

AMERICAN MIDWEST *Ballet*

ARTISTIC STAFF

Erika Overturff, Artistic Director & CEO
Matthew Lovegood, Ballet Master

ARTISTS

Erin Alarcón, Rebecca Brenner, Nora Carr, Ryan Christopher, Katherine Eppink,
Claire Goodwillie, Alyssa Grimsley, Alexandra Hoffman, Matthew Lovegood,
Cameron Miller, Kogan Murphy, Erika Overturff, Wyatt Payne, Bret Samson,
Katerina Schweitzer, Kelsey Schwenker, Amaris Sharratt, Rachel Smith,
Anders Southerland, Anna Swenson, Katie van der Mars, Whitney Walsh, Sasha York

Apprentices: Elena Carter, Kelanie Murphy

Trainees: Remmi Hartmann, Madeline Koesters

Costume Designer	Deborah Overturff
Costume Assistants	Rebecca Brenner, Wendy Linville
Development Director	Sarah Maloney
Executive Assistant	Shanna Zordell
Marketing Director	Jolie Koesters
Marketing Coordinator	Kelsey Schwenker
Pianists	Keefer Peterson, Irene Van Dyk
Production Manager	Lance Glenn
Production Assistant	Hannah Clark
Repertory Ensemble Coordinator	Kelsey Schwenker
Teachers	Judith Leppek, Angela Rodriguez, Halle Schulman
Visual Media Designer	Jim Williams

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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AMERICAN MIDWEST BALLET PRESENTS

THE NUTCRACKER

Iowa Western Arts Center, November 18, 2018 • Omaha's Orpheum Theater, December 8 and 9, 2018

Choreography	Erika Overturff
Additional Choreography	Matthew Lovegood
Music.....	Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Costume Design.....	Deborah Overturff
Additional Costume Design	Thom J. Peterson
Sets and Props.....	Clyde Overturff, Deborah Overturff, Shanna Zordell, Michelle Bonker, Lance Glenn
Lighting Design	Bill Van Deest, Carol Wisner
Production Manager	Lance Glenn
Stage Manager.....	Wesley Houston
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Taylor L. Vann
Wardrobe.....	Deborah Overturff, Wendy Linville, Shanna Zordell, Rebecca Brenner, Amy Voogd, Emily Voogd, Hannah Clark, Barb Wilwerding, Thom J. Peterson, Kristin Harper, Mona Schlautman
Opera Omaha Children's Chorus Director	Sean Kelly
Crew.....	Hannah Clark, Jason Shannon
Orpheum Theater Stage Crew	Members of IATSE Local 42

THE STORY:

The time is long ago, but not too long ago, and the place is a town not so different from our own. It's Christmas Eve; Clara, Fritz, and their parents have invited all their friends to a festive party, and the streets are thronged with excited guests. At the house, everybody is working hard to get ready - except for Fritz, who catches a mouse and teases Clara with it.

Soon guests arrive and the party begins. One very special guest is Drosselmeyer, Clara's favorite uncle. He's famous throughout the town for his collection of amazing mechanical toys, and his entertainments for the guests astonish everyone.

Drosselmeyer has a special gift for Clara: a beautifully painted nutcracker, fashioned in the figure of a toy soldier. He tells her a fascinating story that goes with it, about a prince turned into a nutcracker by a spell cast by the evil Rat Queen.

Clara is enchanted by her gift and its story. Later, when the party is over and everyone has gone to bed, she tiptoes back downstairs to find her nutcracker. As she dozes off, her memories of the evening turn to dreams: of teasing mice, a terrifying Rat Queen, and a nutcracker that comes to life. Clara herself vanquishes the Rat Queen, breaking the spell and turning the nutcracker back into a prince.

To thank her for freeing him, the prince takes Clara on a magical journey. First they travel through a swirl of enchanted snowflakes, meeting their king and queen. Then they come to the Land of Dreams, where they're greeted by Christmas angels and by the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. As a tribute to Clara, the Sugar Plum Fairy calls forth visions from many lands, who dance to entertain her. Finally everyone joins in one grand, beautiful dance. And when Clara awakens, in her own house with her cherished nutcracker, she realizes that there are no limits on where your imagination can take you!

