

SHENANDOAH CIVIC DANCE COMPANY PRESENTS

The Nutcracker



Saturday December 17, 2022, 7:00 PM

John Lewis Auditorium, Staunton High School

PRODUCTION STAFF

Pamela McCray
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Shanda Hansen
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Anna Matthews Humphries and Faith Schmandt
PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS



THE SHENANDOAH CIVIC DANCE COMPANY

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THE SHENANDOAH CIVIC DANCE COMPANY

The Shenandoah Civic Dance Company was formed in the fall of 1983 to provide serious dance students the opportunity to enrich their study of ballet through performing, attending master classes, field trips, and workshops. This non-profit organization, under the artistic direction of Pamela McCray, has expanded its mission to advance dance as an art form in the Shenandoah Valley by performing full length ballets, short repertory works, and by providing lecture demonstrations at schools and community events.

In its 40th year, The Shenandoah Civic Dance Company consists of 123 dancers. Twenty three of our dancers have parents that were in our Nutcracker as children. We are thrilled to carry on the family legacy as well as teach and encourage new students and families. It is our sincere wish that you, our audience, may experience the joy of dance and the magic of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.



Costume *Triumph* ~~Catastrophe~~

This has certainly been a challenging year for our head of costuming, Annette Gregory. Dealing with the aftermath of the fire and its' effect on our Nutcracker costumes has been a daily struggle for Miss Annette since

last February. All of our costumes had to be moved from the building and assessed for damage by our insurance company. Miss Annette and a crew of Moms washed countless costumes all summer long. We were able to save quite a few costumes but unfortunately many were lost to severe smoke damage. Miss Annette and a team of very talented dedicat-



ed ladies have been sewing constantly for months. In addition to the many new costumes, Annette has made, Marti McVey designed and made our new Snow Queen and Dew Drop costumes. Stephanie Tremel and Jennifer Duncan have donated countless hours to sewing, altering, and assisting Miss Annette in whatever she has needed. Many Moms have come into SAB to steam costumes and help with sewing. The delightful costumes that are NUTCRACKER 2022 are the result of the dedication and devotion of Miss Annette and her crew. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts and thank you from our community.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PATRONS



Becky and James Boyette

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Holden, III

George and Marilou Johnson

Julie and Dan Kane

Kate Holden White and Family

PHOTOGRAPHY

danielles-images.com

We have been incredibly fortunate to have Danielle McMillion-Allen of Danielle's Images as our photographer for 25 years. With her artistic talents and skills, she has captured beautiful memories for our dancers and their families. Her photos are featured throughout this program.



VIDEOGRAPHY

studiomac.info

Andrew MacDanel of StudioMac has been recording our productions for the last ten years. Last year, when we were unable to perform live, he created his own Nutcracker magic by filming us and then making our production available to the community for streaming.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022 brings us to 40 years of putting on *the Nutcracker* in Staunton. That means 75 Claras (one year we had three), over 400 mice, 640 snowflakes, and about 500 ginger snaps. It also means one very grateful director. Countless people have come together throughout the years to bring *the Nutcracker* to our community. People who volunteered time to sew, steam costumes, put down the stage floor, and watch the children backstage, as well as share their children with us each week, are a few of the things I am grateful for. Additionally, I am grateful to my family; every member devotes their time, energy and sweat into the production. Once you are a part of Miss Pam's family, *Nutcracker* becomes a way of life.



The last few years have been the most challenging of them all. We have dealt with a pandemic and severe damage from a fire last February, but here we are, bringing nutcracker "magic" to the community once again. I thank all our dancers; past and present. You have been such a joy to me for these 40 years. The memories of wonderful performances, countless hours of rehearsals, and sweet little notes are treasured in my heart. I look forward to many more years as the director bringing you *the Nutcracker*.



THANK YOU

We are very grateful to all the parents and families of our dancers that have volunteered to help with getting the children in and out of costumes, making sure our dancers are cared for during rehearsals and performances, setting up and striking the scenery and dance floor, loading and unloading costumes, ushering for the performances, the list goes on and on. Thank you so much.

