



*Marshall Community Ballet Company*

ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR

# ***The Nutcracker***

***Directed by: Tricia Hilton & Brianna Novak***

***Produced by: Shannon Tiernan***

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## **Auditions**

Sunday, June 2, 2024

Noon to 4:15 p.m.

at 360 Dance Company

## **Performance Dates**

November 29, 30 and December 1, 2024

Strike Set – Immediately following the final show

## **Register Online Only:**

[www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc)

Audition registration must be completed online by May 24, 2024.\*

*\*Dancers must be 8-years-old by 10-6-2024 OR entering third grade in the fall of 2024.*

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## **Rules and Policies**

1. Performers must be **8 years of age by October 6, 2024** **OR** entering the **3<sup>rd</sup> grade** in the fall of 2024.
2. According to MCBC bylaws, "Parts shall be filled by persons residing in the Marshall School District or affiliated with one of the Marshall Dance Studios." It was the consensus of those responding to a 1999 questionnaire that it would be permissible to vary from this policy only if no qualified person auditions for a role, in particular the older male role(s).
3. Each performer must commit to dance in all performances.
4. One member of each family must commit to participating in set striking immediately following the final show.
5. To make the event a success, we ask that at least **one family member** of each participant volunteer to assist with preparations and the production, a minimum of 10 hours of time. The Parent/Guardian Registration section of this packet lists areas for which volunteers are needed.
6. it is imperative that each participant attends the scheduled rehearsals. Rehearsals will be progressive in nature – information and steps will not be repeated at subsequent rehearsals. The choreographers will start where they left off at the previous rehearsal. Dancers will be expected to work together outside of rehearsals if necessary. **A Conflict Report** is included with this audition packet on page 8. It is important that you list any rehearsal date in which you have another obligation. However, **only ONE conflict** is allowed during the Non-Mandatory rehearsal dates. If you are unable to attend rehearsal on a date that is marked mandatory, then we ask that you not audition for The Nutcracker this season. An Unexcused Absence is an absence that is **NOT** written in the **Conflict Report** or has not been approved in advance by the Directors or Producer. If a dancer is unable to attend a mandatory rehearsal or has an unexcused absence from a regular rehearsal, the dancer will be asked to step down from all of his/her parts in the show. An illness does not count as an unexcused absence unless the producer was not notified before rehearsal on that rehearsal day. **Any unexcused absence will result in dismissal from The Nutcracker.**
7. Parts will be given based on audition performance, not age or grade level. Parts are given at the Judges' discretion and individual parts do not have a set age. Please note, every dancer is not guaranteed a part.
8. **Part notifications** will be emailed the week following auditions. Notification will include rehearsal/tech and show schedules for each part. All listed parts may or may not be filled at the discretion of the Judges. All parts must be accepted or declined within 48 hours of receiving notification.
9. Audition information, waivers and liability agreements, current photo of dancer uploaded to dancer's profile, and audition fee of \$10.00\* must be completed online at [www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc) no later than **May 24, 2024**.
10. **Audition numbers** will be handed out when dancers arrive at the check in table on audition day.
11. **Audition attire is as follows:** Dance and acrobatic female performers must wear hair up in a bun, black leotard, and pink tights. Male performers must wear black pants and white shirt. If your hair is too short for a bun, then please make sure that it is pulled up, as best you can, so it is not in your face.
12. No food or drink, EXCEPT water bottles, will be allowed at auditions. Anyone breaking this rule will be dismissed. Exceptions are Judges, Choreographers and Producers due to the length of time they will be there.
13. Performers may need to share costumes. Costumes may not be purchased. Costumes may not leave the care of the MCBC.
14. Performers must furnish their own dance shoes and possibly a leotard in a color specified by the MCBC.
15. Failure to abide by the rules and policies will result in dismissal

\* **The \$10.00 audition fee must be paid online at the time of registration.** Scholarships are available to any performer who is unable to pay the fee. Please contact the MCBC Producer for scholarship information.

