

Short AND Suite NUTCRACKER THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

filmed

NOVEMBER 21, 2020

WICHITA GRAND OPERA
THEATRE



MIDWEST DANCE MECHANIX

3805 N. Hydraulic | Wichita, KS 67219 | www.dancemechanix.biz

Nutcracker I SPY



Nutcracker WORD SCRAMBLE



1. LBEALT

2. MRAUPSLUG

3. RSIDEOL

4. RAACL

5. SKIMUONEG

6. RUCENCART

7. LDOSL

8. NSSEOWKAFL

9. SEYMODRELEERS

10. YRIFA

11. SKYAHVOTCIK

12. UUTT

Midwest Dance Mechanix presents

Short & Suite Nutcracker

Ballet Director: Trudy Souba

Choreography by Jana Owen and Stan Rogers where indicated

Scene one: *The Party*

Our story begins with young Clara who is attending a fancy holiday party on Christmas Eve. Her friends give her a special gift – a beautiful Nutcracker which quickly becomes her most prized possession. Being by far the youngest guest at the party, Clara quickly grows tired and falls asleep.

Clara: Julia Jones**Party Guests:** Madisyn Dible | Brilee Garrett | Kate Horschel | Londyn Lindsey | Anna Luttrell | Kristina Mattingly

Scene two: *Clara's Dream & The Battle with the Mouse Queen*

As she sleeps, Clara begins to dream. Her toy dolls become life sized and her house is suddenly filled with oversized mice, led by the Mouse Queen. Giant soldiers, commanded by her brave Nutcracker, embark on a battle against the army of mice. As the Nutcracker and the Mouse Queen engage in a final battle, Clara comes to the aid of her beloved Nutcracker by sneaking up and hitting the Mouse Queen with her slipper. Distracted by the hit, the Nutcracker is able to slay the Mouse Queen once and for all.

Toy Dolls: Brylie Christiansen | Adyson D'Angelo | Kylee Harris | Makenzie Kieffer | Linley Owen | Tatum Roundy | Ashlynn Sauer |**Nutcracker Prince:** Duncan Neill**Soldiers:** Jamiya Bell | Landreigh Benningfield | Brynn Bottenberg | Talia Fawson | Emily Geering | Louise Klincik | Macie Latimer | Melany Nuñez | Saide Sierra | Caroline Taton |**Mouse Queen:** Kaidence Goodrich**Mice Corps:** Anna Fawson | Jillian Hale | Samantha Holeman | Abby Holtzman | Alice Klincik | Brielle Perry | Kelsey Simmons | Emma Tennille | Amelia Thompson | Ameilya Wolken |**Calvary:** Zane Begole | Freddie Crile | Foster Owen | Dominik Souba

Scene three: *The Snow Forrest* Choreography by Stan Rogers

After winning the battle, Clara's Nutcracker transforms into a Prince who invites her to join him on a sleigh ride through a beautiful Snow Forrest filled with dancing snowflakes

Snow Queen: Lauren Kenas**Snow King:** Marak Gann**Snow Demi Soloists:** Anna Shelton | Abigail Carpenter | Skylar Adamson**Snowflakes:** Abby Allen | Lexi Ashcraft | Sophia Crile | Abby Geering | Annika Lindeman | Rachel Meeker | Chloe Schoenhofer | Ava Wiechman |

Intermission

Scene four: Land of the Sweets

The sleigh carried Clara all the way to the Land of Sweets, a luscious land filled with tasty treats from around the world. Clara and her Prince enjoy watching sweets perform cultural dances commissioned by the Sugarplum Fairy. The Dewdrop Fairy and her garlands of flowers waltz through the candy lined streets as Clara is mesmerized by all the excitement.

