

Nutcracker Parent Meeting Notes

September 16, 2017

1. Reminders from Ana Claire – Nan Streicker
 - It is a privilege to be in a production.
 - It is **imperative** that your child/children attend all rehearsals.
 - If any student misses more than one **rehearsal** she/he may be dismissed from the cast, especially if it is a double cast role.
 - It is essential that dancers be on time to rehearsals!
 - Double Cast Students – Cast A or B (2 shows at Macky & 1 in Longmont).
 - Student cast assignments are posted on our website.
 - Be sure to check the rehearsal schedule on Thursday every week to know whether there are changes. Parents and students will *not* get emails when there are updates to the schedule, so you will want to make it a habit to look for yourselves.

2. Performance Fee – Nan Streicker
 - Cost is \$150 per student; no credit cards please. Make checks out to Boulder Ballet.
 - Your payment is due now. If you have not turned that in yet, please do so no later than Sat., Sept. 23 without fail!

3. Boulder Ballet Nutcracker Tickets – Shelley Sampson from Boulder Philharmonic
 - Corps de ballet family discounted tickets will be sold only to families with students in the Nutcracker 2017 cast and only for the Boulder performances.
 - Discounted tickets will be available September 18 through October 7.
 - Discount is 30% off any ticket purchased during the dates stated above.
 - Tickets must be purchased through the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra's Box Office. Please call Shelley at 303-449-1343 Monday – Friday from 11AM – 4PM. If you get the answering machine, please leave a brief message with your name and contact information only; Shelley will get back to you as soon as she possibly can. You can also reach Shelley by email: ssampson@boulderphil.org
 - Tickets will be available for pick-up in Nan's office starting on Monday, Nov. 13.

4. Nutcracker School Ticket Sales – Mihail Codrescu
 - Ticket sales through schools will run from Oct. 8 – Nov. 7 only. All sales generated should be turned in to Nan at the Boulder Ballet office.
 - For parents interested in being the point person for ticket sales at your children's school(s), please contact Mihail at mihail1@aim.com. Be sure to include your phone number.
 - After you have emailed Mihail and signed up, you will talk to the school's PTO about the opportunity for the school to receive 20% of the ticket sales generated by this promotion of dance and music. Mihail can help you with the details of your presentation to the PTO.
 - Start the process of getting approval from the PTO as soon as you can so you have more time for families to buy tickets, increasing the benefit to the school.
 - If families purchasing tickets want specific seats they will need to pay by check.
 - Information about last year's sales will be included in this year's program.
 - *Note from Mihail:* Parents who signed up for the promotion should already have gotten confirmation from Mihail. If you did not see it, please check your junk folder for an email from mihail1@aim.com.

5. Performances (check the tickets page of our website for directions) – Nan Streicker
 - Boulder – Macky dress rehearsals: Cast A on Tues., Nov. 21, and Cast B on Wed., Nov. 22.

- Boulder – Macky Auditorium (4 performances): Cast A will perform Fri., Nov. 24 at 2:00pm, and Sat., Nov. 25 at 2:00pm; Cast B will perform Sat., Nov. 25 at 7:00pm, and Sun., Nov 26 at 2:00pm.
- Longmont – Vance Brand dress rehearsals: Cast B on Thurs., Nov. 30, and Cast A on Fri., Dec. 1.
- Longmont – Vance Brand Auditorium (2 performances): Cast B will perform Sat., Dec. 2 at 4:00pm; Cast A will perform Sun., Dec. 3 at 2:00pm. To purchase tickets, please contact the Longmont Symphony. There are no discounted tickets for the Longmont shows.
- You can find additional rehearsal and performance details on our website: <http://boulderballet.org/nutcracker-info/>

7. Costumes and volunteering – Lisa Bates costume mistress, volunteer coordinator, backstage/production support (and dressing room assigner). If you need something backstage or in the dressing rooms, find Lisa and she will help you or get your question to the person who can help. (This frees up Ana, Lance, and Amy to focus on the dancing/performance aspects of the show.)

You will receive several different kinds of email and requests for help from Lisa.

- Costume Shop and all things related to costumes, costume fittings, and make up** – you have already received a fitting schedule and fittings are underway. Lisa will email if they need your dancer to refit a costume, especially if their first fitting was measurements for new costumes.
- In another month or so she will also send out a list of items that dancers need to provide for their costume(s).
- Costume shop hours will be sent out each week.

Backstage: You will receive a “what to expect” email for both the Macky and Longmont venues and Lisa is happy to answer any questions you might have. They have important information about everything from expectations about the behavior of dancers and where to park to when your dancer may leave a show. It's worth rereading every year.

