

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,
Richard Marks, Cameron Miller, Kelanie Murphy, Kogan Murphy, Erika Overturff, Wyatt Payne,
Katerina Schweitzer, Kelsey Schwenker, Amaris Sharratt, Isaac Sharratt, Rachel Smith,
Anders Southerland, Anna Swenson, Katie van der Mars, Whitney Walsh, Sasha York

Apprentices: Elena Carter, Madeline Koesters, Jessica Lopes

Trainee: Remmi Plath

Costume Designer Deborah Overturff
Costumer Amy Voogd
Costume Assistants Wendy Linville, Wyatt Payne
Development Director Sarah Maloney
Executive Assistant Shanna Zordell
Marketing Director Jolie Koesters
Pianist Keefer Peterson
Production Manager Lance Glenn
Production & Development Associate Hannah Clark
Production Assistant Kelsey Schwenker
Rehearsal Assistants/Teachers Judith Leppek, Angela Rodriguez
School Director Susan Chowning
Visual Media Designer Jim Williams

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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AMERICAN MIDWEST BALLET PRESENTS

THE NUTCRACKER

Iowa Western Arts Center, November 24, 2019 • Omaha's Orpheum Theater, December 7 and 8, 2019

Choreography	Erika Overturff
Additional Choreography	Matthew Lovegood
Music.....	Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Costume Design	Deborah Overturff
Additional Costume Design	Thom J. Peterson
Lighting Design	Bill Van Deest, Carol Wisner
Sets and Props.....	Clyde Overturff, Deborah Overturff, Shanna Zordell, Michelle Bonker, Lance Glenn
Production Manager	Lance Glenn
Stage Manager.....	Wesley Houston
Assistant Stage Managers	Taylor Jackson, Suzanne Witham
Wardrobe.....	Deborah Overturff, Amy Voogd, Wendy Linville, Shanna Zordell, Thom J. Peterson, Kristin Harper, Mona Schlautman
Crew	Hannah Clark, Jason Shannon, Lara Marsh, Emily Ripa, George Dippold, Rebecca Roth, Lindy Glenn
Orpheum Theater Stage Crew	Members of IATSE Local 42
Indian Dance Choreography	Asha Joseph, Rajam Ramamurthy
North Wind Chorus Director	Luke Lovegood

The Indian dance is presented in collaboration with Viswanatya Niketan, an Omaha-based school of classical Indian dance. North Wind Chorus is presented in collaboration with the Music Department at Iowa Western Community College.

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	Adele Coffey, Addison Garcia, Carley Jones
Clara	Logan Ash
Fritz.....	Matthew Murray
Clara's Parents.....	Alexandra Hoffman, Sasha York
Butler.....	Cameron Miller
Maids.....	Madeline Koesters†, Remmi Plath†, Delainey Benedict†, Caroline Collard†, Bella Earl†, Kayli Hartzell†, Ava Raridon†, Elena Carter‡, Jessica Lopes‡, Aimee Boyd‡, Hannah Kubiak‡, Emily Patterson‡, Lauren Patterson‡, Brielle Ragland‡
Party Guests.....	Clint Beaver, Rebecca Brenner, Jay Bryant, Ryan Christopher, Katherine Eppink, Nick Giacoppo, Alyssa Grimsley, Claire Goodwillie, Casey Kelley, Richard Marks, Kogan Murphy, Wyatt Payne, John Ritland, Amaris Sharratt, Rachel Smith, Anders Southerland, Anna Swenson, Katie van der Mars, Jeremy Waymire
Tchaikovsky, a Society Dog	Neville, representing the Nebraska Humane Society
Party Children.....	Allie Abboud, Hannah Adangnihoude, Reese Bull, Josephine Carne, Addison Friesen, Paisley Hough, Piper Isham, Alena Kehm, Lilly Koenig, Katelyn McClure, Calvin McIntosh, Malcolm Mezger, Jacob Morey, Keely Mulholland, Julia Powers, Addison Scott, Fiona Stanfill, Charlotte Vander Zwaag, Mara Weisenburger, Leighton Wilson
Drosselmeyer.....	Isaac Sharratt†, Matthew Lovegood‡
Toy Soldiers	Ella Bauerly, Gabriella DiGiacomo, Hannah Downing, Alivia Inselman, Addison Kolkman, Estelle McIntosh, Brooklynn Oldham
Porcelain Doll.....	Whitney Walsh†, Kelanie Murphy‡
Harlequin Dolls.....	Erin Alarcón†, Kelsey Schwenkert†, Nora Carr‡, Katerina Schweitzer‡

