



*Marshall Community Ballet Company*  
ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR

# *The* *Nutcracker*

*Directed by Tricia Hilton & Brianna Novak*  
*Produced by Jenna Graeber & Sara Zuehlke-Conine*

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Auditions: Sunday, August 27, 2023

**1:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

at 360 Dance company

**Performance Dates:**  
**December 1, 2, and 3, 2023**

**Register Online Only:**

[www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc)

Audition registration must be completed online by **July 16.\***

Must be 8 years of age by **10-8-2023** OR entering **third grade** in the fall of **2023**.

**Nutcracker Auditions**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023**

**1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**CONTENTS**

Rules and Policies	3
Information & Reminders	4
Parts for The Nutcracker	4
Audition Schedule	5
Performer Registration Form <i>Completed Online by <b><u>July 16</u></b></i>	6
Parent Registration	6
Performance Agreement <i>Completed Online by <b><u>July 16</u></b></i>	7
Dancer’s Letter of Intent	7
Dance & Acrobat Participant Permit (Child) <i>Completed Online by <b><u>July 16</u></b></i>	8
Authorization / Consent Form	8
Part Acceptance	8
Conflict Report	8
Waiver of Liability (for children under 18) <i>Completed Online by <b><u>July 16</u></b></i>	9
Emergency Information	9

**PERFORMANCE DATES**

**December 1, 2 and 3, 2023**

**STRIKE SET – Sunday, December 3** *(Immediately following the show)*

## Rules and Policies

1. Performers must be **8 years of age by October 8, 2023 OR** entering the **3<sup>rd</sup> grade** in the fall of 2023.
2. According to the bylaws of the company, "Parts shall be filled by persons residing in the Marshall School District or affiliated with one of the Marshall Dance Studios." It was the consensus of those responding to a 1999 questionnaire that it would be permissible to vary from this policy only if no qualified person auditions for a role, in particular the older male role(s).
3. Each performer must commit to dance in all performances.
4. One member of each family must commit to participating in set striking.
5. To make the event a success, we ask that at least **one family member** of each participant volunteer to assist with preparations and the production, a minimum of 10 hours of time. The Parent Registration section of this packet lists areas for which volunteers are needed.
6. **Reduced rehearsal schedule and Conflicts:** it is imperative that each participant attends the scheduled rehearsals. Rehearsals will be progressive in nature – information and steps will not be repeated each time. The choreographers will start where they left off at the previous rehearsal. Dancers will be expected to work together outside of rehearsals if necessary. **A Conflict section** is included with this audition packet on **page 8**. It is important that you list **any** rehearsal date in which you have another obligation. However, **only ONE conflict** will be allowed during the **NON-Mandatory rehearsals dates**. If you are unable to attend rehearsal on a date that is **marked mandatory**, then we ask that you not audition for The Nutcracker this season. An Unexcused Absence is an absence that is **NOT** written in the **Conflict Section** or has not been approved by the Director or Producer in advance. If a dancer is unable to attend a mandatory rehearsal or has an unexcused absence from a regular rehearsal, the dancer will be asked to step down from all of his/her parts in the show. ***(An illness does not count as an unexcused absence unless the producer was not notified before rehearsal on that rehearsal day.)*** \*\*Any unexcused absence will result in dismissal from The Nutcracker.
7. Parts will be given based on audition performance, not age or grade level. Parts are given at the Judges' discretion and individual parts do not have a set age. Please note every dancer is not guaranteed a part.
8. **Part notifications** will be emailed the week following auditions. This letter will include rehearsal/tech and show schedules for each part. All listed parts may or may not be filled at the discretion of the Choreographers/Judges. All parts must be accepted or declined within 48 hours of receiving notification.
9. Audition information, waivers and liability agreements, current photo of dancer uploaded to dancer's profile, and audition fee of \$10.00\* must be completed online at [www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc](http://www.dancestudio-pro.com/online/mcbc) no later than **July 16TH, 2023**.
10. **Audition numbers** will be handed out when they arrive at the **check in table** on audition day!
11. **Audition Attire will be as follows:** Dance and acrobatic female performers must wear hair up in a bun, black leotard, and pink tights. Male performers must wear black pants and white shirt. If your hair is too short for a bun, then please make sure that it is pulled up, as best you can, so it is not in your face.
12. **No food or drink, EXCEPT water bottles, will be allowed at auditions.** Anyone breaking this rule will be dismissed. Exceptions are Judges, Choreographers and Producers due to the length of time they will be there.
13. Performers may need to share costumes. Costumes may not be purchased. Costumes may not leave the care of the MCBC.
14. Performers must furnish their own dance shoes and possibly a leotard in a color specified by the MCBC.
15. Failure to abide by the rules and policies will result in dismissal

