



December 7th & 8th
2:00 PM

Regina Dominican
701 Locust Rd.
Wilmette, IL 60091



SCHOOL of DANCE
since 1954

Dear LBP families and guests,

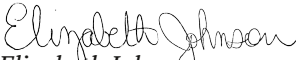
Welcome to LBP's 55th presentation of the Nutcracker. We are so happy you could join us today. As I reflect on another Nutcracker, I am filled with gratitude.

First and foremost I am thankful for the dancers and choreographers. This year we have an all time record number of dancers in the Nutcracker. I am so grateful for their dedication and hard work these past ten weeks in rehearsals. I am also thankful for the choreographers who have helped me teach this great group of dancers. Their creativity and attention to detail have helped make today's performance wonderful. I want to give a special thank you to our guest artists- John and Jack. Because of their hard work, we are able to provide our older dancers with the opportunity to perform pas de deux. I am grateful Jack was eager to return as a guest artist after his first guest appearance two years ago. In addition, it has been such a joy to have John back as Cavalier. It truly shows how much of a family we are here at LBP that our dancers keep returning after they have graduated. I am also grateful for our seniors who are great role models and leaders for our cast.

Today's performance would not be possible without our team of dedicated board, crew, and volunteers. Our LBP board helps to make this all possible for coordinating the theater rental, creating and maintaining our beautiful costumes, selling tickets, creating and managing our props and set pieces, selling concessions and flowers, spiritwear sales, helping to prepare students for the stage and keeping them safe in the dressing room, and much more. Without their willingness to volunteer the many hours needed to pull this together, we would not be here today.

Lastly, I am grateful for all of you. Without your support, we would not be able to continue to provide our students the opportunity to perform in two full length ballets each year. Your support and applause during the performance also validates our dancers and helps them be proud of their hard work. Without further ado, sit back, relax, and cherish the amazing work of our talented group of students.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Johnson
LBP Artistic Director

ACT ONE

It is Christmas Eve, long ago. Shimmering Christmas music promises magic to come. In her workshop, Frau Drosselmeyer, Clara's godmother and a renowned inventor, works feverishly to finish her dolls in time for the Stahlbaum Christmas party. Drosselmeyer has made a special doll, a Nutcracker, for Clara. Meanwhile, as the grownups bustle about, Clara and Fritz, the Stahlbaum children, are burning with excitement. Soon, friends and relatives begin arriving, dressed in their holiday silks and satins. Cousins and friends join Clara and Fritz. The dancing begins, presents are exchanged and merriment abounds. Frau Drosselmeyer presents several life-sized dolls she has brought to entertain the party guests. Drosselmeyer presents Clara with her special Nutcracker. Filled with jealousy, Fritz snatches the Nutcracker, and in the ensuing melee, he breaks it. Fritz is led away to bed as punishment. The guests soon depart, and the Stahlbaum house prepares for bed.

CAST

Clara	Hildy Betzen
Fritz	Jacob Schmidt
Mr. & Mrs. Stahlbaum	Scott Kalmus, Mary Katriadakis
Maids	Rachel Bullock, Vicki Lee, Emily Potter
Girlfriends	Marlo Frampton, Kennedy Hughes, Gigi O'Doherty, Paige Parker
Child Guests	Rowan Becker, Emma Herbert, Annaliese Kim, Maeve Levy, Esme Looney, Neve Mansberger, Ella Muser, Audrey Perkins, Malin Peterson, Ruza Petrovic, Cecilia Quach, Gabriela Rossato, Mila Slota, Louie Stuart, Lorelei Wilson
Adult Guests	Eric Cuevas, Jeff Harrell, Laura Johnston, Lara Kipphut-Ngo, Erich Parker, Robyn Parker, Eliina Pritzker, Josh Pritzker
Ballerina Doll	Lola Frampton
Raggedy Ann Dolls	Koralie Blanes, Margaux Davis, Ellie Martinez, Quinn McDowell
Jacks-in-the-Box	Mia Andriani-Knight, Magdalena Wilson
Frau Drosselmeyer	Katie Frendreis

ACT TWO

With the guests departed and the children snuggled in bed, silence befalls the sleeping Stahlbaum household. Only the mice are stirring. Clara dreams of dancing angels until the clock chimes the midnight hour. Mice creep out from their hiding places. As Frau Drosselmeyer appears, her magic causes the Christmas tree to grow. Clara takes notice and asks her to bring the Nutcracker doll to life. Drosselmeyer transforms the Nutcracker into a noble prince! A troop of toy soldiers is summoned to battle with the mice. They fight in earnest while the evil Mouse Queen jousts with the Nutcracker. After defeating the Mouse Queen the Nutcracker lies fatally wounded with a tearful Clara by his side. Drosselmeyer enchantingly brings the Nutcracker back to life. With Drosselmeyer's blessing, the Nutcracker offers his hand to Clara and invites her to the "Kingdom of Sweets." But first they travel through the dazzling "Land of Snow," where they meet the Snow Queen and King, and the swirling Snowflakes.

