

Littleton Youth Ballet and Littleton Ballet Academy

Nutcracker Information

Ballet 5 and Pre-Professional Division

1st Nutcracker letter

August 4th, 2024

Important Dates

Friday, August 23rd

LYB Auditions: Ballet 3 and 4A 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Saturday, August 26th

LYB Auditions: Ballet 6, 7, and 8 10:00 to 12:00 pm

LYB Auditions: Ballet 4B and 5 12:00 to 2:00 pm

Wednesday, September 15th

LYB contract due and fee due at lower rate (CANNOT be deducted automatically)

Wednesday, September 25th

MANDATORY CASTING MEETING FOR NEW FAMILIES 6:00 PM

Casting and schedules for returning families will be sent over email in the evening

Wednesday, September 25th to Saturday, October 12th

Nutcracker T-Shirts on sale

Saturday, September 30th

Final deadline LYB contract and fee due at higher rate (CANNOT be deducted automatically)

Tuesday, October 1st, Friday, October 4th, or Saturday, October 5th

Rehearsals begin for The Nutcracker (depending on casting)

Wednesday, October 16th

Nutcracker tickets go on sale at 10 am

Friday, October 18th and Saturday, October 19th

NO Rehearsals

Saturday, November 9th

Nutcracker Cast Chili Party 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Sunday, November 10th

Sugar Plum Fairy Tea

Saturday, November 16th

Program ads due

Saturday, November 30th

Regular Rehearsals for The Nutcracker

Saturday, December 7th

Pre-Ballet Holiday Show (Rehearsals for lower levels only)

Friday, December 13th and Saturday, December 14th

Imagetek Photo Shoot

Wednesday, December 18th

Mandatory Dress Rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 5:00 to 9:15 pm Red Cast

Thursday, December 19th

Mandatory Dress Rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 5:00 to 9:15 pm Green Cast

Friday, December 20th

Performances at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 7:30 pm

Saturday, December 21st

Performances at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 2:00 and 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 22nd

Performances at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre: 12:00 and 4:00 pm

General Information

- All dancers must have a current registration completed as well as ALL tuition and ALL fees paid before the auditions in August.
- Rehearsals may take place during the following times: Tuesday from 7:15 to 8:45 pm, Fridays from 6:30 to 8:45 pm (depending on level), and Saturdays between 1:30 pm or 2:00 and 6:30 pm.
- Rehearsals for The Nutcracker are NOT done during class time.
- There will be no Sunday rehearsals.
- Generally, Saturday rehearsals may be kept to a minimum until **October 14th** for dancers in Ballet 7 and 8 depending on casting.
- There will be two rehearsals during the week of December 16th. There will be a run-through on Tuesday, December 17th at LBA. All dancers will be required to be a **mandatory** dress rehearsal at the Joanna Ramsey Theatre on Wednesday, December 18th and Thursday, December 19th.
- All dancers may also need to come to some additional costume fittings. (These will be scheduled around classes and rehearsals). Some costume fittings will occur during class or rehearsal times. LBA provides all costumes. No one is allowed to keep any costumes.
- There is a lunch break from or 1:00 to 1:30 pm OR 1:30 to 2:00 pm for dancers who are here all day. All dancers are expected to clean up after themselves. If you spill something we ask that you let a staff member know immediately.
- We ARE having rehearsals Thanksgiving weekend. Dancers will have the opportunity to participate in some outreaches during this week. All dancers will have rehearsals Saturday, November 30th.
- We also have some outreaches scheduled in November and December. A complete schedule and sign-up instructions will be sent out in October.
- Dancers are allowed two EXCUSED absences only and this needs to be done **two weeks in advance. All absences must be excused in advance and needs to be VIA EMAIL, including the reason.** If you send us an email excusing an absence you will receive a response

within a day. If you don't, please resend the message. **If a student is sick on a rehearsal day, please send us an email to ballerinalba@gmail.com AND call the front desk at (303)794-6694. If no one answers the phone, LEAVE a message.** Dancers with unexcused absences MAY be dismissed from the production and no fees will be refunded. This has happened last year so please don't test us on this issue. Reasons for missing rehearsals are family vacations, mandatory school functions, and illness.