If we have, through ignorance or neglect, failed to recognize anyone who contributed to our production, we apologize





40 Years of Magic



SYNOPSIS

PROLOGUE: Like all good stories, this one begins with “Once Upon a Time.” The time is Christmas Eve many years ago. Everyone is making preparations for a festive Christmas party at the home of the Silberhaus family. Judge Silberhaus is a very important and respected figure in the town of Nuremberg. He and his wife have two beautiful children, Clara and Fritz.

Clara is a very lucky young lady. Her Godfather is Herr Drosselmeyer, a mysterious maker of toys. All of the children of the town love the wondrous toys he invents and are amazed each year by the unique gifts he brings to the party at the Silberhaus home. Herr Drosselmeyer is himself a curious fellow. He dresses in the fashion of his long past youth and carries himself with a mysterious air. The children and townspeople all treat him with much respect and admiration but are slightly frightened by his unusual ways.

ACT I - SCENE 1: “What a wonderful party this is turning out to be!” thinks Clara. Everyone is there, including all of Clara’s friends and relatives. The children are dressed in their best clothes and dance and parade around the room. But best of all, in the middle of the room stands a huge Christmas tree glistening with presents for everyone. Herr Drosselmeyer arrives laden with special treats and presents. For all the guests’ enjoyment, Drosselmeyer has brought three life-sized mechanical dolls and a Jack-in-the-Box. To Clara, he gives a beautiful Nutcracker, a most wondrous toy that is dressed like a handsome soldier. He has a white beard, and his mouth opens wide to crack nuts. Clara falls in love with the Nutcracker immediately.

As the festivities progress, Fritz tries to grab the Nutcracker away from Clara. In the struggle that ensues, the poor Nutcracker is broken. Before too many tears are shed, Herr Drosselmeyer comes to the rescue. Drosselmeyer is able to mend the Nutcracker and make Clara happy again. Clara vows to always keep her beloved Nutcracker safe from harm.

The hour is growing late. Everyone joins hands for a grande dance, even the three maids. As the dance is completed, the guests begin to depart one by one. Clara and her family go upstairs to bed to begin a night of sweet slumber and dreams of a wonderful evening.

SCENE 2: Clara awakens in the middle of the night and creeps into the parlor to fetch her beloved Nutcracker. Herr Drosselmeyer appears, along with Clara's beloved Nutcracker who has been transformed into a life-size commander of an army of toy soldiers.

Suddenly, Clara sees one giant mouse and then another. They are as large as the mechanical dolls Drosselmeyer brought to the party. The mice, led by the Mouse King, are preparing to attack the troop of life-size soldiers. A terrible battle follows, the worst in all toy history. Clara tries to help the soldiers and her beloved Nutcracker. She takes off her slipper and hits the Mouse King to distract his attention so the Nutcracker can attack him. The Nutcracker and the Mouse King both fall to the floor. When the mice see their leader has fallen, they scamper away, dragging their King with them.

The Nutcracker becomes transformed into a handsome prince. He bows to Clara and invites her to come with him on a journey to his home, the Land of Sweets and Spices, Confiturembourg.

SCENE 3: At the next moment, Clara and the Nutcracker Prince find themselves in the middle of a snowy forest, where winter never turns to spring. This is the Land of Snow. They are met by the Queen of Snow, who gives Clara and her Nutcracker Prince permission to pass through the White Forest on their journey to Confiturembourg. A dance begins with all the snowflakes whirling and twirling, creating a beautiful white snowstorm.

ACT II: Clara and the Nutcracker Prince arrive in a palace high atop Sugar Mountain in Confiturembourg. It is even more beautiful than Clara has imagined. The Sugar Plum Fairy dazzles Clara with her grace and elegance.

When the Fairy hears how Clara helped the Prince when he was battling the Mouse King, she crowns Clara as "Princess" and leads her to the Royal Throne. And then, best of all, she orders a festival in Clara's honor. At the end of the dancing, all the sweets and spices crowd into the courtyard to bid Clara farewell as she begins her journey home. On Christmas morning, Clara awakens with her beloved Nutcracker safe in her arms.