**An additional \$65 performance fee will be due with acceptance letters.**

**Information & Reminders**

**Performances** are November 29, 30 and December 1, 2024. **Rehearsals** are held at **360 Dance Company** and **Dance Dynamics** beginning Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024.

**Sundays, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, and Oct. 20 are mandatory rehearsals**, the dancers will learn the entire show on these dates. Regular rehearsals begin Oct. 27 continuing until Dress Rehearsal. **Specific times for each part are included in a detailed schedule made available after acceptance letters are submitted.**

Please mark the following important dates for rehearsals:

- Sundays, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, and Oct. 20\***—**Mandatory rehearsals** for the Cast to learn the entire show
- Sundays, Oct. 27, and Nov. 3, 10, and 17**—Regular rehearsals
- Sunday, November 24**—**Mandatory** first day of Tech Week at the Marshall High School Auditorium
- Tues., Wed., Thurs., Nov. 25-27**—**Mandatory** Tech Week at the Marshall High School Auditorium
- Fri., Sat., Sun., Nov. 29, 30 and Dec. 1**—**Mandatory** performances and Strike

For questions or assistance, please email [marshallcommunityballetcompany@gmail.com](mailto:marshallcommunityballetcompany@gmail.com) or call Shannon Tiernan at (269) 275-9075.

*\* Note – Clara, Prince, Sugar Plum Fairy and King may learn choreography on other days and nights. Dancers auditioning for these roles must be willing to attend additional rehearsals if needed.*

**Parts for the Nutcracker**

*Parts are subject to change, and dancers cast as soloists are also expected to participate in the Party Scene.*

Flower Soloist	Russian Soloist	Arabian Soloist
Flower Attendants	Russian Ensemble	Arabian Ensemble
Flower Ensemble	Snowflakes	Candy Canes
Dew Drops	Snow Queen	Chinese Soloist
Harlequin Doll	Snow Princess	Chinese Ensemble
Soldier Doll	Mirliton Soloist	Head Soldier
Columbine Doll	Mirliton Ensemble	Soldier Ensemble
Clara	Mother Ginger Soloist	Spanish Soloist
Clara’s Mom	Bon Bons	Spanish Ensemble
Party Moms	Mouse Queen/King	Drosselmeyer
Clara’s Friends	Mice	Sugar Plum Fairy
Nutcracker Prince	Sugar Plum King	Fritz

**Everyone will audition in \*soft shoe\*.** Dancers that are currently taking pointe classes may audition for pointe roles, however, taking pointe classes does not guarantee a pointe role. Be assured that the choreographers intend to make each dance interesting and challenging. Every dance in the production is important and the success of the production depends on talented dancers doing their best in every performance.

**Understudy Role:** Dancers may have the honor of being selected as an understudy for one of the soloist roles. If, for unforeseen circumstances, the soloist is unable to perform, the understudy will dance in their place. The Directors expect the understudies to attend the mandatory rehearsals. Also, the understudy will need to attend the rest of the rehearsals through the show weekend for those soloist parts in order to learn the part (*Allowing only one conflict for non-mandatory rehearsals*). **This is in addition to attending rehearsal for their main role in the Nutcracker production.**

## Audition Schedule

### **SUNDAY, June 2, 2024 at 360 Dance Company**

Dancer's must be 8-years-old as of 10-6-24 **OR** entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in the fall of 2024.  
Dancer's must Audition with the age group they are as of **10-6-24**.

Soft Shoe*:	12:00–1:00 p.m.	Ages 8 – 11-years-old
Acro:	1:00–1:30 p.m.	All ages
Tap:	1:30-2:00 p.m.	All ages
Hip Hop:	2:00-2:30 p.m.	All ages
Soft Shoe:	2:30–3:30 p.m.	Ages 12-18-years-old
Pointe:	3:30–4:15 p.m.	All Ages ( <i>must be currently taking pointe</i> )
Call Backs:	4:15 p.m. ( <i>if needed</i> )	All dancers please be available

**PLEASE arrive 15 minutes prior to scheduled Audition time.** Dancers must check in, receive and attach their Audition number and **be prepared** to dance at their assigned time.

