

CENTRALIA BALLE[†]T ACADEMY PRESENTS

THE NUTCRACKER



**At Centralia College's Corbet Theater
Friday December 13 at 7:00 PM
Saturday December 14 at 1:00 PM**

Cast

Act I

Clara Silberhaus	Thalia Martinez (Sat 1pm), Lucy Lennox (Fri 7pm)
Fritz Silberhaus	Alexander Kellum (Sat 1pm), Tiberius Wilhelmi (Fri 7pm)
Frau & Herr Silberhuas	Theresa and Alex McMurry
Head Maid	Samantha Gunter
Maid	Jordan Larson
Butler	Xxavier Cox
Grandmother	Katherine Gulmert
Party Parents	Jeni Burlingame, Jared Hedgers, Jennifer Hedgers. Kristina Leopold, Matt Leopold
Party Boys	Roman Alvarado-Zaldivar, Sam Burlingame, Liam Clark, Joshua Foote (Sat 1pm), Alexander Kellum (Fri 7pm), Landen Nowa (Fri 7pm), Tiberius Wilhelmi (Sat 1pm),
Clara's Best Friend	Lucy Lennox (Sat 1pm), Thalia Martinez (Fri 7pm)
Party Girls	Kendra Aguirre-Huerta, Aurora Foote, Summer Moran, Laney Nowa
Herr Drosselmeyer	Scott Burlingame
Nephew/Nutcracker	Joshua Foote (Fri 7pm), Landen Nowa (Sat 1pm)
Columbine Doll	Elsa Freeberg
Ballerina Doll	Adeline Wilhelmi
Pirate Doll	Rebecca Fogde
Soldier Doll	Carter Johnston
Rat Admirals	Corbyn Barnette, Abraham Fanning, Perrin Fisher
Drosselmeyer's Owl	Tatum Razberry
General	Kendra Razberry
Soldiers	Jonnie Foote, Emma Kresse, Behya Miranda, Jecht Mora, Tiberius Wilhelmi
Rat Captain	Emmett Thomas
Mouse General	Lillian Hostetler
Mice	Hester Fanning, Charlotte Leopold
Snow Queen	Nevaeh Rose (Sat 1pm), Jamiah Wood (Fri 7pm)
Snow King	Wesley Wilhelmi (Sat 1pm), Owen Hedgers (Fri 7pm)
Snowflakes	McKenna Bryan, Ari Hannum, Lily Lennox, Tess McMurry, Elaina Porter, Marilyn Selin, Nevaeh Rose (Fri 7pm), Briana Smith, Lydia Smith, Jamiah Wood (Sat 1pm)

~There will be a 15 minute intermission~

Act II

Sugar Plum Fairy	McKenna Bryan (Sat 1pm), Tess McMurry (Fri 7pm)
Her Cavalier	Owen Hedgers (Sat 1pm), Wesley Wilhelmi (Fri 7pm)
Musketeers	Corbyn Barnette, Sam Burlingame. Abraham Fanning
Spanish Hot Chocolate Lead Senorita	Ari Hannum
Senoras Senoritas	Lynn Gear, Kristina Leopold Emma Hashagen, Lily Lennox
Arabian Coffee	Samantha Gunter, Elaina Porter, Adeline Wilhelmi
Chinese Tea Lead Corps	Marilyn Selin Liam Clark, Laney Nowa
Russian Tea Cakes	Jack Burlingame, Joshua Foote (Sat 1pm), Carter Johnston, Emmett Thomas, Landen Nowa (Fri 7pm)
Marzipan Shepherdess	Briana Smith
Sheep	Carly Burlingame, Katianne Parnel
Chef Ginger	Elsa Freeberg
Sous-Chef	Jordan Larson
Gingerbread Cookies	Eleanor Heck, Matthew Leopold Jr., Zaria Terrel, Quinton Wilhelmi
Dewdrop Fairy	Lydia Smith
Lead Flowers	Nevaeh Rose, Jamiah Wood
Flowers	Rebecca Fogde, Auria Frank, Emma Hashagen, Maddison Leopold, Tatum Razberry, Amelia White

Give the gift of dance this holiday season!



Are you searching for the perfect gift for someone? We can set you up with a gift certificate and help you purchase dancewear to give a mover in your life! We have classes available for ages 2 through adult (boys and girls). See our listing of class offerings at www.centraliaballet.com or contact us for more info! Call/text 360-623-9010 or email info@centraliaballet.com. We would love to have you join the CBA family!



