

2019 Nutcracker Information

The staff and faculty of the Chester Valley Dance Academy are excited to present the 2019 performance of *The Nutcracker Ballet*. We eagerly extend the opportunity to audition for this holiday tradition to our ballet students. ***The following information consists of audition requirements and many new rules for this year's performance. Please be advised that these rules will be enforced with greater care this year. Please make sure you are able to commit before auditioning.***

Nutcracker Auditions

Please arrive ½ hour prior to your audition time to sign-up and be measured. Parents must accompany the students to the audition. **Audition and Rehearsal Uniform:** Black leotard, pink tights, ballet shoes, pointe shoes and hair in a bun.

Saturday, August 10, 2019

- 10:00 - 11:00 Grade 2 & 3
- 11:15 - 12:30 Grade 4 & 5
- 12:45 - 2:00 Grade 6,7,8
- 2:00 - 3:00 Grade 6,7,8 Pointe
- 2:00 - 3:00 Boys

Saturday, August 17, 2019

- 1:00 - 2:30 Grade 9-12
- 2:30 - 3:15 Grade 9-12 Pointe

Nutcracker Performances

- **Performances at Phoenixville Area Middle School:** Fri. 12/20 7PM, Sat. 12/21 2:30 & 6:30. (Snow Date 12/22)
- **Mandatory Dress Rehearsals at Phoenixville Area Middle School:** 12/11, 12/12, 12/13, 12/14 Times TBA
- **Mandatory Dress Rehearsals at CVDA (Tentative Dates-may be changed)**
 - Saturday, November 23rd - Times to be announced
 - Sunday, November 24th - Times to be announced
 - Sunday, December 1st - Times to be announced
 - Saturday, December 7th - Times to be announced
 - Sunday, December 8th - Times to be announced
 - Tuesday, December 17th- Times to be announced - Rehearsal at studio as needed
 - Wednesday, December 18th - Times to be announced - Rehearsal at studio as needed
 - Thursday, December 19th - Times to be announced - Rehearsal at studio as needed

Nutcracker 2019 Requirements

In order to be eligible to audition for the 2019 Nutcracker, students must meet the following requirements:

- Take ballet in the summer of 2019. *Attendance in our summer program will be taken into consideration when we cast for Nutcracker parts.*
- All students auditioning must have taken ballet in the 2019 school year and must be 7 years of age or older and have completed a full year of Combo III, or PB I (with previous Combo III experience) level experience or higher.
- A parent **MUST** accompany students to the audition to sign a permission slip. Students will not be allowed to audition without a signed permission slip. ***There will be a ½ hour meeting for all parents at the beginning of each audition.*** Every performer must have an adult representative present or they will not be cast. Parents will have the opportunity to volunteer as helpers in various areas at this meeting.

Bringing the Nutcracker Ballet to Life

We feel it is vitally important that students studying the art of dance have the opportunity to perform in a professional program that is internationally recognized as a hallmark of ballet. The Nutcracker Ballet also gives students the opportunity to share their talent and it is a stepping-stone in enhancing dance technique and appreciation. At all times, we have tried to keep the expense to the students and their parents at a minimum while maintaining a high degree of quality. In support of this philosophy, we have instituted the following requirements for all students wishing to participate in The Nutcracker Ballet.

- In order to perform in the Nutcracker all accounts must be paid in full through December tuition. The student's tuition must **be paid prior to dress rehearsal** or the child will not be permitted to perform
- There will be a \$305 **non-refundable** flat fee charged. Fee must be paid on the day before the audition or the student will not be cast in a part.
- **Nutcracker Fee:** \$295 if paid on or before August 5th by check or cash in the office along with completed registration form provided in the office. (If you are not able to attend the audition, please register and pay at the studio)
- \$295 divided by at least 30 hours of rehearsal starting in September through mid December = \$9.83 an hour which is less than the regular class tuition. This fee will go toward covering the cost of the following:

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| 1. Choreographers Fees | 8. Floor Tape, Music, Flashlights, Batteries, etc. |
| 2. Costumes fittings & seamstress | 9. Backdrop Rentals |
| 3. Costume dry cleaning | 10. Professional Dancer Fees |
| 4. New costumes purchased | 11. Rental of the Truck for Transportation |
| 5. Costume Rentals | 12. Rental of follow spots, fog machine, etc. |
| 6. Facility Fees | 13. Preparing and Fixing Props |
| 7. Lighting | |

Absentee Policy

- The performer may have two excused absences from September 14th to November 16th. If a third rehearsal is missed during this time he/she will be replaced with the understudy and in turn your child becomes the understudy for the dance.
- Each part in the Nutcracker will have at least 1 understudy. (Understudies must come to every rehearsal as though they were in the dance).
- On and after Sat. 11/23, you may not miss any rehearsals. There will be Dress Rehearsals at CVDA on 11/23, 11/24, 12/1, 12/7 and 12/8, and at Phoenixville on 12/11, 12/12, 12/13 & 12/14.
- Additional rehearsals at CVDA on 12/17, 12/18 & 12/19
- If you miss a rehearsal on and after November 23rd until the show, you will be replaced with the understudy.
- If you leave early or arrive late to a rehearsal, you may be considered as absent and be replaced by the understudy. (This at the choreographer's discretion.)

The choreographers and I sat down and discussed the above policies. It is with their help that this policy has come into effect. We feel it will help to ensure our rehearsals will be used to their fullest capacity. We are asking you to take the responsibility and have your children commit to the Nutcracker or not participate if other commitments will conflict. Remember there will be no exceptions to the above rule. This will be a good learning experience for your child. It will give them the understanding that they must make choices throughout their lives.

Rehearsal Information

Rehearsals will be on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons from September 14th until November 16th. On an after Saturday, November 16th rehearsals will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday as needed. The rehearsal schedules will be posted online on our website. Please check the bulletin boards and internet at www.chestervalleydanceacademy.com for your rehearsal times EVERY WEEK. The schedule is subject to change, so please keep a close eye on the times. YOU are responsible for keeping up to date on your rehearsal times. Please do not call the office.

Dress Rehearsal & Performance Information

- **All Nutcracker Cast members must attend both the stage and the Dress Rehearsals.** You must arrive ½ hour prior to stage rehearsal with the correct color leotard, tights and shoes. You must also arrive ½ hour prior to dress rehearsal with hair done and make-up on. All performers must arrive 1 hour before the show with hair and make-up done.
- Please understand that all dancers must remain in their dressing room until the end of the show. Performers are **not permitted to leave the stage, dressing room or designated areas in costume. NO EXCEPTIONS!!! Costumes must be checked in with your classroom mom before you can leave.**
- Only **CLASSROOM MOMS** are permitted in the dressing rooms once dancers are ready. Again, No Exceptions!
- NO FOOD OR DRINK is allowed in the dressing rooms or auditorium at any time. All food and drink must be consumed in the designated areas.
- Please understand that you will be responsible for the cost of replacing any props and/or costumes destroyed or lost by the performer.

A final note: We are looking forward to this year's performance. All of the above information is important and will be strictly followed. Remember participation in the Nutcracker is always voluntary. We hope there will be a good turnout for the audition. As always, Mrs. Cathy is available for questions on regulations that cause confusion.