



IT'S A WONDERFUL NUTCRACKER **2019 AUDITION INFORMATION PACKET**

Please:

- Read this booklet from cover to cover.
- Make a family decision that participation in this production of *It's a Wonderful Nutcracker* and rehearsals/performances fit into your schedule.
- Fill out the on-line registration form (no fee required to register to audition). **The deadline for Audition Registration is August 22, 2019.**
- **Make sure your dancer is registered for the required Menlo Park Academy of Dance Curriculum for Fall 2019 prior to August 22, 2019. Dancers not registered will not be permitted to audition:**
 - Ballet One Dancers – A minimum of one ballet class per week
 - Ballet Two through Five– A minimum of two ballet classes per week
 - Intermediate – A minimum of three ballet classes per week
 - Advanced – A minimum of three ballet and two pointe classes per week
 - Contemporary and Lyrical do not count toward the required ballet classes

Auditions will be held Sunday, August 25 in Studios 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 (not on pointe) for Intermediate Dancers
- 10:15am – Registration for Advanced Dancers
- 10:45am-11:45am – Audition (on pointe) for Advanced Dancers
- 11:15am – Registration for Ballet Five Dancers
- 11:45-12:15p – Audition for Ballet Five Dancers
- 11:45am – Registration for Ballet One Dancers
- 12:15p -12:35pm – Audition for Ballet One Dancers
- 12:15p – Registration for Ballet Two Dancers
- 12:35pm-1:00pm – Audition for Ballet Two Dancers
- 12:35pm – Registration for Ballet Three Dancers
- 1:00p-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

It's a Wonderful Nutcracker is a professional production performed by the dancers of Menlowe Ballet with MPAOD students appearing as guests.

Attending the August 25 audition is an absolute necessity if your child wants to be considered for a role. There will be no additional audition times scheduled before or after August 25 at your child's assigned time. Audition results will be emailed within **three to four days** after the audition. **Please do not call the office for audition results. Roles and casting are assigned by the Menlowe Ballet Artistic Director and Associate 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 *It's a Wonderful Nutcracker* 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. We need to stress this is a professional production and all requirements of a professional company must be adhered to and respected.

Faithful and punctual attendance at rehearsals and performances 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.

Rehearsals will begin on September 15th. The rehearsal period runs through December 8. **Parts rehearse on a rotating schedule; not every part will rehearse each weekend.**

All rehearsals will take place between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on Saturdays (Intermediate & 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 15 – October 27** will be provided with casting invitations in the audition results. Through the first weekend of December, 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 can your participation cannot be dependent upon transportation provided 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 Menlowe Ballet staff and selected parent volunteers (more details on parent volunteer roles/expectations to be distributed in early fall).

Participation fee: \$250 is due in full by Sept 5, 2019 and is non-refundable.

This flat fee per dancer goes towards the cost of rehearsals, costume fitting and maintenance, and includes **performance tights, canvas slippers and leotard** (if required) as well as a **Nutcracker t-shirt**. **There will be a bulk order for these 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 5 will be immediately recast on September 6.

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

NO videotaping of any portion or all of any rehearsal or performance is allowed.

DVD of student dances of the final performance may be purchased for \$30.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Rehearsals at the Menlo-Atherton PAC will begin the week of December 9. An outline of the theater rehearsal and performance schedule is below - rehearsal times are subject to change.

Note: that student dancers will be scheduled to attend ONE Tech Rehearsal (either Tues or Wed) as well as the dress rehearsal on Thursday, December 12; we will attempt to release our younger performers from rehearsals early in the evening. 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 16 & 17, are MANDATORY. There will be NO rehearsals over the holiday weekend, November 23 & 24, so please make your travel plans accordingly.

THEATER REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Performance times are currently TBD; please reserve entire weekends to avoid any conflicts

Tuesday, December 10	4:00p – 9:00p	ACT II Dancers' Tech Rehearsal
Wednesday, December 11	4:00p – 9:00p	ACT I Dancers' Tech Rehearsal
Thursday, December 12	4:00p – 9:00p	Dress Rehearsal
Friday, December 13	7:00p	Opening Night Performance
Saturday, December 14	2:00p & 7:00p	Matinee, Evening Performances
Sunday, December 15	11a* & 2:00p	Sensory Friendly Performance & Matinee *Select student groups only
Thursday, December 19	4:00p – 7:00p	Rehearsal (run through for all students)
Friday, December 20	7:00p	Evening Performance (TBD)
Saturday, December 21	2:00p & 7:00p	Matinee, Evening Performances
Sunday, December 22	11a & 2p	Final 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; please help her/him pin it on.

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 by midnight on August 29.

Remember, by electronically signing the online Audition Registration Form, you and your child have agreed to accept the decision of the Artistic Director of Menlowe Ballet regarding role, cast, costume, and performances. Every effort will be made to cast as many students as possible; however, there may not be a role available for all who audition. We are grateful for your interest and look forward to seeing your dancer August 25!

[Click Here: Menlowe Ballet Student Audition Registration Form](#)