

PLAYBILL

CITY YOUTH BALLET



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2020

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Uwharrie Youth Arts Mission Statement

Uwharrie Youth Arts is dedicated to increasing awareness and involvement of youth in performing arts in Stanly and surrounding counties. Uwharrie Youth Arts exists to connect and engage youth, educators and families to the performing arts in innovative, meaningful and participatory ways.

Both the City Youth Ballet and Playtime Children's Theatre are divisions of the Uwharrie Youth Arts.

The City Youth Ballet serves the community by providing educational workshops for local school arts programs and acts as a liaison to introduce artist to our community throughout the year. City Youth Ballet invites all local students to participate, in some way, with their biennial *Nutcracker* performance, and provides every school age child in our county with a free ticket to attend all City Youth Ballet performances.

In order to provide these and more services to the community, the City Youth Ballet depends on the generosity of sponsors and the support of the community. There are a variety of sponsorship levels to accommodate any personal or corporate budget.

City Youth Ballet strives to give back to the community whenever possible, and to educate and entertain through the art of dance throughout the Uwharrie Lakes region of North Carolina. The Ballet is a non-profit organization that fosters community spirit and charity through education and service.

Uwharrie Youth Arts Board Members

Mary Margaret Barfield

Erica Coble

Audrey Lowder

Laurie McIntyre

Hillary McSwain

Devonna Morgan

Elizabeth Ritter

Contina Salyer

John T. Williams, Jr.

The Story of the Nutcracker Ballet

ACT I

It is Christmas Eve and the Stahlbaums and their children, Clara, Fritz & Maria, are preparing to welcome their party guests. Clara's Godfather, the mysterious Herr Drosselmeyer, arrives with marvelous mechanical dolls. In addition, the magical and eccentric Herr Drosselmeyer has planned a special surprise for his beloved Clara. He presents her with a wonderfully mysterious nutcracker. Clara loves her strange gift. Fritz is jealous and steals the nutcracker from Clara. In the chaos of his teasing, Fritz accidentally breaks the nutcracker. Herr Drosselmeyer comes to the rescue and assures Clara that all will be well. The guests depart and the Stahlbaums prepare for bed. Just before the stroke of midnight, Clara returns to the darkened living room to check on her nutcracker. She is frightened by large mice. Much to Clara's amazement, the Christmas tree grew to such an enormous size that it pushes away the entire room. Next, her little toy changes into a life size Nutcracker. The mice suddenly reappear and a vicious battle ensues. Just when the soldiers seem to be winning, the great Mouse King appears and the tide turns. The Nutcracker and the Mouse King fight, and just as the Mouse King is about to overpower the Nutcracker, Clara kills him. The Nutcracker, released from an enchanted spell, turns into a handsome prince. The Nutcracker takes Clara to a special land to show her his magnificent palace. Their journey takes them through a pine forest where Clara is introduced to the Snow Queen, who leads the couple to the enchanted land of Snowflakes.

ACT II

Clara & the Nutcracker arrive in the Land of the Sweets where their bravery is rewarded when dancers from different lands perform for them. There is Chocolate (Spanish), Dutch (Marzipan), Tea (Chinese), Candy Canes (Russian), Coffee (Arabian), and Mother Ginger and her Bakers & Children. Finally, the lovely Sugarplum Fairy and her Cavalier perform an enchanting pas de deux for Clara, followed by waltzing flowers. Drosselmeyer arrives and Clara knows her dream is about to come to an end. She does not want to leave her Prince. On Christmas Day, Clara awakens with her Nutcracker doll in her arms and wonders, "Was it really a dream?"

Act I

Overture and Decorating the
Christmas Tree
Party Guests Arrive
March of the Children & Lighting
of the Christmas Tree
Drosselmeyer's Arrival &
Presentation of the Gifts
The Gift of the Nutcracker
Night
Battle
Journey through the Pine Forest
Waltz of the Snowflakes

Brief Intermission

Act II

Arrival in the Land of the Sweets
Spanish – 'Chocolate'
Chinese – 'Tea'
Arabian – 'Coffee'
Dutch – 'Marzipan'
Russian – 'Candy Cane'
Mother Ginger & the Dance of
the Bakers & Cookies
Waltz of the Flowers
Grande Pas Adagio
Finale

Artistic Staff



Leigh Johnson Roush

Artistic Director & Choreographer

Leigh has been the owner/director of Albemarle Academy of Dance for the past 30 years as well as the artistic director of The City Youth Ballet for the past 22 years. She has been honored with numerous awards for her choreography, staging, and technical training, and judged and taught master classes for many dance competitions and companies throughout the United States. Leigh considers herself extremely fortunate to work with so many talented, passionate and hard-working young people every day. She takes great pride in her students' accomplishments and has former students dancing in film, TV, Broadway, and abroad. Leigh is the wife of Edmund Roush, and mother of Gabriel & Jonas Roush.