The Nutcracker

Based on the story by E.T.A. Hoffman, adapted by A. Dumas

Music	P.I. Tchaikovsky
Choreography	Nancy and Mick Gunter (Sugar Plum pas de deux after the original by Lev Ivanov)
Pas de Deux Coach	Kyle Leapline
Costume Mistress	Emily Smith
Seamstress	Carissa Smith
Prop Construction	Samantha Gunter , Matt Leopold
Technical Director	Thomas Perkins
Stage Manager	Jacob Mecham
Sound Operator	Isaac Hedgers
Backstage Coordinator	Erin Nowa
Backstage Assistant	Nora Hedgers
House Manager	Malinda Wilhelmi

Special thanks to Sadie Mecham for working with our Chinese dancers on their tumbling skills and to Joy Johnston for lending her veil expertise to our Arabian dancers.

Also, thank you to all of the dancers and parents who have put in hours before and during this event to make it happen.

Centralia Ballet Academy Company Members

CBA Company Members are chosen by audition. These young dancers not only perform in our major productions. They also participate in additional master classes, attend professional performances, choreograph and perform for our annual Halloween show, and more. They are given additional opportunities to expose them to the world of professional dance - past experiences have included master classes at the studios of Oregon Ballet Theatre, backstage tours with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, attending performances by Pacific Northwest Ballet and Dance Theatre of Harlem, training with Cirque du Soleil - and more.



Cael Best - is 12 years old and is a homeschooled 7th grader from Centralia. He has been dancing at Centralia Ballet Academy for the past seven years. Some of his favorite roles have included the title role in *The Nutcracker* and John Darling in *Peter Pan*. Cael expresses gratitude to his mentors, Nancy and Mick Gunter, Theresa McMurry, and Kyle Leapline, whose guidance and support have shaped his love for dance and artistry. When he isn't dancing, you can find Cael singing and acting or playing football and basketball.

With dreams of pursuing a degree in performing arts, Cael aspires to bring joy and inspiration to audiences everywhere. (Cael is currently playing the leading role of Ralphie in Evergreen Playhouse's production of *A Christmas Story*)



McKenna Bryan (Sugar Plum Fairy, Snowflake) - is 17 years old, and she is a senior at Rochester High School attending Centralia College. McKenna has been dancing at Centralia Ballet Academy since the age of 8, focusing primarily on ballet, pointe, and Pas de Deux. Her favorite roles include Wendy Darling in *Peter Pan* (2023), Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty* (2024), and the Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker* (2024). She would like to extend a huge thank you to Nancy and Mick Gunter, and her fellow dancers, for the

joy, encouragement, and sense of community that CBA has brought her.



Elsa Freeberg (Columbine doll, Chef Ginger) - is a Sophomore at Rochester High School. She has been dancing for about twelve years, starting at Allen Creek Dance but switching to Centralia Ballet Academy at age 6. Her favorite roles have included Pirate doll and Owl in *The Nutcracker*. Outside of ballet, she enjoys reading and drawing.



Samantha Gunter (Head Maid, Arabian) - is a Freshman at W. F. West High School. She has received all of her dance training at CBA. Samantha is training in ballet, tap, jazz and lyrical dance. She plans to become an actress after she graduates.



Ari Hannum (Snowflake, Spanish Lead) - is a Sophomore at Centralia High School. She is 16 years old and has been dancing for thirteen years. Her favorite role was Clara's Best Friend in 2018. Her favorite hobbies are wrestling, weight lifting, hiking, and traveling.



Emma Hashagen (Spanish, Flower) - lives in Centralia and attends Onalaska Primer where she is in the 9th grade. She began dancing at the age of 3 at Allen Creek Dance Studio and moved to Centralia Ballet Academy when she was 6 years old. She is currently taking classes in ballet, pre-pointe, lyrical, jazz and character dance. Her favorite role so far has been Clara in Centralia Ballet Academy's production of *The Nutcracker* in 2023



Owen Hedgers (Snow King, Cavalier) - is currently attending W. F. West High School as a senior. He has received all of his training at Centralia Ballet Academy, starting at the ages of 4. He is very thankful to Mick and Nancy Gunter and to Kyle Leapline for being amazing teachers and mentors.



