

# The Nutcracker

**DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> 6:00PM**

**The Stockbridge Theater, Derry NH**

Presented By

New England  
School of  
*Dance*

& THEATER



# Founder



**Susan L. Case, BFA, RADTR, IDTA, DMA**

Susan Graduated in 1982 with a BFA Honors in dance from York University. Upon graduation she taught and performed with the Ottawa Dance Center & Theatre, in Ontario, Canada. In 1986 she founded the New England School of Dance in Goffstown, NH where she trained countless dancers before passing the torch of Artistic Director to her daughter Alison.

# Artistic Director



**Alison Hart, BFA, MAC, ABT Certified Teacher**

Alison began her dance training in 1990 at the New England School of Dance under Susan Case, developing a love for multiple genres and performing. She went on to earn her BFA in Dance from York University and later completed a Master's in Choreography at the Laban Conservatory in London. An award-winning choreographer, Alison received Youth America Grand Prix's "Top Choreographer Award" at the 2017 Boston Regionals.

She has performed with Boston's Dance Currents Inc., dancing works by renowned choreographers including Robert Battle, David Parsons, Jose Limón, Ted Shawn, and Isadora Duncan. While she continues to enjoy performing and creating new work, her passion now lies in training young dancers. She is certified in the American Ballet Theatre's National Training Curriculum. Inspired most by her first teacher and mother, Susan Case, Alison is proud to serve as Artistic Director at the New England School of Dance & Theater. She encourages every student to believe in themselves and embrace a lifelong love of learning.

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# *A Note of Thanks*

To our wonderful NESD&T Staff: Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. You continually go above and beyond to encourage and inspire our students to reach their full potential. We could not ask for a more dedicated team for this Nutcracker Performance.

*Haley Emery, BA - NESD&T Tap Teacher & Choreographer*

*Kayla Lopez, M.Ed - NESD&T Teacher & Choreographer*

*Julia Kilmister, BFA - NESD&T Curriculum Manager, Teacher & Choreographer*

*Jennifer Hamilton, DTCB, CPT - NESD&T Teacher & Choreographer*

*Kelly O'Brien, BFA - NESD&T Assistant Director, Teacher & Choreographer*

*Katie Proulx - BFA - NESD&T Theater Director, Teacher & Choreographer*

*Laura Wawrzyniak - NESD&T Teacher & Choreographer*

*Margaret Fair - BA - NESD&T Theater Teacher & Choreographer*

*Stephanie Noble - BFA - NESD&T Stage Manager, Teacher & Choreographer*

*Sayla Wilgren - NESD&T Teacher & Choreographer*

## *Thank You to our Dedicated Volunteers*

Thank you to the many volunteers who put in multiple hours fitting and sewing costumes, quick-changing our dancers backstage, refurbishing and creating props & sets, caring for our youngest dancers, and helping with the many tasks "behind the scenes." We simply could not do this without you and are grateful for you this weekend and every season!

**Costume Alterations & Care:** Shauna Arpin, Brannigan Burstein, Alice Cashin, Shayna Cashin, Jasmine Horton, Krystal Hoskins, Clancy LaBreche, Kayla Lopez, Julia Kilmister, Kelly O'Brien, Andrea Gariepy

**Child Care & Quick Changes:** Haley Emery, Amber Ekroth, Audrey Glennon, Kristen Glennon, Krystal Hoskins, Clancy LaBreche, Kayla Lopez, Noelle Panagopoulos, Diana Plank, Amanda Trubacz

**Ushers:** Andrea Gariepy & Kellie Herrick

**Stage Manager & Technical Crew:** Stephanie Noble, Colby Adams & Stockbridge Theater Students

**Backstage Crew:** Jeremy Hart, Mark Kilmister, Scott LaBreche, Chris Lopez, Chris Bedard, Tom Sheveland, Josh Schoenfeld, Nick Sliwerski, Ryan Smith, Mallory Prince