Volunteer Opportunities for Nutcracker:

Please help us make this year's Nutcracker the best yet by donating your time as a volunteer before or during the performances. We will need assistance in the following areas:

- Costume Shop: all skill levels welcome, including new sewers who want to learn.
- Ticket Sales (see #4 above)
- Boulder Ballet Guild Boutique – The Guild raises \$10,000 each year to support Boulder Ballet through merchandise sales at many of our performances.
 - Load-in shift for Macky runs all day and counts as two shifts. You must be able to stay the entire time if you want to sign up.
 - Boutique volunteers will not be able to watch the performance during their shift since there is restocking to do while the show is going on.

Required volunteering: We expect all families to sign up for a minimum of two shifts during tech week and the shows. Feel free to talk to Lisa about any questions you have about backstage volunteering. She will send out a link to sign up for your two volunteer shifts per family as soon as it is ready. Signup Genius will send you a reminder two days in advance.

8. Marketing – Erin Tunbridge

- Book readings (BN Boulder, Boulder Bookstore, BN Loveland). Invitations to participate will go out soon.
- Nutcracker Character Highlights: Last year we did a fun social media campaign photographing The Nutcracker around Boulder. This year, we would like to do the same thing but with the Nutcracker characters. These posts will start October 3rd and run Tuesdays and Thursdays until The Nutcracker at Macky through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and on our website. You will be invited to attend a short 15-30 minute photoshoot with a designated date, time, and location in Boulder. It could be Pearl Street Mall or Boulder Body Wear or even the Costume Shop. The date/time/location of the shoot will be set and sent to you via email, along with the post date so that you can see, like, share it etc. Keep an eye out for an email from Marketing Manager, Erin Tunbridge, for this invitation. It will be only one shoot and post per character.
- Bookmarks & posters are now available. Come to Nan's office to pick up Nutcracker bookmarks to distribute wherever you like! Posters are for hanging up at places that you frequent - NOT for bedroom walls, etc.
- Cast photo session is scheduled for Sunday Nov 12, the day of dress rehearsal.
- How to access Nutcracker information on our website: <http://boulderballet.org/nutcracker-info>
- CO Gives Day is Dec 5.
- George Thomas will be doing a Nutcracker podcast series through BB Live. If you need to reach George, his email is gthomas@overthetop.bike

9. Apparel Sales – Jamie Adams

- Nutcracker 2017 t-shirt, sweats, and more.
- Information about what will be available will go out by this Saturday.
- Items will be available for pick-up in Nan's office.
- Payments by check (made out to Boulder Ballet Guild) or cash only.
- Let us know if there are things you wish you could get from us.
- Nutcracker DVD sales – Nan Streicker
Videos of Cast A and Cast B performances will be available to order starting Nov. 27 at a cost of \$22 each. Payment by check or cash only.

11. Nutcracker Preview Night – Wed., Nov. 22 – Nan Streicker

- ONE TICKET PER STUDENT DANCER
- Available for this Macky performance only.
- Tickets will be available for pick-up in the Boulder Ballet office starting Oct. 2.
- All tickets not picked up by Nov. 3 will be donated to community organizations that help our underserved population.
- 150 tickets will go to Escuela Bilingue Pioneer Elementary School and approximately 700 tickets will be going to various non-profits in Boulder County.
- No cameras or recording devices of any kind. They will be confiscated!
- Please remain seated during the performance. There will be one intermission.

12. Cast Party and Secret Snowflake – Nan Streicker

- Takes place after the last show in Longmont on Sunday, Dec. 3. Child Clara parents will organize the cast party again this year.
- Secret Snowflake – a delightful gift swap for cast members over the course of dress rehearsal and performances. Details to follow.

13. Nutcracker Teas and Witches Brew Tea at the Hotel Boulderado – Wrenn Combs

NUTCRACKER TEA is a benefit for the Boulder Ballet. Mingle with costumed characters and enjoy the music of the Nutcracker Ballet. Dancers will be parading throughout the event, offering up-close and

personal views of some of this year's cast of Boulder Ballet's "The Nutcracker." This year the dancers will have the opportunity for a small dance performance! \$12 of each ticket sale will be donated to the Boulder Ballet.

Dates for the Nutcracker Teas are Saturday, Dec. 9th & Sunday, Dec. 10th.

Call the Boulderado at 303-440-2880 for tickets. **HURRY! IT SELLS OUT FAST!**

Selected members of the Nutcracker cast will be asked to participate: Cast A on Saturday, Cast B on Sunday.

Witches Brew Tea is also a benefit for Boulder Ballet and will take place on October 28. It will feature our non-Nutcracker students.

For more information and tickets, go to OpenTable: <https://www.opentable.com/hotel-boulderado-ballroom-buffet>

Thank you all for your help and support! Together we can keep the Nutcracker a special and delightful holiday.