

America's MATTRESS with  
*Weehawken Dance Presents*

# The Nutcracker Sweets

*A Ballet Featuring Weehawken's Youngest  
Dancers paired with Mid and Upper Level  
Weehawken Dance Leads*

*At The  
Montrose  
Pavilion*

*Dec 8 2022*

*Artistic Direction by Miss Natasha Pyatte*

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**America's  
MATTRESS**

## *A Note from the Artistic Director:*

**Welcome to the Kingdom of Sweets!** Today we journey from the holiday bash of the century, to a battle scene dream between toys and mice, travel through powdered sugar snow, to a kingdom filled with delights from across the globe!

What a great semester this has been, and such a joy to be back in the Pavilion for another winter show.

Dance was my first true love. My second was a peachy-pink rhinestone and sequined professional tutu sewed by my mother when I was 17. My third was when I got to perform the role of "The Sugar Plum Fairy" wearing the tutu.

The first Weehawken Dance Production was the Nutcracker in 2007, with 50 dancers set in 4 weeks of class. The Weehawken Dance program (originally called Ouray County Dance), was mostly word of mouth. Parents would speak with other parents and we would get another new student the next week of class. We had no advertising and ballet barres were a thing of the future for this fledgling program. The elevated stage at the Wright Opera House would serve as our "barre". By our second year, Nutcracker had grown to over 100 dancers. Word was spreading fast, and classes were being populated with students from Montrose, Ridgway, Ouray & Telluride. A second "studio" space was opened at the Old School House in Ridgway. With this expansion, and the generosity of our community, ballet barres were acquired. We didn't have much in the early days, but we had plenty of LOVE.

If this is your first Nutcracker, or your fifth, one thing sure to leave an impression will certainly be the costumes. They beautifully highlight the hard work, dedication, and passion our young dancers pour into this production. Weehawken Dance program costumes are the direct result of hundreds of hours of work generously given by many under the watchful eye of Lead Costumer, Betsy Pyeatte. This year brought the unexpected passing of my Mother. A huge hole was ripped into the heart of Weehawken Dance. Nutcracker was HER production to showcase passion, talent, and LOVE. Early 1900's party scene dresses and tutus galore, Nutcracker was Betsy's domain. Her costumes live on, and will be danced-in across the Pavilion stage this weekend.

### ***Love is what stitches and glues Weehawken Dance together.***

Watching our dancers on-stage, **we hope you see the love our program has cultivated.** When we love, we counteract hate. It motivates us to be better versions of ourselves. We find something to dedicate ourselves to and inspire us.

While I do not ever teach a student hoping they might grow up to be a professional dancer, I do work to inspire each student to love the arts and feel like they are better versions of themselves because of their time at Weehawken Dance.

Thank you for your support. Thank you for trusting us with your most valuable possession - your children. And thank you for loving this program too.

Making this Nutcracker the best one yet,

Natasha Pyeatte  
Artistic Director of Weehawken Dance





# Welcome

**Notes from the Executive Director, Ashley King**



**FIFTEEN? *I can barely believe that this is Weehawken Dance's fifteenth major December show!*** It has been such an incredible ride with Miss Natasha Pyeatte and I couldn't be more proud of how this program has evolved and how our communities have collectively embraced what Weehawken has been offering up since 2004.

I can vividly recall our early visioning sessions where we dared to think big. We dreamed of a regional dance program that wasn't limited to a single building; A program with high educational standards and production quality to match; but more, a program where fostering a love of dance was number one. We adopted a philosophy of accessibility and built the program around unconventional ideas such as owning and maintaining the costumes so that the costs would be kept low for our participants. We developed our scholarship programs. We thought about how this program could build our communities and give participants a bigger view of exactly what community is.

Over the course of this weekend, over 275 dancers and over 500 costumes will cross this stage, from ages 2.5-adult. This production reflects countless hours of love and dedication from teachers, staff and volunteers over the course of many years. It is the finished work of an incredibly talented team of teachers and the passion they have for the amazing students they get to teach each week.

