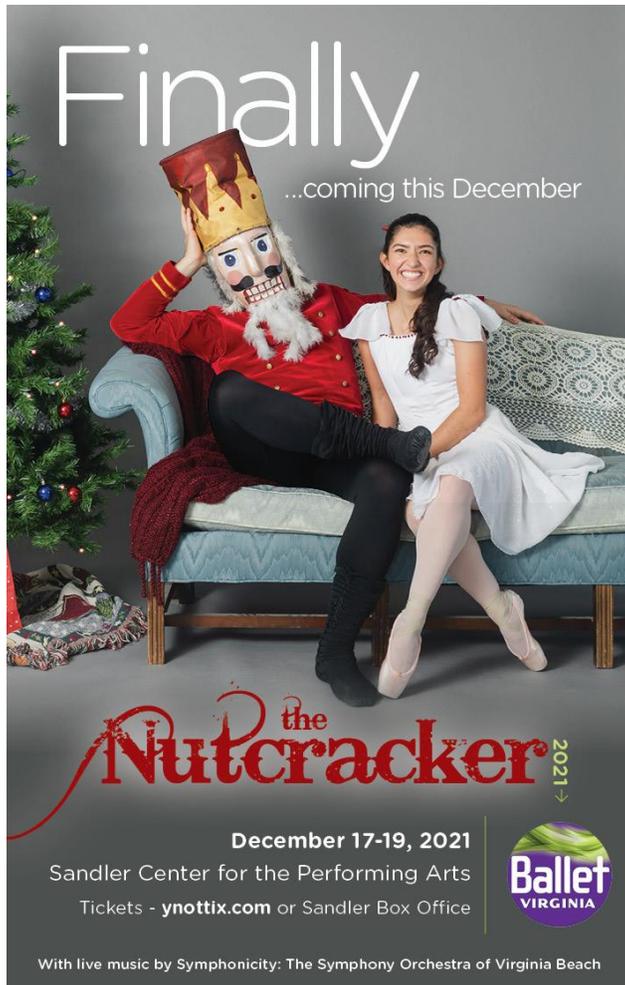


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Ballet Virginia Presents:

FINALLY! "The Nutcracker"
Hampton Roads' professional ballet company
with full orchestra from Symphonicity



(Norfolk, VA — October 25, 2021) – A dream of a magical Nutcracker that comes to life will fill the stage when Ballet Virginia presents “The Nutcracker,” Dec. 17th at 7:30 PM, Dec. 18th at 2:00 PM and 7:30 PM and Dec. 19th at 2:00 PM at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts in Virginia Beach. The company is thrilled to bring this beloved classic back to the stage after missing this annual tradition in 2020 due to the pandemic.

This “Nutcracker” will feature Ballet Virginia’s professional company alongside over 100 of our region’s finest young performers in this beloved holiday classic. Principal roles will be danced by these talented professional dancers. Ballet Virginia’s reputation for creating and producing high quality performances has enabled the organization to attract talented professional dancers from all over the country as well as train the next generation of dancers.

Daniel W. Boothe, Symphonicity’s music director, will conduct the live orchestra of over 50 musicians in all four public performances at the Sandler Center. The orchestra will perform Tchaikovsky’s original score and include strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, harp and celesta.

“We are so excited to have a professional company to work with this season. This group of talented artists will bring refined artistry and brilliant technique to the stage” said Suzanne Lownsbury, co-artistic director and choreographer for Ballet Virginia.

This year, audiences will notice some big changes. “We continue to make our ‘Nutcracker’ a true Hampton Roads creation,” said Janina Michalski, co-artistic director, and choreographer for Ballet Virginia. “As the professional company grows, we are able to create a more sophisticated and nuanced ‘Nutcracker’ by fully utilizing the talents of our.”

Ballet Virginia is again bringing together Hampton Roads animal lovers and the local arts community with the “guest” appearance of a dog in Act. The part will be played by a different dog each show.

For many years, Michalski and Lownsbury have produced an annual Hampton Roads “Nutcracker” as co-artistic directors. The duo’s past “Nutcracker” productions have graced the stages of Chrysler Hall, Harrison Opera House and now, since 2010, the Sandler Center. Ballet Virginia is the resident ballet company at the Sandler Center. In 2019, “Nutcracker” performances, which included five public performances and three student matinees, drew more than 6,000 audience members.

Tickets for Ballet Virginia's production of "The Nutcracker" with live orchestra at the Sandler Center range in price from \$23 to \$60 and can be purchased at the Sandler Center Box Office, www.ynottix.com or 1-877-YNOTTIX. Student matinees will be offered at discounted prices at the Sandler Center Dec. 16th and 17th at 10 a.m., providing local students the opportunity to experience this classic holiday event. Further information and reservations can be found by [contacting Ballet Virginia](#).

Please visit [Ballet Virginia's website](#) for additional information and our season performance schedule.

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About Ballet Virginia

Ballet Virginia is a professional ballet company with an associated academy. The organization provides professional quality productions, performances, and training for the Hampton Roads community. The organization also provides opportunities for lighting, set and costume designers as well as choreographers while continuing education and outreach programs for our community-at-large.

The academy draws from a diverse ballet syllabus inspired by the American, Russian, Italian, and French schools. This solid technical base ensures added success in other dance genres offered at the Academy. Our professional productions allow selected students and community dancers the opportunity to experience dance as a performance art.

Our Mission

At Ballet Virginia, we are committed to fostering a lifelong passion for dance through nurturing education, invigorating performances, and artistic excellence. Our Norfolk and Virginia Beach academies teach to the whole student by instilling discipline, self-confidence, joy, and sense of teamwork. Our performances are of the highest caliber as academy students perform side-by-side with professionals. We uphold the highest standards and strive to maintain artistic excellence in all our endeavors.