\* **The \$10.00 audition fee must be paid online at the time of registration.** Scholarships are available to any performer who is unable to pay the fee. Please contact the MCBC Producer for scholarship information.

**An additional \$65 performance fee will be due with acceptance letters.**

## Information & Reminders

**Performances** will be the first weekend in December. **Rehearsals** will be held at **360 Dance Company** and **Dance Dynamics** beginning Sunday, Oct. 8th:

**Sundays, Oct. 8th , Oct. 15th, and Oct. 22nd** are **mandatory rehearsals**, the dancers will be learning the entire show these dates! Regular rehearsals will then begin Oct. 29th continuing until we go on stage for Dress Rehearsal.

**Specific times for each part will be in a detailed schedule available after acceptance letters have been received.** Please mark the following important dates for rehearsals:

**Sundays, Oct. 8 , Oct. 15, and Oct. 22** Cast learns the entire show – **Mandatory**

**Sundays, Oct. 29, and Nov 5, 12, and 19** - Regular rehearsals

**Sunday, November 26:** First day of Tech Week at Marshall High School – **Mandatory**

***This is the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend***

**Tues., Wed., Thurs., Nov. 28-30:** Tech week at Marshall High School – **Mandatory**

**Fri., Sat., Sun., Dec. 1, 2, and 3:** Performances and Strike – **Mandatory**

For questions or assistance, please call **Jenna Graeber (269) 986-3980.**

\* **Note** – Clara, Prince, Sugar Plum Fairy and King may learn choreography on other days and nights. Dancers auditioning for these roles must be willing to attend additional rehearsals if needed.

### Parts for the Nutcracker

*(Subject to Change)*

Flower Soloist	Russian Soloist	Arabian Soloist
Flower Attendants	Russian Ensemble	Arabian Ensemble
Flower Ensemble	Snowflakes	Candy Canes
Dew Drops	Snow Queen	Chinese Soloist
Harlequin Doll	Snow Princess	Chinese Ensemble
Soldier Doll	Mirliton Soloist	Head Soldier
Columbine Doll	Mirliton Ensemble	Soldier Ensemble
Clara	Mother Ginger Soloist	Spanish Soloist
Clara's Mom	Bon Bons	Spanish Ensemble
Party Moms	Mouse Queen/King	Drosselmeyer
Clara's Friends	Mice	Sugar Plum Fairy
Nutcracker Prince	Sugar Plum King	Fritz

**Everyone will audition in \*soft shoe\*.** Dancers that are currently taking pointe classes may audition for pointe roles, however, being in pointe classes does not guarantee a pointe role. Be assured that the choreographers intend to make each dance interesting and challenging. Every dance in the production is important and the success of the production depends on talented dancers doing their best in every performance.

**Understudy Role:** Dancers may have the honor of being selected as an understudy for one of the soloist roles. If, for unforeseen circumstances, the soloist is unable to perform, the understudy will dance in their place. The Director is expecting the understudy to attend the Oct. 8, 15, & 22 rehearsals (*these dates are mandatory*). Also, the understudy will need to attend the rest of the rehearsals through the show weekend for those soloist parts in order to learn the part (*Allowing only **one conflict** for non-mandatory rehearsals*). **This will be in addition to attending rehearsal for their main role in this Nutcracker production.**

## Audition Schedule

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 27th, 2023 at 360 Dance Company

Must be 8 years of age as of 10-8-23 **OR** entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in the fall of 2023!