Edmund Roush

Technical Director & Drosselmeyer

Edmund began his performing career at age twelve, performing in the Lost Colony Outdoor Drama. Edmund obtained his BFA degree in theatre, and a minor in dance from East Carolina University. Edmund has performed all over the East Coast. He was a principal dancer with the Columbia City Ballet. His was a principal performer in 'Horn in the West' and has performed and taught for Charlotte Children's Theatre. Edmund is a member of the stagehands union, and has been a technician for several traveling Broadway productions. Edmund is married to Leigh Roush and they have two sons, Jonas and Gabriel.



Jesse Springer

Choreographer & Stage Manager

Jesse is the director of the Albemarle Academy of Dance performance company, The Showoffs, as well as an instructor for all ages in ballet, jazz, modern, hip-hop and tumbling. Jesse began her training at Albemarle Academy of Dance where she was a member of the City Youth Ballet and The Showoffs performance company. During high school, she was accepted to, and attended, the North Carolina School of the Arts where she focused on contemporary dance. After receiving her BFA degree in dance performance with a focus on ballet, modern dance and composition from East Carolina University, she became a soloist with the Balasole Dance Company in New York City. Jesse is the mother of our newest little soldier, Dax.

Artistic Staff



Mary Grubbs

Choreographer, Run Crew & Mrs. Stahlbaum

Mary is an instructor at Albemarle Academy of Dance where she teaches ballet, jazz, tap, tumbling and hip hop students. Mary began her training at a young age with AAD where she was a member of the City Youth Ballet and The Showoffs. While training, Mary received the Dance Educators of America scholarship allowing her to continue her studies in New York City. She is the wife of Tyler, and mommy to Hayden & Bailey.

Supervising Production Crew

Wardrobe Supervisor: Devonna Morgan

Costumers: Laura Almond, Jennifer Crawford, Jackie Kuipers, Lizz Ritter, Ashley Smith, Sarahann McIntyre (understudy)

Set Design & Run Crew Supervisor/Prop Master: Audrey Lowder

Assistant Stage Manager/Spot Operator: Leah Kilde

Spot Operator: Bobby McIntyre III

Backstage Coordinator: Contina Salyer

Run Crew: Andy Castelloe, Jason Ritter, Jamie Lowder, Matthew Salyer, John T. Williams, Jr., Jay Lassiter

Our Volunteers

The volunteers for this performance have spent countless hours building & designing sets, sewing costumes, fundraising, chaperoning, organizing, and donating their time and energy to the City Youth Ballet, and the youth who are a part of this production. The City Youth Ballet would not exist without the efforts of these individuals.

Cast



Ada Claire Almond

Angel

Ada is the six-year-old daughter of Matt and Laura Almond and a Kindergartener at Park Ridge Christian School. This is Ada's first Nutcracker with the City Youth Ballet. Along with dancing at Albemarle Academy of Dance, she enjoys painting and reading. Ada is excited to be a part of the 2020 Nutcracker.



Millie Mae Barfield

Governess, Chinese

Millie Mae is a ninth grader at North Stanly High School, and the fourteen-year-old daughter of Matt and Mary Margaret Barfield. Millie Mae is excited to be performing in her third Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Millie Mae studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance. Millie Mae enjoys tennis, dance, crafting and baking.

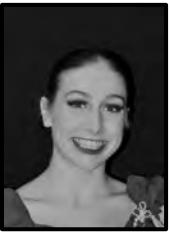


Sophia Blalock

Snow, Chinese Lead, Flower

Sophia is performing in her fifth Nutcracker with the City Youth Ballet. An eighth grader at North Stanly Middle School, she is the thirteen-year-old daughter of Derek Blalock and Beth Cole Blalock. Sophia studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance. She enjoys skateboarding, drawing, and reading. She would like to thank her family, teachers, and dance friends for

encouraging her to follow her passion.



Laney Castelloe

Party Adult, Mouse Queen, Russian

Laney is the seventeen-year-old daughter of Andy and Julie Castelloe and an eleventh grader at University Of North Carolina School of the Arts - Contemporary Dance Major. She enjoys photography, videography, playing with her pets, embroidery, hiking, and dancing. She has studied at Albemarle Academy of Dance since the age of two and is a member of the competition team. Since

2018 Laney has been studying at UNCSA. Laney attended the UNCSA Contemporary Summer Intensive and the Carolina Ballet's Summer Intensive. She has performed in "Battlefield" choreographed by Robert Battle, staged by Elisa Clark - UNCSA 2020, and UNCSA 2019 Emerging Choreographers. This is Laney's seventh Nutcracker with the City Youth Ballet. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to come home and to dance with Uwharrie Youth Arts again, plus Mom and Dad are happy to have her home!