There is a **MANDATORY** meeting during Auditions at **1 p.m. for parents/guardians of 8 to 11-year-old dancers** and **3 p.m. for parents/guardians of all other dancers.**

\*If a dancer does not have ballet experience or has not taken ballet for several years, please do not worry as the judges will know their ballet experience prior to the audition. Judges still want dancers to participate with the appropriate age group and do their best. If a dancer does not have ballet shoes, they may wear jazz shoes or dance barefoot. However, if a dancer receives a ballet role, they are expected to have ballet shoes for rehearsals and performances.

#### **Notes:**

- Parents/guardians are asked to remain at the studio during their dancer's scheduled Audition.
- Audition Judges are not closely affiliated with either Marshall-based dance studio.
- All dancers and parents/guardians must leave the building after their Audition unless asked to stay by the Judges.
- The Directors, Producer or Assistant Producers are not involved in any casting of dancers. Judges, if applicable, are not involved in any casting decisions regarding their own children.
- Dancers auditioning for acro must be able to cleanly execute front and back walkovers.

## **HAPPY DANCING!!!**

The following forms are for **REFERENCE ONLY**. The forms **must be completed** for each dancer during the online registration process via [www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc).

**Performer Registration Form**

Performer's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of 10-6-23 \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in school Fall '24 \_\_\_\_\_

Total years of **ballet training** \_\_\_\_\_ Years of **pointe** \_\_\_\_\_ Are you **currently on pointe**? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, how many times a week do you take Pointe? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be taking ballet during the 2024-25 dance year? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Where do you take dance lessons?: \_\_\_\_\_

List other dance instruction you are taking 2023-24: \_\_\_\_\_

List other forms of dance training you have had in the past and number of years for each: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your **Acro** experience: \_\_\_\_\_

List parts performed in previous MCBC productions of *The Nutcracker* : \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any specific health conditions that might prevent you from dancing: \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle Leotard Size:** Child Small Child Med Child Large Adult Small Adult Medium Adult Large  
(Circle one)

**Parent/Guardian Registration**

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email Address (*best email to use for communication*): \_\_\_\_\_

*The success of The Nutcracker depends not only on the beautiful dancing, but also on the **adult volunteers** who make it happen. It is expected a family member volunteers in an area prior to production and during the production & rehearsals, a minimum of 10 hours of time. Reminder: Dancers as well as one family member must help with strike immediately following the show on Sunday. **We appreciate your help!***

**Prior to Production (choose at least one)**

- Costume organization/assist     Sewing     Apparel Sales     Marketing
- Set painting/preparation     Fundraising projects

**During Production & Stage Rehearsals (choose at least one)**

- Chaperoning Performers     Ticket Sales     Lobby decorating
- Merchandise Sales     Ushers     Backstage assistance
- Costume Room Assistance

**Please upload a current photo to the dancer's profile (ex: school photo).**

The following forms are for **REFERENCE ONLY**. The forms **must be completed for each dancer during the online registration process via [www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc)**.

**Performance Agreement**

We understand that upon auditioning for *The Nutcracker*:

1. An audition fee of \$10 is due with registration and a \$65 performance fee is due when the acceptance letter is submitted.
2. Dancers may not miss any rehearsals other than the **ONE** that must be submitted in the student profile in the **Conflict section on the MCBC parent portal**. (*May not be a mandatory date.*)
3. Parts will be given based on audition performance, not age or grade level. Parts are given at the Judges’ discretion and individual parts do not have a set age.
4. One member of each dancer’s family will assist with striking the set.
5. If necessary, the dancer will work with others in the group outside of rehearsal to learn choreography.
6. Dancers may need to share costumes, may not purchase them and the costumes must remain in the care of the MCBC at all times.
7. Dancers are responsible for furnishing dance shoes and nude leotards specified by MCBC.
8. Failure to abide by any of these rules, and those stated in the Rules and Policies of the MCBC, will be interpreted as a “drop” from the cast and the part may be given to another person.

