

DeKalb School of the Arts presents

# NUTCRACKER IN A NUTSHELL



December 2022 | Kyle Theatre at DeKalb School of the Arts  
1192 Clarendon Ave, Avondale Estates, GA 30002



# THE STORY OF THE NUTCRACKER BALLET

On Christmas night, Clara's parents throw a magnificent party.

As Clara plays with her friends, her mysterious Uncle Drosselmeyer appears with presents for the children, but for Clara he has something special; a wooden nutcracker. Clara instantly falls in love with her new toy, and that night she sneaks downstairs to play with it. But when the clock strikes midnight, a strange magic takes over the house. The mice grow tall and begin to attack Clara. Her Nutcracker comes to life and calls in the toy soldiers to battle the mice. The fierce Queen of the Rats appears and attacks the Nutcracker. They battle back and forth and just when the Nutcracker is about to lose, Clara distracts the Rat Queen and the Nutcracker kills him. With the death of the Rat Queen, the curse of the Nutcracker is lifted and he turns into a handsome prince. To thank her for her help, the Nutcracker Prince takes Clara to the magical land of snow to watch the swirling snowflakes. They continue on to the Land of Sweets where the prince is reunited with the Sugarplum Fairy and her candy courtiers. To show their gratitude to Clara for saving the prince, everyone in the Land of Sweets performs dances for Clara's entertainment. When Clara falls asleep after the festivities, she awakens back in her home with the nutcracker still cradled in her arms and wonders if it was all just a dream.

~Asher Elbein





# Choreography

Dean Williams, DSA Dance Department Chair

Anna Dunn, Director of Nutcracker in a Nutshell

Angela Harris, Assistant Director of Nutcracker in a Nutshell

Erin Smith, DSA Point Instructor

Edward Lawrence, DESA Dance Instructor

Zandra Taylor, DESA Dance Instructor

Julie Baggenstoss, Flamenco Specialist

Kerry Lee, Chinese Dance Specialist

Tatiana Makarova, Russian Character Dance Specialist

Andrea Moreira, Bellydance Specialist

Joan Kall Stewart

Music.....Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Libretto.....Jacklyn Joy Byrd.

## National Honor Society for Dance Artists

...to promote and honor outstanding dance achievement in high school level students and encourage well-rounded dance artists to become leaders in their communities after high school graduation.



### DSA Current Members:

Jasmine Ament, Danielle Beaucejour, Zahra Claxton-Warner, Alaina Crosslin, Danna Doyle, Charis Eppes, Eva Harold, Omi'se Heru, Kendall Mitchell, Olivia Osborne, Destiny Porter, Hannah Robertson, McKenzie Rudd, Ali'Imran Russell, Lola Russell, Parys Sanders, Elizabeth Smiley, Amelia Steiner, Sydney Ware, and Layla White

\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Cast A



## Party Scene

Clara Silverhaus.....Nina Smith  
 Uncle Drosselmeyer.....Dean Williams  
 Sylvia Silverhaus.....Angela Harris  
 Harlequin Doll.....Amelia Steiner  
 Soldier Doll.....Myles Jones

### **Party Scene Teenagers**

Erika Kato, Julian Magno, Armani Mitchell, Olivia Osborne\*,  
 Alex Sanders, Lucia Szymura, Caleb Vaughn, Robert Walker,  
 Zoe Wilson

### **Party Scene Adults**

Special Guest appearances by DSA family and friends.