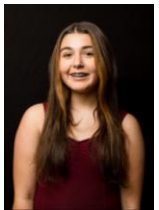
Carter P. Johnston (Soldier doll, Russian) - lives in Tumwater WA and is an eighth grader at Washington Middle School. He first became interested in ballet when he saw a performance of the CBA boys at the Olympia Dance Festival. He started taking classes with CBA at age six and has never stopped. He has held many roles in CBA shows, including playing the *Nutcracker* in 2022. When he's not dancing, Carter likes to hang out with the family horse and bakes really amazing madeleines, though usually he keeps the two activities separate.



Lily Lennox (Snowflake, Spanish) - Lily Lennox is a Freshman at Centralia High School. She has been dancing with Centralia Ballet Academy since she was about three years old. Her favorite roles that she has performed are Clara in *The Nutcracker* and Little Red Riding Hood in *The Sleeping Beauty*. She is appreciative of her parents for supporting her through her long journey of dance.



Lucy Lennox (Clara, Party Girl) - is 12 years old and a 7th grader at Centralia Middle School. She has been dancing at Centralia Ballet Academy since she was 3 years old. Her favorite roll that she has had is Clara in *The Nutcracker*. She also enjoys hanging out with friends, playing volleyball and softball, and eating food.



Thalia Martinez (Clara, Party Girl) - is 13 years old and a 7th grader at Chehalis Middle School. She has been dancing at Centralia Ballet Academy for five years. Her favorite role that she has had so far is Clara in *The Nutcracker*. She would like to thank family, friends, and her dance teachers who have helped her along the way. Other than ballet she enjoys hanging out with friends and family and watching movies.



Tess McMurry (Sugar Plum Fairy, Snowflake) - is a senior at Centralia High School and is getting her AA at Centralia College. This is her thirteenth year at CBA. Her favorite roles have included the Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker* and Carabosse in *The Sleeping Beauty*. After graduation, Tess plans to attend Central Washington University to study Aviation. She would like to thank grilled cheese and steamed dumplings for getting her through senior year.



Elaina Porter (Snowflake, Arabian) - is 16 years old and is a home-schooled Sophomore. All of her dance training has been at CBA. Her favorite roles are those of Snowflake and Arabian in this year's *Nutcracker*. Elaina enjoys the outdoors, barn dancing and drawing. She would like to thank her amazing teachers and parents for always supporting her.



Briana Smith (Marzipan Shepherdess, Snowflake) - is an eighth grader at Chehalis Middle School and has been dancing with Centralia Ballet Academy for the last seven years. Some of her favorite roles include Diamond Fairy in *The Sleeping Beauty* and Snow, Clara and Marzipan in *The Nutcracker*. Briana also loves to sing, play the oboe, participate in theater, and choreograph. She hopes to become a music teacher, while still finding the time to teach and choreograph dance.



Lydia Smith (Dewdrop Fairy, Snowflake) - is 16 years old and is a Junior at W. F. West High School. She began dancing at age 3 and has danced at Centralia Ballet Academy for the past seven years. Lydia attended Oregon Ballet Theatre's summer intensive in 2023. Some of her favorite dance roles have been Wendy from *Peter Pan*, Lilac Fairy from *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. She plans on pursuing apparel design and merchandising. Lydia would like to thank her teachers, friends and family for supporting her.



Adeline Wilhelmi (Ballerina doll, Arabian) - is from Centralia, WA. She is currently in 10th grade. Adeline has been dancing for nine years. Outside of dance, Addie loves all kinds of arts, such as painting, drawing and crafting. She loves to indulge in a good book.



Wesley Wilhelmi (Snow King, Cavalier) - is homeschooled and in Running Start at Centralia College. He received his dance training through Centralia Ballet Academy. Over the years, he has danced many roles. Highlights have included playing the Rat King in *The Nutcracker* and the title role in *Peter Pan*. He would like to thank his teachers, Nancy and Mick Gunter and Kyle Lepline.



Jamiah Wood (Snow Queen, Snowflake, Flower Lead) is 15 years old and is a Freshman at W. F. West High School. She has been dancing at Centralia Ballet Academy for eight years and has attended ballet intensives at Bennyroyce Dance, Ballet Austin and Oregon Ballet Theatre. Her favorite role she has performed is the Dewdrop Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. She also enjoys playing volleyball and eating food.

Company headshots by Karl Penn

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