Please audition with the age group you will be as of **10-8-23!**

Soft Shoe:	1:00–2:00pm:	Ages 8 - 11yrs
Acro:	2:00–2:30pm:	All ages
Soft Shoe :	2:30–3:30pm:	Ages 12-18yrs
Pointe:	3:30 –4:00pm:	All Ages <i>(must be currently taking pointe)</i>
Call Backs:	4:15pm <i>(if needed)</i> – please be available	

There will be a **MANDATORY** parent meeting on  
**Sunday at 1pm for dance parents of 8-11yr olds and  
3pm for parents of 12-18yr olds.**

*\*\* If you do not have ballet experience or have not taken ballet for several years, please do not worry, as the judges will know your ballet experience prior to your audition. They would still like you to participate with the group and just do the best you can. If you do not have ballet shoes, you may wear jazz shoes or bare feet. However, if your child receives a ballet role, they will be expected to have ballet shoes for the rehearsals and performances.*

**PLEASE arrive 15 minutes early!**

Check in, get your audition number and **be ready** to dance at your assigned time.

#### **Note:**

- Parents will be asked to remain at the studio during auditions.
- All dancers and parents must leave the building after their audition unless asked to stay by the judges.
- The Producer or Assistant Producer will not be involved in any judging. Judges, if applicable, will not be involved in any casting decisions regarding their own children.

**HAPPY DANCING!!!**

**\*The following forms must be completed online by July 16th. You may use these below for your reference.**

Marshall Community Ballet Company, PO Box 444, Marshall, MI 49068  
Producer: Jenna Graeber (269)986-3980

**Performer Registration Form**

Performer's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of **10-8-23** \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in school Fall '23 \_\_\_\_\_

Total years of **ballet training** \_\_\_\_\_ Years of **pointe** \_\_\_\_\_ are you **currently on pointe?** Yes\_\_ No\_\_

If yes, how many times a week do you take Pointe? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be taking ballet during the 2023-24 dance year? Yes\_\_ No\_\_

Where do you take dance lessons?

\_\_\_\_\_

List other dance instruction you will be taking 2023-24: \_\_\_\_\_

List other forms of dance training you have had in the past & no. of years of each:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list your **Acro** experience:

\_\_\_\_\_

List parts performed in previous MCBC productions of *The Nutcracker*

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any specific health conditions that might prevent you from dancing: \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle Leotard Size:** Child Small Child Med Child Large Adult Small Adult Medium Adult Large  
(Circle one)

**Parent Registration**

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email Address (*best email to use for communication*) \_\_\_\_\_

*The success of The Nutcracker depends not only on the beautiful dancing by your children, but also on the **adult volunteers** who make it happen. **It is expected a family member volunteers in an area prior to production and during the production & rehearsals, a minimum of 10 hours of time. We appreciate your help!!!***

**Prior to Production (choose at least one)**

Costume organization/assist  Sewing  Apparel Sales

Set painting/preparation  Fundraising projects

**During Production & Stage Rehearsals (choose at least one)**

Chaperoning Performers  Ticket Sales  Lobby decorating

Merchandise Sales  Ushers  Backstage assist

Costume Room Assistance

*Reminder - Dancers as well as one family member must help with strike on Sunday!*

**Please upload a current photo to the dancer's profile (ex: school photo)**

**Performance Agreement**

We understand that upon auditioning for *The Nutcracker*-

1. An audition fee of \$10 is due with registration. A \$65 performance fee will be due with my acceptance letter.
2. Dancers may not miss any rehearsals other than the **ONE** that must be submitted in the student profile in the **Conflict section on the MCBC parent portal**. (*May not be a mandatory date*)
3. Parts will be given based on audition performance, not age or grade level. Parts are given at the Judges’ discretion and individual parts do not have a set age.
4. One member of our family will assist with striking the set.
5. If necessary, the dancer will work with others in the group, outside of rehearsal to learn the dance.
6. Dancers may need to share costumes, may not purchase them and the costumes must remain in the care of the MCBC at all times.
7. Dancers are responsible for furnishing dance shoes and nude leotards specified by MCBC.
8. Failure to abide by any of these rules, and those stated in the Rules and Policies of the MCBC, will be interpreted as a “drop” from the cast and the part may be given to another person.

