THE NUTCRACKER 2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION- RED CAST

Rehearsal & Performance Details

KINDER COMBO TUESDAY CLASS – TOYS – RED CAST

The Nutcracker is just over a month away! We are beyond thrilled to continue this magical tradition with our community this season and want everyone to have an amazing & safe experience! Please read through all of these important details so you know what to do/expect this year in this role. Please don't hesitate to ask questions after reading the packet!

Where can I find answers to my Nutcracker Questions?

- On the Nutcracker Information Page on the studio website: **centerstageacademy.org/nutcracker2026**
- By texting/calling the studio at 660.747.6133 or emailing: coreena@centerstageacademy.org

Which cast is my dancer in? --- THE RED CAST!

- All dancers in Kinder Combo (Tues), Jr. Ballet 1 (Tues), Jr. Ballet 2 (Tues), and Jr. Ballet 3 (Thurs) are in the **RED** cast.
- There will be a total of four Nutcracker performances: Saturday, December 5 at 2pm & 7pm & Sunday, December 6 at 1pm & 5:00pm.

YOUR CLASS IS IN THE RED CAST AND IS ONLY PERFORMING IN 2 SHOWTIMES:
Saturday, December 5 @ 2:00pm & Sunday, December 6 @ 5:00pm

Nutcracker Tickets!

- **Nutcracker ticket sales start for all shows online only on Saturday, November 14th @ 10am!**
- We are only offering in-person tickets again this year.
- There are no limits on the number of tickets that can be purchased while seats are available.
- Any remaining seats will be available to purchase at the door.

More specific details on purchasing tickets are available Nutcracker page on the studio website.
www.centerstageacademy.org/nutcrackertickets2026

Nutcracker Flowers are back!

- Many families choose to give their dancer flowers after the show! For your convenience, you can pre-order flowers online when you purchase tickets or separately on the studio website through Nov. 20 & we'll have them ready and waiting for you to pick up at the show! We will also have limited flowers available for purchase in the lobby at each performance!

FINAL DAY TO ORDER NUTCRACKER 2026 SHIRTS IS WEDNESDAY, OCT 28!

Balcony Supervisor Volunteers!

- **SOME CLASSES STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to help as a Balcony Supervisor!
  - You will not need a ticket to the showtime that you are volunteering during. You will be able to watch the performance from the seats in the back of the balcony with the students.
  - You will be responsible for monitoring/helping students while they are walking to and from the seats in the balcony and while in the audience.
- AGAIN, THIS YEAR! A background check will be run on ALL volunteers prior to approval.
- **NO ONE WHO HAS NOT HAD A BACKGROUND CHECK RUN IN ADVANCE WILL BE ABLE TO VOLUNTEER.**
- If you have not already done so, please stop by the front desk to fill out a form providing us with your Name, Date of Birth, SSN and Address that states that you give CSA permission to run a background check with your information.

Scan to sign up to volunteer!

Show Week Rehearsals! **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 @ HENDRICKS HALL**

- Your class will have a STAGING rehearsal on **Thursday, Dec. 3rd INSTEAD** of your regular class. You will not have your regular ballet class time class this week.
- **THE FOLLOWING CLASSES ARE CANCELLED NOV. 30- DEC. 3:** All Ballet, Pointe, Kinder Combo & Leaps & Turns classes, Pre-Company 1 Tap & Jazz, Tap Tech 2/3, 4 & 5, Jazz Tech 1, Lyrical 5, Hip Hop 5

Your STAGING REHEARSAL will be at Hendricks Hall on the UCM Campus, Thursday, Dec. 3.

STAGING REHEARSAL	CALL (ARRIVAL) TIME	START/END TIME
Toys RED Cast	5:05pm- to be ready at 5:15pm! Wear ballet class attire & bring ballet shoes!	**5:15-5:30pm** Only 15 minutes!

Attending the Staging Rehearsal is MANDATORY for your class since you do not have an additional dress rehearsal. We enforce this strict policy for the confidence and safety of the performers. It is crucial that every student rehearse on the stage before performing and know exactly where he or she needs to be at all times.

- **What To Wear:** Wear your ballet class attire- leotard, tights, ballet shoes and hair in a bun! Costumes will NOT be worn. Performance make-up & hair is NOT required.
- **When To Arrive: Be in the auditorium** ready to dance at your appointed time as each class has a very limited amount of time. Dancers only need to come for their specific rehearsal time & should leave after rehearsing.
- **Where To Enter:** Please enter through the front/main doors of Hendricks Hall and head directly into the auditorium to wait.
- **What Should Parents Do:** Parents of students in Kinder Combo and Jr. Ballet 1 & 2 should accompany their child to the auditorium and wait in the auditorium until the end of their child's rehearsal.

COSTUME/HAIR/MAKEUP INFORMATION SHEETS FOR ALL CLASSES ARE ONLINE!

www.centerstageacademy.org/nutcracker2026

Your PERFORMANCES will be at Hendricks Hall on the UCM Campus, December 5 & 6.