Cast



Camden Coble

Fritz

Camden is excited to perform in his first Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Camden studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance. The eleven-year-old son of David and Erica Coble, Camden is a sixth grader at North Stanly Middle School. He is active with Prospect Baptist Church Youth Group and enjoys being outdoors, being silly and playing with his dog, Biscuit.



Olivia Coble

Clara's Friend, Snow, Chinese Lead, Flowers

Olivia is the thirteen-year-old daughter of David and Erica Coble and an eighth grader at North Stanly Middle School. Olivia has been studying dance at Albemarle Academy of dance since 2009. This is Olivia's fifth Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Olivia is active with her church youth group, and enjoys drama, dancing, cross-country, and racing.



Jayla Cole

Snow Angel, Baker

Jayla is excited to be performing in her third Nutcracker with the City Youth Ballet. She is the nine-year-old daughter of David and Amanda Cole and a fourth grader at Badin Elementary School. Jayla studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance where she is a member of the Showoff competition team. Her performance experience also includes the American Girl Doll Fashion Show and Bethany United Methodist Church Christmas plays. She enjoys playing piano, dancing, swimming, baking, and gardening. Jayla loves school and hopes to be a teacher when she grows up.



Aubrey Conrad

Dew Drop, Party Adult, Snow, Arabian

Aubrey is the seventeen-year-old daughter of Lisa Stark and a Senior. Aubrey has studied dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance since 2009, and is a member of the Showoffs. This is Aubrey's sixth Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Aubrey also enjoys shopping, spending time with her friends and embroidery.

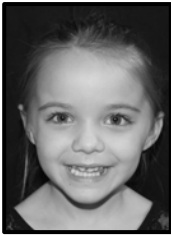
Cast



Mary Crawford

Chinese

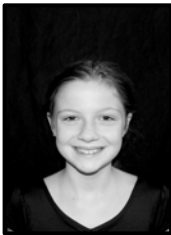
Mary is the eleven-year-old daughter of Michael and Jennifer Crawford and a sixth grader at Oakboro Choice STEM School. She is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance and enjoys cooking, robotics, and Girl Scouts. This is Mary's first Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet.



Danni Culp

Angel, Baker

Danni is the five-year-old daughter of Mandy Culp and Joseph Culp, and a Kindergartener at Millingport Elementary School. This will be Danni's first performance in *The Nutcracker* with City Youth Ballet. Danni is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance and enjoys driving her brother crazy, eating Cheetos, and sitting in time out.



Maddie Culp

Columbine Doll, Merlito

Maddie is a sixth grader at North Stanly Middle School and the eleven-year-old daughter of Mandy Culp and Joseph Culp. This is Maddie's third performance in *The Nutcracker* with City Youth Ballet. Maddie studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance and is a member of the Showoffs. She enjoys raising goats, but occasionally is attacked by the roosters and has earned her nickname "Grace" from running into things.



Hayden Grubbs

Rat

Hayden Grubbs is the ten-year-old son of Tyler and Mary Grubbs. He is a 5th grade homeschool student, and big brother to Bailey. This is his 2nd Nutcracker performance with the City Youth Ballet. Hayden enjoys riding dirt bikes and hunting.

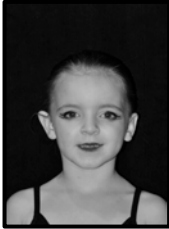
Cast



Leah Hartsell

Snow Angel, Baker

Leah is the eleven-year-old daughter of Stephen and Tabitha Hartsell, and a sixth grader at South Stanly Middle School. She is excited to be performing in her third Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Leah is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance. She enjoys cheerleading and dance.



Joely Hinson

Baby Soldier, Cookie

Joely is the six-year-old daughter of Kurt Hinson and Sara Gardon, and a kindergartener at Carolina Christian. This will be Joely's first performance in the Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Joely is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance. She enjoys anything with sugar in it, socializing and making friends, and putting on a show wherever she goes.



Courtney Holbrooks

Party Adult, Sugar Plum Fairy

Courtney is returning to the stage in her seventh Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. She is the 19-year-old daughter of Brad and Melissa Holbrooks and is a second year student at UNCSCA where she is majoring in contemporary dance with a minor in arts management. Courtney studied at AAD for 14 years where she was a member of the Showoffs competition team. In addition she has studied on scholarship with Dance Educators of America in Charleston and Las Vegas, and at the UNCSCA Summer Intensive. Courtney enjoys playing the piano, spending time at the lake, and is very comfortable wearing a mask and avoiding as many people as possible. She can also make a mean smoothie and açai bowl. Courtney hopes to continue a career in dance after college.



Anniston Horton

Snow Angel, Baker

Anniston is the eight-year-old daughter of Jeff and Holly Horton; she is a third grader at Norwood Elementary School. She has studied dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance since 2016 and she is a member of the Showoffs. Anniston is the youngest of six. She has four brothers and her sister, the oldest, was Clara in the 2008 City Youth Ballet's The Nutcracker. Anniston enjoys soccer, softball, playing with her friends, swimming, and helping her mom cook.