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Signature of Person Auditioning Date

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Signature of Parent Date

**Dancer’s Letter of Intent**

*The Nutcracker* Ballet is scheduled for December 1, 2, and 3, 2023. We agree to the following:

1. Dancer will attend all rehearsals and performances and arrive on time (*15 minutes early*).
2. Dancer will work cooperatively with the cast and crew.
3. Dancer will conduct her/himself professionally during rehearsals and performances.
4. Dancer will give four (4) weeks’ notice if he/she is unable to complete their obligation to *The Nutcracker*.
5. Dancer understands the **mandatory dates** listed for rehearsals and agrees to attend.
6. Dancer understands that only **ONE conflict** will be permitted and any unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in dismissal from the production. (*Mandatory dates will not be excused*)
7. We understand MCBC is not responsible for any injuries or loss of property incurred as a direct result of the rehearsals or performances.
8. We understand MCBC reserves the right to dismiss any dancer that does not adhere to or support the Dancer’s Letter of Intent.

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Signature of Person Auditioning Date

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Signature of Parent Date

**Dance & Acrobat Participant Permit (Child)**

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the Marshall Community Ballet Company’s production of *The Nutcracker*. I realize MCBC and its personnel cannot guarantee his/her safety or actions or assume responsibility for accidents, injuries or unforeseen incidents that may occur. I realize

my child may be given a partnered role that may require that he/she be in physical contact with the opposite sex.

Signature of Parent

Date

**Authorization / Consent Form**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize the Marshall Community Ballet Company and its successors and/or (Name of participant) legal representatives, in regard to photographing, videotaping, recording, etc.:

- To act on my behalf with *The Nutcracker* production.
- I understand materials may be used in audiovisual presentations, promotional literature, advertising, pictures or publications regarding the Marshall Community Ballet Company (MCBC).
- I understand this also includes social media accounts
- I also understand a written story about me may appear with photographs or videos.
- I give my permission to MCBC to provide the media (*radio, newspaper, etc.*) with my name.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian (*for ages 17 & Under*)

Date

**Part Acceptance**

(Please refer to the "Parts for *The Nutcracker*" before answering)

I will accept any part offered \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO - Reason: \_\_\_\_\_ (*be specific*)

I am willing to understudy a major role \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

**Conflict Report**

Please list any conflict with a rehearsal date (*listed in Information and Reminders*), which appears on your calendar at this time. Note that you will be excused from **only ONE rehearsal** that is **not a Mandatory rehearsal**, and the day/date must be listed in this section. \*\* If you know your child will have a conflict, but do not know the exact date, please list the activity and possible day the conflict might occur. (*It's better to write down a possible conflict & not need it, than to NOT include it and be unexcused.*)

**Your Confirmed Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Possible Day/Month:* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

**Waiver of Liability (for children under 18)**

In case of emergency, what local physician should be contacted?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

If necessary, may your child be given emergency medical care at Oaklawn Hospital? Yes No (Circle One)

Please list any medications medical personnel should know about \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your hospitalization insurance co. & policy no. \_\_\_\_\_

The adult in charge may sign for treatment in the hospital for my child if I cannot be reached immediately: Yes No (Circle one)

Signature of Parent

Date

**Emergency Information**

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

**If you cannot be reached, whom may we call to take care of your child?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ home # \_\_\_\_\_ cell# \_\_\_\_\_ work # \_\_\_\_\_

(Must ***provide proof of I.D.*** that matches our records)

\*\*Please note the above information will remain confidential and only seen by the Producer!!