**Front of House:** NESD&T Booster Club Performing Company Parents

**Program Design:** NESD&T Office Staff

# *The Nutcracker*

**Presented By:**

**New England School of Dance & Theater**

**Clara:** Aria Horton

**Fritz:** Cassidy Grainey

**Mrs. Stahlbaum:** Gwenyth Bedard

**Drosselmeyer:** Ava Bedard

**Rat Queen:** Mollie Winer

**Nutcracker:** Dean Hamilton

**Snow Queen:** Dilana Schoenfeld

**Sugar Plum Fairy:** Gwenyth Bedard

**Dew Drop Fairy:** Olivia LaBreche

## **Synopsis**

The Nutcracker is a two Act ballet created in 1892 and adapted from the ETA Hoffman story, "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King." It was originally choreographed by Maurius Pepita and Lev Ivanov, with a musical score by Tchaikovsky. Our story begins on a blustery Christmas Eve in the home of the Stahlbaum family, as Mrs. Stahlbaum and her two young children, Clara and Fritz, prepare for their annual Christmas Party. Magic fills the air when Clara's Godfather Drosselmeyer, appears with a unique Nutcracker doll. Clara is in for a surprise when she learns that her gift holds more than meets the eye. Let us take you on a journey beyond the snowy forest where the snowflakes become dancing maidens and their Queen leads us to a Kingdom of Sweets ruled by the Sugar Plum Fairy!



*Save The Date*  
**NESD&T Summer Intensive**  
**7/27-7/31**  
**Ages 6 & Up!**



# Act 1

**Roles are listed in order of appearance**

## Prologue

**Drosselmeyer** - Ava Bedard

**Drosselmeyer's Assistant** - Clara Lopez

**Ruckus Boys - Saturday Elementary 1 & 2 Ballet** - Adaline Ferguson, Anastasia Notaro, Annabella

Giusini, Lorelei McClure, Rosalie Lopez, Audrey Edwards, Harper Dupuis, Caileigh Sasso, Piper Herrick

**Clara** - Aria Horton

**Fritz** - Cassidy Graine

**Mrs. Stahlbaum** - Gwenyth Bedard

## Party Scene

**Maids** - Lily Morris & Hannah Caron

**Mr. Stahlbaum** - Chris Bedard

**Party Mothers** - Mollie Winer, Olivia LaBreche, Dilana Schoenfeld

**Party Fathers** - Nick Sliwerski, Scott LaBreche, Josh Schoenfeld

**Grandma** - Easley Sheveland

**Party Children - Tuesday Elementary 1&2 Ballet**

Adaline Ferguson, Annabella Guisini, Isabel Bean, Rosalie Lopez, Auriella Thompson, Abigail Garipey, Riley Pena, Chloe Byers

**Baby Dolls - Tuesday & Saturday Primary Ballet**

Zara Appleton, Audrey Callahan, Ruby Ravenelle, Ellie Crook, Giannys Tavarez, Carol Moran, Evelyn Varela, Scarlet Notaro, Evelyn Sandlin, Piper Rheume

**Kissing Doll** - Aubrey Dupuis

**Harlequin Doll** - Nora Glennon

**Soldier Doll** - Emma Viner

## Midnight & Battle Scenes

**Rat Queen** - Mollie Winer

**Rats** - Serena Courtemanche, Clara Lopez, Vivian Morris, Grace Tennett, Lucy Rice, Emily Thompson

**Mice** - Ellie Crook, Ruby Ravenelle, Piper Rheume, Evelyn Varela, Abby Giles, Ada Burton, Avery Giordano, Kate Fultz

**Lead Soldiers** - Adaline Ferguson & Riley Peña

**Soldiers - Monday Elementary 1 / 2 Ballet**

Ailish Bustein, Caileigh Sasso, Jasmine Stroh, Piper Herrick, Emery Hoskins, Jonathan Byers, Persephone Hegel, Sienna Trubacz, Madeline Arpin

