

River Region Ballet Presents Annual NUTCRACKER

The River Region Ballet is once again presenting the seasonal favorite *The Nutcracker*. The full length version of this timeless Tchaikovsky classic will be performed on Saturday December 10 at 7:30 pm and Sunday December 11 at 2:00 pm. Professional guest artists **Jessica Fry McAlister** and **Ramon Gaitan** will be dancing the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier and also the Snow Queen and King. Both performances are at Destrehan High School Auditorium, #1 Wildcat Lane. Tickets are \$15.00 through November 30.

As a special gift to the children of the community, RRB will also present a special children's matinee on Saturday December 10 at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00. This will be an abbreviated one hour performance for their younger fans. This performance will be followed by a "Sugar Plum Party". The audience members will be invited to join the Sugar Plum Fairy onstage and experience "The Kingdom of Sweets" for themselves. They can meet and talk to their favorite characters, experience what it's like to be on the stage under the glowing lights, and take pictures. Each young audience member will be given a special gift to remember their Nutcracker experience.

The River Region Ballet is proud to announce that Madeleine Raymond, daughter of Robert and Johanna Raymond of Destrehan, will be performing the role of Clara in this year's Nutcracker production. Madeleine is 15 years old and a freshman at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in New Orleans. She is an honor student, member of the french club and on the ultimate frisbee team. Madeleine has studied dance at Images Dance Studio, under the direction of Susan Ferrara, for 12 years. This is her 9th Nutcracker performance with RRB. She was a member of the Junior Company for 4 years before becoming a full company member. She has performed in several spring productions with RRB such as *Royal Mischief*, *Cinderella*, *La Boutique Fantasque*, and *Sleeping Beauty*. She has also performed in River Region Drama Guild's production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Madeleine had this to say, "I love dancing in the *The Nutcracker* every year. Ever since I was the little girl in the party scene, I dreamed of being Clara. I definitely can't wait to perform this year!"

The River Region Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* will utilize a cast of approximately seventy-five performers. Many have extensive dance backgrounds and



have performed many years with the River Region Ballet. They are vibrant young dancers with experience in a variety of roles. RRB Soloists are: Ashley Ericksen and Noelle Raymond. Featured dancers and corps de ballet are: Taylor Amedee, Kiersten Baker, Madison Cancienne, Emily Champagne, Sarah DiLeo, Elizabeth Gilmore, Molly Nagele, Stephanie Nagele, Ekuase Ogunbor, Laura Sullivan, Gerhardt Weiss and Allie Wursteisen. Junior Company dancers are: Rose Coats, Caroline Genius, Rebecca Helm, Kaela Hymel, Lianne Keller, Kate Lougon, Ashley Payne, Caroline Payne, Taylor Pradat, Grace Raymond and Shelby Walls. Other dancers are: Hailey Beard, Madalyn Champagne, Isaiah Charles, Perry Charles, Lily Coats, Rachael Durapau, Shelby Fogarty, Emma France, Natalie Gilmore, Nicole Gilmore, Caroline Green, Emma Headings, Joshua Hymel, Toi Jackson, Evan Keller, Emma Loup, Katelyn Moore, Adam Nagele, Hannah Ohlsson, Elizabeth Prince, Ava Rogers, Ella Schweitzer, Claire Seymour, Autumn Sharon, Olivia St. Pierre, Elizabeth Tew, and Adalyn Whitney.

(Continued on page 2 -Nutcracker)

CHILDREN’S THEATRE WORKSHOP JANUARY, 2012

The River Region Drama Guild will hold a Children’s Theatre Workshop for 8 – 18 year olds in January, 2012. The workshop will be held on Saturday mornings for four Saturdays beginning January 7th, 2012 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The workshop will continue on January 14th, 21st, and 28th. A final performance will be held on January 28 at 2:00 PM. The workshop is open to boys and girls ages 8 -18 years old. The workshop is sponsored by the United Way of St. Charles and is free to participants.