### **Party Scene Children**

Special appearance by DeKalb Elementary School of the Arts  
 Dance Ensemble

Aliviya Armstrong, Nora Davis, Johnathan Gibson, Audrey Gordon,  
 Dakota Ferris, Autumn Johnson, Kimberly Jones, Andrew McIntosh,  
 Genesis Price, Mason Smith, Isabella Watson, Aiyana Whipple,  
 Tatum Williams, Anyla Young

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# Battle Scene

Nutcracker Prince.....Roman Gardner  
Rat King.....Oliver Hollahan

## **Soldiers**

Kamayah Barnum, Kadence Cudjoe, Angel Finney,  
Queenella Guilavogui, Rehanna Simpson, Marley Smith

## **Mice**

Safiya Durand, Julian Magno, Olamide Oladipo, Caleb Vaughn,  
Robert Walker, Zoe Wilson

# Kingdom of Snow

Snow Queen.....Lola Russell\*  
Snow King.....Ali'Imran Russell\*  
Understudy: Julian Magno

## **Snowflakes**

Jasmine Ament\*, Mia Campagna, Jordyn Braithwaite,  
Zoe Cormier, Kate Heston, Hannah Robertson\*, Averri Thomas,  
Kayla Peltier, Lauren Price, Elizabeth Smiley,  
Sydeny Ware, Zahra Claxton-Warner  
Understudy: Lucia Szymura

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# Act II

## Spanish Chocolate

Danna Doyle\*, Destiny Porter,  
Caleb Vaughn, Robert Walker

## Arabian Coffee

Cobra: Lauren Price  
Snake Charmer: Julian Magno

Kamayah Burnum, Kadence Cudjoe, Angel Finney,  
Queenella Guilavogui, Amara Rumley, Marley Smith

## Chinese Tea

Olivia Osborne\* and Lucia Szymura

Safiya Durand, Olamide Oladipo, Rehanna Simpson, Alex Sanders

## Danish Marzipan

Ire Umoja–Summers

Kate Heston, Armani Mitchell, Amara Rumley, Amelia Steiner,  
Averi Thomas, Zahra Claxton–Warner\*

\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Russian Licorice

Erika Kato, Roman Gardner, Alex Sanders

# Candy Canes

Special appearance by DeKalb Elementary School of the Arts  
Dance Ensemble

Kyliah Allen, Marleigh Johnson, Addison Parks, Amber Porter,  
Jada Spencer, Neriah Walls, Jai Williams, Sydni Wright,  
Understudy: Makenzie McDuffy

# Waltz of the Candied Flowers

Dew Drop.....Layla White\*  
Cavalier.....Myles Jones

Lilly Battle, Mia Campagna, Zoe Cromier, Danna Doyle\*, Kayla  
Peltier, Hannah Robertson\*, Elizabeth Smiley\*  
Understudies: Jasmine Ament\*, Amelia Steiner\*

# Sugar Plum Fairy.

Sugar Plum Fairy.....Charizma Lawrence  
DSA Class of 2019

\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Cast B

## Party Scene

Clara Silverhaus.....Mia Campagna  
Uncle Drosselmeyer.....Dean Williams  
Sylvia Silverhaus.....Angela Harris  
Harlequin Doll.....Kate Heston  
Soldier Doll.....Ali'Imran Russell

### **Party Scene Teenagers**

Jasmine Ament\*, Oliver Hollahan, Julian Magno,  
Amara Rumley, Lucia Szymura, Averi Thomas, Sydney Ware\*,  
Robert Walker, Zoe Wilson

### **Party Scene Adults**

Special Guest appearances by DSA family and friends.

### **Party Scene Children**

Special appearance by DeKalb Elementary School of the Arts  
Dance Ensemble

Aliviya Armstrong, Nora Davis, Johnathan Gibson, Audrey Gordon,  
Dakota Ferris, Autumn Johnson, Kimberly Jones, Andrew McIntosh,  
Genesis Price, Mason Smith, Isabella Watson, Aiyana Whipple,  
Tatum Williams, Anyla Young

\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Battle Scene

Nutcracker Prince.....Roman Gardner  
Rat King.....Caleb Vaughn

## **Soldiers**

Kamayah Barnum, Kadence Cudjoe, Angel Finney,  
Queenella Guilavogui, Rehanna Simpson, Marley Smith

## **Mice**

Safiya Durand, Oliver Hollahan, Julian Magno, Olamide Oladipo,  
Robert Walker, Zoe Wilson