Cast



Kamdyn Huneycutt

Snow Angel, Baker

Kamdyn is the nine-year-old daughter of Wil and Katie Huneycutt and a third grader at Huneycutt Christian Academy. She studies at Albemarle Academy of Dance, where she is on the competition team. This is Kamdyn's first Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. She enjoys church, dance and playing the piano.



Karmyn Huneycutt

Baker, Soldier

Karmyn is the eight-year-old daughter of Wil and Katie Huneycutt and a third grader at Huneycutt Christian Academy. Karmyn studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance where she is a member of the Showoffs. This is her first time performing in The Nutcracker. She enjoys dance, piano and church.



Logan Huneycutt

Soldier, Merlito

A student at Albemarle Academy of Dance and a Showoffs company member, Logan is the twelve-year-old son of Wil and Katie Huneycutt, and a sixth grader at Huneycutt Christian Academy. Logan enjoys playing the piano, dance, theatre and singing, you may have seen his performance as Chip in Talent Company's production of Beauty and the Beast. This is Logan's

first Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet.



Dax Jones

Party Baby

Dax is the two-year-old son of Ms. Jesse. He may or may not be excited to be in the party scene for the 2nd time (we'll see)! In his spare time, he helps his mom teach class at AAD. We're all excited to see this little nugget on stage!



Thora Kilde

Clara's Friend, Snow, Chinese Lead, Flower

This is Thora's fourth Nutcracker performance with the City Youth Ballet. The twelve-year-old daughter of John and Heather Kilde and a seventh grader at Graystone Day School. Thora enjoys dance and her pets. She is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance, where she is a member of Showoffs, and also a Talent Company cast member. Thora loves the stage and enjoys performing.

Cast



Leilani King

Angel

The five-year-old daughter of Randall and Alia King and a Kindergartener at Endy Elementary School, Leilani enjoys playing with her sister, Lorelei, swimming, and dancing. She is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance, and she is an aspiring princess. This is Leilani's first Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet.



Shaelyn Kuipers

Maria, Snow Queen, Arabian, Russian, Flower

Shaelyn has been a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance since 2007. She has been a member of the Showoffs, the competition team since 2010, and spent two summers studying at Grand Rapids Ballet, and a summer at UNCSA for summer intensives and was accepted to the Atlanta Ballet Summer Intensive this past summer. Shaelyn is the sixteen-year-old daughter

of Gary and Jackie Kuipers and is an eleventh grader at Central Cabarrus High School. This is Shaelyn's sixth Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet.



Jay Lassiter

Party Adult

This is the role that never ends....Jay is just tickled to be back for his "final" performance (he's been saying that for years. Literally.) Although he has never willingly signed up to participate in ANY Nutcracker performance, he has been a soldier, and a partygoer since he can remember. Watch him shine!



William Lassiter

Party Adult

The William Lassiter could not contain his excitement when Mrs. Leigh asked him to be a part of CYB's 2020 Nutcracker as a party guest. He responded to her text immediately, with absolutely no delay. William is the 20-year old son of Karen Lassiter. He studied dance, theatre, and voice at Albemarle Academy of Dance for fifteen years where he was a member of the

competition dance company and the 2018 National Senior Male Soloist. William just completed the two-year program at the Institute of American Musical Theatre in New York City, where he was awarded their largest scholarship. He recently played the role of Barnabus in the off-Broadway show "ZM" by Mark Hallmon and Greg Kotis, authors of "Urinetown". William hopes to return to New York City soon and pursue his dream of a leading role in the revival of "Hair".

Cast



Sarah Lowder

Party Adult Snow, Spanish Lead, Flower

The eighteen-year-old daughter of Jamie and Audrey Lowder, she is a senior at Gray Stone Day School. Sarah has been a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance since the age of three. She enjoys weightlifting, reading, outdoor activities, volunteering with Stanly County Humane Society. Sarah is on the track team, in the Impact Club and Octagon Club. Sarah is excited to be in

her fifth Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet.



Bobby McIntyre III

Party Adult, Giant Rat

Bobby is the professional 'Dance Brother' and the sixteen-year-old son of Bobby and Laurie McIntyre. A tenth grader at Gray Stone Day School and enjoys hanging out at dance competitions, video games and building things. This is Bobby's fourth Nutcracker performance with the City Youth Ballet and he secretly enjoys being a dance brother. He looks forward to

every Nutcracker year. He hopes that when the current Mother Ginger retires, he can assume that role.



