

Benicia Ballet Theatre, Inc.
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www.beniciaballet.com



Nutcracker 2021

Dancers and Parents Letter of Agreement – Family Contract

Benicia Ballet Theatre proudly presents *The Nutcracker* 2021 with four performances over two weekends – Saturday evening November 27, Sunday matinee November 28, and Saturday December 1 matinee and evening shows at Napa Valley College in Napa.

Production Fees

Productions Fees: To help cover costs of rehearsal hours, theatre rent, costumes and the orchestra, the Board of Directors has determined the following fees:

Pre-Ballet	\$65.00
Primary A & B and Ballet 1-3	\$100.00
Ballet 4 and up (Non-Company)	\$150.00
Costume Rentals	\$20.00

A \$20 audition fee is due on August 28 at the audition. This \$20 will be applied towards the costume rental fee (it is not in addition to.)

At the audition, payment is available by cash, check, or credit card.

Half of the fee is due September 15th and the remainder is due no later than October 15th.

If you have questions or if finances are a great concern, please contact our Artistic Director, Teresa Taylor, at teresabeniciaballetdirector@gmail.com.

Volunteer and Volunteer Fees

Volunteers Hours: Family participation as a volunteer is extremely important, and each family is required to volunteer approximately 30 hours or 6 credits (5 hours per credit), as defined by volunteer positions. Our volunteer coordinator will be reaching out to families to help answer any questions that our families may have. We need many parent

volunteers to help with Saturday rehearsals, the dress rehearsal, performances and pre-performance jobs. We also welcome volunteers from your extended family and friends. Without volunteers we would not be able to hold our shows and keep our production fees low. You will be emailed a link to the online volunteer signup.

Volunteer Fee: \$300.00 volunteer fee deposit per family is required (Deposit in check form). **This fee will be held and returned to you a week after the performance for those families that fulfilled volunteer credits for this production. The Volunteer fee check for BBT is due on September 15th. Please write a separate check so we can return it to you after completion of the required volunteer hours.** If families are unable to volunteer, the \$300.00 fee will be used by BBT to hire people to fill in where volunteers would otherwise be needed.

Casting

Casting is a complex process and includes many factors. Once the cast lists have been posted on studio bulletin boards and emailed to families, note your dancer's role(s), and cast(s). Each cast corresponds to a set of dress rehearsal dates, performance dates and time and many include weekday outreach performances. Make sure your dancer's casting matches her/his availability. If there are discrepancies in casting or if her/his name is spelled incorrectly, report the error in writing to the BBT office at once. Casting determines your dancer's call time to rehearsals and shows and volunteer availability so be sure you understand the relationship cast list and rehearsal/performance time. It can be overwhelming at first, feel free to ask a veteran BBT family or staff member for assistance in interpreting the listings. Check the cast list from time to time because occasionally changes are necessary.

Costumes

BBT provides the performance costumes. There is a \$20.00 rental fee for all costumes. However, each dancer is responsible for the proper color and style of shoes, tights, leotards, hair supplies and make-up. Shoes, tights, and leotards must be clean. Costumes are worn by many dancers, so clothing underneath must be clean, dry and free of odor. Dancers must wear street clothes to and from the theater. Female dancers need to have a nude-colored leotard to wear under costumes. Male dancers must have a clean white T-shirt with no printed design to wear under jackets and costumes. The party scene roles including little girls, littlest girls, and Clara need to have a pin-on ponytail with ringlets. These can be purchased at beauty supply stores or online.

Rehearsals

If a dancer wishes to participate in a performance, the dancer must make a commitment to attend all scheduled rehearsals. BBT endeavors to produce a well-rehearsed and professional quality performance. We try to keep the amount of rehearsal time to the necessary minimum. A quality performance requires extra rehearsal time as well as regular class training. More than two unexcused absences from scheduled rehearsals may result in the dancer being dismissed from one or more roles. If an unforeseen conflict, illness or injury arises, you must notify Jacquelyn Zilka as far in advance as practicable to be excused from rehearsal. Jacquelyn can be reached at bbt.jmz@gmail.com or 707-816-6505.

A performance is a team effort. If a dancer does not attend rehearsal, it affects not only that dancer, but also other dancers who are expecting to perform with them. It also comes at a great cost in faculty time.

Actual rehearsal times for each role are posted on the bulletin boards and sent out through our Nutcracker email list at least **one week prior to each rehearsal date**. Please make a note of these times and any changes. **No dancer may miss the onstage Dress Rehearsal.**

Email Group

BBT will create an email group for all families participating in Nutcracker. We will circulate important information about casting, rehearsals, performances, volunteering, ticket, DVD, and flower sales. Any changes to rehearsal dates and times will be emailed. It is very important that you become a member of this online group for up to date information as well as any changes to rehearsal times or cast lists. Complete the online Nutcracker Registration form at www.beniciaballet.com and make sure to include your email address to be added to the group.

Expected Behavior

Each dancer is expected to treat all dancers, faculty members, staff and parents with respect. No dancer or group of dancers should use or abuse their power to intimidate, hurt, oppress or damage someone else, covertly or online. Every role is important to the overall production and every dancer should be treated with respect.



**DANCERS AND PARENTS LETTER OF AGREEMENT
SIGNATURE PAGE
RETURN TO THE STUDIO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

By my signature below, I agree that I have read the full text of the "Dancers and Parents Letter of Agreement" for *Nutcracker 2021* and understand what is expected under this agreement, including the fulfillment of volunteer responsibilities and expected behavior.

I hereby in good faith agree to bring my dancer to all rehearsals and performances for Benicia Ballet Theatre's 2021 production of *The Nutcracker*. **I understand that all rehearsals are mandatory.** Therefore, if my dancer is unable to attend due to illness or emergency, I will notify Jacquelyn Zilka at bbt.jmz@gmail.com to request an excused absence. I will make sure my dancer is on time and prepared for all rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances. If a dancer is absent from a rehearsal without an excuse, she/he could be dropped from the show.

I agree to bring my dancer to her/his dance class(es) on a regular basis. Regular class attendance is necessary to be fully prepared to dance in these performances. Missed classes should be made up. I will explain to my dancer how important it is to work together as a team with other dancers, the Director, and technical staff for the success of the entire production.

I will attend the Nutcracker dress rehearsal and show dates are yet to be determined. Please reserve the weekends of November 27-28, December 4-5, and December 11-12 to ensure availability for dress rehearsal and our show performances.

Dancer's Name (please print): _____

Dancer's Signature: _____

Parent Name (please print): _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Amount Paid at Audition: _____ cash _____ check # _____ credit card