Spanish Hot Chocolate: Ashlyn Baars | Brynna Christiansen | Kylee Hackett | Scarlett Schoen-White

Arabian Coffee

Soloists: Kate Rackley & Chad Vaught

Corps: Taryn Barry | Maddy Bogard | Allison Lewis | Victoria Sweet

Tea from China

Soloist: Chloe Schoenhofer

Corps: Maryn Adams | Briley Bina | Justice Carter | Molly Holtzman | Macie Latimer | Kinsley Martsolf | Lillian Simmons | Hannah Wilbert |

Italian Marzipan Skylar Adamson | Abigail Carpenter | Lauren Kenas |

Mother Ginger & her Swedish Cookies

Mother Ginger: Anna Shelton

Cookies: Sloane Cary | Adaline Christians | Audrina Gjoza | Payson Johnson | Sawyer Konen | Austyn Labus | Lucianna Lindeman | Kylie Swindler | Sydney Torres |

Russian Candy Canes

Riley Bump | Madisyn Dible | Brilee Garrett | Tessa Long | Aubrey Pierpoint | Tomi Roberts | Jayma Schnoor | Jessie Stafford | Sanaa Truett | Torianne Vo |

Dew Drop Fairy

Kate Rackley |

Waltz of the Flowers

Abby Allen | Megan Bogard | Mackenzie Buxman | Jenna Gallegos | Abby Geering | Emily Holtzman | Lauren Kenas | Rachel Meeker | Sierra Phillipson | Anna Shelton | Ella Jane Sims | Eliza Sweet

Dancers that were missed due to injuries and quarantines:

Isabel Weber – Snow Demi-soloist & Italian Marzipan

Kate Rackley – Snow Demi-soloist

Ja'nyah Core – Candy Cane

Due to the updated Covid timeline, our Sugarplum Fairy was unable to join us this year.

Scene five: Clara's farewell to the Land of Sweets & her awakening

Finally, it is time to say goodbye. Clara enjoys one last dance with all of the citizens from the Land of Sweets before finally waking up from her magical dream, still holding her beloved Nutcracker in her arms.

The End

6 Most Sincere Thanks

to our audience...

What a year 2020 has been...to share this very special Short & Suite Nutcracker with all of you, to be invited into your home, is a true honor. We had high hopes of being able to perform this special ballet for you in the way it is most special... in a live theatre. But 2020 had other plans and even though it's not how we hoped it would be, we are very grateful to share a bit of the magic of this beloved tradition with you... at home. I always say that watching the story of the Nutcracker unfold through the eyes of a child is my favorite and I'm excited that you will get to experience that through your screen today. Take so many pictures and videos for me because I will miss hearing those "ohh's and ahh's" from the audience. Your support of this reimagined performance and of these dancers means the world to us. At a time when so many things are different, we hope that the magic the Nutcracker brings remains unchanged and that as you sleep tonight, visions of Sugarplums will dance in your head.

to our choreography team and staff..

Thank you doesn't seem adequate to express my gratitude for the collaborative efforts of our choreographers and teachers; your talent, passion & dedication will shine through these dancers today! 2020 has proved to be a challenge in so many ways and at every turn, you have been open to change, eager to adapt, and willing to go on new and uncharted adventures in an effort to keep kids dancing!

In a three day span, we went from planning a Saturday costume try-on to filming our full Nutcracker! It was a flurry of sequins, masks, glitter and magic, but we emerged with the show you're about to enjoy. As instructors and choreographers, we all would have liked that additional 2 1/2 weeks to rehearse, perfect and make the show stage ready. But, given the challenges we all faced, I couldn't be prouder of this show... it was a long day of filming with most of the transition choreography being taught the day of the filming. Our dancers were able to take on the challenge and they showed true determination and professionalism. And that is a tribute to the training you have collectively given them.

To our very own **Stan Rogers**, thank you for sharing your beautiful land of snow with all of us. To **Trudy Souba, Amy Faimon & Chad Vaught**; you're the collaborative dream team and this show was brought to life through your eyes. The work of many visions and years of expertise have

brought beautiful dreams to life through the limbs of our dancers; highlighting grace, athleticism, artistry and enthusiasm. To **Amy Dible & Jenny Rackley**, our dedicated, creative and mask making costuming duo. Your hard work and determination made this show possible and our dancers looked beautiful. Lastly, to **Danielle Holtzman** at every twist and turn that this year has thrown at us, you have been there, ready to adjust, change, work and make these types of opportunities possible. Thank you for many sleepless nights, all the passion that you pour into your work and for your big, beautiful brain that is always trying to make the experience better for our dancers and audience,

to our dancers, volunteers and parents...

