

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUDITION CALL: YOUNG SINGERS SOUGHT FOR *NUTCRACKER* NORTH WIND CHORUS

Ballet Nebraska and Opera Omaha will hold auditions August 21 for female singers ages 12 through 18 to perform as the North Wind Chorus in Ballet Nebraska's production of the holiday classic *The Nutcracker*.

Audition candidates must pre-register online at <http://balletnebraska.org/participate/audition/youth-auditions/northwindchorus/>. The auditions will be at Opera Omaha's rehearsal hall at 1850 Farnam Street. Auditioners should prepare one song and bring sheet music for piano accompaniment. An accompanist will be provided. Singers chosen must be available for music rehearsals on Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, as well as studio rehearsals, fittings, and all theater rehearsals and performances during production weeks.

This year marks the third season for the collaboration between Ballet Nebraska and Opera Omaha on *The Nutcracker*, which will open on November 23 at the Arts Center at Iowa Western in Council Bluffs, followed by a three-show run December 7 and 8 at the Orpheum Theater in Omaha.

J. Gawf, Opera Omaha's resident music director, and Erika Overturff, Ballet Nebraska's artistic director, will cast and rehearse the North Wind Chorus members, who will appear onstage in costume in the ballet's "Land of Snow" scene.

"Featuring beautiful, young voices in our production adds a bit of magic to *The Nutcracker* that only the opera can bring," said Overturff.

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