**Soldier Bunny** - Lyla Trubacz

**Nutcracker Prince** - Dean Hamilton

## Land of The Snowflakes

**Snow Queen** - Dilana Schoenfeld

**Snowflakes** - Gwenyth Bedard, Aubrey Dupuis, Nora Glennon, Olivia LaBreche, Lily Morris, Easley Sheveland, Emma Viner, Mollie Winer, Ava Bedard, Hannah Caron

# *Intermission - 15 minutes*



*Please support the NESDET Performing Company while you wait to be transported to the Land of the Sweets! Refreshments and baked goods are available for sale in the lobby.*



## *Act 2*

### *Land of The Sweets*

**Lead Angel** - Vivian Morris

**Harpists** - Isabel Bean, Grace Tennett, Lucy Rice, Emily Thompson

**Angels - Wednesday Elementary 1 / 2 Ballet** - Abby Giles, Ada Burton, Jonathan Byers, Audrey Edwards, Avery Giordano, Elna Fjeldsted, Harper Dupuis, Kali Benfield, Kate Fultz, Liberty Engvik, Lilly Cote, Piper Herrick, Emma Broden, Genevieve Whitten, Natalie Broden, Ailish Burstein, Matilda Humphrey-Sewell, Adara Burstein

**Sugar Plum Fairy** - Gwentyth Bedard

**Spanish Chocolate** - Mollie Winer, Olivia LaBreche, Dilana Schoenfeld

**Chinese Tea** - Eisley Sheveland, Cassidy Grainey, Clara Lopez

**Arabian Coffee** - Nora Glennon & Lily Morris

**Mirliton** - Aubrey Dupuis, Emma Viner, Asher Bamforth-Crook

**Russian Dolls - Monday Intermediate Ballet**

Aria Horton, Emily Thompson, Lucy Rice, Lyla Trubacz, Serena Courtemanche, Vivian Morris

**Polichinelles** - Annabella Guisini, Riley Pena, Liberty Engvik, Rosalie Lopez, Sienna Trubacz, Auriella Thompson, Madeline Arpin, Abigail Gariepy, Adaline Ferguson, Chloe Byers

**Dew Drop Fairy** - Olivia LaBreche

**Flowers** - Aubrey Dupuis, Nora Glennon, Dilana Schoenfeld, Lily Morris, Eisley Sheveland, Emma Viner, Mollie Winer, Ava Bedard, Hannah Caron

**Flowers Petals** - Cassidy Grainey, Clara Lopez, Serena Courtemanche, Vivian Morris, Lucy Rice, Lyla Trubacz, Emily Thompson, Grace Tennett

# Lead Dancers



*Clara*

**Aria Horton** is 11 years old and a sixth grader at James Masticola Upper Elementary School. She is thrilled to be performing one of her dream roles of Clara in this year's Nutcracker! Aria has been dancing at NESD&T for 8 years with this year being her 5<sup>th</sup> year in the Performing Company. Outside of dance she also loves singing and musical theatre. She has enjoyed studying at the Burklyn Ballet Theatre summer intensive for the past 2 summers in Vermont. Aria would like to thank her family, friends, and teachers for always supporting and believing in her! She wishes all her fellow dancers the best of luck!



*Nutcracker*

**Dean Hamilton** is an 18-year-old college freshman majoring in Ballet at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, where he has received a dance scholarship. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and aspires to have a professional career with a ballet company.

Growing up in New Hampshire, Dean is a graduate of Goffstown High School and the Manchester School of Technology. He is an alumnus of the Melissa Hoffman Dance Center, where he was a member of the Competition Team.

Dean has been studying dance since the age of three and is currently training in ballet and contemporary. He has attended prestigious intensives at Nutmeg Conservatory and American Academy of Ballet. A seasoned performer, Dean has appeared in several Nutcracker productions since the age of ten, including lead roles of Cavalier, Rat King, Snow King and Nutcracker. Dean is thrilled to be dancing the role of Nutcracker Prince with New England school of Dance.