- PLEASE BE **10 minutes early** for rehearsals. If a student is constantly late he/she may be dismissed from the production and no fees will be refunded. **Even being five minutes late can be problematic.** You may drop students off early if necessary.
- All dancers need to attend the entire rehearsal she or he is scheduled for. Do NOT ask to be excused early. **This will count as an absence.**
- **There are NO rehearsals for The Nutcracker on Friday, October 18th and Saturday, October 19th.** At least three school districts have fall break (even if it's a couple days).
- Most parts will be double and maybe triple cast. We will let you know final casting by October 15th (before tickets go on sale).
- If you have questions or problems, please let us know in advance.
- Here are our casting policies:
 - You have the right to ask about casting, but you may not receive the answer you want and it most likely won't change anything.
 - Observe the 24-hour rule: you have 24 hours to be sad if you did not receive the part you want. After that, you need to accept your part and work hard to be the best cast member you can be.
 - We will not have conversations with you about casting for the first 24-hours.
 - Casting is a difficult process, and we try to be fair. Students may be asked to learn a few different roles in the beginning to make sure we have made solid decisions.
 - If a student or parent complains about casting verbally, through texts, or on social media sites, the student may be dismissed from the production and all fees will be forfeited.
 - There are NO specific level parts and casting is not always done by level. (For example: the role of Candy Canes has ranged from levels Ballet 2 to Ballet 4 because the costumes are easily adaptable.)
 - Please keep in mind that dancers need to fit into the costumes we already have.
 - It is VERY likely that students will repeat parts. We cannot promise that dancers will receive new parts every year! But just because a dancer did one part last year doesn't mean they will do that role the following year.
 - Casting is ALWAYS subject to change, and we may ask some students to understudy a role in addition to participating in their own role or roles in case of injury or illness.
 - Please remember that taking part in The Nutcracker is an amazing experience and students should be honored to be a part of the production.
- Our alumni and our students who are in dancing in professional schools outside of LBA are ALWAYS given the opportunity to come take part in our performances.
- All students must continue coming to regular ballet classes in order to participate in performances. Rehearsals do not take the place of class.
- December tuition will be due for all dancers performing in The Nutcracker.
- Please let the front desk know ASAP if you cannot participate in the Sunday performance due to religious reasons.
- You will receive a 2nd Nutcracker Performance Packet closer to performance. PLEASE read this carefully. Let us know if you have any questions.
- There are plenty of volunteer jobs available. A Sign-Up Genius email goes out closer to the performance date.

- Valid sources of information are included in emails sent from Littleton Ballet Academy and Littleton Youth Ballet, any paperwork we hand out and post on the bulletin board, as well as the following people: Bobbie and Ali Jaramillo who are the co-directors of LBA and our staff at the front desk: Anna Rutter, Erin Dolezal, and Carrie Kemp. **Please make sure questions are first directed to us or our staff so we don't have misinformation circulating.** Also, you will get the same answer no matter who you ask.

The Nutcracker

Presented by Littleton Youth Ballet and Littleton Ballet Academy

December 20th, 21st, and 22nd

Joanna Ramsey Theatre

6933 Raleigh St. Westminster, CO 80030

Ticket prices range from \$30 to \$65 for reserved tickets purchased in advance.

Tickets are \$2 higher if purchased on the day of the show.

We perform a full professional production complete with beautiful sets, props, and costumes. People who have attended our productions have been amazed by how professional our Nutcracker is and claimed that our performance was just as entertaining as many professional companies☺ In fact many of our props are similar to Colorado Ballet's because their property master was Bobbie's husband David (and Ali's dad) who made props for both. Participating in The Nutcracker is often a dance student's dream! It is an honor and privilege to perform in The Nutcracker and we are delighted that you are taking part. And if anyone asks if this is the "real" Nutcracker ask all of our young dancers who are so excited to be part of this production! It's definitely real!