I couldn't be prouder of the collective effort of our students, staff, parents and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make this show come to life...in record time! To our dancers, thank you for your trust and belief in the process of creating... especially in the midst of a pandemic! It is a joy to watch the accomplished dancers you are becoming. I couldn't be prouder of the obstacles you've overcome this year...physiologically adapting to dancing in masks, putting in extra hours at home when you could not be in the studio, and resisting the temptations to break the six foot distance threshold to hug your friends and cast mates (we gave our seniors a 1 minute pass!). You all brought this show to life in 2020 and I'm so proud of each and every one of you. To **Valerie Simmons** who is a volunteer & backstage magician, thank you for all your hard work. To our parents who have chauffeured and sacrificed (and spent endless hours waiting outside in the car) for the LOVE of dance, thank you from your dancers heart and mine. And to every single volunteer, you are the life force of this show and it wouldn't be possible without all of YOU.

to those we missed on the stage...

To those who worked so hard for months, but were unable to join us onstage for the performance due to illness, quarantine or injury; Please know that you were in all of our hearts and that a part of us was missing that day. We can't wait to share the stage again with you soon.

special thanks to these creative artists who helped make our vision come to life...

Costume Construction- Debbie Roberts & Jackie Sweet |
Backdrops - Rachel Downs | Sleigh Construction - Jeremy Taylor
| Theatre & Stage decorations - Amy Faimon

last and most importantly...

To Ryan, Linley and Foster... through missed dinners and late nights, your love and care for me and my dreams never waivers. Thank you for loving me and my aspirations and finding the joy & laughter in all the moments in between. All my love, *Miss Jana*

What Is Ballet?

Ballet is a form of dance that originated in France. Because of that, most of the terms used to describe the dance steps are french words. Ballet uses precise and highly formalized steps and gestures to create light, graceful and fluid movements. The goal of a ballerina is to make the dancing look easy - like she is floating across the stage. In reality, it takes an immense amount of strength, endurance, flexibility and skill to perform the difficult and precise ballet steps.

How Does Ballet Tell A Story?

Stories can be told in many different ways. In ballet, there are no words. Instead, the story is told through the the scenery, costuming, lighting, dancing, and pantomiming.

Scenery - sets the style/mood for what is about to take place

Costuming - gives the audience a sense of what types of characters the dancers are portraying and the era in which the story takes place

Lighting - a key ingredient to establishing and maintaining the mood of the ballet

Pantomime - a universal form of sign language used in the art form of ballet

About The Nutcracker Music ⁷

a listening activity:

The music for the Nutcracker was written by the Russian composer, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in 1892. There are many different kinds of music and sounds you can hear in the Nutcracker Suite. Listen for special sounds as you watch today.

At the party... sparkling, lighthearted melody that sets the scene for the festive holiday ballet

During the battle... the mouse queen enters to battle-like sounds of **brass and snare drums**. You can also hear scurrying sounds of the mice played by the **strings** and the **march** of the soldiers played by the **percussion**, including loud **cymbals**.

In the Snow Forrest... this movement features fluttering **flutes** and short, disconnected **pizzicato** strings to create a snowy soundscape for the dancing snowflakes.

Spanish Hot Chocolate... this is a grand flourishing number that features a lively **trumpet** solo.

Arabian Coffee.... listen for the sounds of the clarinet, the oboe, and the **tambourine**.

Chinese Tea.... listen for the light and fluttering sounds of the **flutes**.

Russian Candy Canes... this Russian dance (which was Tchaikovsky's home country) features the energetic sounds of Russian music and was inspired by a Ukranian folk dance.

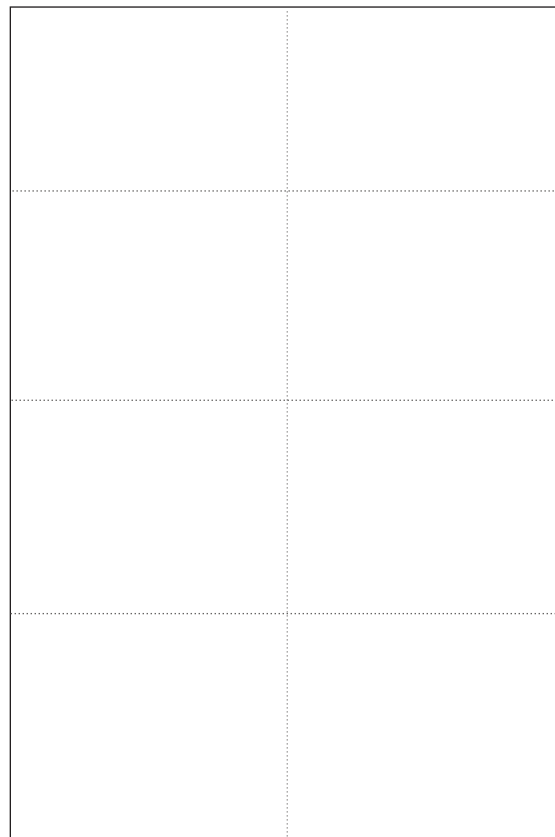
Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy... this movement features an instrument called the celesta. It has a unique bell like sound that is the perfect accompaniment for the light, sparkling dance of the Sugarplum Fairy

