



New Paltz Ballet Theatre Newsletter



~ September 2016 Vol. V, No. 1 ~

Dear New Paltz School of Ballet Dancers and Families,

The New Paltz Ballet Theatre is the not-for-profit dance company that produces the annual **The Nutcracker** for the Bardavon 1869 Opera House, Poughkeepsie NY.

Auditions are fast approaching & herein you will find information. We hope to see you there!

Please keep in mind, just as we cannot answer Ballet School inquiries as we are not affiliated with the NP School of Ballet, **ALL Nutcracker questions** should be addressed to the New Paltz Ballet Theatre Board of Directors, **not** Miss Lisa or Mr. Peter.

Email:
npballettheatre@gmail.com

Facebook:
New Paltz Ballet Theatre

Webpage:
www.npballettheatre.org

With thanks ~ the NPBT Board:

Marisa, Heidi, Kristine, Shay, Arnell & Diane

~ The Nutcracker ~

Performances run December 8 – 11, 2016 at the Bardavon Opera House, Poughkeepsie.
Dress Rehearsal is Wednesday, 12/7. Performance snow date is Monday, 12/12.

~ Auditions ~

Saturday and Sunday, September 24 and 25, 2016
New Paltz School of Ballet Studio, 1 Bonticou View Drive, New Paltz NY 12561
845-255-0044 Studio phone number

Bring: **Registration Form** (separate attachment, please download) & exact change, cash-only **Audition Fee**

End times are approximate!

➤ **Saturday, September 24 - Registration at 3:30 PM**

3:30 - 5:30: NPSB Divisions 3B & higher (Gray, Navy, Grape, Burgundy, Flame, DC)

(12 - 18 year old girls with at least 1 full year en pointe)

➤ **Sunday, September 25 – Registration/Parent Meeting at 11:30 AM**

11:30 - 1:00: NPSB Divisions 1B and 2A (Light Pink and Red)

(7-8 year old girls with previous ballet training)

➤ **Sunday, September 25 – Registration at 1:30 PM**

1:30 - 4:00: NPSB Divisions 2B, 2C and 3A (Turquoise, Violet & Green)

(8-12 year old girls with previous ballet training) *Boys are welcome and do not need previous training to come to this audition.*

~ Registration ~

Please download the **Registration Form**. Please have it completed when you arrive to the Audition. Contact info must be filled out NEATLY and in its entirety.

There is a spot on the **Registration Form**, entitled “*Special Considerations*” to notate absences or requests. Alert us NOW of any known weekend commitments or if you would like to request that siblings are placed in the same cast (often there are alternate casts). **Requests can only be considered if submitted in writing prior to taking the Audition.** *This is not a guarantee requests will be granted, only an assurance that serious consideration will be given.*

~ Audition Fee ~

Bring a \$30 CASH, *exact change* (no checks) **Audition Fee** which helps offset NPBT's staging expenses. If more than one child in the family is auditioning, the first child should submit the \$30 fee & each sibling thereafter will be \$20 each.

~ Casting ~

The Cast List will be posted in the Studio on Wednesday 9/28 *and is subject to change*. Be sure to read it over carefully, take notes or a photo with your phone. Check for multiple roles/understudy roles in multiple casts – *also* note when those casts will perform (which particular shows). Come in personally to check the Cast List; no phone calls unless your child does not attend NPSB for classes. Note: Understudies should plan on attending *all* rehearsals for *all* assigned roles unless otherwise stated on the schedule.

~ Contract Signing/Costume Deposits ~

Contract Signing/Costume Deposits at the NPSB Studio, with a NPBT Board member, will take place:

- Friday, 9/30 from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM
- Saturday, 10/1 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Contracts will be posted at the studio before auditions and available for download. NPBT will keep & file your signed copy. Make your own duplicate copy & keep at home for your reference.

Have cash, exact change with you for **Costume Deposits** when you arrive at **Contract Signing**.

Contracts must be signed and **Costume Deposits** must be paid prior to the start of rehearsals on 10/1. Choreography and costume fittings begin immediately – those first rehearsals are critical! As such, *if a dancer fails to show for Contract Signing by 3 PM on 10/1, they forfeit their role(s)*.

EVERY parent (1B and up) and EVERY cast member (Div. 2B and up) must sign a Performance **Contract** to acknowledge their commitment to performance dates & their understanding of expectations and rules.

For each costume a dancer is assigned to borrow from the Ballet Theatre, we retain a \$25 CASH – *no checks, exact change* - deposit per costume. Note: “Angels” are the only roles that do not pay a costume deposit as those costumes never leave the Theatre's possession. All other costumes go home with dancers.

Costume Deposit cash will be *returned in full* once the costume has been returned to the Theatre in good condition and cleaned according to directions on the webpage.