CAST

Nutcracker	Elliot Schmidt
Clara	Hildy Betzen
Frau Drosselmeyer	Katie Frendreis
Clara's Dream	Nora Benson, Primrose Challender, Naomee Chau, Isabella Finelli, Luna Garcia, Catherine Hamel, Isabelle Maier, Daniela Markin, Aivelynn Martinez, Mary Nalezny, Sophie Newbold, Aurora Novy, Sofia Paute, Claire Perkins, Marion Rodemeyer, Paige Streit, Beatriz Ulm, Aliana Walling
Mouse Queen	Lily Bahena
Mice	Naomi Blitstein, Stevie Englund, Sofiya Gasimova, Milly Grayheck, Jane Lightner, Lila Perkins, June Rodemeyer, Margot Slota, Jenny Wei
Soldiers	Julia Arnold Ruest, Esther Batacan Weidmann, Jane Carruthers, Rooney Feczko, Cora Ferrari, Eloise Hoang, Elliot Lightner, Naya Mayer, Juniper Pingolt, Eleanor Pritzker, Hazel Schmidt, Alexandra Swift, Bella Wei
Snow Queen	Vicki Lee
Snow King	Jack Russell
Snowflakes	Daniela Andrade, Lily Bahena, Sophia Bahena, Eva Castro, Tallulah Dabrowski, Lola Frampton, Bella Gallo, Chloe Grzeca, Ramona Harold, Julia Kiszynski, Eleni Murray, Tess O'Doherty, Hannah Paskiewicz, Lucy Paskiewicz, Lily Patio, Freyja Peterson, Imani Pettigrew, Massina Pettigrew, Evva Platis, Emily Potter, Karla Torres, Campbell Travis

ACT THREE

Clara and the Nutcracker arrive in the mesmerizing “Kingdom of Sweets.” The Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier call forth all the specialties of the land to entertain Clara. Dancers from Chocolate, Coffee, Tea and Marzipan perform intricate dances. Mirlitons swirl to the music of reed flutes. Out from under Mother Ginger’s skirt leap little Gingerbread Cookies. Led by the Rose, the Flowers waltz. Lastly, the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier dance for Clara.

CAST

Clara	Hildy Betzen
Nutcracker	Elliot Schmidt
Frau Drosselmeyer	Katie Frendreis
Angels	Julia Arnold Ruest, Esther Batacan Weidmann, Jane Carruthers, Rooney Feczko, Cora Ferrari, Eloise Hoang, Elliot Lightner, Naya Mayer Juniper Pingolt, Eleanor Pritzker, Hazel Schmidt, Alexandra Swift, Bella Wei Lucy Paskiewicz
Chocolate Lead	
Chocolate Corps	Lizzy Harr, Leah Johnson, Charlie Jordan, Hannah Malinak, Maura O'Toole, Alice Pritzker Eleni Murray
Marzipan Lead	
Marzipan Corps	Arely Caicedo, Olivia Baldwin, Everly Gaubatz, Katrina Hench, Olive Lietz, Evelyn Malinak, Juliet Saunders, Etta Schultz, Cella Streit, Jane Swanson Julia Kiszynski
Tea Lead	
Tea Corps	Imogene Dabrowski, Margot Lewis, Abby Mueller, Rowan Riley Bella Gallo
Candy Cane Lead	
Candy Canes	Sofia Bartz, Bridget Bohmer, Grace Geisler, Courtney Harrell, Josie Hoang, Allie Johnson, Colleen Kane, Eliana Kim, Caitlin O'Keefe, Charlie Parker, Xena Piurkowski, Daniela Warman

ACT THREE

CAST...continued

Mirliton Lead	Sophia Bahena
Mirlitons	Clara Fogarty, Ava Johnston, Abby Kalmus, Penny Lee, Isla Murray, Harlowe Ngo
Coffee Lead	Campbell Travis
Coffee	Nick Betzen, Sam Fogarty, Sam Hixenbaugh, Elliot Schmidt
Mother Ginger	Josh Pritzker
Gingerbread	Maddy Benson, Madeline Blume, Stella Burns, Genevieve Cornue, Elizabeth Dufour, Phoebe Scott, Eleanor Stutzman
Rose	Emily Potter
Butterflies	Daniela Andrade, Freyja Peterson
Flowers	Lily Bahena, Sophia Bahena, Tallulah Dabrowski, Bella Gallo, Julia Kiszynski, Vicki Lee, Tess O'Doherty, Lucy Paskiewicz, Karla Torres, Campbell Travis
Sugar Plum Fairy	Rachel Bullock
Cavalier	John Freeman