GUEST ARTIST

Carla S. Curet Auffant

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Carla began her dance studies at the age of 5 at Yoly's Studio under the tutelage of Yolanda Muñoz. At the age of 14, she entered the Ballets de San Juan workshop. At the age of 17, she entered the Conservatory of Ballet Concert of Puerto Rico. In December 2004 Carla joined the Ballets de San Juan Company.

Carla has trained with teachers such as Yolanda Muñoz, Carmen Ana Rodríguez, Aurorita Hernández, among many others. In the summer of 2000, she attended the School of Cleveland San Jose Ballet Summer Dance program in Cleveland, Ohio; under the artistic direction of Dennis Nahat.

Her repertoire consists of classics, neoclassical, contemporary and modern. Among them is the ballet Nutcracker, Giselle, La Bayadere, Paquita, Romeo and Juliet, Carmen, Grand Pas de Quatre, Tarantella and Elegy by George Balanchine among others.

Carla holds a Bachelor of Art in History of the Americas from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus. She is currently continuing her graduate studies in the area of History of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean at said university. She works as the main soloist of the Ballets de San Juan company under the artistic direction of Nahir Medina and as a teacher at the San Juan School of Ballets directed by Marie Carmen Márquez. Carla travels extensively as an international guest ballerina.



GUEST ARTIST

Carlos G. Madera Martinez

Carlos G. Madera Martínez, born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, began dancing at the Puerto Rico School of Dance in Ponce at age 18 under the direction of Honey Defilló. In 1997 he became a member of the Ponce Musical Theater Ballet Company, directed by Julie Mayoral. In 2001 he joined the Ballet Señorial Compañía de Ponce, where he danced leading roles, under the direction of Grace Bigas.

Between 2005 and 2007, he joined the Puerto Rico Concert Ballet Company, in San Juan, as Principal Soloist, under the direction of Carlos Cabrera. From 2007 to 2012 he danced at the Brio de Bayamón Ballet Company, directed by Rodney Rivera as the main dancer, standing out in classical ballet as well as in contemporary pieces.

His repertoire includes many classical ballets, including *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Coppelia*, *La Fille mal Gardee*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella* among others.

Mr. Carlos Madera earned his Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and his Master's in Education and Administration. He currently works as a primary school teacher in the Department of Education in PR

Carlos has made guest appearances internationally. He first graced our stage for *Nutcracker* in 2017 dancing the role of Cavalier in *Nutcracker*. He and his wife Carla have taught intensive workshops at Staunton Academy of Ballet for three summers.

Then...



...and Now



ACT I

Scene 1



Ice SkatersMelina Fiechtl, Olivia Lowery, Vivien Schmandt,
Lucy Smith, Gillian Starcher
Chestnut Vendor..... Luritza Flores

Scene 2

ClaraAbby Riddle
FritzSam Lihos
Frau Silberhaus Faith Schmandt
Judge SilberhausClay Walls
Maids..... Isabelle Fiechtl and Bridget Kane
Party Guests
Clara's Best Friends Blakely Bryant and Kayley Tremel
ChildrenMary Taylor Berbes, Rory Bryant, Lily Mae Cole,
Gabriella Danraj, Madelyn Griffin-Lott, Iris Lockhart,
Emma Loyacano, Juliana Miller, Payton Miller, Bella Stables
Party GuestsJames Boyette, Alex Davis, Gabriella Hansen,
Clara McClain, Summer Wallace



Herr Drosselymeyer Arthur McCray
Harlequin Kara Gillespie
Jack in the Box..... Lucia Cooke
Soldier Doll Isabella Malphrus
Ballerina DollSidney Poulson

Scene 3: The Battle

NutcrackerCarmen Petty
Prince..... Carlos G. Madera Martinez
Mouse King Daphne Hansen
MiceSaradel Barron, Lorelai Cox, Avery Luedtke,
Finley McCray, Petra Shepherd,
Lamar Tahan, Faith Whitacre
Big Mice Vivien Schmandt, Lucy Smith
Soldiers.....Kaylor Blake, Liliana Campbell, Emily Edson,
Shaielle Patty, Caroline Powell, Rayna Queen,
Allison Vazquez, Audrey Wise