PERFORMANCE:	CALL (ARRIVAL)TIME	PERFORMANCE START/ END TIME
Toys RED Cast Kinder Combo Tuesday Class	**1:00pm** Arrive wearing tights (no underwear), skin-toned body liner, have hair & makeup done!	Saturday, Dec. 5 2:00 PM Pick-up time: 4:15ish
Toys RED Cast Kinder Combo Tuesday Class	**4:00pm** Arrive wearing tights (no underwear), skin-toned body liner, have hair & makeup done!	Sunday, Dec. 6 5:00 PM Pick-up time: 7:15ish

- **What To Wear:** Dancers should arrive already wearing tights (without underwear) & body liner UNDER your clothes **with your make-up & hair done**. Male dancers should wear bike shorts under their clothes!
- Note- the info sheet is just a guideline for makeup- **there is no pressure to wear all of the suggested makeup at this age! TOYS SHOULD ONLY WEAR CLEAR LIP GLOSS- NO LIPSTICK. More info on the sheet.**
- **Reminder- Body liners are required for female dancers!** We will send you a text when the body liner you ordered has arrived. If you don't have a body liner and didn't order one, check with the front desk.
- We also ask everyone to bring/ wear simple pants and a button or zip front top/ jacket to wear when you are not in costume backstage. Please do NOT only arrive in your body liner (bike shorts for boys) & tights- wear clothes over them!
- **When To Arrive:** Please arrive at your call time (see above) and remember to bring your ballet shoes!

DANCER DROP OFF! To make checking dancers in more convenient and faster for parents & more secure overall, we will have a **drive through drop off/ check-in** for all dancers!

- To help with traffic flow, please drive through the UCM Visitor parking lot off of South Street & Maguire at the call time listed above to drop off your dancer! CSA Staff will direct you!
- If you would like to accompany your dancer to their dressing room, you can do so! Plan to park and walk your dancer in at the time below! If you choose to accompany your child in, please then leave your dancer at the dressing room with CS staff until after the show.

What Should Parents Do:

- Parents of dancers in **K-5th grade** need to **check their student in & out**. Parents will give CS Staff a secret word at drop off. You will then need to tell CS Staff the word to check your child out!
- The box office opens 1 hour before the show & the house will open 30 minutes before show time!

ALL STUDENTS WILL STAY WITH CS STAFF OR BALCONY SUPERVISORS FOR THE ENTIRE PERFORMANCE. Dancers might want to bring along a few quiet, CLEAN activities. No markers, or loud games, etc.

The only drinks allowed backstage are bottles of water with lids. ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD IS ALLOWED BACKSTAGE! Due to food allergies & white costumes we don't allow ANY snacks backstage for any ages. Please have your dancer eat a good meal before the performance to tide them over.

Curtain Call!

All students will be in the curtain call! For the safety of all performers backstage, parents will not be allowed to check out their child prior to the conclusion of the curtain call.

- After the curtain call, ALL students will return to their assigned dressing areas to change out of their costumes.
- **IMPORTANT! Dancers MUST turn all pieces of their costume back in with staff before you leave after each performance!**
- Due to limited time in between shows, dancers will not be able to take pictures on stage after the performances.
- CS Staff will try to take a picture of students in their costumes in front of the Nutcracker banner backstage to then share with families!
- **PARENTS!** To maintain an organized, safe and secure environment for all children, we are asking for only one person to pick up their dancer after the show. You will need to sign them out in the lower Hendricks lobby and NOT in the dressing rooms.
    - **There is no rush to get to the sign-out area!** Wait and hang out a bit before packing into the lower lobby. :) All of the dancers have to change out of their costumes and gather their personal items, before they will be escorted as a group to the check-out area! It will take at least 15 minutes before any dancers are ready to be checked out!

General Information:

- **SHOW ORDER** sheets are available on the studio website.
- **VIDEOS & PICTURES:** You are welcome to take pictures (no flash) and video of the performance. HOWEVER, please be courteous of audience members behind you. NO tripods or standing up in the audience to video.
- Please remember to be a courteous audience member. Enter and exit the house only through the back doors between numbers.
- **No guests should ever meet a dancer backstage!** Our space is extremely limited, and for the safety of our performers, we do not allow any additional people backstage. CS Staff will make sure all students are accounted for and help out when needed. **You can reach CS Staff via TEXT during the performance! 660.747.6133**
- **Dads, brothers, etc.:** Please be aware that dancers often have to make quick changes directly backstage or offstage. We make every effort to provide a modest changing area, but this is impossible at certain times. Please make a conscious effort to avoid all areas around the stage.

TOYS: Costume & Hair Information for Dress Rehearsal & Performances:

- With a permanent black "Sharpie" brand marker, please write full names (first and last) inside your own performance shoes, tights, leotards, and undergarments that will be worn during the show.
- *All items should be clean with no holes or runs*.
- Do not wear underwear under your ballet tights.
- Neatly secure hair with lots of gel, hairspray, bobby pins, and hairnets. Bring extra bobby pins to secure headpieces. Boys- comb hair neatly!
- No jewelry or fingernail polish
- No earrings

Girl Dancers will need:

- ☐ Pink Revolution stretch leather ballet shoes
- ☐ New pink tights, purchased from Center Stage
- ☐ Skin-toned body liner- required
- ☐ Stage Make-up (see class info sheet online- **no lipstick- use only a clear lip gloss**)
- ☐ Hair in High Pigtails– long hair curled

Boy Dancers will need:

- ☐ Black ballet shoes
- ☐ Black socks
- ☐ Appropriate undergarments & bike shorts (also a fitted top if uncomfortable being shirtless)
- ☐ Hair neatly combed
- ☐ Make-up not necessary, however a small amount of stage makeup will enhance your features under the stage lights. A natural cheek and clear lip gloss may be used if desired.

Names must be clearly placed in all personal belongings, especially your ballet shoes- they all look alike! Be sure to leave all valuables at home! Center Stage is not responsible for lost/damaged phones, tablets, jewelry, watches, etc…