

2018 City Center Ballet's Guidelines and Information for prospective cast members and their parents

Performances will be at the Lebanon Opera House on Sat., Dec. 8 at 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm and Sun., Dec. 9 at 3:00 pm. The full cast will not be needed for the Fri., Dec. 7 shortened performance for area schools, held at 10:00 am.

The audition is for dancers, ages 7+ from any studio or school, whether or not they have participated in City Center Ballet's productions in the past.

- Dancers must be 7 by Sept. 8, 2018.
- Dancers must be attending a minimum of TWO (2) classes weekly. One of these classes must be at Lebanon Ballet School for consistency of training and style.

Dancers and parents need to understand that performing is a commitment and requires time, enthusiasm, patience, and effort. The experience can be very rewarding for those who are able to make the commitment. Be sure there are no commitments that conflict with rehearsals that will be scheduled on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons. There are no excused absents. If you have questions after reading the material, please contact Linda Copp, Artistic Director, at City Center Ballet, 603-448-9710.

These are the prerequisites for dancers who wish to be considered for roles:

- Dancers must be currently enrolled in a ballet program.
- Dancers must be 7 on or before Sept. 8, 2018 and enrolled in a ballet program.
- Dancers 13+ must have three years of consecutive Ballet technique training and pointe work.
- Parents/Guardians of children enrolled in classes other than Lebanon Ballet School pay a class fee to attend classes that are mandatory prior to rehearsals.

See the accompanying documents for additional information: Before You Audition and Frequently Asked Questions.

Parents are required to attend a Q and A Session on Fri., Sept. 14 at 7:30. Please attend even if your child will not attend an audition class until Sat., Sept. 15.

Please prepare your child, for the fact that the number of dancers auditioning can be greater than the number of available roles.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the audition classes on Sat., Sept. 8 and Sat., Sept. 15 and at the Parent Q and A Session on Fri., Sept. 14 at 7:15 pm at the Lebanon Ballet School studio.



Linda G. Copp
Artistic Director

Before You Audition for *Clara's Dream, a nutcracker story*

Commitment Dates: Oct. 12, 2018 – Dec. 9, 2018

- ! Rehearsals are scheduled for Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons from Oct. 12 – Dec. 9 for all dancers. Rehearsals for soloists and corp de ballet will also be scheduled on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.
- ! Rehearsals are mandatory for all cast members. A missed rehearsal will mean dismissal from the cast.
- ! *No rehearsals are scheduled Thanksgiving - Nov. 22–25, 2018* - unless an emergency occurs.

Performance Dates: Sat., Dec. 8 at 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm and Sun., Dec. 9 at 3:00 pm at the Lebanon Opera House. The full cast will not be needed for the Fri., Dec. 7 shortened performance for area schools, held at 10:00 am.

City Center Ballet is exclusively responsible for the audition, rehearsal, and performance schedule, and all policies and procedures associated with *Clara's Dream*. Dancers and their parents are to direct ALL question about the production to Linda Copp, Artistic Director.

City Center Ballet's *Clara's Dream, a nutcracker story* is a professional production which will make professional demands on the children who perform in it. Please carefully consider your child's personality and your family's flexibility before auditioning. Attendance at all rehearsals for the part your child is cast in and performances are mandatory. We ask that *Clara's Dream* be your number-one priority. Please audition only if you feel that you and your family can make the necessary commitments and will have no conflicts between Oct. 12 and Dec. 9.

Please carefully consider:

- A willingness to accept any role offered, even if it is not the one you were hoping for.
- Attending mandatory rehearsals every weekend - Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons, Oct. 12 – Dec. 9.

City Center Ballet does its utmost to schedule rehearsals, costume fittings, and other activities within the rehearsal schedule and to give five days notice of changes. However, please be flexible and be prepared for last-minute changes and additions to the rehearsal schedule.

At the Audition for Clara's Dream

- Parents, family and friends are not permitted to watch the auditions.
- The audition class will consists of elements of a ballet technique class.
- Please wear regular ballet class attire to the audition.
- Girls: leotard and pink tights. Hair secured in a bun.
- Girls: 13+ please bring pointe shoes.
- Boys: should wear a t-shirt and tights.

Attendance at the audition does not mean that you will receive a role in Clara's Dream.

Clara's Dream, a nutcracker story Frequently Asked Questions

Whether you are new to the production or have participated previously, an issue may arise that is not completely understood. When that happens, we want and need to know about it! Call, email or talk face to face, we will all be better off for knowing. We have attempted to put as much information together to create as stress-free an environment as possible. Please ask if there are questions we have not addressed.

Where do I find information?

There are several bulletin boards in the studio, the City Center Ballet bulletin boards are located in the upstairs hallway to the large studio. One board serves as the main source of communication at the studio with rehearsal schedules, notices and general information. The other is for Friends of the Ballet to learn how to volunteer in the various events and support the dancers. City Center Ballet also uses Google Calendar for rehearsal schedules and changes. Please check these boards regularly for updated information. Things may change and your understanding will be appreciated.