# Kingdom of Snow

Snow Queen.....Kayla Peltier  
Snow King.....Myles Jones  
Understudy: Caleb Vaughn

## **Snowflakes**

Nina Smith, Lola Russell\*, Alex Sanders, Ire Umoja–Summers,  
Armani Mitchell, Olivia Osborne\*, Amelia Steiner, Erika Kato,  
Lauren Price, Danna Doyle\*, Destiny Porter\*, Layla White\*  
Understudy: Lucia Szymura

\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Act II

## Spanish Chocolate

Lily Battle, Zoe Cromier,  
Caleb Vaughn, Robert Walker

## Arabian Coffee

Cobra: Hannah Robertson\*  
Snake Charmer: Julian Magno

Jordyn Braithwaite, Rehanna Simpson, Safiya Durand,  
Olamide Oladipo, Lucia Szymura, Kamayah Burnum

## Chinese Tea

Jasmine Ament\* and Sydney Ware\*  
Understudy: Alex Sanders

Angel Finney, Queenella Guilavougi, Marley Smith, Kadence Cudjoe

## Danish Marzipan

Zahra Claxton-Warner\*

Kate Heston, Armani Mitchell, Amara Rumley, Amelia Steiner,  
Ire Umoja-Summers, Averi Thomas

\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Russian Licorice

Jordyn Braithwaite, Roman Gardner, Zoe Wilson

# Candy Canes

Special appearance by Dekalb Elementary School of the Arts  
Dance Ensemble

Arianna Armstrong, Lauren Armstrong, Miraya Birucha,  
Yari Broussard, Jayde Brown, Mia Dorsey, Chole Harper,  
Vivian Thomas, Understudy: Amari Scott

# Waltz of the Candied Flowers

Dew Drop.....Elizabeth Smiley\*  
Cavalier.....Ali Imran Russell

Danna Doyle\*, Destiny Porter\*, Lauren Price, Hannah Robertson\*,  
Lola Russell\*, Erika Kato, Ire Umoja–Summers, Layla White\*  
Understudies: Jasmine Ament\*, Amelia Steiner\*

# Sugar Plum Fairy

Sugar Plum Fairy.....Charizma Lawrence  
DSA Class of 2019



\*Member of the National Honors Society for Dance Artists



# Bios

## **Dean Williams, DSA Dance Department Chair Director of the DSA Dance Repertory Company**

Dean Williams has been a dancer, teacher, choreographer and part of the Atlanta area dance scene since 1987. He graduated from the University of Iowa with BA in Dance and joined the Carl Ratcliff Dance Theater in the September of 1987. Mr. Williams was a founding member of GardenHouse Dance Company under the direction of Nicole Livieratos from 1992–2002. Other performance credits include, Lee Harper and Dancers, Guest artist with the Atlanta Ballet, Dancer/Choreographer for Atlanta Opera, and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Young Audience Series. Mr. Williams was Resident Choreographer and Assistant Director for Capital City Ballet under the direction of Kathryn McBeth from 1995–2000.

In 2000, Mr. Williams became a dance instructor at DeKalb School of the Arts (DSA), and in 2006 became the department director. He teaches ballet (Ceccehetti-based) Modern (Horton based) and (Limón based) and Introduction to Dance. Classes also include: dance vocabulary, dance history, anatomy/kinesiology, and composition and choreography. Mr. Williams has choreographed nearly 40 works for the annual dance concerts and for DSA's dance touring group, Dance Repertory Company. He has also choreographed for DSA's show choirs and choreographed all the Spring musicals for the last 20 years and has been lead director on seven musicals including *Seussical*, *The Musical*, *Chicago*, and *In the Heights*.