ACT I

The Christmas Party

Baby Mice	Ella Bauerly†, Hannah Downing†, Lucille Kozisek†, Alivia Ahern‡, Olivia Minturn‡, Lauryn Vanderheiden‡
Clara	Molly Kimmey
Fritz.....	Owen Fuesel
Clara's Parents.....	Bret Samson, Sasha York
Butler.....	Cameron Miller
Maids.....	Taryn Cowley†, Lauren Haight†, Viktoriya Kucinsky†, Micah Loucks†, Natalie Haberman‡, Alyssa Hill‡, Katherine McGraw‡, Emily Patterson‡, Elena Carter, Kelanie Murphy
Party Guests.....	Clint Beaver, Rebecca Brenner, Jay Bryant, Ryan Christopher, Katherine Eppink, Nick Giacoppo, Alyssa Grimsley, Casey Kelley, Madeline Koesters, Kogan Murphy, Wyatt Payne, John Ritland, Aaron Schwab, Amaris Sharratt, Rachel Smith, Anders Southerland, Anna Swenson, Katie van der Mars
Tchaikovsky, a Society Dog	Molly, representing the Nebraska Humane Society
Party Children.....	Logan Ash, Adele Coffey, Emma Gould, Macy Harnisch, Samantha Hughes, Carley Jones, Alena Kehm, Lily Koenig, Sophia Morris, Hannah Nehls, Kami Olson, Alyssa Schnabel, Willia Sheesley, Charlotte Vander Zwaag
Drosselmeyer.....	Matthew Lovegood
Toy Soldiers	Hannah Adangnihoude, Eva Coffey, Aiko Guerrero, Rachel Jones, Ava Schuster, Abigail Whitt, Leighton Wilson
Porcelain Doll.....	Whitney Walsh
Harlequin Dolls.....	Alexandra Hoffman, Kelsey Schwenker

Clara's Nightmare

Rat Queen	Erin Alarcón†, Claire Goodwillie‡
Nutcracker	Ryan Christopher†, Wyatt Payne‡
Mice	Rebecca Brenner, Nora Carr, Elena Carter, Katherine Eppink, Kelanie Murphy, Kogan Murphy, Katerina Schweitzer
Soldiers.....	Alyssa Grimsley, Remmi Hartmann, Madeline Koesters, Bret Samson, Amaris Sharratt, Rachel Smith
Battle Dolls	Kelsey Schwenker, Whitney Walsh
Nutcracker Prince.....	Casey Kelley
Little Drosselmeyers.....	Chloe Greve, Zoey Harstad, Piper Isham, Abrianna Maughmer, Keely Mulholland, Addison Scott, Kellyn Underwood, Rowan Wilson

The Land of Snow

- Snow Queen Anna Swenson†, Alexandra Hoffman‡
- Snow King..... Anders Southerland†, Sasha York‡
- Snow Alyssa Grimsley, Cameron Miller, Kogan Murphy, Wyatt Payne,
Bret Samson, Kelsey Schwenker, Amaris Sharratt, Whitney Walsh
- Snow Branches Rebecca Brenner, Nora Carr, Elena Carter, Kelanie Murphy,
Katerina Schweitzer, Rachel Smith
- North Wind Chorus Opera Omaha Children's Chorus: Elizabeth Harvey,
Grace Horacek, Piper Isham, Micah Loucks, Hannah Nehls,
Melissa Thompson, Emily Voogd

Intermission (20 minutes)