Waltz of the Flowers... the triple meter of this beautiful **waltz** is perfect for dancing. The music also changes back and forth from loud, grand dynamics to soft and quieter sections.



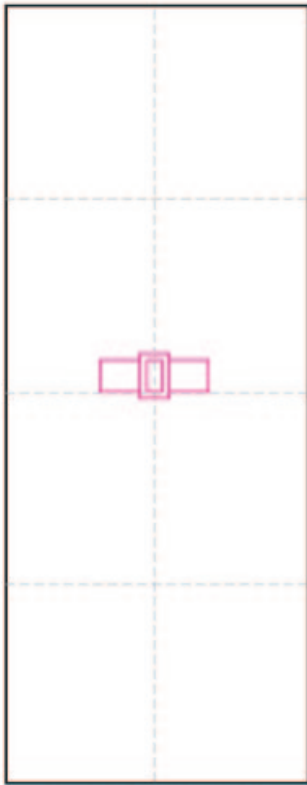


My Nutcracker Drawing

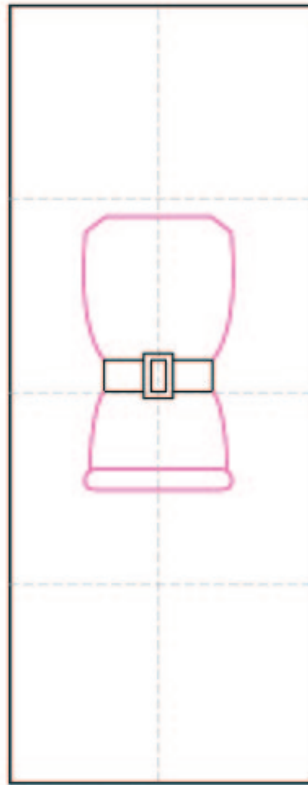


How to Draw a Nutcracker

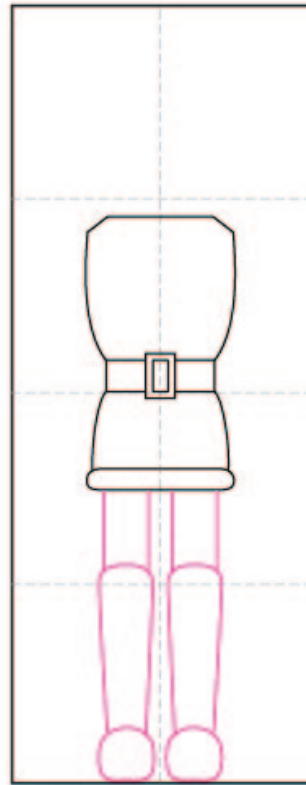
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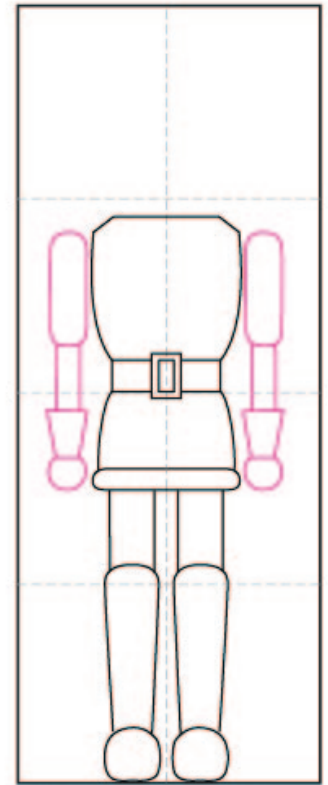
1. Make guide lines, draw belt.