## **Anna Dunn, DSA Ballet Mistress Director of *Nutcracker in a Nutshell***

Anna Dunn, RAD RT, has worked as the DSA Ballet Mistress since 2006. She also serves the school as the Community Arts Liaison connecting DSA with opportunities in the broader community and working with students and staff to advocate for the arts. Dunn received her Master's in Arts Administration in 2014 from Goucher College and her Bachelor's in Dance Education in 2005 from Winthrop University. She is proud to be certified with the prestigious Royal Academy of Dance in London, England and recently began her Ed.D. degree in Teacher Leadership at KSU. In addition to teaching at DSA, she is the Education and Outreach Coordinator for Dance Canvas, connecting the public and private schools in Metro Atlanta with dance curriculum to resources in the community. Dunn was the founding president of the Dance Educators of GA Society, Inc., the state affiliate chapter of the National Dance Education Organization, creating networking and professional development opportunities for dance educators across the state. Still addicted to the adrenaline of live performances, she also enjoys stage managing productions for local companies several times a year.



# Bios

## **Angela Harris, DSA Pointe Instructor Assistant Director for Nutcracker in a Nutshell**

Angela Harris is the Executive Artistic Director of Dance Canvas, Inc., a career development organization for emerging choreographers. A graduate of The Baltimore School for the Arts, Angela trained at Dance Theater of Harlem, School of the Hartford Ballet & Eglevsky Ballet. She attended City College of New York, earning a B.A. in Journalism, while training at Steps on Broadway. Angela danced professionally with The Georgia Ballet, Columbia City Ballet and Urban Ballet Theater. Choreography credits: The Georgia Ballet, Ballet Lubbock and Oklahoma Arts Institute. Theater choreographic credits: Andrew Lloyd Weber's Song & Dance and the Suzi award winning Bridges of Madison County (Aurora Theatre). Angela was an Inaugural National Visiting Fellow at the School of American Ballet. She received a SDCF Observership and worked with Tony Award winning, Susan Stroman, on the Broadway Lab of Little Dancer. Angela has developed dance programs for recording artist, Usher's New Look Foundation, and the Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation, and has taught on the dance faculty at Dekalb School of the Arts and Oklahoma Arts Institute. She received the National Emerging Leader Award from Americans for the Arts/American Express. Angela is currently on faculty at Emory University and Spelman College.

## **Edward Lawrence, DESA Dance Instructor**

Edward Lawrence holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in dance from The Juilliard School, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the University of Phoenix. Though he danced full-time after graduating, Mr. Lawrence was also a member of the Juilliard staff for seven years where, as Director of Diversity, and Associate Director of Educational Outreach, he administrated and taught for the 60 Minutes featured Music Advancement Program – a music program for under-represented children in New York City. Through dance, Mr. Lawrence has toured not only nationally, but also internationally to countries such as Aruba, Curacao, French Guiana, Martinique, Japan, Jamaica, and Italy.



# Bios

## **Julia Galle Baggenstoss, Flamenco Specialist**

Julie Galle Baggenstoss is a flamenco dancer and teaching artist who uses her art form to nurture creativity and problem solving and build audience appreciation of flamenco, both in her home-base of Atlanta and across the Southern U.S.A. She is the Executive Director of the non-profit A Través, which has received grants and been recognized for excellence in creating projects that place Spanish artists and Georgia residents together, one-on-one, in arts education.

## **Kerry Lee, Chinese Dance Specialist**

Kerry Lee is the Co-Artistic Director of the Atlanta Chinese Dance Company, where she co-leads a troupe of 100 dancers in sharing Chinese dance, history, and culture with metro Atlanta audiences and beyond. She has performed professionally nationally and internationally with the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, H.T. Chen & Dancers, Dance China NY, and glo.

## **Andrea Moreira, Bellydance Specialist**

Andrea was a professional ballerina starting her dancing career in Brazil. She danced 4 years with The Georgia Ballet and also taught ballet class for adult and children in Brazil and at the Atlanta ballet. Andrea has been belly dancing since 1999 and is self taught. She has danced at restaurants, parties, corporate events and more. Andrea also dance samba, hula, latin dances, charleston and other dances.