And then there's Weehawken Creative Arts.....for nearly nineteen years, Weehawken has been transforming the lives of children and adults in the region through our dance program, art education offerings and beloved community cultural events. Offering literally hundreds of programs each year, I've seen first-hand how an organization can impact lives, build economies and develop character, confidence and poise. In this, [I encourage you to show your support of Weehawken by making a tax-deductible contribution toward our current projects which include: \*\*The Betsy Pyeatte Costume Fund, The WCA Scholarship Fund, or our Classroom Development Fund.\*\* Learn more at \[weehawkenarts.org\]\(http://weehawkenarts.org\)](#)

**We are thrilled to have you here. Thank you for being part of the magic with us. Enjoy the show! -Ashley King-Grambley**



2008 at the Wright



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# The Nutcracker—Show Synopsis

Drosselmeyer (*Godfather Guthrie in today's show*), magician and maker of mechanical dolls, invented a better mousetrap. It killed off half the mice in the royal palace!

Seeking revenge, the Rat King transformed Drosselmeyer's nephew, Hans-Peter, into an ugly Nutcracker doll. Only by killing the Rat King, and being loved by a young girl, can Hans-Peter be released from the spell.

The Stahlbaum family invites Drosselmeyer to their annual Christmas party. He brings *magic* with him as he presents the Nutcracker as a gift to their daughter Clara, who quickly falls in love with her new doll. When the party's over, Clara sneaks downstairs to find her beloved Nutcracker.

Drosselmeyer sends an angel to transform the house into a battlefield and Toy soldiers fight the Rat Queen and her Mice. At last, with the help of Clara, the Nutcracker disposes of the Rat Queen and once again the Nutcracker becomes Hans-Peter (Nutcracker Prince)!

Clara and the Nutcracker Prince go on a beautiful journey through the Land of Snow, an enchanted forest wonderland where they are welcomed by dancing snowflakes. Next, the Prince escorts her to the Kingdom of the Sweets where they are greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy. The Prince tells her about their daring battle with the army of mice and she rewards them with a celebration of dances with a grand finale of the Pas De Deux featuring the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier.

Clara awakens from her dream and finds herself by her Christmas tree with her beloved Nutcracker.

## Weehawken Dance's "Nutcracker Sweets" Cast A - Cast Listed in Order of Appearance

### Scene 1: Stahlbaum Christmas Party

#### Lead Maids:

Emelye Rackleff  
&  
Angela Brailsford





## Maids:



## Tuesday Montrose

### PRIMARY Ballet with Miss Leeann

Caraline Perpar, Elena Suchon, Ashlyn Hatch, Julie Janes,  
Keelie Martinez, Emmalyn Walker & Anna Walker



## Butlers:

Lucas Vogt &  
Jeremy Brailsford



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**Clara Stalbaum:**

Pailin Cooper

**Fritz Stalbaum:**

Madeline Maier



**Herr and Vera**

**Stalbaum:**

Paul & Pang Cooper



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**Fritz's Best  
Friends:**  
Katie Fibbe &  
Noa Brown





**Clara's**  
**Best Friends:**  
Sadie Scott &  
Emily Unverferth

**Party Scene Children:**  
**Monday Ridgway 5:00pm PRIMARY BALLET**  
**with Miss Natasha**



Juniper Leonard, Charlotte Evans, Camilla Hansen, Fiona Hayes, Vera Hineine, Willow Lawshe, Matilda McCracken, Emilia Navarro, Evelina Tice & Harper Winter  
Class Assistant: Campbell Musgrove

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## **Party Scene Adults:**

Pang & Paul Cooper, Ashley Cordell & Sawyer Lutz, Marisa Farrell & Landon Feller, Natalie Griffith & Ethan Unverferth, Valerie Kepler & Aidan Jakeman, Rachel Maier & Hayden Fox, Natasha Pyeatte & Nate Kissingford, Leeann & Paul Rackleff, Delana Will-Po & Collin Huffer



**Godfather Guthrie:**  
Guthrie Castle



**Christmas Tree Angel:**  
Lily Feeser



**Columbine Doll:**  
Kayla Bolane



**Lead Jack in the Box:**  
Eleni Wallin

***Many Thanks to Weehawken's Key Shared Cultural Events Supporters  
~The Fete de la Musique & The Ridgway 1k (Rally thru the Alley)~***