Repairs for damages beyond reasonable wear or cleaning fees will be paid for out of the Costume Deposit. Costumes retrieved by Board members at our various venues or from the Dry Cleaners will result in forfeit of Costume Deposit.

~ Travel Cast ~

A Travel Cast will be selected as NPBT anticipates booking abbreviated (shorter, with a small cast) shows at area resorts and attractions. Miss Lisa will contact those dancers directly. Dates to be announced...

Important! Children *not attending* the Auditions *should not expect a role* in Nutcracker.

Casting begins immediately and roles are assigned. Please make every effort to be there as we do not want anyone disappointed! If you are detained on route, call the Studio so we know to expect you! 845-255-0044

What to wear to auditions?

Children should audition in similar attire as to what they wear in ballet (or pointe) class. Ladies, hair should be in a bun. Dancers *en pointe*, be sure to bring your pointe shoes.

Invite friends to audition – Children from other dance schools are *most welcome*! If a child wants to audition and is unsure of when to come, please have them email us npballettheatre@gmail.com.

“The Nutcracker” Summary Checklist: clip & place on your bulletin board

- _____ Performance dates reserved – Check NOW! Dress Rehearsal & all shows (snow date too)
- _____ Audition date & time reserved – 9/24 or 9/25. Audition fee ready.
- _____ Cast List checked – beginning 9/28
- _____ Contract signed & Costume Deposits (refundable) paid – 9/30 or 10/1
- _____ Rehearsal Schedules – start 10/1. Check OFTEN in Studio! EXPECT Changes!
- _____ Ticket Sales – optional (soon!)
- _____ DVD orders – optional (November)
- _____ Purchase tights, shoes, nudie leos, etc. as needed, well in advance, at NPSB Studio
- _____ Help NPBT, PLEASE! (Donations/Sewing/Backstage Helpers/Fundraisers/etc – watch for lists in Studio)

Rehearsals start the weekend of 10/1 – except Angels, who will begin late October or early November. Rehearsal schedules are posted in the NPSB Studio, on the Office door, and *are subject to change*. Expect changes! We can't stress this enough!

Parents should come in to the Studio Lobby and check the schedule EVERY visit to the Studio! Take a photo... Schedules will be posted on NPBT's and NPSB's webpages, but the most current info is in the Studio.

Weather cancellations are posted on the NPSB's and NPBT's Facebook pages and on <http://www.cancellations.com>. You may also check the outgoing phone message on the NPSB phone at 845-255-0044

2016-2017 NP Ballet Theatre 501c3 Membership Drive is in full swing!

Tax-deductible Donations received by November 1st will make it into the Nutcracker playbill; donations made after that will not appear in NPBT's Ad in the NPSB 2017 Recital Program.

Donations are acknowledged with a thank you letter that should be saved and used at tax preparation time as NPBT is a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization.

We can also process matching grants and payroll deductions. No amount is too small to be of help in purchasing supplies, costumes, scenery, & props; hiring professional dancers; offsetting storage and insurance costs, etc.

Shopping on Amazon.com?

Check out: smile.amazon.com

We are enrolled, just specify New Paltz Ballet Theatre

The Ballet Theatre can earn fundraiser money *all year long, anytime you Amazon shop. No additional cost to you.* Please help us!

Ray Delle Robbins NPSB Scholarship ~ sponsored by NPBT

Applications for this Financial Assistance/Talent Award in memory of our talented costumer Ray Delle Robbins (Miss Lisa's mother), who was a tremendous part of the magic of NPSB's Recitals and of our Nutcracker, are due by Saturday, 10/1 at 3:30 PM. Awards help offset tuition/supply costs at the New Paltz School of Ballet for the student(s) selected. To be eligible, students must demonstrate financial need and attend more than 3 classes per week. Applications will be available in the Studio and on our webpage www.npballettheatre.org.

~Donations may be specifically earmarked for this endeavor~

~ For Light Pink/Red Nutcracker Parents ~

There will be a *brief* meeting for Light Pink/Red Parents (Div. 1B and 2A) as soon as their dancers exit the Lobby for Nutcracker Audition warm-ups on Sunday, 9/25.

Registration begins at 11:30 – the meeting begins shortly thereafter. This audition will not run long – so please remain close to the Studio after the meeting!

New Paltz School of Ballet News:

“Bring - a - Friend” Week for Creative Tots through Div. 2A is Sept. 26th – Oct. 1st.

“Dress-Down-For-Nutcracker” for the benefit of the NP Ballet Theatre Co. takes place the week of Oct. 24th – Oct. 31st, in time for Halloween! Donate \$1 per class to wear dancewear of choice! Mark your calendars accordingly!

Good luck at the New Paltz School of Ballet & at New Paltz Ballet Theatre “The Nutcracker” auditions! Looking forward to working with all of you!

Nutcracker Audition Registration Form can be found on our webpage:

<http://www.npballettheatre.org>