

THE NUTCRACKER 2026

DANCING IN THE NUTCRACKER

The opportunity to perform in The Canadian School of Ballet's presentation of The Nutcracker is an ambition of most of our dancers. **We are excited to welcome back Principal Dancers from the New York City Ballet.** 2026 will be the 36th full-length presentation of The Nutcracker and provides students with 5 theatre performances.

The Nutcracker has become a seasonal favourite of Okanagan families and, as such, we feel entrusted to present the most professional, entertaining performances possible.

All roles in The Nutcracker are determined by an **audition process** – from the youngest five-year-old aspirant to the most senior dancers. A qualified panel conducts the auditions. We make every effort toward providing a positive learning experience for our candidates. Please consider the following:

- **An audition is a competition for a role** – We feel this is the most objective way to determine who should be awarded placement when there are more candidates than there are roles. Life is full of auditions and valuable skills can be gained from learning how to handle both the preparation for and the outcome of the audition process. Please discuss with your child how she/he/they might feel if they are successful and conversely how they may feel if they are not successful. Also, how they will react to their classmates in the same situations. We realize there is a cost involved – but an audition provides invaluable life experience to learn, grow and reach for an opportunity. If the audition does not result in a role, we encourage highlighting the learning experience and to remain positive in trying again next year.
- **Audition preparation** – Help your child to understand that so much is gained simply by listening carefully to what the instructor is asking them to do during the audition. The Nutcracker is a lot of roles working together to tell a story – listening skills and following directions are paramount in all roles.
- **Don't assume the dances will all be the same as last year** – It is our job to keep the performances fresh and interesting – changes are part of that mandate.
- **Please arrive early for the audition** – You will need to obtain your number before going into the studio and dancers are always advised to warm up in advance. Being early will keep you calm and focused. Remember: discipline and dance are cohesive terms!
- **Please note** – These are closed auditions. Parents are not permitted to watch.

We are here to answer questions and/or offer suggestions if you would like our help. Please email us at:

csbnutcracker@gmail.com

THE NUTCRACKER 2026



POLICIES

AUDITIONS

- A detailed list of roles and selection criteria will not be provided. Roles will be assigned based on each dancer's demonstrated abilities.
- All dancers will be notified whether or not they have received a role. We want to ensure everyone is informed and feels acknowledged, regardless of the outcome.
- **Performance fees** are \$125 per role, with the exception of lead roles, which are \$250.
- **Online pre-registration by Monday, September 14:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Non-refundable fees:** Etransfer is due by Monday, September 14 (Etransfer to info@csballetdance.com, password: nutcracker2026). If paying by cash, payment is due on audition day (Saturday, September 19). No credit cards, please.

ROLE ACCEPTANCE

- Upon notification of results, all dancers earning role(s) will be required to submit a **ROLE ACCEPTANCE AND COMMITMENT** form along with a **non-refundable performance fee** prior to the first rehearsal. This fee will cover your rehearsal time and costume rental.
- Please carefully read, sign and return the **Release Form** and role **Acceptance Form** that will be emailed upon role notification.

Your Commitment! We have 12 weeks to prepare a performance of very high caliber. The expectation of our audience is an exceptional show – our expectation is to surpass what we did last year and continue to improve and strengthen our presentation of The Nutcracker. Dances need to be learned and polished with patterns involving many people. When someone is missing, it affects everyone. **With a cast of over 100 performers, we require EVERYONE'S full commitment.** In past years, after roles have been awarded students appear with lists of excuses of why they cannot attend certain rehearsals. Please don't ask... you can either make the commitment or you can't. Please decide.

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REHEARSALS

- **Schedules** will be available as soon as audition results are posted. Please read the schedule carefully and highlight your roles and rehearsal times. If you are not sure, please ask for clarification.
- All rehearsals are **mandatory**. Dancers can expect to receive a rehearsal schedule in advance; however, adjustments may be made to the schedule if required. Changes to the schedule will be emailed. It is a **dancer's responsibility** to **check** the schedule for **changes**. Some rehearsals will begin the weekend of September 26th and will run each week until the performances. Most rehearsals will be held on weekends (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) but rehearsals will also be scheduled for Thanksgiving, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and Remembrance Day. **DANCERS MAY NOT MISS ANY REHEARSALS. To be clear, the Nutcracker Administration Team reserves the right to re-cast ANY role due to non-compliance with the attendance policy. There will be no refunds offered in any circumstances should re-casting occur.**
- You are expected to arrive **on time** for rehearsals, **warmed-up**, and dressed for ballet class (bring a sweater).
- Please arrange to **be picked up promptly**.

Rehearsal Dates and Dates of Presentation at Kelowna Community Theatre

Monday-Wednesday	December 7th, 8th, 9th	Rehearsals at Theatre	3:30pm
Thursday	December 10th	Dress Rehearsal	TBA
Friday	December 11th	School Matinée Performance	11:45am
Friday	December 11th	Evening Performance	7:00pm
Saturday	December 12th	Matinée Performance	1:00pm
Saturday	December 12th	Evening Performance	7:00pm
Sunday	December 13th	Matinée Performance	1:00pm

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Kinder Ballet, Primary Ballet, Grade I Ballet

AUDITIONS @ CSB Studios

Saturday, September 19th

- **ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION** by Monday, September 14: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Please be sure to **arrive early** for your audition. *We will be unable to admit you to the audition if you are late as this is unfair to the dancers who arrived on time.*
- Take time to **warm up** and be dressed for ballet class (i.e., tights, bodysuit, hair in a bun).
- The first requirement of a successful audition candidate is the ability to follow instructions.
- **Audition form** and **non-refundable fee (\$45)** are due on **Monday, September 14** (i.e., cash, cheque, etransfer). (Etransfer to info@csballetdance.com, password: nutcracker2026. No credit cards, please.)

12:15pm Audition Registration

12:30pm – 1:15pm Audition

Grade II and Grade III Ballet

AUDITIONS @ CSB Studios

Saturday, September 19th

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- Take time to **warm up** and be dressed for ballet class (i.e., tights, bodysuit, hair in a bun).
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1:15pm Audition Registration

1:30pm – 2:15pm Audition

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Grade IV Ballet & New Intermediate Foundation

AUDITIONS @ CSB Studios Saturday, September 19th

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- Take time to **warm up** and be dressed for ballet class (i.e., tights, bodysuit, hair in a bun).
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2:15pm **Audition Registration**

2:30pm – 3:15pm **Audition**

Intermediate, Advanced 1 and 2

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3:00pm **Audition Registration**

3:15pm – 4:00pm **Audition**

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