Clara's Nightmare

Rat Queen.....	Erika Overturff†, Erin Alarcón‡
Nutcracker	Cameron Miller†, Ryan Christopher‡
Mice.....	Rebecca Brenner, Nora Carr, Jessica Lopes, Kelanie Murphy, Kogan Murphy, Katerina Schweitzer, Katie van der Mars
Soldiers.....	Elena Carter, Madeline Koesters, Remmi Plath, Kelsey Schwenker, Amaris Sharratt, Rachel Smith
Battle Doll.....	Samantha Padilla
Nutcracker Prince.....	Ryan Christopher
Little Drosselmeyers.....	Eva Coffey, Eelyn Fernau, Isabella Garcia, Quinn Lundgren, Alexandra Mashek, Hannah Nehls, Ava Schuster, Abigail Whitt

The Land of Snow

- Snow Queen Alyssa Grimsley†, Katherine Eppink‡
- Snow King..... Sasha York†, Anders Southerland‡
- Snow Kelanie Murphy†, Alexandra Hoffman‡, Cameron Miller,
Kogan Murphy, Wyatt Payne, Katerina Schweitzer,
Kelsey Schwenker, Amaris Sharratt, Whitney Walsh
- Snow Branches Rebecca Brenner, Nora Carr, Elena Carter, Madeline Koesters,
Jessica Lopes, Rachel Smith
- North Wind Chorus Hannah Adangnihoude, Caroline Collard, Emily Douglas,
Kayli Hartzell, Piper Isham, Addison Scott, Gabriella Thompson,
Melissa Thompson

Intermission (20 minutes)

ACT II

The Land of Dreams

- Angels..... Blakely Aufenkamp, Elza Brugman, Ella Buckley, Jillian Gann,
Brianna Haire, Lucille Kittell, Caroline Morey, Lucy Villier,
Aubrey Watters, Madeleine Zemann
- Sugar Plum Fairy Erin Alarcón†, Katie van der Mars‡
- Cavalier Matthew Lovegood†, Isaac Sharratt‡
- Sugar Plum Court..... Ellie Gorman, Elaine Hoskins, Mara Isaacson, Ava Jensen,
Lindsey Kader, Alura Long, Jaedyn Powers, Annika Simanek,
Sydney Vanderheiden
- Candy Canes,
Lollipops & Meringues..... Emily Douglas, Finlee Goeser, Ella Harstad, McKenna Maaske,
Jozlyn Mease, Amelia Rieck, Gabriella Thompson,
Caroline Villier
- Spanish Katerina Schweitzer†, Alexandra Hoffman‡, Rebecca Brenner,
Nora Carr, Kelanie Murphy, Kogan Murphy, Whitney Walsh
- Arabian..... Amaris Sharratt†, Alyssa Grimsley‡, Anders Southerland†,
Sasha York‡ *with* Elena Carter, Madeline Koesters,
Jessica Lopes, Remmi Plath *and* Wyatt Payne†, Cameron Miller‡,
Ryan Christopher, Casey Kelley, Richard Marks
- Chinese..... Alyssa Grimsley†, Amaris Sharratt‡ *with* Rebecca Brenner†,
Whitney Walsh†, Nora Carr‡, Katerina Schweitzer‡ *and*
Anna Aesoph, Ellie Gorman, Noelle Haberman, Zoey Harstad,
Alura Long, Elizabeth Luther, Jaedyn Powers, Marina Thornhill

Russian	Cameron Miller†, Sasha York†, Wyatt Payne‡, Anders Southerland‡, Katherine Eppink, Erika Overturff, Rachel Smith
French.....	Kogan Murphy†, Kelanie Murphy‡, Ryan Christopher <i>with</i> Anna Aesoph, Tabitha DeTienne, Josephine Garro, Ava Jensen, Sailor Johnson, Baylor Lee, Samantha Padilla, Bella Smith
Indian	Niharika Devaraju, Pranita Devaraju, Geena George, Liz Luke, Khushi Singh
North Pole.....	Kelsey Schwenker†, Erin Alarcón‡, Richard Marks <i>with</i> Marissa Anderson, Reese Bull, Tabrina DeTienne, Vada Herrera, Rachel Jones, Ava Morey, Taylor Philips, Ava Schuster

The Enchanted Garden

Dew Drop Fairy	Katie van der Mars†, Kelsey Schwenker‡
Thistle.....	Isaac Sharratt†, Matthew Lovegood‡
Iris.....	Kelanie Murphy
Wild Rose.....	Kogan Murphy
Fuchsia	Whitney Walsh
Lily	Amaris Sharratt
Dahlia.....	Rachel Smith
Zinnia.....	Alyssa Grimsley
French Marigold	Rebecca Brenner
Bluebell.....	Nora Carr
Dragonflies	Jessica Lopes†, Katerina Schweitzer†, Elena Carter‡, Madeline Koesters‡, Katherine Eppink
Frogs	Ryan Christopher, Cameron Miller, Wyatt Payne
Butterflies.....	Mara Isaacson, Lindsey Kader, Annika Simanek, Sydney Vanderheiden
Snails.....	Gianna DiGiacomo, Addison Friesen
Bee	Ava Owen

Finale

Full cast

*Performers appear in all casts except as noted:
†= 11/24 matinee, 12/7 evening; ‡= 12/7 and 12/8 matinees*