Support for this program is made possible by generous donors who have committed time and resources to the Charleston Gaillard Center’s Dance Initiative.
ABOUT THE SHOW

THE CLASSIC CHRISTMAS STORY BALLET
A ballet that has become a favorite holiday tradition worldwide, The Nutcracker shares the story of a family as they gather with friends on Christmas Eve and follows their young daughter’s exploration of a magical world. As explained by the Moscow Ballet, “Alexandre Dumas Père’s adaptation of the story by E.T.A. Hoffman was set to music by Tchaikovsky and originally choreographed by Marius Petipa. [...] The composer made a selection of eight of the more popular pieces before the ballet’s December 1892 premiere, forming what is currently known as The Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a, as heard in Moscow Ballet productions.” ¹

ABOUT THIS PERFORMANCE
This version of The Nutcracker is a condensed version of the Russian Nutcracker Ballet. Students will listen to the songs of the composer, Tchaikovsky, as the dancers perform classic scenes from The Nutcracker.

The Nutcracker performance features a full cast of Dance Conservatory of Charleston dancers ages 5-18. Performing is the essence of dance and a key part of the student-centered approach, and as such, DCC is thrilled to present a production in which every role is danced by a student.

The Performers

ABOUT DANCE CONSERVATORY OF CHARLESTON
Dance Conservatory of Charleston provides the highest caliber dance education in the Charleston area. While we specialize in serious dance training for the student who wishes to pursue a dance career, we also believe in the benefits of a dance education for everyone.

An education in the arts creates independent, critical thinkers with agile minds who make connections to the world around them. Dedicated dance training and performance fosters courage, confidence and discipline, all hallmarks for success in life.

The Dance Conservatory of Charleston welcomes students of all ages and abilities. Our aim is to inspire students to explore and develop a love of the performing arts in a safe, nurturing environment. ²
LISTEN TO THIS MUSIC
P. Tchaikovsky – Pas de Deux
Act I: March

WATCH THESE VIDEOS
George Balanchine’s “Waltz of the Flowers”
Royal Ballet “Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy”

READ THESE BOOKS

The Nutcracker
by Jan Brett

The Nutcracker
by Susan Jeffers

The Nutcracker
by Valeria Docampo

Scenes from
The Nutcracker
EXPLORE // Classroom Workshops

**BALLET STORYTIME**
In this lesson, students will use dance and physical movements to retell the story of The Nutcracker. As a group, students will learn basic ballet techniques and positions used in The Nutcracker and work to perform as an ensemble.
[Click Here for the Lesson Plan.](#)

**MARIONETTE ORNAMENTS**
In this lesson, students will create a main character marionette puppet. Students in small groups will retell the story of The Nutcracker using their puppets.
[Click Here for the Lesson Plan.](#)
According to Wikipedia, “the first Russian nested doll set was carved in 1890 at the Children's Education Workshop by Vasily Zvyozdochkin and designed by Sergey Malyutin, who was a folk crafts painter.” In an article from the Master Russian, “the doll set consisted of eight dolls of decreasing sizes placed one inside the other. All eight dolls depicted children -- the outermost was a girl holding a rooster, six inner dolls were girls, the fifth doll was a boy, and the innermost was a baby.”

The Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood is a former Russian Orthodox church in Saint Petersburg, Russia which currently functions as a secular museum.” Tripomatic states that “the structure was constructed between 1883 and 1907 and is one of Saint Petersburg's major attractions.”

In 1885, Tsar Alexander III of Russia commissioned Peter Carl Fabergé to create a jeweled egg as an Easter gift for his wife, Empress Maria Feodorovna. In Town & Country Magazine, writer Nancy Chuda explains that “the egg was so successful that the tsar immediately placed an order for the following year. Thus began an annual tradition that his son would adopt when he took the throne and that would continue until the end of the House of Romanov's three-century reign, at the outbreak of the Russian revolution in 1917.”

In addition to The Nutcracker, Tchaikovsky also composed Swan Lake, a ballet exploring the ill-fated love story of Prince Siegfried and Princess Odette. Suzanne Elliott writes a brief synopsis of the ballet, “Prince Siegfried goes out hunting one night and chases a group of swans – one of them transforms into a young woman, Odette, who explains that she and her companions were turned into swans by the evil Baron Von Rothbart.”

ENHANCE // Famous Ballets: Cinderella

Cinderella, composed by Sergei Prokofiev, is one of the most popular ballets and compositions inspiring many choreographers since its beginning. The Russian National Ballet Theatre states, “the premiere of Cinderella was presented 1945, at the Bolshoi Theatre with choreography by Rostislav Zakharov. Galina Ulanova danced the title role. Cinderella (or Cendrillon) is notable for its jubilant music, lush scenery, and for the hilarious double-roles of the stepsisters, more mad than bad in this treatment.”

WATCH THESE VIDEOS

The Russian Ballet’s Cinderella
Fort Lauderdale Children’s Ballet Theater

READ THESE BOOKS

Adelita
by Tomie dePaola
Cinderella
by Marcia Brown
Cinderella
by K.V. Craft

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Act I: March https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=maWN1MH9za4&list=PLUtjANhAH1uEfi05xKfvc6KHaUs5LGd&index=3


Dance of the Little Swans https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xd2nTXsivH


Ewa Krasucka TW-ON, CC BY-SA 4.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

George Balanchine’s Waltz of the Flowers https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkC7L8q1eBw

Herzi Pinki, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>, via Wikimedia Commons


James Petts, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

KCBalletMedia, CC BY 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>, via Wikimedia Commons


P. Tchaikovsky – Pas de Deux https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JR5USu6D6U

Randreu, CC BY 3.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

Royal Ballet- Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zV1qLYukTH8

Russian Ballet's Cinderella https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgvfZbj77SQ&t=10s


Steven Pavlov https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Senapa

Sugar Plum Fairy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0RkSy6E1NIY

Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake – The Kirov Ballet https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9rJ0B7y6Ncs&t=855s

Trepak https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2ISRMSlyX8
EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

The Gaillard Center would like to thank the following educational partners in their ongoing support of our Education & Community program. This program is also supported, in part, by a grant from a private foundation.

Gaillard Center Partners

Community Partners
EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Institutional Support

City of North Charleston Cultural Arts Program
City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs
Donaldson Charitable Trust
Henry & Sylvia Aschik Foundation
The Mark Elliott Motley Foundation
Samuel Freeman Charitable Trust

John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation of SC
Lowcountry Quarterly Arts Grant Program
Peter Glenville Foundation

Scenes from The Nutcracker