



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For Tickets: 816.931.8993 or kcballet.org

Critically Acclaimed
THE NUTCRACKER
Dec. 1-24 at
the Muriel Kauffman Theatre at
the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



Kansas City, MO. (Oct. 10, 2023) — Kansas City Ballet today announced the return of the record-breaking and critically acclaimed production of *The Nutcracker* presented by Bank of America Dec. 1-24, 2023, at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Additional support for The Nutcracker is provided by YMCA of Greater Kansas City. Tickets are available to the magical performances at www.kcballet.org or 816.931.8993. High-res rehearsal and past production photos, and designers' artwork can be found [here](#). B-roll can be found [here](#).

Kansas City Ballet's *The Nutcracker* returns Dec. 1-24 at the Muriel Kauffman Theatre at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Hailed as “positively oozing charm” by *The Washington Post*, the classic, Victorian-era story by E.T.A. Hoffman introduces the young and young-at-heart to Clara, the Prince, Dr. Drosselmeier and the Sugar Plum Fairy, all brought to life with captivating choreography by **Devon Carney**, Artistic Director of Kansas City Ballet. Tchaikovsky’s glorious score is performed by the Kansas City Symphony, conducted by Kansas City Ballet Music Director **Ramona Pansegrau**.

Kansas City Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney says, “I am so excited to perform our wonderful vibrant production of *The Nutcracker* at the Muriel Kauffman Theatre. It means the world to me to see the joy and sparkle in the eyes of our audiences of all ages, as they are transported to a whimsical winter wonderland and a beautiful land of the sweets — full of scrumptious treats and surprises. It just wouldn’t be the holidays without our audiences enjoying this glorious production!”

The Nutcracker

Dec. 1-24, 2023 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography by Devon Carney

Music by Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by Kansas City Symphony

Kansas City Ballet’s annual tradition, *The Nutcracker* continues to awe audiences year after year and is hailed as “positively oozing charm” by *The Washington Post*. The classic, Victorian-era story by E.T.A. Hoffman featuring Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, Dr. Drosselmeier and the Sugar Plum Fairy is a magical theatrical experience wrapped with exquisite costumes, grand sets, and captivating choreography. Let your wonder ignite and feel the glimmer once more as your childhood dreams return and inspire you to IMAGINE AGAIN.

The Nutcracker tickets are on sale now.

Fri., Dec. 1	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 2	2:00 p.m.* & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 3	1:00 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 7	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 8	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 9	2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 10	1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 13	6 p.m.**
Thurs., Dec. 14	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 15	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 16	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 17	1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 20	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 21	2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 22	2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 23	2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 24	1 p.m.

(*) Sugar Plum Fairy Children’s Ball

(**) Sensory-Friendly Performance

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Ticket Information

Purchase tickets:

- Online at www.kcballet.org
- By telephone at 816.931.8993.
- At the Kauffman Center Box Office and website.

Ticket prices start at only \$34, and subscribers receive a 20-percent discount. There is an \$8.50 Kauffman Center facility fee per ticket and a \$4.00 processing fee per order. Prices are subject to change.

Dancer Chat: *The Nutcracker*

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, 6:30 p.m. | Virtual on Facebook LIVE

KC Ballet Dancer Chats, a FREE community engagement and education series, are designed to provide the broader public an opportunity to engage with and learn more about professional dancers from Kansas City Ballet. Each Dancer Chat features some KCB company dancers chatting about their roles in upcoming KCB productions and sharing aspects of their life journey and dance experiences. These relaxed, informal conversations are moderated by various KCB community professionals. All Dancer Chats take place on Facebook LIVE. www.facebook.com/kcballet.

Nutcracker Ball

Benefitting Kansas City Ballet and Kansas City Ballet School

Presented by Kansas City Ballet Guild

Friday, Dec. 1, 2023 | The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center

Kansas City Ballet Guild is proud to kick-off the coming holiday season with the 56th annual Nutcracker Ball. Delicious cuisine, special presentations by Kansas City Ballet School students, and after-dinner dancing with music by local band Kokomo make this an evening to remember. All proceeds from the Nutcracker Ball support Kansas City Ballet. Presented by Kansas City Ballet Guild. www.kcballetball.org/

For reservations or sponsorship information contact Nutcracker Ball Chairman Jo Anne Dondlinger at balletball@kcballet.org.

Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball

Benefitting Kansas City Ballet School

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 | The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center

An enchanting experience awaits at the Kansas City Ballet's Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball! Guests will surely feel the magic of the holidays as the Sugar Plum Fairy leads them on an adventure filled with whimsy and wonder. Each child receives a complimentary photo with the Sugar Plum Fairy and face painting with a signature holiday design. Parents will enjoy shopping at the Nutcracker Marketplace and participating in our fantastic silent auction. A delicious three-course luncheon, performance by students of the Kansas City Ballet School and a reading of Clara's magical journey to the Land of the Sweets will put guests in the spirit for more

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adventures to come. The excitement continues as a shuttle transports guests to the 2 p.m. performance of Kansas City Ballet's *The Nutcracker*.