*The Sibolds*

*Billings Artworks*



## Jr Jack in the boxes:



### **Tuesday Montrose PRIMARY HIP HOP with Miss Leeann**

Caraline Perpar, Elena Suchon, Abigail Farley,  
Adelaide Branham, Rylee Branham, Venice  
Condon, Jax Farnese, Hope Farnese, Philip  
Maier, Reagan Nicolas & Denali Sutton  
Class Assistant: Sofie Selee

### **Scene 2: Battle Scene**



**Rat King:**  
Lucas Vogt

## **Battle Scene**



### **Soldiers & Rats:**

#### **Jazz 5+ Montrose & Ridgway**

Ellie Feder, Katy Story, Brylee Baines, Hayden Fox,  
Paige Jakeman, Paige Beretta, Zola Cordell,  
Autumn Cordell, Cricket Shima, Kate Allison,  
Pepper Shima, Hailey Moran, Kayla Bolane,  
Sydney Genuit, Autumn Sagal, Amelia Edwards,  
Grace Fibbe, Vanessa Hunter, Rylan Jaramillo,  
Thea Mahlin, Nate Kissingford, Lily Feeser,  
Ashlin Mitchum & Eleni Wallin

#### **Rat Guys Crew:**

Lucas Vogt, Jeremy Brailsford, Hayden Fox &  
Hailey Moran



# Calvary:



## Friday Montrose Pre-Introduction to Dance with Miss Natalie

Hadley Ahmed, Aza Bercillio, Jubilea Coddington,  
Sara Holman-Hernandez, Kyla Koeltzow,  
Zeni Morris & Aubrey Smith

*Many Thanks to These Organizational Partners*





## Nutcracker Prince:

Hayden Fox

## Scene 3: Snow Scene



## Snow King & Queen:

Nate Kissingford & Kate Allison

OR

Ethan Unverferth & Kayla Bolane



Make a contribution today to Weehawken Creative Arts!

Weehawken Creative Arts is a 501c3 Nonprofit Organization and your contribution is tax-deductible! We are currently asking for donations for three funds: 1) The Weehawken Scholarship Fund (help fund scholarships for students in-need); 2) The Betsy Pyeatte Costume Fund (help us build a fund that will allow us to make needed upcoming costume purchases); 3) Classroom Improvement & classroom security fund (help us make improvements in existing classrooms and help us to make deeper strategic investments in long-term classroom space to ensure longevity of our programs in our communities.



## Horses:



Madeline Maier, Noa Brown, Katie Fibbe  
& Campbell Musgrove

## Little Snowflakes:



**Weds Montrose Primary Ballet with Miss Pang**  
Brielle Hatch, Kayren Frigetto, Sarah Hollenbeck,  
Rachel Liebermann, Ava Schneider, Eiley Ahern,  
Yvonne Sills & Ila Ticherich  
Class Assistant: Ella Silvester

## Snowflakes:



Hailey Moran, Lily Feeser, Grace Fibbe, Thea Mahlin, Cricket Shima, Autumn Sagal, Katy Story, Autumn Cordell, Pepper Shima, Kayla Bolane, Lizzy Corn, Reign Icasiano, Elizabeth Kistler, Hannah Sulzen, Rylan Jaramillo, Sydney Genuit, Eleni Wallin & Brylee Baines

***Intermission - 10 min***

***Act 2***

***Scene 4: Kingdom of the Sweets***





**Sugar Plum Fairy &**  
**Cavalier:**  
Katy Story & Sawyer  
Lutz

**Sugar Plum's Attendants:**



Eva Davignon, Ella Silvester, Jylliane Meiners,  
Lizzy Corn, Sadie Scott, Sadie Wynne, Angela  
Brailsford, Emelye Rackleff, Katalyn Young &  
Emily Unverferth



