



# Dance Dialogue



## Nutcracker News!

It's October, which means Autumn is really here! For us at ABA, it also means Nutcracker! We are about to begin the busy and fun season of rehearsals and all things Nutcracker! Hopefully you already have these written in your calendar from the last newsletter, but here is a recap of important dates:

-Parent Meetings & Costume

Fittings – Oct. 10-15:

These are for Ballet II and under, Contemporary II & Jazz I, & Boys II and under. They will take place during your child's class time. Please plan on attending.

-Tickets go on sale – Oct. 17 at 10:00am – seating is reserved. Prices are \$14 in advance (you can purchase them at the Elsinore Box Office or through [ticketswest.com](http://ticketswest.com)), \$17 at the door. Tickets for the Mezzanine level will be \$20. We also wanted to let everyone know that the Elsinore box office will now be charging a \$5.00 handling fee per TRANSACTION. So

it would be best to try to get all your tickets at one time.

-All Cast Rehearsals – Nov. 19 & Dec. 3  
These will take place at ABA. These are both mandatory rehearsals. These are the only times before the dress, that the dancers have a chance to practice with everyone else.

-Spacing Rehearsals – Dec. 9

These happen at the Elsinore after school. Exact times TBA.

-Dress Rehearsal – Dec. 10

At the Elsinore starting around 10:00 am, so we can have a good break before the show that night.

-Nutcracker Performances – Dec. 10 & 11.

If you miss costume fittings, please bring your child in to the store to get fitted by mid-October. That way Annie will not have to guess your dancer's size. As always, costumes will be practical and reasonably priced.

### Party Parents & Casting!

Just like every year, we need parents to be in the party scene! This is a lot of fun, and it's a very limited commitment. The role is mostly acting with a few simple dance steps. It really is a great way to support your dancer! We will be having three rehearsals at ABA, October 22 and 29, and November 12, beginning at 4:45pm. Of course we will need you present at the all casts, spacing, and dress rehearsals as well. If you are interested, please email the office to get on the list.

In the coming weeks dancers will be learning what role they will play in this year's nutcracker! Casting is hard for younger and older dancers alike. As we discussed in the last newsletter, there will undoubtedly be some disappointed dancers. Please remember to support your child in whatever role they receive. Remember that your attitude will likely greatly affect their outlook. I hope everyone knows that Annie values all of the ABA dancers, and does her best to cast everyone in a role that will let them grow & shine the most!

### Eugene Nutcracker Auditions

If you don't already have enough Nutcracker in your life, come audition for the Eugene Ballet's production! This is a great opportunity for dancers to participate in a professional production. Auditions will be held at ABA on October 23:  
Waltz of the Flowers 1:00-2:00 (3 years pointe experience)  
Party Children – 2:00-3:30 (ages 11-15)  
Bon Bons – 3:30-4:30 (ages 9-11)  
Angels – 4:30-5:00 (ages 7-9)  
Baby Mice – 5:00-5:30 (ages 5-7)  
Please come 30 minutes before your audition time with \$10 cash or check. Please make checks payable to Eugene Ballet Company. Rehearsals will mostly be held on Sundays at ABA. The performances will be December 22 & 23 at 7:30pm at the Elsinore Theatre. For more information, please contact Jennifer Martin at [jennifer@eugene-ballet.org](mailto:jennifer@eugene-ballet.org).



**Opportunities to Help**

Of course we cannot make these performances happen without the help of our parents! One of the best ways you can help is to bring your child to classes. This is the best way to help them be confident and anxiety free for the big day. Please review our attendance policy in the ABA handbook.

If your dancer misses too many classes, they may be asked to come in for a private lesson to catch up. We try not to make this happen too often, but it is the best way to catch up a dancer. Privates start at 27.50 for the first half hour of a week day & 32.50 for the first half hour of an evening or weekend, then they are 40.00 an hour after that.

To make the show a reality, we need volunteers. At the parent meetings, volunteer lists will be passed around for you to sign up. Please consider filling an empty spot!

One of the most important positions is that of class coordinator. These are the volunteers who stay with a class at all times during rehearsals, and performances. They make sure the dancers in their class are happy, and ready to dance. This is a position that we must have filled for each show, for each class.

**Willamette Dance Concert**

As many of you know, Annie teaches ballet at Willamette, as well as choreographing for their annual dance concert. We are also excited to announce that the Contemporary/Modern III class has been invited to open the show on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm! We would love to see as many of you as possible there to support our dancers! While this show may not be appropriate for younger dancers, it is a

**ABA T-Shirt Design Contest!**

We have not received much response for our t-shirt contest, so we wanted to put a note to remind everyone; we know this time of year is busy! Please refer to the past newsletter or Facebook for details. We have extended the deadline to mid-October. We look forward to lots of entries from you all!

We know that some parents don't have a lot of time around the shows to volunteer, but there are many less time consuming jobs on the list, and things you can do before the show. We can always use help with sewing, if you have experience with it! As many of you know, our performances are fundraisers for different charities, so by advertising in the program, you are showing your support for the production, as well as helping out those in need. 199.00 and under gets you a listing, 200-399 gets a ¼ page ad, 400-749 gets a ½ page ad and special recognition at the beginning of the show, and 750+ gets a full page ad, and special recognition at the beginning of the show. Thank you all in advance for finding a way to help make this show a great success!



great chance for most of our families to come see a beautiful performance combining many different dance forms. If you cannot make it November 19<sup>th</sup>, there are 7 other performances running over two weekends Nov. 10-13 & Nov. 17-19. Regular Ticket prices are \$12. The show will take place at the Pelton Theatre at Willamette. For more details or to purchase tickets call 503-370.6221.

**Calendar****October 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Parent Meetings &amp; Costume Fittings.

**October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Nutcracker tickets go on sale!

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

Eugene Nutcracker Audition at ABA.

**October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

Halloween. No Classes

**November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Mandatory All Cast Rehearsal at ABA.

**November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

No class today. Happy Thanksgiving!

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

Mandatory All Cast Rehearsal at ABA.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Spacing Rehearsals after school Pre-Ballet II &amp; up only.

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Nutcracker Dress Rehearsal.

**December 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

The Children's Nutcracker!

**December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016-January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

Holiday Break!

**CONTACT**

Please feel free to contact us at any of the following:

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Store Hours:

Tuesday 4:30-5:30pm

Saturday 10:15-11:45am

By appointment