**NUTCRACKER AUDITION INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES**

**LOUISVILLE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS!**

4868 Brownsboro Center ~ Louisville KY 40207 ~ 502-384-9180

[www.louafa.com](http://www.louafa.com)

**AUDITION INFORMATION**

Thank you for your interest in our 5th annual holiday production of the “Dancers Community Nutcracker” sponsored by the Louisville Academy of Fine Arts Dance Company! The following information will explain what to expect the day of the audition and answer any questions you may have, if your dancer is selected for a role in the Nutcracker.

In order to be eligible to participate in the Nutcracker each child must meet the following requirements:

~ Dancers must be currently enrolled in a dance school of your choice.

~ Dancers must be at least 5 years of age on the day of the audition.

~ Dancers must have at least one year of ballet training.

~ Dancers must be available for rehearsals on Saturdays, scheduled between 11:00-4:00.

Please arrive at least 30 minutes before your scheduled audition time to fill out an audition registration. To save time, please fill out the registration form online. Dancers will be called in the following order at the approximate times to go with a LAFA Dance Company member to the studios upstairs. Once a dancer has completed their audition, they will be free to leave. Adults must accompany their dancer into the building and will be expected to stay for a brief Nutcracker Meeting, to give you more information about what will be expected should your dancer receive a role in the Nutcracker.

* Noon Doors Open and Registration begins (for those not preregistered online)
* 12:30 Snowflurries & Bumblebees (age 5)
* 1:00 Mice (age 6)
* 1:30 Angels (age 7)
* 2:00 Cooks (age 8)
* 2:30 Polichinelles (ages 9-10)
* 3:00 Party Children (ages 11-12)
* 4:00 Toy Soldiers, Act Two Diverts (13-15)
* 4:30 Act Two Diverts (16-18)

We will adhere to this time schedule to the best of our ability depending on the number of dancers auditioning for each age group. We strongly encourage dancers not to leave the building and be available at least 15 minutes prior to and following the scheduled time frames.

There is no fee to audition. However, for those participating in the performance there is a $125 production fee per student. For a family of 2, $243.75. And a family of 3, $358.75. This is due on 9/21/24 by cash or check. If you wish to pay this fee with your card on your Jackrabbit account, the fee is $135/student (2/$253.75, 3/$368.75) to cover CC fees. There will be a late fee of $5 for every week that your payment is late. Please communicate to me if you need a different due date or need to break your production fees into payments. Just please contact me before the due date.

Students will be notified of their role by 9/16/24 by mail if they have been selected to participate in the Nutcracker.

**PRODUCTION REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES**

STUDIO REHEARSAL POLICY

* All studio rehearsals will take place at LAFA, 4868 Brownsboro Center, 40207
* Rehearsal attendance is mandatory. No unexcused absences will be permitted. If your child is ill please notify us at 502-384-9180 or email at [ms.julie.louafa@gmail.com](mailto:ms.julie.louafa@gmail.com) as soon as possible before the scheduled rehearsal time. *If a student misses more than 2 rehearsal they may be* *dismissed from the production.* If you know of any rehearsal conflicts now, please fill out on the bottom of this form and email Julie as soon as possible.
* Please arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled rehearsal time with your child ready to dance.
* Check the Rehearsal Bulletin Boards (outside of Studio A in the lobby), your email and the website regularly for any updates or changes of rehearsal times and other important information. Look for the Performances tab - Nutcracker page on the website for your convenience.
* Age-appropriate self-discipline and maturity are expected and required for the learning process during rehearsal and performances. Each child will be expected to pay attention, not talk out without raising their hand, keep their hands to themselves, do not climb on the barres and no running in the studio or building. Any inappropriate conduct will be subject to dismissal from the rehearsal and/or performances.
* Please mark all personal belongings with the student’s name.
* Please make sure your child(s) brings their own water bottle marked clearly with their name, we do not have a water fountain.