This event is committed to raising funds for the Kansas City Ballet School and its scholarship program. For reservations or sponsorship information contact Grace Ingham at gingham@kcballet.org.

Sensory-Friendly Performance of *The Nutcracker* **Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2023, 6 p.m. | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts**

Kansas City Ballet is pleased to present a performance of a sensory-friendly *Nutcracker* for children, families, and adults with sensory sensitivities, autism spectrum disorder or other special needs. Appropriate changes will be made to this performance to create a welcoming and safe space for all in attendance. We also are pleased to be working with the Kansas City Symphony to provide live music for this performance while remaining sensitive to the needs of our audience. General admission for the sensory-friendly performance is \$25 per person plus a \$3.50 per ticket Kauffman Center surcharge. Call the Kansas City Ballet Box Office, 816-931-8993, to purchase tickets. Not available online. To learn more, please visit [The Nutcracker Sensory-Friendly Performance](#).

Family VIP Experience

Back by popular demand. For \$199 per ticket, families will enjoy Premium Center Mezzanine tickets with access to a private reception suite before the show and at intermission. Enjoy wine, kid's drinks, and holiday treats. Costumed characters from the show will make a special VIP-only appearance at intermission!

Sun., Dec. 3, 1 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 9, 2 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 10, 1 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 16, 2 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 17, 1 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 22, 2 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 23, 2 p.m.

Social Media

Kansas City Ballet's website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly. Receive daily updates by joining the KCB Fan Page, www.facebook.com/kcballet, and following @kcballet on X (formerly Twitter). Follow our blog at www.kcballet.org/blog. Watch videos at www.youtube.com/kansascityballet or <https://vimeo.com/kcballet>, and view photos and video at <https://www.instagram.com/kballet/>.

Parking and Downtown Maps

Find information for Kauffman Center parking and construction updates at www.kcballet.org/planyourvisit. The Arts District parking garage, immediately south of and beneath the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, is the primary parking garage for Kansas City Ballet patrons. Advanced purchase of event parking is highly recommended as this lot has been known to sell out. Event parking is \$13 in advance

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or \$16 at the gate per car for the garage or valet may be purchased in advance for \$22 or for \$24 upon arrival (if available). Make a night of it! Reserve your room at The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, partner hotel of Kansas City Ballet.

Accessibility

Kansas City Ballet is committed to providing assistance to those with disabilities. Direct questions and requests to Patron Services, 816.931.8993. Callers who are hearing impaired or hard of hearing can get help with telephone access by using the free relay service — 711.

Sponsors

The Presenting Sponsor for *The Nutcracker* is Bank of America. The Supporting Sponsor for *The Nutcracker* is The YMCA of Greater Kansas City. The Media Partner is 94.9 KCMO. Major underwriting support comes from the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Family Foundation. The Kansas City Ballet Guild, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency), the William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee, and Hallmark Corporate Foundation are among the many other supporters of Kansas City Ballet's 2023-2024 season.

Media

Visit [kcballet.org](https://www.kcballet.org) or [kauffmancenter.org](https://www.kauffmancenter.org) for a downloadable media kit about Kansas City Ballet and the Kauffman Center. Find high-res photos with IDs and photo credits at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/67555847@N06/sets/>. B-roll with IDs and credits at <https://www.youtube.com/user/kansascityballet> and digital content with IDs and credits at <https://vimeo.com/kcballet>.

About Kansas City Ballet

MISSION: To Inspire and Engage Through the Beauty, Power & Passion of Dance

VISION: Outstanding Dance Experiences Accessible to All

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a professional ballet company led by Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director David Gray. Kansas City Ballet is an indispensable community asset through exceptional performances, excellence in dance training and quality community engagement and education programs for all ages. Kansas City Ballet is home to Kansas City Ballet School which, with an enrollment of more than 1,000 children and adults, offers professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those simply seeking a healthy lifestyle.

Through the professional company, second company (KCB II & Trainees), and Community Engagement and Education Department, Kansas City Ballet seeks to inspire and develop artists, audiences, and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity, and joy of dance. The company's home, the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity, in conjunction with our Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, positions Kansas City as a destination for dance. Visit www.kcballet.org/kansas-city-ballet-press-releases/ for more info.

Kansas City Ballet's website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly. Receive daily updates by joining the KCB Fan Page, www.facebook.com/kcballet, and following @kcballet on X (formerly Twitter). Follow our blog at www.kcballet.org/blog. Watch

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videos at www.youtube.com/kansascityballet, and view photos at www.instagram.com/kballet/.

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Direct all media inquiries to Ellen McDonald, 816.213.4355 or publicity@kcballet.org.

Photo Credit for image on the front page: Kansas City Ballet Dancer: Whitney Huell. Photographer: Kenny Johnson.