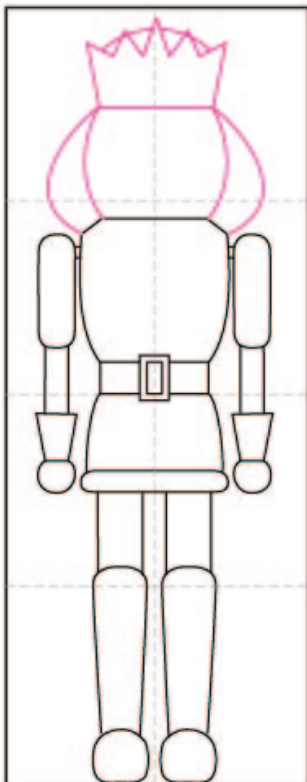
2. Draw jacket.



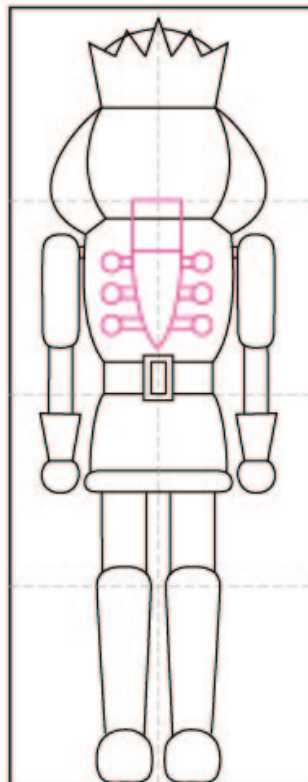
3. Draw legs and boots.



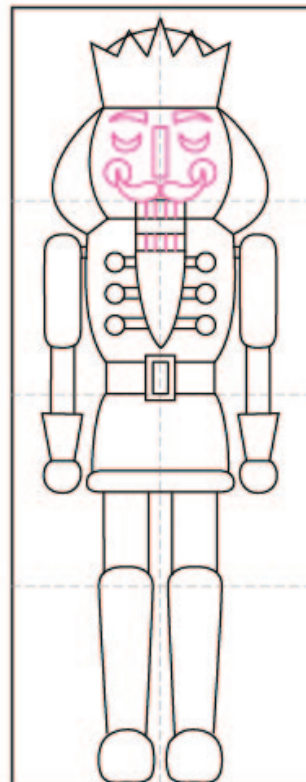
4. Add arms with gloves.



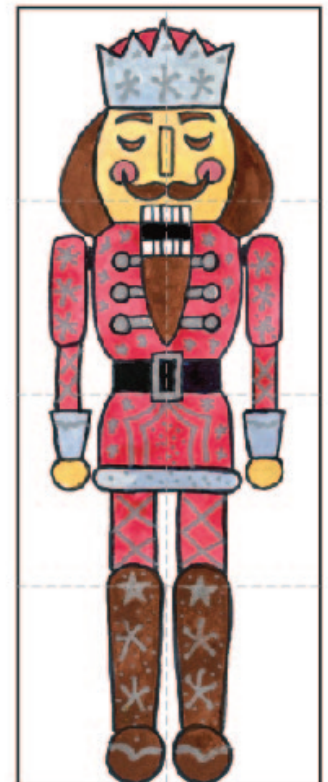
5. Draw head and crown.



6. Add mouth, beard, buttons.



7. Add face and teeth.



Paint, black and silver marker.

Nutcracker Crossword

ACROSS

3. It is decorated for Christmas.
6. She lives in the Land of Sweets.
10. Stage concealer.
11. Female dancer.
13. They dance for the party guests.
14. Drosselmeyer's gift to Clara.
18. Clara's brother who breaks the Nutcracker.
19. The Nutcracker leads an army of them.
20. The Ballet ends with this dance.
21. Night time imagining.
22. Clara's godfather.

DOWN

1. Military fight.
2. People invited to a party.
3. Drosselmeyer's profession.
4. Christmas gathering.
5. Gifts.
7. His wrote the music for The Nutcracker.
8. Clara throws her slipper at their leader.
9. The Nutcracker turns into this.
10. The heroine of The Nutcracker.

12. Where the Sugar Plum Fairy lives.
15. Country where The Nutcracker was originally performed.
16. Leader of the mice.
17. Artistic dance.