How are casting decisions made?

There are many factors which impact casting decisions, for example:

Height requirements for each role (i.e. for uniformity.)

A dancer's ability to fit into the existing costumes will influence casting.

A dancer's technical abilities.

Overall artistic vision and necessities of the production.

All casting and performance scheduling decisions are made by the artistic staff. Notification of casting will be by in person with each dancer followed by an email Wed., Sept. 19, 2018. Then posted on the Callboard. Since some roles will be double cast, the determination of who performs in which performances will be announced when available.

What are the costs?

There are no audition fees. Parents/Guardian will be required to pay class fees for classes attended prior to rehearsals if the dancer is not enrolled in the class. A \$35.00 costume maintenance fee for cleaning and repairs is due by all participants. Dance attire, slippers, make-up and hair products are the responsibility of each dancer. Parents, family, and friends are expected to purchase tickets to see the production. Parents, family members and friends are asked to become patrons of the company with an annual donation of \$25.00 or more.

What I need to provide for costumes?

City Center Ballet will provide and maintain all parts of the costumes with the exception of dance attire, slippers, make-up and hair products. A complete list of needs will be available to each dancer cast when notified that they are cast.

All costumes are the property of City Center Ballet. Fines will be imposed for mishandling, damaging or losing parts of a costume. Costumes should never be taken home.

Costumes should always be returned to the same location in the studio and theater and should be properly hung up and all accessories stored their proper location.

Care of dance shoes are the responsibility of the dancer. Since shoes seem to fall apart at the most inconvenient time, it is a good idea to have a spare pair on hand.

What do I need to know about rehearsals and performance schedules?

Attendance at all rehearsals for the part your child is cast in and performances are mandatory.

Ballet requires the coordinated efforts of all dancers. An absence from rehearsal leaves the remaining dancers at an unacceptable disadvantage. Rehearsals are therefore mandatory. A missed rehearsal will result in the dismissal and replacement of the absentee. We understand that emergencies occur. However, the needs of the entire production outweigh the needs of the individual dancer.

Rehearsals are held at the Lebanon Ballet School until moving into the Lebanon Opera House on Mon., Dec. 3. We make every effort to begin and end each rehearsal promptly. You do not have to remain at the studio during rehearsals; however please pay attention to arriving and leaving on time. Preparations for the performance will proceed smoothly when everyone arrives and leaves at their designated times.

Technical and Dress Rehearsal schedules the week of Mon., Dec. 3 are at the Lebanon Opera House. Once in the theater, the Stage Manager supervises the schedule and performance. There are numerous components to coordinate and these rehearsals can run longer than planned.

What if my dancer needs to have an early termination?

Any dancer wishing to terminate the Agreement during the season must give four weeks notice to the Artistic Director. The Artistic Director may terminate the Agreement at any time a dancer fails to meet the terms of the agreement or fails to meet the technical standards of the company.

Will I be able to photo and video rehearsals and performances?

The only videotaping allowed is by City Center Ballet, which is for archival purposes.

Any other videotaping or photographing is strictly prohibited. This is a matter of laws surrounding the videoing of minors. This is not an arbitrary decision. Photography, especially flash photography is prohibited from the audience. It is distracting to audience members and can blind a dancer, causing injury. Please remind family and friends to honor this rule.

Studio and Dressing Room Etiquette:

Jewelry is not permitted unless it is designated as part of your costume.

Nail polish should never be worn for rehearsal or on stage.

Eating and drinking is not allowed when in costume with exception of drinking water which is encouraged.

Since dressing room space is limited both at Lebanon Ballet School and Lebanon Opera House, please be considerate and limit your personal belongings. Dressing room assignments at Lebanon Opera House are made by the staff to facilitate costume distribution. Please respect their decisions.

Theater - Lebanon Opera House

"Call" time for rehearsals and performances will be announced when available, usually two or three hours before the performance. Because the stage is complex and requires the cooperation of a large number of people in varying capacities, all stage crew and staff, chaperones, and volunteers must be listened to with full attention and respect at all times. The Stage Manager is responsible for making sure everyone is at the theater for rehearsals and performances. A sign-in sheet is posted for dancers to sign in upon arrival. Parents will be given a contact number to report illness or injuries.

If casted as an understudies?

Casting as an understudy is an important opportunity to learn another role. Understudies are essential to the production, and they must dedicate as much time and training to that role as if their were to perform it. Casting is subject to change and we need to be able to call upon an understudy at any time.

How do I volunteer?

We hope you'll consider volunteering with us. City Center Ballet is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization, which means that parents/guardians and dancers help in areas of their interests and skills. Please don't hesitate to contact me or to volunteer for Clara's Tea contact: Emily Walton - Emily.C.Walton@dartmouth.edu

Thank you for taking the time to fully understand this information. We are all looking forward to another successful and inspirational production with your help!!