# Senior Bios



I am Jasmine Ament, a dance major and art minor. This is my fourth year in Nutcracker. After high school I plan on going to college to major in Architecture and minor in foreign language. I hope to expand my skills as an architect outside of the U.S



I am Danna Doyle, a dance major, and drama minor. This year was my first year being in DRC (Dance Repertory Company) and being able to dance with my peers and showcase our very own choreography, was a wonderful experience for me!"

After high school Danna plans to go to college and major in Pre-Law Studies and Minor in Finance. she also plans to continue dance as a hobby and maybe even book small gigs. She has been dancing since she was 6 years old. Her favorite DSA dance memory is the 2022 Premiere Weekend Showcase.

"If you want to dance do it for yourself not for the validation of other people because sometimes you won't fit the story their selling



Roman Gardner majors in drama and minors in vocal music. This is his 5th year in Nutcracker. After high school he plans on going to college for Journalism and Mass Communication. "I am going to become a news reporter and eventually work my way to world news!"





I am Myles Jones. I am a dance major and drama minor. This will be my third year in nutcracker and I am extremely grateful to receive two principle roles this year. After high school, I plan to major in finance, while studying business and engineering, eventually owning a business of my own. Although I will not be studying dance in college, I will always hone my dance skills and applying the many valuable lessons I have learned throughout dancing.



My name is Olivia Osborne. I am a dance maior and media minor. I've been dancing since I was four years old. The last time I did Nutcracker was in ninth grade and I'm so excited to be able to do it again in my senior year!! Next year I plan on going to college and majoring in communications.



I am Ali'Imran Russell. I am a dance major and drama minor. This is my fourth year in nutcracker. After high school I will attend a four-year university and major in biology. I aspire to study medicine with a focus on becoming a doctor. Through dance I been able to creatively express myself and find my calling. Using what I have acquired from attending DSA, I will devote my career to making an impact the all the people I encounter. Just as I hope to do on stage.





Elizabeth Smiley is a dance major and drama minor. This is her second year in nutcracker. After high school she plans to continue my dance career and earn my BFA. She aspires to become a professional dancer and tour with a company. She hopes to grow in her craft and continue to train with a goal of inspiring young black dancers like herself.



After high school Nina plans to attend college to major in Film Production and business.

She has been dancing since she was 4 years old. In school she is a member of Dance Repertory Company and outside she is a member of Decatur City Dance's Contemporary Company.

"Find your passion"



Robert is an actor, singer, and dancer who first began performing at the age of 4. This is his second year in nutcracker. He plans to attend Howard University to major in theatre and film.



My name is Sydney Ware and I'm a Dance Major and Media Minor. This is my fourth and final year in Nutcracker. Though I've enjoyed my time at DSA I'm excited to graduate and go to college, hopefully double majoring in business and film/media studies. One day I'd love to own a performing arts studio where students can learn both dance and media!



# Coming Soon to DSA

Dec 13th at 7pm  
Holiday Music Concert  
Decatur First Baptist

January 13-14, 2023  
Walk Two Moons  
*Theatre for Young Audiences*

January 27-28, 2023  
Our Heads Held High  
*Black History Tour Show*

**DSA**

presents



**WALK  
TWO MOONS**

Thirteen-year-old Sal's mother left over a year ago. When her friend Phoebe's mom disappears, painful memories of Sal's own abandonment come to the surface. Determined to find Phoebe's mother, the girls begin seeing murderous plots and schemes around every corner. Sal shares these conspiracy theories with her Gram and Gramps during a cross-country trip to confront her mother. But it is only through the telling of her friend's tale that Sal ultimately realizes things—and people—are not always what they seem. Based on the Newbery Medal-winning novel by Sharon Creech