*Drosselmeyer*

**Ava Bedard** is a freshman honors student at Goffstown High School. Ava has been dancing with NESD&T for 10 years. Her favorite styles of dance are ballet and tap and she is very excited to be performing the role of Drosselmeyer in this year's Nutcracker performance. One of Ava's favorite past roles was Grandma in the 2023 NESD&T Nutcracker. Aside from her love of dance Ava is an avid baker who enjoys creating various treats in the kitchen and she also enjoys skiing. She wishes all her fellow dancers the best of luck and would like to thank her teachers for all their continuous support.



*Fritz*

**Cassidy Grainey** is 12 years old and has been dancing for 10 years. She's been dancing at NESD&T for 2 years. Cassidy is very excited to be playing the roles Fritz, Chinese Tea, and Flower Petals. Cassidy enjoys ballet and her other hobbies are soccer, basketball, softball and playing the flute. She would like to thank her parents for all of their support and her dance teachers for helping her to be the best dancer she can be.

# Lead Dancers



*Rat Queen*

**Mollie Winer** is a 16 year old Junior at Goffstown High School. She has been dancing at NESD&T since she was 4, and has been on the NESD&T performing company since the age of 7. Mollie has received many awards including 2nd place at ADA Nationals, Ultimate Challenge Winner, Regional Dancer of the Year, Jr. Miss Headliner, 3rd place at YAGP, 5th place at the 2023 Connecticut Classic and most recently 1st place overall at Etoile. Mollie has also enjoyed dancing many different roles in NESD&T productions such as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Clara, Dew Drop and Snow Queen. She is excited to perform as the Rat Queen and Lead Spanish. She would like to thank all her teachers for their endless support and dedication. She wishes all her fellow dancers the best of luck!



*Snow Queen*

**Dilana Schoenfeld** is 17 years old and attends Goffstown High School as a senior. In the 2025 Nutcracker, she performs as The Snow queen, Party Mother, Spanish, and a Flower. She's part of the competition team, and has loved to dance since the age of 4, and has been at NESD&T the whole time. On top of dance, she loves to hangout with friends, go to the beach, and go to the gym. She would love to thank her family and friends for always being there, and her team and teachers for being her biggest supporters and motivation.



*Sugar Plum Fairy*

**Gwenyth Bedard** is a Senior honors student at Goffstown High School. Gwen has been dancing since the age of 3. Her favorite styles of dance are pointe, contemporary and lyrical. She is a member of the Alinea Performing Company and over the past few years has received several awards including 1st place overall for Senior solos at Etoile Dance Competition (2024), top 24 at YAGP Boston for both Ballet and Contemporary (2025) and Regional Ultimate Challenge winner at The American Dance Awards (2023 & 2025). Some of Gwen's favorite past roles include the Sugar Plum Fairy in the 2023 NESD&T Nutcracker, Clara in the 2020 NESD Nutcracker, and PT Barnum in the 2025 NESD&T Production of Madeline and The Greatest Showman. Gwen is thrilled to be performing the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy for her 11th and final Nutcracker performance with NESD&T. She is so grateful for all the wonderful memories and friendships she's made over the years at NESD&T and for all the support and guidance she has received from her teachers.



*Dew Drop Fairy*

**Olivia LaBreche** is a 16 year old junior at Bedford High School. She began dancing at the age of 2 and as early as she could, joined the NESD&T Performing Company. Through competitions, she's been awarded NYCDA Outstanding Dancer, Teen Miss Headliner and ADA's Ultimate Challenge award. Olivia has attended several summer intensives. Summer 2023, she attended the CLI Conservatory on scholarship, and has attended the Nutmeg Conservatory summer program twice. Some of her past favorite roles in the Nutcracker are "Clara" in 2021 and "Snow Queen" last year. She is very excited to perform the role of "Dew Drop Fairy" tonight! Olivia is thankful to all of her amazing teachers that led her to this point. She is also thankful to her parents, sister and grandparents who have supported her passion of dance since the beginning. She wishes all of her friends the best in this year's performance of "The Nutcracker" 2025!