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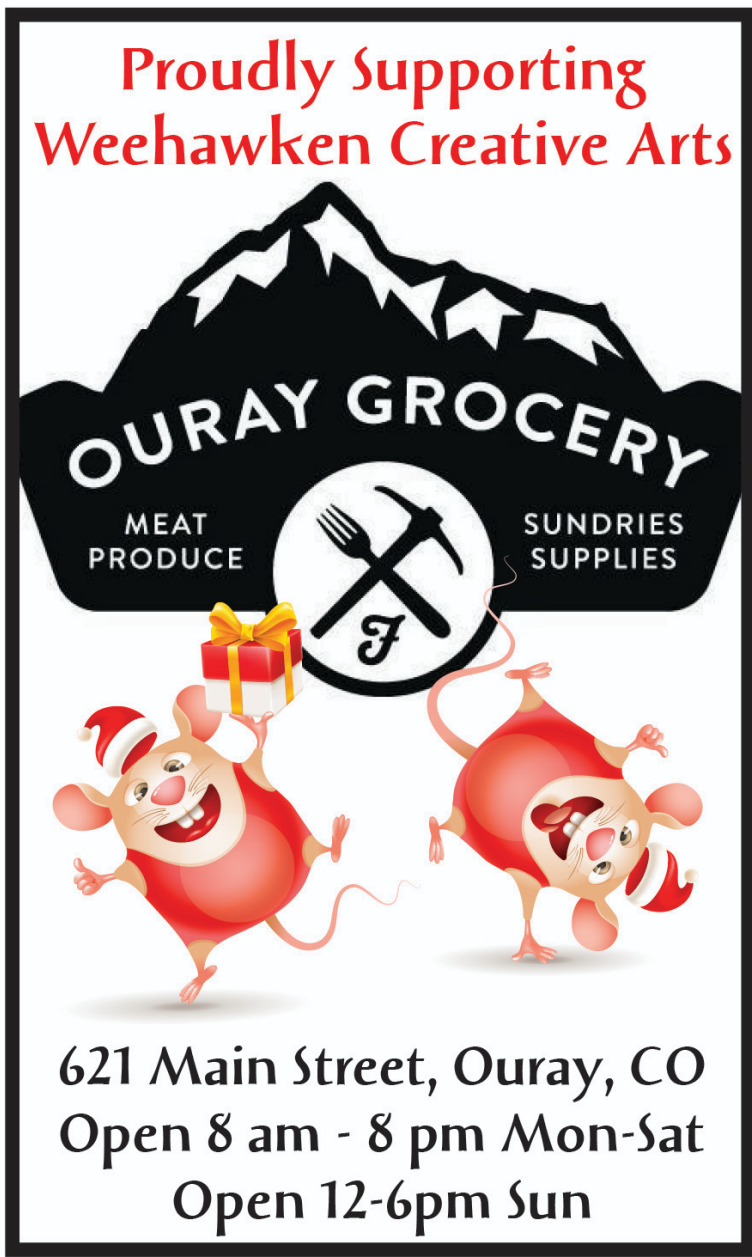
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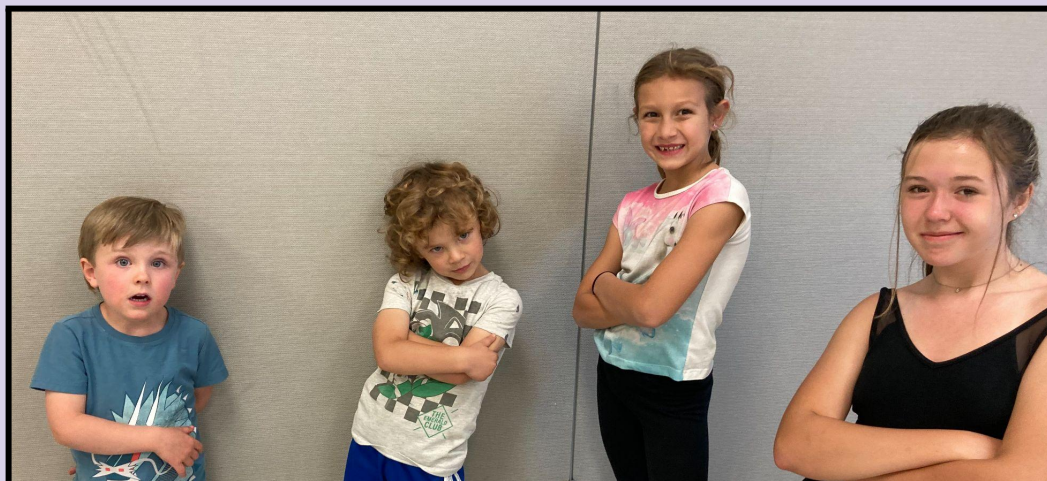
## Angels:

