

America's **MATTRESS** with
Weehawken Dance Presents

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**THE
NUTCRACKER**



DEC 9-11

MONTROSE PAVILION 

DECEMBER:

9TH @ 6 PM
10TH @ 1 PM & 6 PM
11TH @ 1 PM

TICKETS:

\$17 ADULT
\$10 SENIOR (65+) / \$8 CHILD (12-)
RESERVED SECTION SEATS (\$25-\$32 EA)



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**America's
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- Ashley Unverferth, **Owner**

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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, 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 King and his Mice. At last, with the help of Clara, the Nutcracker disposes of the Rat King 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

“The Nutcracker”

Cast B - Listed in order of appearance

Scene 1: Stahlbaum Christmas Party

Lead Maids:
Emelye Rackleff
&
Angela Brailsford





Maids:

**Ballet 3/4
Montrose
Tuesdays**

Jadyn Robertson, Eva Davignon, Sadie Hafen,
Jovie Powers



Butlers:

Lucas Vogt &
Jeremy Brailsford



Governess:
Mickayla Weldon

Clara Stalbaum:
Pailin Cooper



Fritz Stalbaum:
Noa Brown



Herr and Vera
Stalbaum:

Pang & Paul Cooper

Party Girls:



Ballet 3/4 Montrose Tuesdays

Kiersten Braaten, Jessalyn English, Shayne Amurao, Ruby Noel & Genevieve Evans



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Clara's Best Friends:
Grace Fibbe &
Thea Mahlin



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great day to
play in
Ouray



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Fritz's Best Friends:
Piper Baines & Hannah
Stetson

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
Drosselmeyer:
Jim Frank



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ENJOY THE SHOW!



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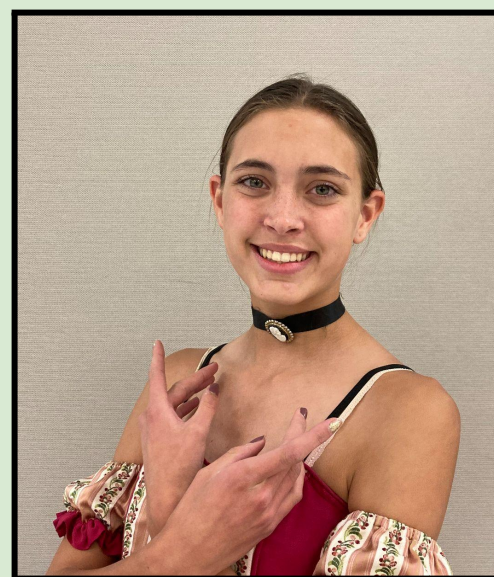
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Christmas Tree Angel:
Reign Icasiano

Columbine Doll:
Hannah Sulzen



Jack in the Box:
Brylee Baines

Scene 2: Battle Scene

Aerial Rats: Marissa's Tuesday Aerial class



Paige Jakeman, Paige Beretta & Samantha Jennings

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



The Sibolds

Billings Artworks

Rat King:
Jeremy Brailsford



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



Nutcracker Prince:

Hayden Fox

Hip Hop Toy Soldiers:



Monday Montrose HIP HOP 4 with Miss Val

Commander: Anden Wynne

Jadyn Robertson, Olivia Fox, Patchareya Lawler,
Mason Lutz, Amelia Sagal, Gavin Sulzen,
Julia Vogt & Rachel Williams

Scene 3: Snow Scene



**Snow King
& Queen:
Sawyer Lutz
& Autumn Cordell**

Snowflakes:



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

Horses:



Jessalyn English, Kiersten Braaten,
Shayne Amurao & Noa Brown

Many Thanks to These Organizational Partners



Intermission - 10 min

Act 2

Scene 4: Kingdom of the Sweets



Sugar Plum Fairy &
Cavalier:
Pepper Shima & Ethan
Unverferth

Sugar Plum's Attendants:



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

Angels:



Grace Fibbe, Thea Mahlin, Reign Icasiano,
Cricket Shima, Amelia Edwards & Brylee Baines

Jewels

Black Diamond

Aerialists:

**Tuesday Montrose Teen
Aerial Silks with Miss
Marissa**

**Olivia Renfrow &
Taylor Stoltzfus**

Imperial Garnet

Acrobats:

**Lyrical/Contemporary
with Marissa**

**Paige Jakeman &
Paige Beretta**



Ruby Hip Hop: Wednesday Montrose HIP HOP 3 with Miss Val



Sadie Hafen, Scarlett Hodgman, Sophie Antonina Mott, Lauren Neubaum, Shayne Amurao, Grayce Hert, Lucy Hafen, Evan Jakeman, Tess Phillips, Dyna Sealock, Jackson Sealock & Duke Silvester



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.



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**Monday Montrose BALLET 3/4
with Miss Pang**

Paige Jakeman, Angela Brailsford, Pailin Cooper,
Jylliane Meiners, Jovie Powers, Emelye Rackleff,
Hannah Sulzen, Sadie Wynne

Rose Salsa Hip Hop:



Monday Montrose HIP HOP 6 with Miss Val Krimzin Black, Ellie Feder, Aidan Jakeman, Lucas Vogt, Jeremy Brailsford, Zola Cordell, Autumn Cordell, Hayden Fox, Sawyer Lutz, Katy Story



Sign Up Today for our upcoming Family Workshops in Ridgway with Miss Claudia Brauer!

www.weehawkenarts.org

Marzipan



Wednesday Montrose BALLETT 3/4 with Miss Natasha

Big, Bad, Wolf: Eva Davignon

Little Bo Peep: Jylliane Meiners

Sheep: Lizzy Tanner, Scarlett Hodgman, Sophie Antonina Mott & Sophie Frasher

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**Thursday Montrose BALLET 3/4 with Miss Pang
Sadie Hafen, Olivia Fox, Ruby Noel, Kiersten Braaten,
Sadie Wynne & Caroline Latham**

Frosted Follies:



Wednesday Montrose TAP 3/4 with Miss Natasha Emelye Rackleff, Pailin Cooper, Eva Davignon, Cricket Shima, Sofie Selee, Olivia Fox & Sophie Frasher



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Coffee

**Cream & Sugar
Pas de Deux:
Zola Cordell &
Sawyer Lutz**



Espresso:

**Amelia Edwards, Vanessa Hunter,
Lillian Gordon, Elizabeth Kistler,
Mickayla Weldon, Angela Drown, Rylan
Jaramillo, Lizzy Corn & Autumn Cordell**

Lattes Hip Hop:



Monday Montrose LYRICAL HIP HOP with Miss Val

Rachel Williams, Krimzin Black, Ellie Feder,
Aidan Jakeman, Angelique Macias-Martinez,
Ashlin Mitchum & Lucas Vogt



Green Tea

The Cricket: Cricket Shima

Tea Set:

**Monday Montrose
BALLET 3/4E
with Miss Pang**

Grayce Hert,
Scarlett Hodgman,
Sophie Antonina
Mott,
Jadyn Robertson,
Ella Silvester & Lizzy Tanner



Dragon Beard Candy:



Wednesday Montrose HIP HOP 5 with Miss Val
Pailin Cooper, Lizzy Tanner, Sofie Selee, Paige
Jakeman, Brylee Baines, Angelique Macias-Martinez,
Ashlin Mitchum

&

Friday Ridgway 6:15 HIP HOP 5/6 with Miss Val



Lily Feeser, Hailey Moran & Nate Kissingford

**Sugar
Plums**

**Sugar Punk
Pixies:**

**Wednesday
Montrose
JAZZ 3/4
with Miss
Natasha**



**Pailin Cooper, Lizzy Tanner, Sofie Selee, Olivia Fox,
Noa Brown, Ruby Noel, Sophie Frasher &
Lauren Neubaum**

Flowers

Dew Drop Fairy:
Kate Allison



Betsy's Garden:

Hailey Moran, Lily Feeser, Kayla Bolane,
Sydney Genuit, Autumn Sagal, Katy Story,
Zola Cordell, Autumn Cordell, Mickayla Weldon,
Lillian Gordon, Vanessa Hunter & Angela Drown

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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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