PRODUCTION STAFF

Director/ Choreographer	Elizabeth Johnson
Assistant Choreographers	Katie Frendreis, Allison Grabarczyk, Olivia Karenas, Cori Kolasinski, Robin Mark, Allison Phalen, Maiah Sol, Ida Velez
Production Managers	Scott Kalmus, Lara Kipphut-Ngo
Stage Crew	Jason Bullock, Lydia Schmidt
Scenery Design	Mike Kolasinski
Costume Committee	Melissa Oakes Bullock, Amanda Hughes, Dawn Travis
Dressing Room Committee	Jennifer Frampton, Mary Katriadakis, Suzie Paskiewitz
Program Design	Eric Cuevas
Marketing/Logo Design	Mellissa Oakes Bullock, Josh Pritzker
Hospitality	Edith Torres
Ticketing	Dawn Travis
Spiritwear	Valerie Harrell
Lobby Photo Display	Brenda Andriani, Amanda Hughes
Volunteer Coordinator	Christine Lee
Livestream	Eric Cuevas

GUEST DANCER



John Freeman is thrilled to be back at LBP. An alumnus, Freeman danced at the studio from ages three to eighteen, making this his sixteenth Nutcracker. He spent the last four years studying Classics and German at Princeton University, where he continued dancing as a member of Disiac Dance Company. The Salutatorian of his graduating class, he now works at the litigation firm Sperling & Slater and plans to enroll in law school. Freeman has always appreciated LBP's warm and supportive community, and he is grateful to be making his return!

GUEST DANCER



Jack Russell is a professional dancer and circus artist. He obtained an BFA in dance performance from Cornish College of the Arts. He has performed dance for Meadows Dance Collective, International Ballet Theatre and Cornish Dance Theatre. He performs Circus regularly through Yes Ma'am Circus, and Wild Card Circus as well as many independent shows.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Artistic Director	Elizabeth Johnson
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SCHOOL of DANCE
since 1954

presents

COPPÉLIA

SAVE THE DATE!

APRIL 12 & 13
2025

auditions are January 5, 2025





a special shout out to LBP's

SENIORS



Rachel Bullock
Jones College Prep



Vicki Lee
Northside College Prep



Emily Potter
DePaul College Prep



Campbell Travis
Lane Tech College Prep

enjoy these sweet Nutcracker moments

Saturday, January 4th

TRIVIA
NIGHT

A brainpower showdown for a good cause!
Join LBP for our first ever
TRIVIA NIGHT fundraiser.

- ☆ Adults only; babysitting is available at the studio
- ☆ BYO snacks & drinks
- ☆ Teams form starting December 20th, best to have your ticket prior to team sign up





Congrats!

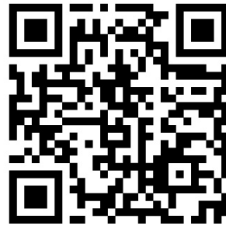
HILDY

**AND ALL THE DANCERS
ON A FABULOUS
NUTCRACKER SEASON**

We are so proud of you and all your hard work!
Love Mom, Dad, and Nick

Congratulations to Quinn
and all the cast of The
Nutcracker - Bravo!

Mention The Nutcracker and
I'll donate a portion of your
home sale or purchase back
to LBP to support next year's
production!



The Path to
Home starts
here

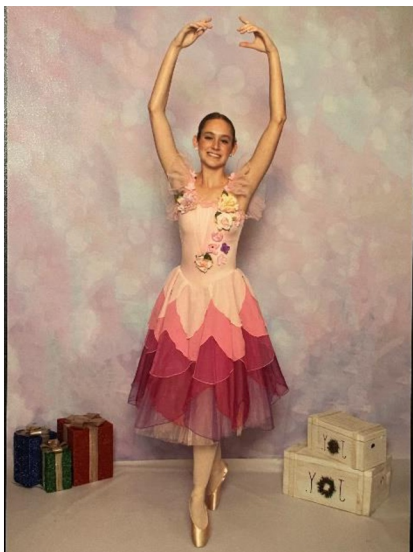
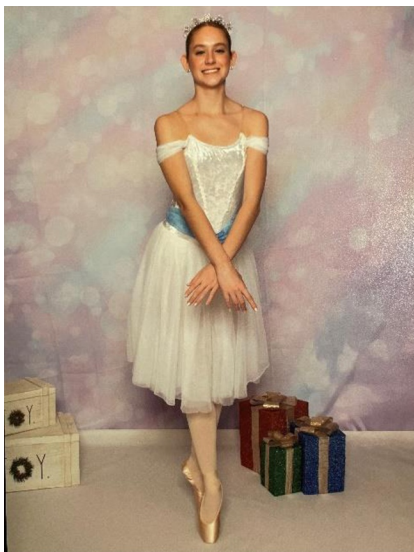