# Spotlight Messages



*Mollie,  
Watching you grow as a dancer has  
been a privilege. May all your dreams  
come true.  
Love you,  
Mom, Grandma & Grandpa*

*Aria,  
we are so proud of the beautiful dancer you  
have become. We can't wait to see you, "Clara."  
We love you,  
Aunt Elaine & Uncle George*



*Zara,  
Congratulations on another spectacular show, Zara &  
NESD crew! We are so proud of you and all your  
growth in dance class. We love you so much!*

*Love,  
Mommy, Papi, Yaya, Papa & Tyty*

*Auriella,  
I'm so very proud of all that you have & will  
continue to become! I will always be your  
biggest fan! Keep shining, baby girl!  
Love,  
Mommy*



# Spotlight Messages

*Aria Horton*

*We can't wait to see you perform one of your dream roles. We are so proud of your hard work and dedication. Keep reaching for the stars. We love you!*

*Love,  
Mom, Dad, Grandma & Grandpa*



*Our Dearest Dilana,*

*Power, beauty, elegant & bright. You will be forever our favorite Snow Queen! We are bursting with pride with all that you have accomplished.*

*Love always,  
Mom & Dad XOXO*

*Cassidy,*

*We are so excited to see you play Fritz, twirl as a flower petal and dance in the Chinese tea! We are so proud of all the hard work you and your castmates have done for the show this season! SHINE ON!*

*Love,  
Mom, Dad and Kennedy*



# Spotlight Messages



*Abby Giles,*

*Have a blast Abby!!*

*We are so proud of you and all the hard work you put into this. Shake that booty little mouse!*

*Love,*

*Mom and Landon xo*

*Auriella,*

*You make us so proud every time you step on the stage! Sharing my love of dance with you is my biggest joy! We love you so much and can't wait to watch you shine as a party girl and pollichinelle!*

*Love,*

*Kelly and Daddy*



*Thinking about dinner after the performance?*

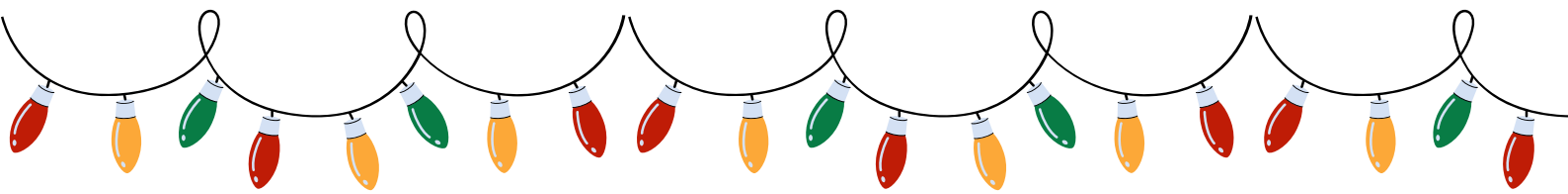
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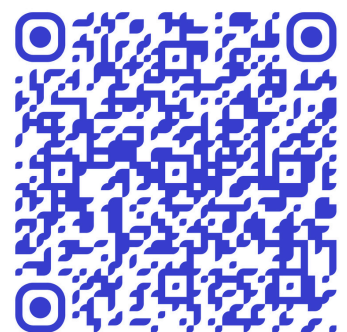
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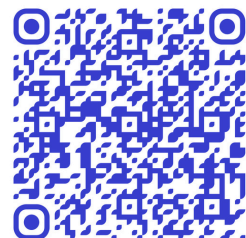


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# *Autographs*