SCHEDULING

* Scheduling is subject to change. Please keep an eye on the Rehearsal Bulletin Boards (located outside Studio A in the lobby), the Nutcracker page on our website and your email for any changes that may occur during this time.
* Costume fittings – we will try to schedule these during rehearsals, however, there may be an additional time to come in according to our costumers’ schedule.
* Nutcracker cast members may be required to rehearse on any or all the following days. Times are not specific as of yet. A thorough rehearsal schedule will be given out the first rehearsal. Below are the times when your child *may* be rehearsing. Further details will be available upon casting.
  + Studio Rehearsals @ Louisville Academy of Fine Arts (LAFA) – Saturdays 11:00-4:00 possibly beginning on Saturday 9/14/24. (Your student will most likely not be needed for the entire time frame)
  + There will be no rehearsal on Thanksgiving weekend.
  + Tech Rehearsals will be held at the theater Wednesday 12/11/24 – Thursday 12/12/24 from 5:00-9:00.

PERFORMANCES

* Friday December 13 at 7 pm (Cast A)
* Saturday December 14 at 2 pm (Cast B)
* Saturday December 14 at 7 pm (Cast A)
* Sunday December 15 at 2 pm (Cast B)

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

* Shoes and tights – Purchase of shoes, tights, makeup and hair supplies is the responsibility of each cast member. Specifics will be given out according to the casting.
* Theater House Rules:
  + Call time will be 45 minutes to an hour before curtain for ages 5-10 and 2 hours before curtain for ages 11-18
  + Each child must sign in and out with our door monitor and the appropriate chaperone during performances.
  + No parents will be allowed backstage unless working as a chaperone. There is no wiggle room on this, no exceptions.
  + Chaperones and dancers will not be allowed in the wings until their scene and time to perform.
  + No cast members will be allowed in the front house (unless, they are not performing). Books, cards, and board games are encouraged backstage for entertainment before and after your specific time on stage.
  + All children must wait in the dressing rooms with the designated role chaperones until they are signed out by an adult at the end of each performance.
  + No cast member will be allowed to leave the theater wearing make-up. All children must wear street clothes over their leotard and tights when entering/leaving the studio and/or the theater. Please have children already in nude/white leotard and ballet pink tights under their street clothes as there will be limited to no private changing areas during tech rehearsals and performances.
  + Please provide the director with any specific instruction for any child on medication or serious allergies.
* Volunteers – Parents are strongly encouraged to volunteer during this event. It is fun, you learn what goes on backstage and it gives you an opportunity to spend time with your dancer doing what they love to do! Please watch for an email from Grace McWilliams, our Assistant Director about your opportunities. A volunteer meeting will be held on 10/19/24 from 4:00pm-5:00pm at LAFA in the 2nd floor suite.
* Costumes –
  + Absolutely no eating, drinking (other than water) or smoking in costumes.
  + No jewelry, underwear, or fingernail polish will be allowed on stage.
  + There will be a $125 costume/production fee that is due on 9/21/24 (see above). This helps to contribute to and maintain our costumes, sets, etc.
  + Costumes will be left in the dressing rooms during the run of the performances.
  + The costumes belong to the LAFA Dance Company and not to the individual students. Any problems with costumes should be reported to the assigned role chaperone who will report this issue to the Head Costumer, Selena Elbl or her assistant Donna Ruley.
* Tickets can be purchased online and/or at the door.
* The house will be opened half an hour before each performance.
* Party Parent Dancers: Join us as a performer in the Party Scene! No experience necessary only a desire to be on stage. Please let us know by 9/21/24 if you would like to participate in the performance. Please note, that you must be available on Saturdays for rehearsals.

Please sign and date that you have read and understand the above information and return to us at your first rehearsal.

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(Dancer) (Date)

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(Parent/Guardian) (Date)

Dates that I know in advance that I will be unavailable for rehearsal, or performance.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_