



# THE NUTCRACKER



## ACT I

It is Christmas Eve, a night of magic when anything can happen. The Stahlbaum family is having a party. Herr Drosselmeyer, a very old friend and Clara's Godfather, leaves a magical early present with the maid. The family gets ready for the party while the guests make their way to their home. Once all the guests arrive, the fun begins.

Herr Drosselmeyer always brings wonderful toys. This year, he brings two life-sized dolls that can dance. He gives Clara the most special present: a nutcracker that looks like a Prince. A nutcracker is an old-fashioned wooden toy that cracks nuts in its mouth by moving a handle. Fritz, Clara's brother, is jealous and breaks the nutcracker. Herr Drosselmeyer quickly repairs it. Fritz, still looking for trouble, teases Clara with a rat.

The guests leave and the Stahlbaums go to bed. Clara is woken up by a strange sound. Worried about her nutcracker, she goes to find him and falls asleep on the couch. Suddenly, she is surrounded by mice! Is she dreaming? The Mouse King comes to steal the nutcracker. The dancing dolls fight to help Clara, but the mice

carry them off. Clara's nutcracker comes to life—a Prince! There is a huge battle between soldiers and mice. The Mouse King is about to defeat the Nutcracker, but Clara saves the day and frees the Prince trapped inside the nutcracker. The two begin their journey together to the land of the Sugar Plum Fairy.

## INTERMISSION

## ACT II

Everyone hears that The Prince has returned to the land of the Sugar Plum Fairy. They come to greet Clara and her Prince. After hearing the story of Clara rescuing the prince, the Sugar Plum Fairy arranges a grand celebration. Many come to dance, including the Spanish and Chinese Doll, and Clara has so much fun.

Sadly, the night comes to an end. Though Clara wants to stay, it is time to leave this enchanted land. But, like a wonderful dream, this magical night will stay with her forever.

**Artistic Director** Edwaard Liang | **Executive Director** Sue Porter

**Rehearsal Directors** Olivia Clark Ouardien, Andres Estevez

**Conceived and Created by** Gerard Charles and Robert Post

**Choreographer** Gerard Charles

**Composer** Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Set Design Act I** Peter Horne | **Set Design Act II** Dan Gray

**Costume Design** Rebecca Baygents Turk, Aimee Coleman, Lynn Holbrook

**Lighting Design** David Grill | **Lighting Recreated by** Judy Barto

**Children's Rehearsal Assistants** Darielle Eberhard, Dmitri Suslov,  
Zoica Tovar, Carrie West-Suslov

**Narrator** Roger Moore

## Casting

◆ BalletMet 2   ★ Students of the Dance Academy   ● Guest Dancer

### HERR DROSSELMAYER

David Ward 12/20  
Leiland Charles 12/21

### YOUNG CLARA

Lillian Li★ 12/20, 12/21

### FRITZ

Andrew Stewart★ 12/20, 12/21

### HERR STAHLBAUM

Eli Gruska 12/20  
Narciso Medina 12/21

### FRAU STAHLBAUM

Victoria Watford 12/20  
Erica Alvarado 12/21

### GRANDMA STAHLBAUM

Jessica Brown 12/20  
Rachael Parini 12/21

### GUESTS & MAIDS AT THE PARTY

Artists of BalletMet, BalletMet 2, and Trainees of the BalletMet Academy

### PARTY CHILDREN

Students of the BalletMet Academy

### SPANISH DOLL

Iris R. Dávila 12/20  
Matoi Kawamoto 12/21

### CHINESE DOLL

Beñat Andueza Molina 12/20  
Sebastian Zamora 12/21

### MOUSE KING

Andrew Rossi 12/20  
Eli Gruska 12/21

### NUTCRACKER PRINCE

Vincent Van Harris 12/20  
Zachary Guthier 12/21

### SOLDIERS

Trainees and students of the BalletMet Academy

### MICE

Students of the BalletMet Academy

### BIG MICE

Artists of BalletMet, BalletMet 2, and Trainees of the BalletMet Academy

### GROWN UP CLARA

Rachael Parini 12/20  
Rie Matsuura 12/21

### SNOWFLAKES

Artists of BalletMet, BalletMet 2, and Trainees of the BalletMet Academy

### SUGAR PLUM FAIRY

Victoria Watford 12/20  
Erica Alvarado 12/21

### SUGAR PLUM CAVALIER

Eli Gruska 12/20  
Narciso Medina 12/21

### COURTIERS

Artists of BalletMet, BalletMet 2, and Trainees of the BalletMet Academy

### ANGELS

Trainees and Students of the BalletMet Academy

### PAGE LEADER

Sophie Miklosovic 12/20  
Sumi Ichikawa 12/21

### PAGES

Students of the BalletMet Academy

### ARABIANS

Grace-Anne Powers 12/20  
& Austin Powers

### DRAGON

Artists of BalletMet, BalletMet 2, and Trainees of the BalletMet Academy

### TREPAK

Andrew Rossi 12/20  
& Leiland Charles  
Alejandro Marino\* 12/21  
& Miguel Anaya

### FLOWERS

Artists of BalletMet, BalletMet 2, and Trainees of the BalletMet Academy

### MOTHER GINGER

Zachary Guthier 12/20  
Eli Gruska 12/21

### HER CHILDREN & GYMNASTS

Students of the BalletMet Academy

*Casting and dates are always subject to change. Please check our website at [www.balletmet.org](http://www.balletmet.org) for any changes.*



# THE CHARACTER GUIDE NUTCRACKER



## Herr Drosselmeyer

Clara's Godfather, an accomplished toy and clock maker. He gives her the Nutcracker as a Christmas present.

"Herr" means "Mister" in German.



## Clara Stahlbaum (young, left; grown-up, right)

A young girl who experiences a magical Christmas journey.



## From left to right: Herr Stahlbaum, Frau Stahlbaum, Fritz Stahlbaum

Clara's family, all together to celebrate the holidays.



## Spanish Doll & Chinese Doll

Gifts given to Clara and Fritz from Herr Drosselmeyer.



## Mouse King

The leader of the army of mice.



## Nutcracker Prince

Clara's doll, come to life!  
The prince of the dreamlike land of sweets.



## Sugar Plum Fairy

The queen of the land of sweets, named for a type of candy.