Word Bank:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|--------|------------|-------------|-------|
| Ballerina | Ballet | Battle | Clara | Curtain | Dolls | Dream |
| Drosselmeyer | Fritz | Guests | Mice | Mouse King | Nutcracker | Party |
| Land of Sweets | Presents | Prince | Russia | Soldiers | Tchaikovsky | Tree |
| Sugarplum Fairy | Toy Maker | Waltz | | | | |

Autographs



Clara:
Julia Jones. Age 12
 School: Allison Traditional Magnet
 Age started dancing: age 3
 Favorite part about dance: *"I've been dancing for almost 10 years. I love dance because I can express my feelings and it gives me this passion that nothing else could ever give me."*

Julia Jones
Clara



Nutcracker:
Duncan Neill, age 13
 School: Sunrise Christian Academy
 Age started dance: 6
 Favorite thing about dance: *"Miss Jana and Miss Trudy, and being with friends"*

Duncan Neill
Nutcracker



Snow Queen:
Lauren Kenas, age 15
 School: Classical School of Wichita
 Age started dance: age 7
 Favorite part about dance: *"Working hard on ballet technique, because it's such a beautiful art."*

Lauren K



Dew Drop Fairy:
Kate Rackley, age 16
 School: Homeschool
 Age started dance: 9
 Favorite part about dance: *Being able to express what I feel through movement.*

Kate Rackley

Chad Vaughn

Arabian King:
Chad Vaughn, age 24
 Guest Artist
 Age started dance: age 24
 Favorite part about dance: *"My favorite part about dance is being able to escape reality and dive into whatever role I have been cast as."*



**Chinese Soloist:****Chloe Schoenhofer**, age 17

School: Kapaun Mount Carmel High School

Age started dance: 5

Favorite thing about dance: "I started dancing when I was 5 and have never wanted to do so anything else for these 12 years. My favorite part about dance is just being able to let yourself go, to be able to do what you love, push yourself, and see your success before your eyes. It is challenging sometimes to keep the motivation, but it will never change the way I dance and how much I love it."

Chloe Schoenhofer

Chinese Soloist

**Mother Ginger:****Anna Shelton**, age 17

School: Hesston High School

Age started dance: 4 years old

Favorite thing about dance: "Performing and being able to tell different stories through all kinds of different styles."

Anna Shelton

Mother Ginger

Cardine Taton
Soldier

Ashlyn Baars
Spanish

Party Girl

Saide Sierra
Soldier 2020

Annika Snow

Jessie Stafford
Candy cane

Seacrest
Schoenhofer
"Spanish"

Taryn Barry
Arabian Corps

Brynn Bottenberg
Soldier

Katherine
Hanson

Tatum Roundy
Doll

Luciana
gingercookie

Abby Allen
Snow
Waltz of the Flower

Emily H.
Flower

Briley Bina
Chinese Corps

Kylee Hackett
-Spanish-

Emma Tennille
-MOUSE-

Sierra Philipson
Flowers

Kylee Harris
-doll

Abby H.
mouse

Ara W.
Snow

Landraigh
Bennigfeld
Soldier

Melany Norez
soldier

Ella Jane Sims
Waltz of the Flowers

Audrina Gjoza
Ginger Cookie

Mackenzie
Buerger
(waltz)

Foster Owen
soldier

Linley Owen
Doll

Tessa Long
Candy Cane

Amelga Wolken
"mouse"

Adyson
Dolls

Dom Souza
Calvary

Macie L.
Soldier

Molly H.
Chinese

Kalderce
"mouse queen"

Molly H.
Chinese

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Located in the heart of Wichita, Midwest Dance Mechanix offers over 140 dance classes per week. From your child's first twirl in a tutu to their final graduation performance, we offer the technical training and life skills to help each student discover their own potential. Our experienced and credentialed instructors pride themselves on helping kids not only become great dancers, but also great people! From weekly technique classes to fun summer camps to high level Master classes and workshops, Midwest Dance Mechanix offers something for everyone... even adults! Dancers performing in the Short & Suite Nutcracker are members of the MDM Competition Company and/or En Avant Youth Ballet Company.

Interested in classes for your dancer? Enrollment for our Spring semester of dance is open NOW at www.dancemechanix.biz