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Signature of Person Auditioning

Date

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

**Dancer’s Letter of Intent**

*The Nutcracker* Ballet is scheduled for November 29, 30 and December 1. We agree to the following:

1. Dancer will attend all rehearsals and performances and arrive on time (*15 minutes early*).
2. Dancer will work cooperatively with the cast and crew.
3. Dancer will conduct her/himself professionally during rehearsals and performances.
4. Dancer will give four weeks’ notice if he/she is unable to complete their obligation to *The Nutcracker*.
5. Dancer understands the **mandatory dates** listed for rehearsals and agrees to attend.
6. Dancer understands that only **ONE conflict** will be permitted and any unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in dismissal from the production. (*Mandatory dates will not be excused.*)
7. We understand MCBC is not responsible for any injuries or loss of property incurred as a direct result of the rehearsals or performances.
8. We understand MCBC reserves the right to dismiss any dancer that does not adhere to or support the Dancer’s Letter of Intent.

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Signature of Person Auditioning

Date

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

The following forms are for REFERENCE ONLY. The forms must be completed for each dancer during the online registration process via www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc.

Dance & Acrobat Participant Permit (Child)

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the Marshall Community Ballet Company's production of The Nutcracker. I realize MCBC and its volunteer personnel cannot guarantee his/her safety or actions or assume responsibility for accidents, injuries or unforeseen incidents that may occur. I realize my child may be given a partnered role that may require that he/she be in physical contact with the opposite gender.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Authorization / Consent Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize the Marshall Community Ballet Company and its successors and/or (Name of participant) legal representatives, in regard to photographing, videotaping, recording, etc.:

- To act on my behalf with The Nutcracker production.
- I understand materials may be used in audiovisual presentations, promotional literature, advertising, pictures or publications regarding the Marshall Community Ballet Company (MCBC).
- I understand this also includes social media accounts
- I also understand a written story about me may appear in photographs or videos.
- I give my permission to MCBC to provide the media (radio, newspaper, etc.) with my name and image.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian (for ages 17 & Under)

Date

Part Acceptance

(Please refer to the "Parts for The Nutcracker" before answering)

I will accept any part offered \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO - Reason: \_\_\_\_\_ (be specific)

I am willing to understudy a major role \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Conflict Report

Please list any conflict with a mandatory or otherwise rehearsal date which appears on your calendar at this time. Note that you are excused from only ONE rehearsal that is not a Mandatory rehearsal, and the day/date must be listed in this section. \*\* If you know your child will have a conflict, but do not know the exact date, please list the activity and possible day the conflict might occur. It's better to write down a possible conflict & not need it, than to NOT include it and be unexcused.

Your Confirmed Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Possible Day/Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date



The following forms are for **REFERENCE ONLY**. The forms **must be** completed for each dancer during the online registration process via [www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc).

**Waiver of Liability (for children under 18)**

In case of an emergency, what local physician should be contacted?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

If necessary, may your child be given emergency medical care at Oaklawn Hospital? Yes No (Circle One)

Please list any medications medical personnel should know about: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your hospitalization insurance co. & policy no.: \_\_\_\_\_

The adult in charge may sign for treatment in the hospital for my child if I cannot be reached immediately: Yes No

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

**Emergency Information**

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

**If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, whom may we call to take care of your child?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

(Emergency Contact must **provide proof of I.D.** that matches our records.)

*\*\*Please note the above information will remain confidential and only seen by the Producer.*