Sarahann McIntyre

Maria's Friend, Giant Mouse, Snow, Spanish Lead, Flowers, Rat King Understudy

Sarahann is the seventeen-year-old daughter of Bobby and Laurie McIntyre and a Senior at Gray Stone Day School. Sarahann has studied dance for fourteen years with the past eight being with Albemarle Academy of Dance, where she is a member of the Showoffs. This is Sarahann's fourth Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet.

She enjoys yoga, meditation, cooking and assisting with the young dancers at AAD.



Harper McSwain

Baby Mouse, Cookie

Harper is the six-year-old daughter of Cody and Hillary McSwain. She is so excited to be a mouse this year! Harper loves the stage, but she hates wearing tights. She enjoys all crafts, eating junk food, playing with her friends, swimming, and her iPad.

Cast



Hayden Morgan

Snow, Merlito Lead, Flower

Hayden is the fourteen-year-old daughter of Tony and Devonna Morgan and a ninth grader at West Stanly High School. She is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance where she is a member of the Showoffs. She has performed with the Chris Thompson Cultural Ensemble and The Talent Company. This is Hayden's fifth Nutcracker with the City Youth Ballet. In addition to

dancing Hayden enjoys singing, horseback riding and yoga.



Aidan O'Brien

Party Adult, Rat King, Spanish

Aidan's love for dance started at the age of five. Aidan is now in his 2nd year at UNCSA and is currently a Junior. Before attending UNCSA, he attended Hudson Conservatory of Ballet in Ohio, where he trained under, Eric Carvill. Aidan has had the privilege of understudying Valse Fantasies, set by Zippora Karz for Ballet in the City, and No Dominion set by Margaret

Mullin for Verb Ballets. Aidan has also taken master classes from Roy Kaiser, Laura Alonzo, Pamela Pribrisco, Tommie Waheed-Evans, Hiroko Ota, and Francis Veyette. Aidan has attended the Chautauqua Institution summer dance program in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2020 and attended Houston Ballet summer program in 2019. Aidan's first Nutcracker was with the Joffrey Ballet when he was 10 years old, and performed in Nutcrackers for the past six years. This year Aidan is happy to share the stage with his UNCSA roommate, Gabriel.



Emagene Ritter

Rat Colonel, Chinese

This is Emagene's second performance in the Nutcracker. She is the twelve-year-old daughter of Jason and Lizz Ritter and a seventh grader at North Stanly Middle School. Emagene is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance, and a member of the Showoffs. She enjoys art projects, taking care of her chickens, cooking, and baking for her family when she is

not taking classes at AAD.

Cast

Gabriel Roush

The Nutcracker, The Nutcracker Prince



Gabriel Roush has grown up on the Nutcracker stage. His first and favorite role in the City Youth Ballet's Nutcracker, was at six months old as the sleeping baby. The now 16-year-old son of Leigh and Edmund Roush, began studying at Albemarle Academy of Dance at age three and is currently a high school junior at the University of NC School of the Arts, where he is a residential ballet student. Gabriel has received full scholarships to study with Houston Ballet, Boston Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet, and Charlotte Ballet and hopes the pandemic is under control soon so he can actually attend one of these programs in person. Gabriel is very excited to have his UNCSA roommate, Aidan, join him on stage in a sword fight.

Emma Salyer

Clara



This is Emma's fourth Nutcracker performance with the City Youth Ballet. She is a member of the Showoffs at Albemarle Academy of Dance where she has studied for ten years. She is the thirteen-year-old daughter of Matthew and Contina Salyer and an eighth grader at West Stanly Middle School. When Emma is not dancing, she loves yoga, FFA, Beta Club, Travel Club and Girl Scouts. Emma will be attending the South Carolina Dance Conservatory this summer for ballet and jazz intensives.

Jadyn Salyer

Harlequin Doll, Merlita



Jadyn is the ten-year-old daughter of Matthew and Contina Salyer, she is a fifth grader at Locust Elementary School. Jadyn has studied dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance since the age of four and is a member of the Showoffs. This is her second Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Jadyn has a love for donuts, skateboarding and being a Girl Scout.

Matthew Salyer

Mother Ginger



Matt is married to Contina Salyer and they have three children; Emma, Jadyn, and Blake. As a devoted "dance dad" he can be found doing whatever needs to be done, from building sets, or dressing like a woman on stage for his daughters. In his spare time, he enjoys chauffeuring his daughters around, and sitting in his truck waiting on them to finish dance class.

Cast

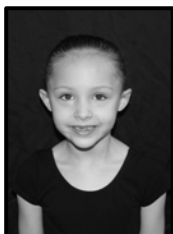


Caroline Shaver

Lead Angel, Baker

Caroline is the five-year-old daughter of Matt and Elizabeth Shaver and a Kindergartener at Badin Elementary School. Caroline is excited to be performing in her first City Youth Ballet Nutcracker, she has studied dance for three years at Albemarle Academy of Dance. In addition to dance, Caroline enjoys singing, drawing, going to the beach, crafts,

playing outside, and loves Disney



Cora Smith

Angel

Cora is the six-year-old daughter of Jody and Ashley Smith, and a first grader at Aquadale Elementary School. Cora studies dance at Albemarle Academy of Dance. This is her first performance in the Nutcracker with the City Youth Ballet. Cora enjoys reading, science, crafting, playing t-ball and 4-H activities. She has participated in the Youth Market Turkey Show at the

North Carolina State Fair for two years.



