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## **BalletMet Hosts Free *Nutcracker* Family Day** **Kids can tryout for a role in *The Nutcracker***

**COLUMBUS, OH**—BalletMet Columbus welcomes the holiday season with a free *Nutcracker* Family Day Open House, 1 – 4pm November 2 at the BalletMet Dance Centre, 322 Mt. Vernon Ave. Children can meet the Nutcracker, decorate ornaments and more. Parents can purchase discounted *Nutcracker* tickets through the BalletMet Box Office. And, for the first time, Open House guests can audition to be part of *The Nutcracker*.

BalletMet's *Nutcracker* Family Day is a seasonal treat for kids and adults alike. Children can meet characters from *The Nutcracker*; decorate ornaments; participate in story times and a creative movement class; win prizes, and try on costumes from the BalletMet Costume Shop. Parents can take advantage of an exclusive offer from the BalletMet Box Office: buy three tickets to *The Nutcracker* and get one free (not valid for Prime Orchestra, Prime Mezzanine or Loge seating). Families can bring a toy for Firefighters 4 Kids or canned good for the Mid-Ohio Food Bank and receive a special gift.

For a gift unlike any other this holiday season, kids can get out of their seats and *Become the Magic* with BalletMet's professional Company and Academy students. **Boys and girls ages 8 to 12 are invited to audition for a walk-on role in *The Nutcracker* between 2pm and 4pm during the Open House.** The winner of the role will be chosen at random and will appear in the Dec. 17 performance. **There will also be two additional auditions November 9 and 16 at Kroger Marketplaces in Worthington and Pickerington.** Visit [NutcrackerWalkOn.com](http://NutcrackerWalkOn.com) for details.

### **THE NUTCRACKER**

BalletMet Columbus' *The Nutcracker* is a hometown holiday tradition. Families can share the timeless ballet Dec. 12 - 23 at the historic Ohio Theatre. The annual production is a delightful treat for all ages, and has enchanted Central Ohio audiences for 30 years. Select performances include fun extras, including celebrity story times and dancer meet and greets.

Tickets are \$18.50-\$66 and available through [BalletMet.org](http://BalletMet.org), CAPA (614.469.0939) or Ticketmaster (614.431.3600, [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com)). BalletMet Member-Subscribers and MetPass members should contact the BalletMet Box Office (614.229.4848) or [BalletMet.org](http://BalletMet.org). College students with ID can purchase \$10 Student Rush tickets at the theater beginning two hours prior to showtime. Students age 13 to 18 can purchase \$5 High Five vouchers at Kroger Ticketmaster locations. Group discounts available through BalletMet (614.229.4848).

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dare to be moved.

**SPONSOR SUPPORT**

*The Nutcracker* production sponsor is Huntington Bank. Promotional partners are Sierra Mist and Kroger. Media partner is Mix 97.1. Become the Magic partners are Mix 97.1, *ThisWeek* Community Newspapers and Columbus Parent. BalletMet Columbus receives support for its annual performance season from The Columbus Foundation, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the Ohio Arts Council, Classical 89.7 WOSU-FM, NBC 4, Time Warner Cable and Pepsi. Season partner is The Ohio State University Sports Medicine Center.

BalletMet Columbus ranks among the nation's 15 largest dance companies, and its Dance Academy ranks among the five largest professional dance-training centers. Since its inception in 1978, BalletMet has added 142 company premieres to its repertoire and produced 117 world premieres. It has also developed DanceReach, a series of educational and outreach programs that serve 40,000 people annually, as well as a scholarship program that provides tuition for talented and underserved youth.

**Visit [www.balletmet.org](http://www.balletmet.org)**

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