

Betty Jo's Dance Center Presents The Nutcracker Dec. 10th and 17th, 2023

One Christmas Eve, Clara, her sister, Fritz, and her mother are hosting a party at their home. A favorite family friend, Drosselmeyer, joins the festivities. Drosselmeyer, a magician and inventor, brings life sized dolls to the party to entertain the children. Drosselmeyer also brings a special gift, a beautifully carved wooden Nutcracker doll, and presents it to Clara. Later that evening, Clara sneaks back down to the living room to cuddle up with her beloved new doll. When she falls asleep, Baby Mice as large as children begin to scurry about. Clara awakes to find life-sized Mice and a ferocious looking Mouse Queen in her living room. Soon Drosselmeyer reappears and presents Clara with a life-sized Nutcracker doll. Along with Soldiers, the Nutcracker battles the Mouse Queen and the Mice.

When the battle ends and the Mouse Queen crawls away after being injured, the scene magically transforms to a sparkling Land of Snow. Here Snowflakes dance along with their Queen and little Snow Angels appear out of nowhere.

The Snow Queen sends Clara off to the land beyond, the glorious Land of the Sweets. There Clara meets the queen of the Land of the Sweets, the Sugar Plum Fairy, and her princess, Dewdrop. Clara is presented with a tiara and throne and is entertained by a cast of characters.

Before she knows it, Clara finds herself waking up in her living room and her Nutcracker doll right where she thinks she left it. Was it a dream or did Drosselmeyer give a gift of a magical Christmas Eve journey? We may never know.

Cast in order of appearance

Act 1

Scene 1 — A Christmas Eve party at Clara's home

Clara — Nataliya Schmidt

Clara's Friends — Emma Kirtz, Ella Neft

Drosselmeyer, a Family Friend— Bridget Battin

Fritz, Clara's Sister — Maia Anderson

Party Scene — Harper Bent, Emma Jezusko, Evienne Kudrle, Taya Maurer

Clara and Fritz's Mother —Emma Van Dyke

Soldier Doll — Ella Peterson

Candy Doll — Eveline Noah

Snowflake Doll — Harper Dunning

Scene 2 — Later that evening at Clara's home, a battle

Baby Mice — Carolina Crawford, Nora Donley, Vivienne Jackson, Penelope Meyers, Arianna Morgan, Dani Nicklay, Cora Pero, Harper Teschendorf, Pippa Truax

Mice and Mouse Queen — Harlow Cowen, Adeline Falb, Sophia Hill, Ella Iverson, Isabelle Jackson, Isabella Morgan, Mira Seckinger

Mouse Queen — Margaret Sitowski

The Nutcracker — Sophie Cossitt

Soldiers — Maya Alvarado, Molly Gilmore, Connor Heinle, Zoey Kudrle, Adalyn Larios, Adeline Lindstam, Olivia McDaniel, Olivia Moldan, Lizzy Nicklay, Addy Ott

Scene 3 — Journey to the Land of Snow

Snowflakes — Bailey Burlison, Faith Diedrich, Harper Dunning, Lillian Goodenow, Payten Gunther, Eveline Noah, Ella Peterson, Allison Stuart, Brynn Tran

Snow Queen — Ashley Dean

Snow Angels — Adeline Boland, Parker Gilbert, Ophelia Grier, Faye Kudrle, Arianna Morgan, Lilia Najafalipour, Peyton Satrom, Kieran Scheel, Ellie Sims

Intermission / Break

Act 2

Scene 3 — Journey to the Land of the Sweets

Sugar Angels — Aubrey Bleckwehl, Lucy Carlson, Nora Ferjak, Carly Gilmore, Stella Gould, Natalie Groon, Estela Larios, Kinzi Lemaster, Ellie Liebl, Harper Malterud, Julianna Martinez, Nadiya Schmidt, McKinley Smith, Lydia Sutton, Lily Taylor

Dew Drop — Eveline Noah

Sugar Plum Fairy — Ella Peterson

Clara — Nataliya Schmidt

Spanish Chocolate — Harper Dunning

Candy Canes — Harper Bent, Adeline Falb, Molly Gilmore, Isabelle Jackson, Emma Kirtz, Evienne Kudrle, Adalyn Larios, Taya Maurer, Isabella Morgan, Ella Neft, Mira Seckinger, Cassidy Solem

Arabian — Ashley Dean with Emma Jezusko, Brynn Tran

Reed Flutes — Bridget Battin with Zoey Kudrle, Olivia McDaniel

Chinese Tea — Maia Anderson with Maci Henning, Adeline Lindstam, Harper Malterud, Addy Ott, Nadiya Schmidt

Arabian Coffee — Ashley Dean with Emma Jezusko, Brynn Tran

Mother Ginger and her Bon Bons — Lillian Goodenow with Lucy Carlson, Zoe Feeder, Carly Gilmore, Stella Gould, Natalie Groon, Estela Larios, Kinzi Lemaster, Susanna Maciej, Julianna JJ Martinez, Kelly Rounds, Lisbeth Schwenn, McKinley Smith, Lily Taylor

Flowers — Bailey Burlison, Sophie Cossitt, Faith Diedrich, Payten Gunther, Margaret Sitowski, Emma Van Dyke

Dew Drop — Eveline Noah

Little Flowers — Maya Alvarado, Aubrey Bleckwehl, Harlow Cowen, Ella Iverson, Ariel Luedtke, Lizzy Nicklay

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy — Ella Peterson

Finale — Maya Alvarado, Maia Anderson, Bridget Battin, Harper Bent, Aubrey Bleckwehl, Bailey Burlison, Sophie Cossitt, Harlow Cowen, Ashley Dean, Faith Diedrich, Harper Dunning, Adeline Falb, Molly Gilmore, Lillian Goodenow, Payten Gunther, Maci Henning, Ella Iverson, Isabelle Jackson, Emma Jezusko, Emma Kirtz, Evienne Kudrle, Zoey Kudrle, Adalyn Larios, Adeline Lindstam, Ariel Luedtke, Harper Malterud, Taya Maurer, Olivia McDaniel, Isabella Morgan, Ella Neft, Lizzy Nicklay, Eveline Noah, Adeline (Addy) Ott, Ella Peterson, Nadiya Schmidt, Nataliya Schmidt, Mira Seckinger, Margaret Sitowski, Cassidy Solem, Brynn Tran, Emma Van Dyke

Scene 2 — Back in Clara's house

Clara — Nataliya Schmidt

Drosselmeyer — Bridget Battin