Donovon Strickland

Fritz's Friend, Soldier Colonel, Merliton Lead

Donovon is the thirteen-year-old son of Patrick and Shannon Strickland. He is an eighth grader at West Middle School, and a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance where he is a member of the Showoffs. This is Donovan's third Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. He enjoys hunting, fishing, riding his dirt bike, working on the farm, and snowboarding.



Evan Strickland

Fritz's Friend, Colonel, Merliton

Evan enjoys hunting, fishing, riding his dirt bike, working on the farm, and playing video games. He is the eleven-year-old son of Patrick and Shannon Strickland and a sixth grader at West Middle School. Evan is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance and a member of the Showoffs. This will be Evan's third performance in the City Youth Ballet's the Nutcracker

Cast



Alydia Wheeler

Maria's Friend, Snow, Arabian Lead, Flower, Russian

Alydia is the fifteen-year-old daughter of Kyla Wheeler. She is and tenth grader at West Stanly High School. A student at Albemarle Academy of Dance for eight years and a member of the Showoffs. She attended the South Carolina Summer Dance Conservatory and UNCSA Summer Intensive. When she is not dancing, she loves

animals, hanging out with friends, watching movies with her family, and studying with her twin brother.



John Thomas Williams, Jr.

Mr. Stahlbaum, Nutcracker Understudy

John is the husband of Nicole, and father to Jack & Eli. Each year he strives to be better than the last and has quietly gone from Party Guest #5, all the way to Mr. Stahlbaum and The Nutcracker understudy. Not sure if I'm serious? Just look at this man's glutes. He wants this role. When he isn't training, John enjoys being told what he has to do to make the Nutcracker props and

set look better. His family couldn't be more proud if they tried.



Clairia Williamson

Rat

Clairia is the eleven-year-old daughter of Tommy and Amanda Williamson. She is a fifth grader at Pionka Day School. She is performing in her first Nutcracker with City Youth Ballet. Clairia is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance. She enjoys dancing, swimming, and working with her dad.



Cloe Williamson

Rat

This is Cloe's first Nutcracker performance. The eleven-year-old daughter of Tommy and Amanda Williamson is a fifth grader at Pionka Day School. Cloe is a student at Albemarle Academy of Dance. Cloe enjoys dancing, riding four wheelers and working with her dad.

Merry CHRISTmas

from all of us at



Leah

Congratulations to
our Snow Angel &
Chinese Corps
member on her third
Nutcracker
performance.
We love you! Mommy,
Daddy, Lane, Lila,
Papa, Mamoo, &
Memaw



*Congratulations
Shaelyn on your 6th
Nutcracker!*



*We are so proud
of the beautiful
dancer you have
become and can't
wait to see what
the future brings.*

Love, Mom & Dad

*"To dance is to be
out of yourself.
Larger, more
beautiful, more
powerful. This is
power, it is glory
on earth and it is
yours for the
taking"
-Agnes De Mille*



Sarahann



CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS YEARS NUTCRACKER. IT REALLY FEELS LIKE YOU
WERE JUST A FLOWER PETAL IN YOUR FIRST NUTCRACKER, AND WE BLINKED
AND YOU ARE PERFORMING IN YOUR LAST CITY YOUTH BALLET NUTCRACKER.
HAVE FUN, DANCE PRETTY, AND KEEP DOING WHAT YOU LOVE.
LOVE MAMA, DADDY, BOBBY, MEME, PAPA AND BOB

Congratulations
Emma & Jadyn



Dancing With your feet is one thing,
but dancing with your **Heart** is another.

Love,
Dad, Mom, & Blake



BEST OF LUCK FROM CEENTA.

John Kilde, MD, Otolaryngologist and
City Youth Ballet parent, congratulates
all the cast and crew for their hard
work on The Nutcracker.