**Thursday Montrose 4:00 Pre-Ballet w/ Miss Ashley**



Cambria Hatch, Emberley Hatch, Aza Bercillio,  
Rooney Briggs, Emma Calhoun, Neasa Graves,  
Elliana Lovell, Marlie Mccullers & Olive Smart  
Class Assistant: Eva Davignon

## Jewels



**Rubies:  
Thurs  
Montrose  
Primary  
Hip Hop w/  
Miss Ashley**

Zac Larson, Ava Price, Taylor Schwerdtfeger, Jacob  
Suchon & Asher Wilson  
Class Assistant: Eva Davignon



## The Gift of Gingerbread

**Madam Molasses:**

**Chris Shima**

**Gingerbread Cookies:**



**Weds Montrose Primary Jazz/Tap w/ Miss Pang  
Brielle Hatch, Kayren Frigetto, Sarah Hollenbeck,  
Rachel Liebermann, Ava Schneider, Abigail  
Farley, Evelyn Cole, Piper Meredith, Madison  
Meredith, Truly Powers & Zoila Thyre**

**Class Assistant: Sofie Selee**





**Chocolate**  
**Spanish Chocolate:**  
Hailey Moran

**Cafe Ole':**



**Monday Ridgway 4:15pm PRE-BALLET  
with Miss Natasha**

Charlotte Burger, Marilynn Cossitt,  
Grace Evans, Gavin Joseph, Avery Silverman,  
Willow Winter & Hayes Zimmerman

**Class Assistants:**  
Campbell Musgrove & Eleni Wallin

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## Green Tea



**The Cricket: Zola Cordell**

**Fortune Cookies:  
Thursday Montrose Primary  
Ballet w/ Miss Ashley**



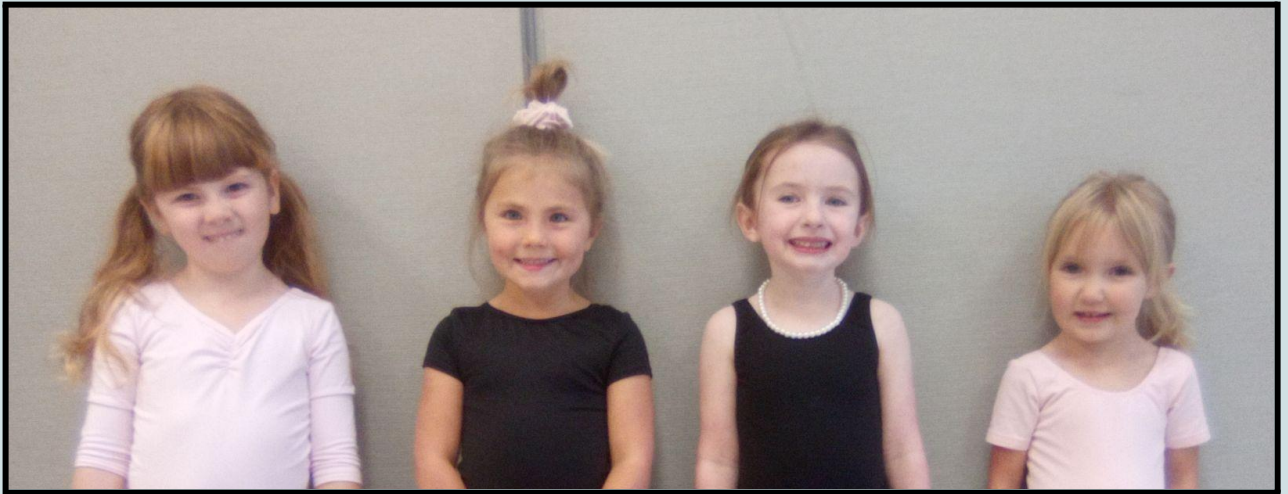
Elizabeth Burke, Helena Cortez, Sammie Flournoy,  
Brydger Gerhardt, Reilly Hayes, Makenzie Hutton,  
Sonya Kennedy, Jagger Perkins, Jordan Perkins &  
Ally VanDerwalker

