



THE CITY OF DAYTONA BEACH

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct 22, 2021

Tickets on sale for *The Nutcracker* at Peabody Auditorium

Tickets are on sale for *The Nutcracker*, which will be presented by the Volusia Civic Ballet in December at Peabody Auditorium.

Tickets are available for purchase at www.Ticketmaster.com, by phone at (800) 982-2787 or between the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Peabody Box Office at 600 Auditorium Blvd. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$45 plus surcharges. Children's Sugar Plum Tea tickets are an additional \$20 per child. Tickets purchased via Ticketmaster will incur Ticketmaster fees.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, Volusia Civic Ballet will offer the following performances:

- In addition to the full-length production, a condensed narrated Family Series show is offered Dec 4. This performance is suitable for audiences with special needs, all levels of mobility and young children. The Family Series is just under one hour and provides a memorable holiday experience with several vignettes from Act I and a full Act II.
- The always highly anticipated Children's Sugar Plum Tea is offered Dec. 4 and Dec. 5 one hour prior to the show. Children ages 3-12 will enjoy sweet confections and other holiday treats in a fairytale atmosphere with beautifully decorated trees and tables. A few of *The Nutcracker* characters will make an appearance to pose for photos to enhance the holiday experience.
- Performances include:
 - Saturday, Dec. 4, at 2 p.m. (Family Series)
 - Saturday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. (full show with guest artists)
 - Sunday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m. (full show with guest artists)

 - Children's Sugar Plum Tea:
 - Saturday, Dec. 4, at 1 pm (show ticket and Tea ticket required)
 - Saturday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m. (show ticket and Tea ticket required)
 - Sunday, Dec. 5, at 1 p.m. (show ticket and Tea ticket required)

During the performances, the Peabody lobby will be transformed into a quaint German village. Patrons can purchase unique Nutcracker gifts from Frau Drosselmeyer's Magical Toy Shop and indulge in sweet delights from the breathtaking Kingdom of Sweets Shoppe.

The cast of more than 90 performers in this magnificent production come from 13 participating dance studios, with choreography produced by 11 choreographers. This event is a collaborative community project with professional guest artists from Cincinnati Ballet.



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Set to the classical music of the Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, the story comes alive when a young girl, Clara, performed by Gabriella Palmer, receives a magical Nutcracker doll on Christmas Eve from her mysterious magician godmother Frau Drosselmeyer, played by Valerie Betts. Drosselmeyer's young Apprentice, played by Kelan Halloran, befriends Clara and protects her from her naughty young brother, Fritz, played by Ralph Medley, and his rowdy friends.

As Clara drifts asleep, in her dream a battle ensues between the army of mice led by the Mouse King, played by Aiden Ibanez, with the Mouse Queen, played by Jenna Galka, against the army of toy soldiers led by her beloved Nutcracker, played by Kelan Halloran. As Clara helps the Nutcracker to overthrow the Mouse King, a spell is broken, and the Nutcracker is transformed back into a Prince who looks just like her protector Apprentice. To thank Clara for her bravery, the Prince takes her on a journey through an enchanted Snow Forest where they meet a majestic Snow Queen, played by Ariel Starling, and a Dew Drop, played by Sailor Laub.

Traveling through the swirling snowflakes, Clara and her Prince arrive to the Kingdom of Sweets. The beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier greet them with sweet confections from exotic lands of Arabia, Spain, Russia, France, and China. This year's spectacular guest artists are from the Cincinnati Ballet with Melissa Gelfin De-Poli as the Sugar Plum Fairy and Rafael Quenedit Castro as the Cavalier. They will join the cast for the Saturday evening and for the Sunday matinee shows.

For more information on the performance, visit www.peabodyauditorium.org and www.civicc Balletvc.org.