our parents allow productions such as this to be possible!

Sponsors



BALLETOMANE - PLATINUM

(Corporate Level Sponsor \$5,000 - \$10,000)

Dorothy Morris Leadership Fund

The National Endowment of the Arts

Arkansas Arts Council & The Department of Heritage

DEVANT - SILVER

(Corporate Level Sponsor \$1,000 - \$2,499)

Mrs. Elaine Bankston

ETOILE

(\$750 - \$1,000)

Lake Hamilton Family Medicine

Dr. Cameron and Dr. Amy Falck

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn A. and Molly Crawshaw

PRINCIPLE

(\$500 - \$749)

Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. and Nilda G. Simms

Mr. and Mrs. David and Susan Karlheim

Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Samantha Millard

Giving Tree of Hot Springs

SOLOIST

(\$250- \$499)

Mrs. Nancy Ashwood

Youth Advisory Council of Hot Springs

DEMI SOLOIST

(\$100 - \$249)

Mr. and Mrs. Bart and Alix Stafford

Diane Kesling Silberstein Trust

Ms. Leila Dodge

Dr. John Simpson

Mr. and Mrs. George and Jennifer Elder

Ms. Karen Lauck

Colonel and Mrs. Edward and Robin Brown

Sponsors



CORP DE BALLET

(\$25 - \$99)

Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Donna Sanders
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey and Katherine Brewer

The Hot Springs Children's Dance Theatre Company
would like to thank the
Arkansas Arts Council
for the award of a Community Arts Project.



TECHNIQUES

CLASSICAL CONTEMPORARY COMPETITIVE DANCE

The goal of Techniques is to give dedicated local dance students the opportunity to develop a strong understanding of dance technique, both contemporary and classical, at a level that is competitive with the skills developed within the mainstream of today's dance world.

Information & Registration:

Text or Call:
(501) 655-6815

Email:
hotspringscdt@gmail.com
www.hscdtc.org

Cast Photos




**Ariel Dupuy, Ashley Elder
Evelyn Headlee, Abbi Phelps
Melody Markham, Cassidy Sparks
Charlee Porter**



**Carlie Elder, Ariel Dupuy
Simon Grise, Ashley Elder
Hazel Hill, Abbi Phelps**



**Michael Millard, Samantha Millard, Carlie Elder,
Kodie Brown, Tina Cooper, Simon Grise, Frank West**



*Here's to the
dancers who turn
hard work into
wonder!*

*We are honored to
support this year's
Nutcracker cast.*

*~ Dr. Hale & Dr.
Erwin*



1629 Airport Road, Suite B
Hot Springs, AR 71913
(501) 767-0075

www.HealthStarPhysicians.com

*Welcoming Dr. Gregory Whorton,
beginning January 5th!*

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and yours!