



IT'S A WONDERFUL NUTCRACKER **2017 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 18, 2017.**
- **Make sure your dancer is registered for the required Menlo Park Academy of Dance Curriculum for Fall 2017 prior to August 18, 2017. Dancers not registered will not be permitted to audition:**
 - Grade One Dancers – A minimum of one ballet class per week
 - Grades 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 27 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
- 10:30am – Registration for Advanced Dancers
- 11:00-11:45am – Audition (on pointe) for Advanced Dancers
- 11:30am – Registration for Grade Five Dancers
- 12:00-12:45pm – Audition for Grade Five Dancers
- 12:30pm – Registration for Grade One Dancers
- 1:00-1:45pm – Audition for Grade One Dancers
- 1:30pm – Registration for Grade Two Dancers
- 2:00-2:45pm – Audition for Grade Two Dancers
- 2:30pm – Registration for Grade Three Dancers
- 3:00-3:45pm – Audition for Grade Three Dancers
- 3:30pm – Registration for Grade Four Dancers
- 4:00-4:45pm – Audition for Grade 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 27 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 27 at your child's assigned time. Audition results will be emailed within three 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 to attend every assigned rehearsal without fail. There is much material to be learned so your full support and is crucial to the success of the production.

Rehearsals will begin on September 10th. The rehearsal period runs through December 7. **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 Only), and 11:00am and 3:00pm on Sundays (Any Level). **No student will be called for the entire time either day; each rehearsal typically runs 30-60 minutes.**

The initial rehearsal schedule for **Sept 10 – October 15** will be provided with casting invitations in the audition results. Through the first week of December, rehearsals will take place at the Menlo Park Academy of Dance studios. Schedules are subject to change.

- **Availability for ALL assigned performances is mandatory.**

No cast member has the option of choosing her/his cast, role, or performances.

Your child's 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 Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center during performances. Performing children will be monitored backstage by Menlowe Ballet staff and selected parent volunteers (parent volunteer positions will be arranged in early October).

- **Participation fee: \$195, is due in full by Sept 5, 2017 and is non-refundable.** This is a flat fee per dancer that goes towards the cost of rehearsals, costume fitting and maintenance, and includes a Nutcracker TShirt. This fee secures your dancer's role in the production; any role not secured by September 5 will be immediately recast on September 6.
- All shoes, tights, required leotards and make-up are to be provided by the student for rehearsals and performances. Details will be provided by November 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 and performances at the Menlo-Atherton PAC will begin the week of December 4. An outline of the theater rehearsal and performance schedule is below - rehearsal times are subject to change. **Please note that student dancers will be scheduled to attend ONE Tech Rehearsal (either Tues or Wed) as well as the dress rehearsal on Thursday; 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 show time but may be modified for our youngest student dancers.

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND: Please note that rehearsals the weekend prior to Thanksgiving, November 18 & 19, are **MANDATORY**. There will be **NO** rehearsals over the holiday weekend, November 25 & 26, so you can enjoy this family time together. Please make your travel plans accordingly.

Sunday	12/4/17	Studio Rehearsal – 11:00n – 2:30pm
Tuesday	12/5/17	Tech Rehearsal – 5:00-9:00pm (ACT I)
Wednesday	12/6/17	Tech Rehearsal – 5:00-9:00pm (ACTII)
Thursday	12/7/17	Dress Rehearsal – 5:00-9:00pm
Friday	12/8/17	7:00pm Performance
Saturday	12/9/17	2:00pm and 7:00pm Performances
Sunday	12/10/17	2:00pm Performance
Friday	12/15/17	7:00pm Performance
Saturday	12/16/17	2:00pm and 7:00p Performances
Sunday	12/17/17	2:00pm Performance

THE AUDITION DAY

- Students should come to the audition in leotard/tights/ballet slippers – for girls or T-shirt/tights/ballet slippers – for boys. At the registration table 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. We will teach each group short combinations and have them go across the floor in groups of 2 or more.
- At the end of the audition process, the students will be gathered together in one studio. Only after the children are in the studio will the parents be invited back to claim your child. We will hold the children in the studio until a parent or responsible adult comes to claim them.
- Results of the audition will be emailed to all audition participants by midnight on August 30.

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 27!

Click below: Menlowe Ballet Audition Registration Form

<https://menloweballet.wufoo.com/forms/zestox50lxgg4v>

www.menloweballet.org