**Dr. Kilde sees patients in
CEENTA's Albemarle office.**

704.983.5350



CHARLOTTE EYE
EAR NOSE & THROAT
ASSOCIATES, P.A. ®

EAR NOSE & THROAT | ALLERGY | AUDIOLOGY
1908 Hilco Street, Suite A, Albemarle, NC 28001

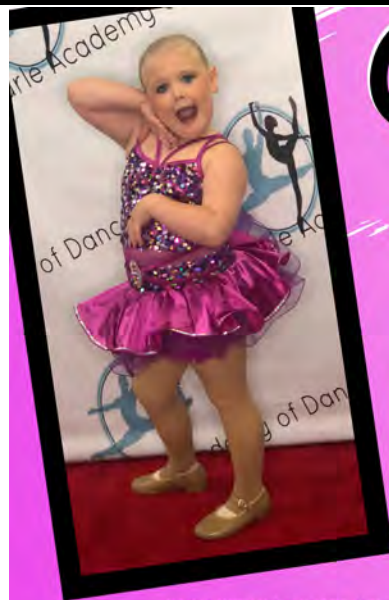
*"Be strong, be fearless, be beautiful. And
believe that anything is possible
when you have the right people
there to support you." -Misty Copeland*



WILLIAM R. HUNEYCUTT
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT



**Logan, Kamdyn, & Karmyn,
Keep believing in yourselves!
We are behind you every step of
the way. We are so proud of you!
Love you always!!! ~ Mom & Dad**



Caroline



SWEET CAROLINE ♥

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR VERY FIRST
NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCE! WE ARE ALL SO VERY
PROUD OF THE BEAUTIFUL ANGEL AND FUN-LOVING
BAKER YOU ARE! WE LOVE SEEING YOU TAKE THE
STAGE, AND THAT HUGE SMILE ON YOUR FACE!

DANCE WITH YOUR HEART AND ENJOY EVERY MINUTE! GO GET EM' BABYGIRL!

WE LOVE YOU MORE THAN WORDS!! LOVE,

MOMMY, DADDY, JACKSON, ISABELLA, JAMESON, GRANNA, POPPA, KIZZY, AND KARSYN



I'm sure that it comes as no surprise that this year has been the most difficult yet for performing arts. More than ever, we must depend on the kindness of generous donors to allow us to offer quality programs that engage and involve the youth of our community. It is often forgotten just how dependent and fragile the survival of live performing arts is in our country. With the persistent economic condition, often the victims of necessary belt-tightening are entertainment and arts organizations.

City Youth Ballet welcomes your support. If you would like to make a donation, please visit us online at

CityYouthBallet.com

Thank you for your support!

Shout Outs

Leilani, You are the sweetest and cutest angel we know. Mema and Papa love you and are very proud of you. Love you forever and always!

An angel at home and an angel on stage — sounds like a certain granddaughter - Leilani! With our love, Grandmommy and Granddaddy King

May your wings take you far! Mommy and Daddy love you and are so proud of you!

Congratulations on your 6th Nutcracker Shaelyn!! I am so proud of you and everything you have accomplished, love you so much. Love Aunt Melissa.

Congratulations Shaelyn on your 6th time doing the Nutcracker! I'm so glad I got to see you shine on that stage. Love you and I'm so proud of you! Love, Aunt Serena

Congratulations Shaelyn on all your accomplishment's! You've worked so hard over the years, you're a beautiful and very talented young woman. We wish you all the best in your final performances. Love you bunches Grandpa and Grandma Judy Kuipers

Shaelyn, we have watched you grow up dancing and we are so proud of the fantastic dancer you have become. We love you and know you will do great things. Love, Grandma Judi and Grandpa Terry.

Shaelyn, Grandma K is so proud of you! You have done a wonderful time with The Nutcracker! I Love You so much.

Congratulations on your final Nutcracker! I am so proud of the beautiful and talented dancer you have become I love watching you dance. Keep following your dreams and continue to grow with every day. I love My Shae. Love Mom.

Donovon and Evan - Have fun on another Nutcracker year! Have fun and follow your heart! Love, Alexis, Trevor & Kaylee

Donovon & Evan - Congratulations on another Nutcracker year! We love watching you on the stage! Remember to smile and enjoy every minute of it! Love, Mom, Dad, Brandon and Carson

Gabriel – We're proud of you and all of your accomplishments. Now, stop eating & socializing, and go practice. Love, Mom & Dad

Shout Outs

Our Sweet Caroline...take the stage by storm and let your most magical light shine bright! You're our #1 angel/baker! We love you so very much! Mom, Dad, brothers, and sister ☺

Shine and sparkle, Sweet Caroline, in your 1st Nutcracker! We love you and are so proud of you! Poppa and Granna

Congratulations on your first Nutcracker Tootaloo! We are so proud of you and love watching our little Angel-Baker! Jared, Kizzy, and Karsyn

Cloe and Clair - Congratulations on your first Nutcracker! We are so excited to see you on stage! Relax, smile and have fun! Love, Shannon, PJ, Brandon and Carson

Sophie, you radiate elegance and beauty as you dance. May you (in the words of Maya Angelou) always "pursue things you love doing and do them so well that people cannot take their eyes off of you" Much love from Papa Bob, Aunt Gina, Kirby and Mom

Congratulations on your 5th Nutcracker and your role as Lead Marliton. Watching you on stage lights up our world! Keep up the hard work and always remember we love you more! Love, Mom and Dad