Scene 4: The Land of Snow

Snow QueenCara McClain
Snow Flurries Claire Fiechtl, Katie Harrop, Lillian King, Lily Kate Van Eyk
Snowflakes..... Meriwether Annan, Arielle Boyette, Courtney Brumbaugh,
Lucia Cooke, Abbey Duncan, Kara Gillespie, Martha Jane Harrell,
Hailey Huffstetler, Pyper Johnson, Madeliene Kane,
IsabelleMalphrus, Lily Marshall, Aislynn Neal,
Meghan Skally, Lena Walden, Jayleigh Woodard

ACT II

CONFITUREMBOURG: The Land of Sweets and Spices

Sugar Plum Fairy	Carla Curet
Cavalier	Carlos Madera Martinez
Sugar Plum Fairy Attendants.....	Alexis Brown, Blakely Bryant, Luritza Flores, Daphne Hansen, Gabriella Hansen, Cara McClain, Carmen Petty, Sidney Poulson
Pages	Finley McCray and Henley Miller
Pastry Chef	Jayleigh Woodard
Bakers	Kimberly Anderson, Olivia Bellinger, Clara Carney, Drake Beam, Alexis Carrington, Sophia Harrop, Katie Jarvis, Abby Kahn, Jane Kittleberger, Alice Pritt, Anthea Shepherd, Victoria Temple
Pralines	Abbey Duncan and Martha Jane Harrell
Chocolate.....	Summer Wallace
Coffee	Blakely Bryant
Attendants	Evalee Cole, Adrienne Fiechtl, Evie Fitzgerald, Eliana Lessley, Jamilyn Serrett, Eva Stables
Tea.....	Meriwether Anna, Pyper Johnson, Aislynn Neal, Lena Walden
Warrior	Isabelle Fiechtl
Dragon	Lucia Cooke, Kara Gillespie, Daphne Hansen, Isabella Malphrus, Carmen Petty

Trepak Soloist..... Bridget Kane

Children..... Melina Fiechtl, Olivia Lowery, Vivien Schmamandt,
Lucy Smith, Gillian Starcher

Marzipan...Shepherdess Kayley Tremel
ShepherdSam Lihos

Mirlitons Arielle Boyette, Courtney Brumbaugh, Hailey Huffstetler,
Madeliene Kane, Lily Marshall, Meghan Skally

Marshmallow Lambs.....Mavis Beam, Laney Cash, Tillie Harlow, Lucinda Jeter,
Eloise Johnston, Zada Laliberte, Kaira Naranjo, Henry Humphries

Mother Ginger.....Faith Schmandt

Cotton Candy Clowns.....Joncie Clawson, Catherine Cooke, June Larew,
Ava Mims, Korbyn Snyder, Emma Van Eyk

Gingerbread Boy Gabriel Fiechtl

Ginger Snaps Adeline Atkins, Ila Atkins, Wren Kosmicki, Holly Luedtke,
Kemyyla Mickens, Maria Zvengrowski

Waltz of the Flowers

Dew Drop Gabriella Hansen

Flowers.....Alexis Brown, Blakely Bryant, Isabelle Fiechtl,
Bridget Kane, Cara McClain, Sidney Poulson,
Kayley Tremel, Summer Wallace

Grand Pas de Deux..... Carla Curet and Carlos G Martinez

Finale and Apotheosis..... Cast of Candy Kingdom



PRODUCTION CREDITS

Technical Director/Stage Manager Leland McCray
Audio Daniel Hansen
Lighting John Fergosi
Staunton High School Technical Theater Class
Stage Crew Alex Davis, John Marshall, Brian Miller, DJ Stewart
Props Anna Matthews Humphries
Wardrobe Mistress Annette Gregory
Seamstresses..... Jenn Duncan, Marti McVey, Tiffany Peters, Stephanie Tremel
Assistants to the Directors Gabriella Hansen, Kelsie Stewart, Lydia Smith
Rehearsal Assistants..... Meriweather Annan, Alexis Brown, Isabelle Fiechtl,
Melina Fiechtl, Daphne Hansen, Gabriella Hansen,
Julianna Miller, Aislyn Neal, Lucy Smith,
Bella Stables, Eva Stables, Kayley Tremel
Registrar Stephanie Neal
Program and Posters Stephanie McCray
T-shirts Marti McVey