ACT II

The Land of Dreams

- Angels..... Tabrina DeTienne, Finlee Goeser, Giselle Gutsell,
Alivia Inselman, Carley Jones, Addison Kolkman,
Estelle McIntosh, Charlotte Murray, Ava Owen,
Amelia Rieck, Samyrah Riley, Lucy Villier
- Sugar Plum Fairy Alexandra Hoffman†, Katherine Eppink‡
- Cavalier Matthew Lovegood†, Anders Southerland‡
- Sugar Plum Court..... Emily Bauer†, Ava Price†, Taryn Sydzzyk†, Jalinn Woodworth†,
Noelle Haberman‡, Lauren Patterson‡, Jaedyn Powers‡,
Marina Thornhill‡, Ashtyn Graham, Mara Isaacson,
Lindsey Kader, Annika Simanek, Sydney Vanderheiden
- Candy Canes,
Lollipops & Meringues..... Ava Cutinella†, Vivian Dauner†, Natalie Fink†,
MacKenzie Gibson†, Elizabeth Harvey†, Vada Herrera†,
Lucia Shimerdla†, Nola Siscoe†, Gabriella Thompson†,
Madeleine Zemann†, Marissa Anderson‡, Alie Dixon‡,
Emily Douglas‡, Isabella Garcia‡, Macie Gray‡,
Cassidy McClaren‡, Ava Morey‡, Kalyn Richards‡,
Mary Shimerdla‡, Abigail Whitt‡
- Spanish Rebecca Brenner, Nora Carr, Kelanie Murphy, Kogan Murphy,
Katerina Schweitzer, Whitney Walsh
- Arabian..... Anna Swenson†, Anders Southerland†, Bret Samson‡,
Sasha York‡ *with* Clint Beaver, Jay Bryant, Elena Carter,
Remmi Hartmann, Casey Kelley, Madeline Koesters,
Bret Samson†, Aaron Schwab, Anna Swenson‡

Chinese.....	Alyssa Grimsley†, Amaris Sharratt‡ with Rebecca Brenner†, Whitney Walsh†, Nora Carr‡, Katerina Schweitzer‡ and Vialancia Becker†, Josephine Garro†, Baylor Lee†, Samantha Padilla†, Milana Webb†, Ellie Gorman‡, Mia Hansen‡, Audrey Hendricks‡, Emma Iberg‡, Shayna Vlock‡
Russian	Katherine Eppink†, Kogan Murphy†, Sasha York†, Claire Goodwillie‡, Alexandra Hoffman‡, Cameron Miller‡, Wyatt Payne, Rachel Smith
French.....	Claire Goodwillie†, Cameron Miller†, Kelsey Schwenker‡, Ryan Christopher‡ with Anna Aesoph, Tabitha DeTienne, Emma Gould, Tianna Hartin-Kovy, Claire Horacek, Ava Jensen, Isabella Smith, Sophie St. Amour
North Pole.....	Erin Alarcón†, Ryan Christopher†, Katerina Schweitzer‡, Sasha York‡ with Gianna DiGiacomo, Eelyn Fernau, Aiko Guerrero, Catherine Johnson, Lily Koenig, Katelyn McClure, Julia Powers, Elia Renken

The Enchanted Garden

Dew Drop Fairy	Kelsey Schwenker†, Erin Alarcón‡
Thistle	Sasha York†, Matthew Lovegood‡
Iris.....	Claire Goodwillie
Wild Rose.....	Bret Samson
Fuchsia	Whitney Walsh
Lily	Amaris Sharratt
Dahlia.....	Anna Swenson
Zinnia.....	Alyssa Grimsley
French Marigold	Rebecca Brenner
Bluebell.....	Kogan Murphy
Dragonflies	Nora Carr†, Kelanie Murphy†, Alexandra Hoffman‡, Katerina Schweitzer‡, Rachel Smith
Frogs.....	Remmi Hartmann†, Madeline Koesters†, Elena Carter‡, Kelanie Murphy‡, Ryan Christopher
Butterflies.....	Ashtyn Graham, Grace Horacek, Mara Isaacson, Lindsey Kader, Alexandra Rademacher, Annika Simanek, Sydney Vanderheiden, Emily Voogd
Snails.....	Samantha Hughes, Charlotte Vander Zwaag
Bee	Hannah Adangnihoude

Finale

Full cast

*Performers appear in all casts except as noted:
†= 11/18 matinee, 12/8 evening; ‡= 12/8 and 12/9 matinees*