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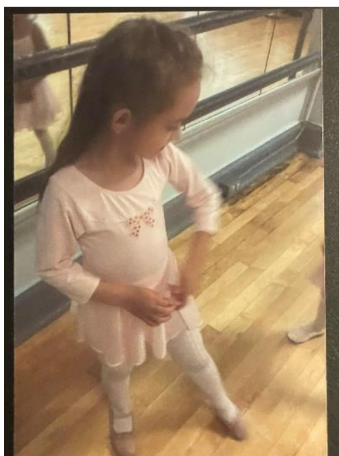
Adam McDowell, Realtor
Your Path to Home
773.595.5868

amcdowell@bhhschicago.com





Congratulations Emily on your final Nutcracker performance! We are so proud of you and how amazing and beautiful you've grown up to be. Love you always, Mom and Dad.



Bravo!



Congratulations to everyone at LBP School of Dance on this year's production of the Nutcracker!

The holiday season can be a time of warmth, laughter and fun. But for some, it can also be a difficult time of year. If you or your family are feeling stressed, or just need someone to talk to, Meridian is here to help. We specialize in helping individuals, children, families and couples strengthen their mental health.

Now accepting appointments — most in-person and online sessions can be scheduled in just a few days.

Call **312-640-7743** or visit
[meridianpsychiatricpartners.com](https://www.meridianpsychiatricpartners.com)

Happy Holidays!



congrats RACHEL



We are so proud of you and will be cheering you on with every leap, turn, and lift. It has been pure joy witnessing your growth from a tiny mouse. Cherish the special moments of your final Nutcracker performance but, most importantly, have fun!

We ♥ You!
Mom, Ella, & Betty



CRU\$T FUND
P I Z Z A

WOW!

CONGRATULATES

**JANE
CARRUTHERS**

**ON ANOTHER WONDERFUL
PERFORMANCE**



**SIGNED,
HENRY CARRUTHERS
LUCY CARRUTHERS
MANAGING PARTNERS**

**WE LOVE YOU,
JANE!**



Bella, watching you dance brings us joy!
We are so proud of all that you do!!
Love, mom dad Benjamin & Rocky



**For donation
information
& more visit**

leballetpetit.org/shop



SCAN
for link

HEIDI LIGHTNER ARCHITECTS

Happy Holidays from HLA!

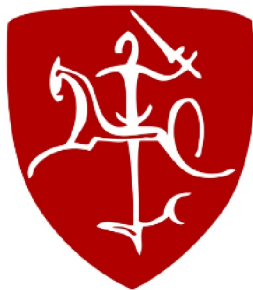
At Heidi Lightner Architects, we believe that architecture is much like the ballet — a balance of creativity, precision, and grace.

We're proud to support the arts in our community and honored to cheer on all the talented dancers, including our own daughters, who bring magic to the stage in this timeless Nutcracker performance.



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**KARENAS CONSULTING, LLC
CONGRATULATES LBP
TEACHERS, DANCERS, AND
VOLUNTEERS ON ANOTHER
WONDERFUL NUTCRACKER
PRODUCTION.**



KARENAS
CONSULTING, LLC

www.raykarenas.com

Congratulations to our Vicki on your Nutcracker performance as Snow Queen! It has been a joy to watch you grow into a beautiful dancer throughout your 12 years at LBP!

We love you!
Mom, Dad, Anna and Penny





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since 1954

The Le Ballet Petit Guild, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded by Kitty LaPointe in 1954 and chartered in the State of Illinois in 1964.

In addition to providing many great performance experiences, LBP maintains its own dance school with three studios. Classes are offered at graded levels for children and adults in Ballet, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Acro, Lyrical, Flamenco, and Yoga.

Artistic Director
Elizabeth Johnson

Instructors

Sophia Bahena
Rachel Bullock
Dee Durfee
Diana Farfan
Stefanie Farfan
Katie Frendreis
Allison Grabarczyk
Laura Johnston
Olivia Karenas
Cori Kolasinski
Vicki Lee
Shawn Lent

Corrine Loren
Robin Mark
Sarah O'Keefe
Allison Phalen
Maria Politis-Stuart
Emily Potter
Lawrence Powell Jr.
Daisy Rueda
Maiah Sol
Campbell Travis
Ida Velez

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