



Dear Dance Families,

Silver Spring Dance Conservatory is delighted to announce our first ever community production of “Journey to The Land of The Sweets: A Nutcracker Tale.” Directed and choreographed by former New York-based professional ballet dancer, Katie Reiter, this new twist on an old tale will tell a slightly different story. You won’t find Clara, a Mouse King or even a Nutcracker! Instead you’ll be swept up in a magical blizzard and transported to the decadent, dream-like world that is “The Land of the Sweets”. This will be a professional quality ballet production danced entirely by local student dancers.

Does this sound like an opportunity your dancer might enjoy? Keep reading for details about auditions, rehearsals and performances!

Dancers must be at least 7 years old (2nd grade or higher for the 2024-25 school year) and must be enrolled in at least one ballet class per week. Dancers from all local studios are welcome! All auditions, bootcamps, and rehearsals will be at Silver Spring Dance, 3730 Marietta Ave Columbia, PA 17512.

Auditions

Dancers will choose one day to audition.

Auditions will consist of a ballet technique class and choreography as time permits.

Audition sign ups will open May 1st. Follow the link below to sign up!

<https://forms.gle/HAJFMU1WbmD6LWRA9>

Beginner Auditions

Age 7-10
(SSDC Levels 1 & 2)
Monday June 24th
4:45pm-5:45pm
OR
Monday July 1st
4:45pm-5:45pm

Advanced Beginner/ Intermediate Auditions

Age 11-13
(SSDC Levels 3 & 4)
Monday June 24th
6:15pm-7:30pm
OR
Monday July 1st
6:15pm-7:30pm

Intermediate/Advanced Auditions

Age 14+
(SSDC Levels 5 & 6)
Tuesday June 25th
5:00-6:30pm
(Pointe: 6:30-7:15pm)
OR
Tuesday July 2nd
5:00-6:30pm
(Pointe: 6:30-7:15pm)

Nutcracker Bootcamps

Over the summer we will hold two week-long “Nutcracker Bootcamps” to acclimate dancers to the rehearsal process and start setting choreography.

Nutcracker Bootcamps will be the only paid participation events.

Otherwise dancer participation will be free.

Bootcamp Weeks: July 8-11 and August 12-15

Bootcamp Cost: \$30 per dancer per week

Beginner Bootcamps

Age 7-10
(SSDC Levels 1 & 2)
Mondays & Wednesdays
5pm-7pm

Advanced Beginner/ Intermediate Bootcamps

Age 11-13
(SSDC Levels 3 & 4)
Mondays & Wednesdays
10am-12pm

Intermediate/Advanced Bootcamps

Age 14+
(SSDC Levels 5 & 6)
Tuesdays & Thursdays
10am-1:00pm



Weekly Rehearsal Schedule

Rehearsals will begin in mid-July and will run through December.

Summer and Fall Rehearsal schedules will be based on casting, so dancers will not be called to every rehearsal nor will they be required to attend each rehearsal in its entirety.

Weekly full company rehearsals will begin in November.

Summer Rehearsals: Every other Thursday (times TBD)

September/October Rehearsals: Saturdays from 10am-2:30pm OR Sundays from 1pm-3:30pm

November/December Rehearsals (FULL CAST): Saturdays from 10am-1:30pm OR Sundays from 1pm-3:30pm

Performances

Location: Hempfield High School Performing Arts Center

Admission to all performances will be free with a “pay what you can” donation option at the door.

Thursday December 19th 5pm-9pm (Dress Rehearsal at the HHS PAC)

Friday December 20th at 6pm

Saturday December 21st at 11am (Sensory-Friendly Show, Advanced & Pointe Dancers Only)

Saturday December 21st at 6pm

Sunday December 22nd at 2pm

In Closing...

We will be relying on grants and community contributions to fund this performance and hopefully build a reserve that we can grow so we can continue this tradition for many years to come! If you own/operate/or work at a local business that might be interested in making a donation, let us know and we will send over a donor letter! Silver Spring Dance Conservatory is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All donations of goods and services are tax deductible

It's very important to us that a dancer's ability to pay does not become a barrier to their participation. We are trying to keep costs low, but we understand that financial hardships can happen to anyone. If your dancer would like to participate, but you may not have the means for the "Nutcracker Bootcamp" tuition, please don't hesitate to reach out. We will work with you.

We are so excited to be able to present this opportunity to such a phenomenal community of young dancers. We hope you will join us as we create new dance traditions in Lancaster and bring some holiday magic to life! Please let us know if you have any questions!

Warmly,

Katie Reiter
Director & Choreographer,
Journey to the Land of the Sweets:
A Nutcracker Tale

Cynthia Nehr
Artistic Director,
Silver Spring Dance
silverspringdance@gmail.com