Class Assistant: Eva Davignon

## Coffee



**Cream & Sugar  
Pas de deux:  
Sadie Wynne & Anden  
Wynne**



## Espresso:

**Monday Montrose 9:15am Pre-Ballet  
with Miss Leeann**

**Morgan Bray-May, Aubrey Drye,  
Kinley Hadlock, Harlow Kling,  
Alice Petersen**

**Class Assistant: Emelye Racklef**





# Marzipan

## Wednesday Montrose Pre- Hip Hop with Miss Leeann

Brielle Hatch,  
Cambria Hatch,  
Emberley Hatch,  
Ruby Anderson,  
Quinn Love, &  
Remmi Navarro  
Class Assistant:  
Lucas Vogt



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# Sugar Plums

Sugar Punk Pixies & Nutcrackers in Training:

Monday Ridgway 5:45pm Primary Jazz & Hip  
Hop w/ Miss Natasha



Marlowe Bojar, Sadie Coulter, Avry Cunningham,  
Eliana Fedel, Sydney Haag, June Jo Mathis,  
Hazel Mobley, Dakota Richmond,  
Finley Vollendorf, Ezra Zimmerman  
Class Assistant: Campbell Musgrove



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## Flowers

**Dew Drop Fairy:  
Autumn Sagal**



**Bumble Bees:  
Tuesday  
Ridgway Ballet  
1/2 with Miss  
Natasha &  
Miss Pang**



**Avry Cunningham, Wren Cassidy, Laiila Thomsen,  
Easley Hansen, Eliza Lawshe & Aleya Stengele**



**Roses:  
Vanessa Hunter &  
Lillian Gordon**

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## *Behind the Scenes:*

**Weehawken Dance Teaching Staff and Production Choreographers:** Pang Cooper, Ashley Cordell, Marisa Farrell, Natalie Griffith, Valerie Kepler, Rachel Maier, Natasha Pyeatte, Leeann Rackleff & Delana Will-Po

**Artistic Director:** Natasha Pyeatte

**Music compilation, selection and editing:** Natasha Pyeatte and Val Kepler, with support from the WCA Dance teaching staff

**Story Adaptation:** Natasha Pyeatte

**Rehearsal Assistant:** Pang Cooper

**Set:** Ellen Lockhart, Kentee Pasek, Sam & Betsy Pyeatte, Derek Jones, Bill & Judy Yeo

**Weehawken's Costume Mistress (& the Artistic Director's Director):** Betsy Pyeatte

**Production costume selection, fitting, alterations & care by:** Weehawken Teaching staff and studio coordinators

**Lighting design:** Pavilion staff

**Spot Light Operators:** Kevin Grambley & Paul Choate

**Rigger:** Kevin Koprek & Tim Pasek

**Stage Manager:** Vanessa Sprang

**Backstage Assistants:** Toren Wagner, Mason Unverferth & Oliver Noel

**Admin Staff:**

**Executive Director & Graphics:** Ashley King-Grambley

**Director of Programming, Box Office & Registrar:** Trisha Oakland

## *Special thanks to...*

**Our wonderful teaching staff** who go above and beyond teaching dance class and caring for our students  
To **our studio coordinators** who have kept the studios sanitized, have communicated with parents, helped with costumes & supported our teaching staff in Montrose amid a pandemic.

**All of our sponsors!** America's Mattress goes especially beyond the call, as they not only sponsor us, but took-on organizing the Montrose parade float and have put their team to work to help move our sets for years now..

**Our volunteers on stage and backstage** who have been with us for YEARS... (Vanessa, Kentee, Tim, Kevin, Sam, Betsy, the Yeos, the Brailsfords, Lacy Baines, Sandy Kern, Marti O'Leary and more.....)

**Parents** - a big round of applause for all of our incredible parents in our program who are dedicated to ensuring their children have this experience, and in that commitment, ensure that their students make it to class, weekend rehearsals and tech week. We couldn't do it without you.

**THANK YOU to everyone who helped** with costumes, props, sets, hair and make-up, backstage and on stage; parents & volunteers who helped with rehearsals, during the shows, and who plan to help with clean-up; and to our community supporters in Silverton, Ouray, Ridgway, and Montrose!

**Thank you to everyone who believes in Weehawken and helps us with our mission and vision; to create a better community through ART! Your support is appreciated.**

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