

# Welcome to Nutcracker 2011

Placer Theatre Ballet (PTB) is a non-profit, open dance organization seeking dancers for our 14th annual Nutcracker production. Auditions, a mandatory parent meeting, and all rehearsals will be held at our rehearsal studio, Conservatory of Dance, 4561 Pacific Street, Rocklin.

Although we have been rehearsing at Conservatory of Dance for many years, PTB is an independent organization, run by a volunteer Board of Directors. We welcome any interested dancers/actors to audition. Roles are offered solely on the basis of cast suitability, as judged during auditions. Not every auditionee will be offered a role.

Participation in PTB's Nutcracker is a wonderful opportunity accompanied by serious responsibility and commitment. Ensure that you understand and can meet the requirements listed here prior to auditioning, especially the rehearsal requirements and the performance dates. Because Nutcracker is performed during the holiday season, there are mandatory rehearsals surrounding Thanksgiving; furthermore, there are 4 performances Thanksgiving weekend. Also, we have one performance scheduled during the school/work day – your cast member will need to miss school or work, and if they do not drive themselves, you will need to get them to and from the theater that day.

- **Auditions: Saturday, August 20, Conservatory of Dance, Rocklin**
  - See links on the website audition page or in the print version for the list of available roles, any requirements for the various roles, and the Audition schedule listed by role.
  - Dress is ballet attire and hair, ballet shoes, pointe shoes if you dance en pointe.
- **Financial and Service Obligations:** PTB is a small organization run entirely by cast families; we create the magic of the production, doing everything from sewing costumes, to decorating the theater lobby. All cast families with minor cast members are asked to:
  - Pay participation fees (for minor cast members) of \$150 for the first family member; \$105 for each additional family member.
  - Sponsor PTB with their choice of the following:
    - Join our individual sponsorship program, the Dancer's Circle, at a minimum level of \$50
    - Participate in a fundraiser (examples: sell raffle or carwash tickets)
    - Obtain a business sponsorship at a minimum level of \$100
  - Other costs to plan for:
    - Specific performance makeup is required for all dancers (except for the mice); the initial cost generally ranges from \$25 - \$40, but once purchased, it can often be used for many productions. You can purchase the required makeup on your own or through PTB (generally at a discount).
    - Tights and shoes (PTB purchases these for you at a discount and then bills for them; for children's sizes, totals approximately \$20; for adult sizes, totals approximately \$30)
    - Optional purchases include photos, production and PTB apparel, concessions, etc.

- Contribute a minimum of approximately 20 service hours throughout the production.
  - The final number of service hours is dependent on the size of the final cast.
- Families with dancers who are double cast (perform in one-half the shows) pay full participation fees, but their service hour requirement is reduced by 50%.
- **Rehearsals:**
  - All 11 weeks of rehearsals will be held on weekends.
  - As a general rule for the younger dancers, rehearsal to learn a particular role will be held on either September or October weekends. For example, a mouse or party child role will rehearse 1 hour each weekend for 1 month. See the Draft Rehearsal Schedule.
  - In November, rehearsal times increase. We rehearse by act/scene, sometimes on both weekend days, and also rehearse the Act 2 finale and full cast bows.
  - We will rehearse all afternoon both Saturday and Sunday of the weekend before Thanksgiving, including a dress rehearsal. We will also hold a dress/technical rehearsal for the full cast at the theater on the Thanksgiving Friday holiday.
  - **Missed rehearsal policy -- you may miss *only***
    - 1 rehearsal for a non-illness conflict (request for exceptions must be submitted via email at least a week prior to a conflict).
    - The first rehearsal for your role is mandatory.
    - The first run-through rehearsal for your role is mandatory.
    - The final three weeks of rehearsal, including dress and tech rehearsals, are mandatory.

Violating the rehearsal conflict rules could result in your dancer being replaced for particular performance or role.

- **Publicity:**
  - We ask dancers in various roles to participate in publicity photos.
  - We ask dancers in various roles to make publicity appearances.
  - One of our performances is on a school day. Dancers will miss the morning of school, and their families will need to get them to and from the theater.
- **Parent Information Meeting:** TBA
- **Performance Dates and Location:**
  - November 26-27, 2 performances each day (this is Thanksgiving weekend)
  - December 2, School day performance
  - December 3, one show
  - December 4, 2 shows
  - All performances will be at Placer High School Theater in Auburn
- **Payment:** We accept major credit cards (in person and via PayPal/online), cash and checks made payable to Placer Theatre Ballet. Participation Fee scholarships are available, usually in exchange for additional service hours. Applications are available at our website [www.placertheatreballet.org](http://www.placertheatreballet.org) and need to be submitted no later than audition day.
- **Notice:** If you are cast, you will be notified by telephone; if you are not cast, you will receive a letter.
- **Information:** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via email from the website or leave a message on the PTB answering machine (916) 630-7820.