The Workshop will focus on ensemble building, trust, observation, self-confidence, concentration, imagination, and creativity. We will introduce the fundamental basics of theater and provide a well-rounded academic, educational experience of drama for all. Everyone regardless of ability and experience will be given an opportunity to be involved. Students will experience theater as a creative and critical thinking process that will help foster a healthy self-concept, develop intra-personal skills, clarify perceptions of the world, and nurture an awareness of themselves as physical, social and creative individuals. Participants will receive a well-rounded academic, educational drama experience. This theatre workshop allows both experienced and beginning students to develop confidence and encourage imagination while learning acting and stage movement skills. Students will learn to express themselves through creative improvisation and skits. Participants will experience the excitement of a performance and at the same time learn life skills through the lessons in acting. No pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Henry Sorbet (504-904-1129) for additional information.



Featured actors are Paul Ory as Uncle Drosselmeyer, Adam Carl Peyton as the Mouse King and Mr. Silberhaus, Matthew Lewis as the Nutcracker, Heidi Schindler as Mrs. Silberhaus, and Paul Sullivan as Fritz. Also performing in the Party scene are Ronald and Catherine Coats, Karen Graci, Juanita Marino, Stacey Payne, Joey Schweitzer, Henry Sorbet, Erika Spengler and Bryan Whitney .

For ticket information call 504-202-7706 or email riverregionballet@cox.net. Beginning December 1, tickets will only be available at the door. Full length performance tickets are \$20.00 at the door.

Important Dates

Nov. 29	RRB Christmas Shows Luling Living Center & Ormond Nursing & Care Center
Dec. 10-11	RRB Performance “The Nutcracker” Destrehan High School
Jan. 8	RRB Spring Concert AUDITIONS Images Dance Studio
Jan. 7-28	RRDG Children’s Theatre Workshop Saturday Mornings
Mar. 24-25	RRB Performance “Fairy Garden, Passages, Tarantella” Destrehan High School
June 2011	RRDG Performance “Footloose” Destrehan High School



This program is sponsored in part by: United Way of St. Charles; The Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural, Recreation and Tourism in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council as administered by the River Region Arts Council and the River Region Arts & Humanities Council.

CALLBOARD

published four times a year
River Region Drama Guild
River Region Ballet

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Nutcracker Tickets

River Region Ballet Ticket Order

One Performance Date Per Order Form

Circle Desired Date

Destrehan Auditorium

Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 7:30 PM

Tickets \$15.00 through Nov. 30

Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 2:00 PM

Tickets \$15.00 through Nov. 30

Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 3:00 PM

Abbreviated Performance & Party / Tickets \$10.00

Number of Tickets:

_____ \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to:

RIVER REGION BALLET INC.
105-A River Point Drive
Destrehan, LA 70047-0845

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

PHONE (Home/Work): _____

EMAIL: _____

Please enclose Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) if you want your tickets mailed to you; otherwise your **PAID** tickets will be held at the door. Five minutes before curtain your tickets will be resold. No refunds.

After Nov. 30 Tickets only available at the door.

River Region Ballet Spring Concert *AUDITIONS*

The River Region Ballet will present a Spring Concert on Saturday and Sunday March 24 and 25, 2012. This concert will feature original pieces by artistic director Susan Ferrara. The program will feature *The Fairy Garden*, *Passages* and *Tarantella*. Intermediate and advanced dancers are invited to audition.

Open Auditions

Sunday January 8

Images Dance Studio

105-A River Point Drive, Destrehan

12:30 - 2:00 pm Dancers 13 and Older

Dancers must be intermediate to advanced level. Female dancers must audition on pointe.

Dancers must sign in half hour prior to audition time. Audition forms must be completed and signed by the responsible adult. Dancers will not be admitted once the audition is started!

For More Information: 985-764-7678

riverregionballet@cox.net

www.rrpa.org

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7:30 PM

Sunday, December 11, 2011
2:00 PM
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After Nov. 30 Tickets \$20.00

Children's Matinee & Party
Saturday, December 10, 2011
3:00 PM
Abbreviated Performance - Tickets \$10.00

Destrehan Auditorium