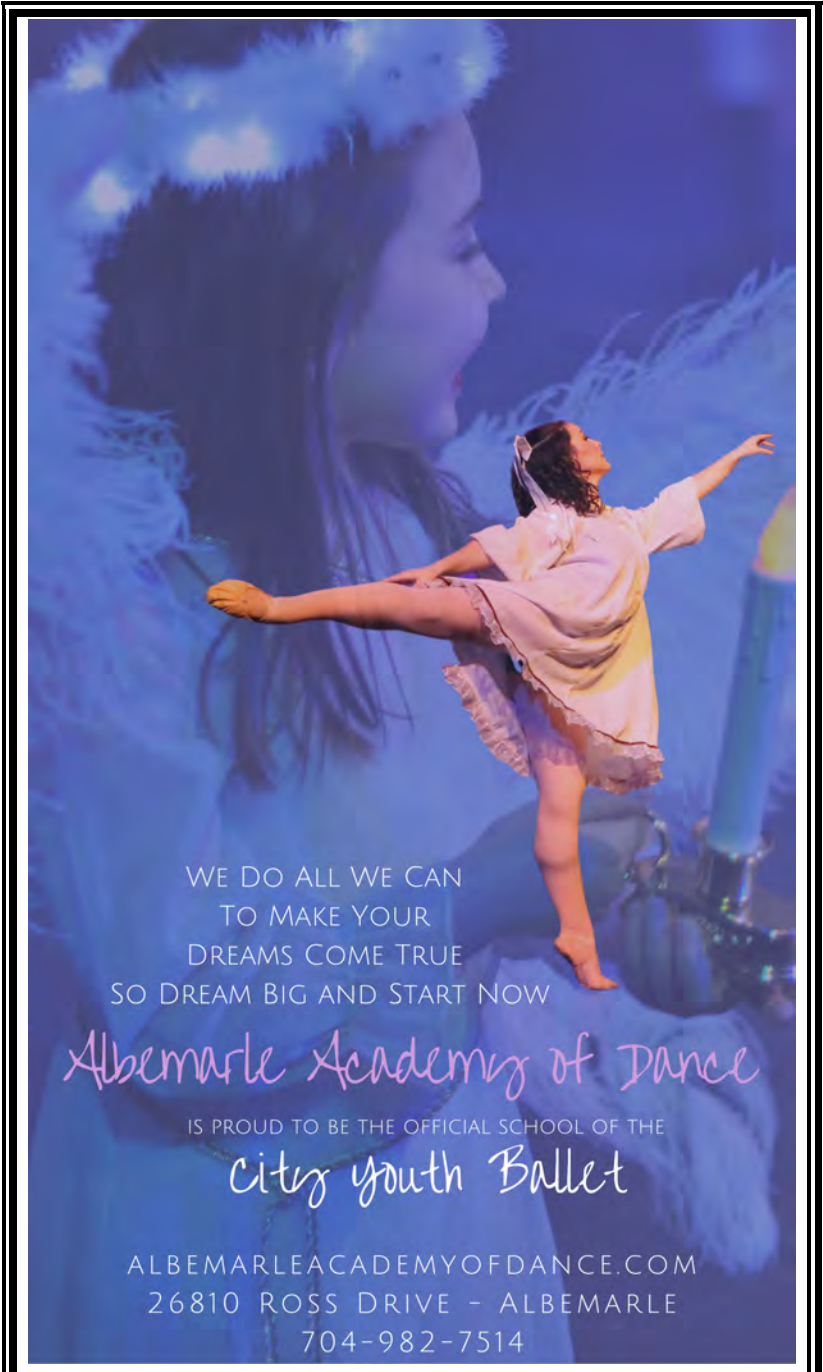
"If you dance with your heart, your body will follow." Mia Michaels
Emma & Jadyn we are so proud of you and all your hard work. We Love You, Uncle Rick & Aunt April

If you stumble make it part of the dance because we have no idea what is going on. Congratulations Emma & Jadyn y'all will be great! Ashley - Jack - Bree

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to DANCE. Ecclesiastes 3:1&4 Emma & Jadyn we know that this will be your time to dance and do what you love. We are very proud of you both, Love Mamaw & Papaw Knott

Thora, fly high little bird. Thank you for sharing your gifts with all of us. We love watching you light up the stage. Mom, Dad, David, Leah and all the fuzzy Kildes.

Harper Claire: We are so excited to see you as a baby mouse and a cookie! We love to watch you and see your big smile. You're our best girl! Love, Mommy & Daddy



WE DO ALL WE CAN
TO MAKE YOUR
DREAMS COME TRUE
SO DREAM BIG AND START NOW

Albemarle Academy of Dance

IS PROUD TO BE THE OFFICIAL SCHOOL OF THE

City youth Ballet

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