

Everything You Need to Know for Nutcracker

Important Dates and Times

Saturday December 3rd **STUDIO** Rehearsal

2:00-3:30 Act 2 All Cast
3:30-4:30 Fight Scene All Cast
4:30-6:30 Party Scene All Cast

Thursday December 8th FULL CAST **THEATRE** Dress Rehearsal 5:00pm-9:00pm

4:30pm Everyone arrives at theater and finds dressing rooms/gets in costume
5:00pm Begin Dress Rehearsal **MUST START ON TIME!!!!**
7:30pm Cast can leave with parents (**4A/4B, Dross, Nut, Cavalier STAY**)
7:30-8:30pm Notes and rerun things
9:00pm Out of Theater

Friday December 9th FULL CAST **THEATRE** Gala Performance 5:00pm-9:00pm

5:00pm Gala begins in lobby
5:30pm Everyone arrives at theater and gets in costume Dancers should be discrete during drop off and stay downstairs while the Gala is going on.
7:00pm Performance Begins
9:00pm Show over and dancers can go home

Saturday December 10th

11:30pm Party Scene Cast and Level 3B/4A/4B dancers Arrive for Warm Up
12:00pm All other Cast Members Arrive
1:00pm Show starts
3:00pm Approximate time show concludes. Dancers can be picked up.
4:00pm Party Scene Cast and Level 3B/4A/4B dancers Arrive for Warm Up
4:15pm All other Cast Members Arrive
5:00pm Show starts
7:00pm Approximate time show concludes. Dancers can be picked up.

Sunday December 11th

11:30pm Party Scene Cast and Level 3B/4A/4B dancers Arrive for Warm Up
12:00pm All other Cast Members Arrive
1:00pm Show starts
3:00pm Approximate time show concludes. Dancers can be picked up.
4:00pm Party Scene Cast and Level 3B/4A/4B dancers Arrive for Warm Up
4:15pm All other Cast Members Arrive
5:00pm Show starts
7:00pm Approximate time show concludes. Dancers can be picked up. Strike Stage and load costumes. We need to be out by 8pm

Location

MSU Ted Paul Theatre
201 Earley Performing Arts Center-Mankato, MN 56001

Frequently Asked Questions...

Where can I park?

During the weekend you can park in any of the parking lots regardless of what the signs say; other than designated handicap parking areas. **On Thursday and Friday you need to try to park in the Green section of lot 16 avoid being ticketed. After 6:30pm on Thursday and Friday the Gold lot is also open.**

What happens if I arrive early?

If you arrive prior to the first arrival time please wait in the parking lot, even if the doors are open. The MSU staff is not expecting us until the time we've told them. When we arrive early it creates confusion with the staff as well as our volunteers. Please be patient!

Where to do I drop off my child?

If you aren't volunteering please drop off your dancer at the side entrance, sign them in and leave. You can pick them up at the same entrance at the appointed time. Someone will be checking them in, so we can be sure the entire cast has arrived.

Do I need to bring my own Make-Up?

YES!! We don't encourage sharing make-up unless it is between siblings. In fact, all dancers should arrive with their make-up done already. Bring make up for touch ups. **Make-Up: Foundation, Blush, Eyeshadow, Eye Liner, Mascara, Lipstick. Blonde Dancers should get brown mascara and liner. Brunettes should get black mascara and liner. All dancers should have eyeshadow in brown tones and lipstick in brown or plum tones - no bright red lipstick!**

What can/should I wear to the theater?

Your dancers should come in or with a clean pair of hole free tights and properly sewn ballet slippers. Make sure the drawstrings on the ballet slippers are taped under and not sticking out! **NO UNDERWEAR!** Have them wear a leotard. It won't be seen, but is more comfortable to wear under their costumes. Every other part of their costume has been provided, but clean tights and shoes are up to them. If at all possible please have their hair done before arriving at the theater. **See attached list for hair requirements.** Dancers may bring their own items to entertain themselves but, please remember MBC isn't responsible if those items get lost or broken.

Are there things I shouldn't wear?

Dancers should not wear underwear. NO, jewelry of any kind, no watches, earrings, bracelets, necklaces, anklets, rings, nail polish, fake tattoos, feather hair extensions.

Can I send food and water with my dancer?

Water is always acceptable and encouraged. Please send no other beverages with them, as they stain and make sticky spots on costumes and carpet. It is a long time to be at the theater. A small snack like crackers or pretzels is alright, but remind your dancers that they should not be eating in costume!! We encourage you to feed your dancers a healthy meal prior to dropping them off. They can be picked up between shows and fed again at that time. We need to be careful not to leave a mess or stains on the carpet, so please be careful what you send with your dancers. **NO CHOCOLATE!!!**

How long do the dancers have to be there?

We know it is a long time to be at the theater for the younger dancers, but we really need everyone to arrive at their scheduled time and not be picked up until the scheduled time. It allows us to be assured our full cast is there and is easier for us to know where everyone is. We will have activities and volunteers to keep the younger dancers occupied. **PLEASE DON'T BRING MARKERS!!!**

Can parents stay for Dress Rehearsal or wait backstage?

No! The only parents allowed in the auditorium or backstage are those who have volunteered to help out on that day. Please plan on dropping your dancer off and then returning to get them as scheduled.

What happens between performances?

You can pick your dancer up between shows and do whatever you want. Please make sure they don't leave with any part of their costumes with them!! They need to be returned to the theater at the appointed time. Dancers can leave make-up and dance bags at the theater between shows if they wish. There isn't a lot of time between shows, so it may be best to bring food to the theater and eat on site. If you do leave, plan ahead of time where you are going so you can get out and get back quickly.

Costume Care Notes

Dancers need to hang up all parts of their costume after they use it. It is up to them to make sure all pieces are accounted for before they leave the theater. **NO COSTUMES SHOULD BE FOUND ON THE FLOOR!!** Even dancers as young as level 1B should be using deodorant before class, rehearsal, and before the performances as costumes get a lot of use.

Thursday Dress Rehearsal

We know that the Thursday rehearsal can seem like it runs late, but this is a crucial rehearsal especially this year since we'll have the Symphony playing with us. Everyone needs to learn their way around backstage, how to crossover, where the dressing rooms and restrooms are etc. We'll do everything we can to be done on time and get the youngest dancers home for a good night's sleep.

Hair List

Party Girls/Friends/Clara/Rag Dolls

Hair in ringlets and put in half pony. Please try to get the ringlets done at home; we get really backed up in hair and make-up if we have to curl everyone's hair at the theater.

Party Boys/Fritz

If hair is on the longer side put it in a hair elastic and use some gel to keep it from flopping around.

Party Adults

Men: Hair groomed and combed, Facial hair is alright.

Women: Feel free to do something fun with your hair, as long as it is an updo of sorts. No one should have their hair down. A simple bun is fine, but leave a little hair around the face for some soft curls.

Rat Gen, Soldier Dolls, Saltwater Taffy, Spanish, Angels, Pages, Chinese, Russian, Turkish, Allsorts:
Hair in a bun, no bangs or wispies!! Use LOTS of bobby pins and hairspray.

Mice, Soldiers, Cavalry:

These parts have costumes that should have high buns so their headpieces fit better.

EVERYONE should have their bun done using the following items:

- Hair Binder - Hair Net
- Bobby Pins - Hair Spray

Make Up Notes

Rag Dolls, Cavalry, Soldier Dolls and Toy Soldiers

ALL wear red circle cheeks. These will be applied by backstage helpers at the theater.

Mice and Rat Generals

Mouse Face Make Up will be applied this year. Examples will be provided in the dressing room.