**South Florida State College Performing Arts**

**THE NUTCRACKER BALLET**

**PARENT INFO**

**Local Dance Coordinator: Nancy McDuffee** (Contact info will be given to cast members)

**Please complete the audition form with clear writing. If we can’t understand your email or phone number, we won’t be able to reach you with important information.**

**Casting:** William Starrett, Artistic Director, casts all roles based upon a child’s size (costuming) and abilities. Nancy McDuffee and Cindy Garren do not make casting decisions. South Carolina Ballet will send an email and/or snail mail notice about the casting before the end of September.

**Rehearsals:** Cast members must attend all rehearsals. If you have a conflict (dance competitions, Little League, family events) and know that you will miss more than one rehearsal, please do not audition. We cannot change dates and/ or times to fit your schedule.

Rehearsals will be scheduled according to your child’s role. For example, fairies may rehearse from 8:30 – 9:30 am; wedding attendants from 9:30 – 10:30 am, dragonflies at 10:30 – 11:00 am. **Please arrive on time and ready to rehearse. You must be dressed, with proper shoes, and hair pulled back. We suggest bringing a sweater or light jacket.**

If a child misses a rehearsal without contacting Nancy McDuffee, your child will be dropped from the production. We expect your child at every rehearsal, but we realize that children get tummy aches or strep throat. If your child is ill, you must contact Nancy. Her contact info will be given to you after casting.

Any child that is a “no show” will be dropped immediately from the production. Children with disrupting behavior will also be dropped from the show.

Any child that misses 2 rehearsals will be dropped from the production.

Parents are not allowed to attend rehearsals, but you can wait in the lobby. Or you can drop your child and return later for pick up. Most rehearsals will be in the theater. A few will be held in the gym. You will be given a schedule.

**Costumes**: **There is a $15 rental fee for your child’s costume which is due at the first rehearsal**. Make check payable to: Columbia City Ballet. This cover the cost of cleaning and maintenance. Directions will be included in the casting email.

Your child will be required to purchase specific costume pieces like a bodysuit and tights. We will order your child’s clothing through a wholesale dance wear company. DO NOT BUY YOUR OWN COSTUME PIECES. Color, texture and fit vary widely and all characters must have the same look.

You will be given costumes instructions which includes make-up.

There will also be a costume fitting and rehearsal on the day of the performance (Sunday, December 4 Time: TBA). Presently, we don’t know what time your child will be expected to arrive at the theater day of show. But, you must pack a healthy lunch for your child.

Parents are not allowed backstage with your child

**Tickets for the performance: The performance is Sunday, December 4 at 3:00 pm.** We will send you ticketing information with the casting information Cast members receive a 15% discount for adult tickets and a 50% discount for children and fulltime students. Parents will be given a special code to purchase tickets before the general public. You can buy as many tickets as you like, but THERE ARE NO REFUNDS AND NO EXCHANGES.

 If you purchase a student ticket, that student may be asked to show a student ID at the performance. All children must have a ticket for entry. No lap children.

It’s important that you order your tickets as soon as possible to get the best seating. You will receive ticketing information with the casting notice.

**Housekeeping:** No food or drink is allowed in the theatre, except for water. You may have snacks in the lobby.

**Photo Release:** All cast members are required to sign a photo release for promotional photos.

**Photos/Videos**: There is absolutely NO RECORDING of the performance. There is absolutely NO PHOTOGRAPHY at the performance. This is extremely important because it could result in injury to your child.

We will hire a professional photographer who will take group photos after the performance. Each cast member will receive one complimentary photo.