Kyle Theatre

**January 13-14, 2023**  
Theatre for Young Audiences

Recommended for ages 9 and up



# Crew

Stage Manager– Najwa McClary

Assistant Stage Manager– McKenzie Rudd\*

House Manager– Ashia Perkins

## Audio Crew

Jordyn Harper

## Lighting Crew

Morgan Brewington, Audrey Shubert, Joi Teague

## Video Crew

Sway Powers– Producer

Isabella Reid, Nyah Warren, Sofia Waters

## Costume Crew

Jonah Ruffin– Crew Head

Danielle Beaucejor\*, Joelle Briggs, Ashanti Campbell, Elise Smith,

Lauren Williams

## Ushers

Zhanna Coker, Victoria Epps, Sydney Grant, Nicholas Hawkin

Madelyn Lynch

## Stage Crew

Alaina Crosslin\*– Crew Head

Vincent Bryant, Johnny Daniel Jr., Danny Hawkins, Willah Johnson

## Props Crew

Isabella Brathwaite– Set Armorer

Wisteria Brady, Tea Richards



# Special Thanks to .....

Dance Department Costume Managers:  
Nina Smith, Alana Drew, Zarina Hutchinson

Costumes for Russian: Fawn Lowery  
Costume for Marzipan Soloist: Emily Ayers  
Party Scene Props: Jasmine Ament and Mark Nickelson  
Battle Scene Sets & Props: McConnell Family, Paul Mitchell, and  
Sawnee Ballet Theatre

Special thank you to all the dance studios that worked with our dancers. We would also like to thank all of the parents, families, and friends who have supported us this year.

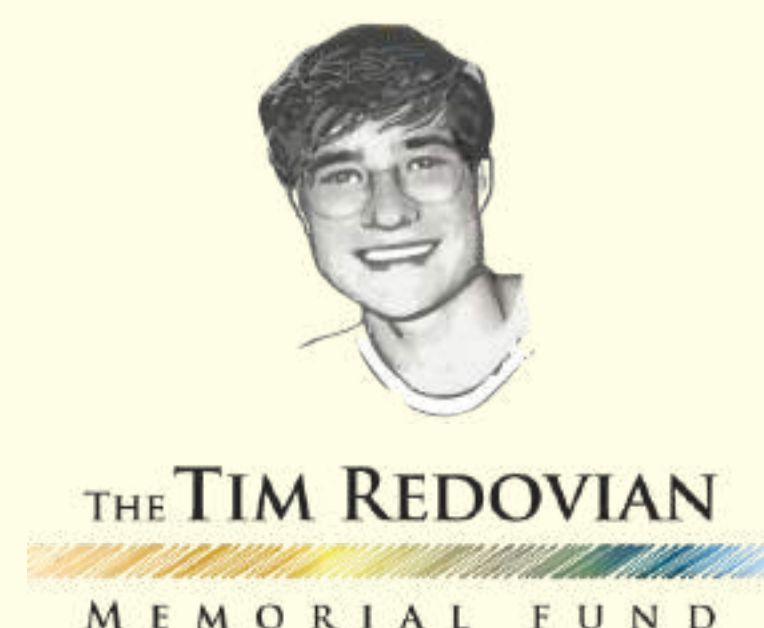
Dr. Jones, Mr. Allen, Dr. Knight, Mr. Walker Scott, Ms. Jacobs,  
Ms. Woods, and DSA Faculty and Staff  
Ms. Hamilton and the DESA Faculty and Staff  
Parent Coordinators: Kathy Pratt Russel and  
Melissa Marion-Landais  
Cast Party: Kayoko Kato  
Nutmcracker Store: Tawanna Robertson

## Our Season Partners

This program is supported in part by Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. Georgia Council for the Arts also receives support from its partner agency — the National Endowment for the Arts.



arts schools network





# Staff

Principal .....	Dr. Keith Jones
Assistant Principals .....	Emmerson Allen, Dr. Taneka Riley
Choral/Vocal Music.....	Jared Duncan
Dance, Community Arts Liaison.....	Anna Dunn
Creative Writing.....	Dr. Shana Hunt–Martin
Visual Arts.....	Nicole Jacobs–Licht
Theatre.....	Elissa Marele
Band & Orchestra.....	Anthony Moore
Media & Film.....	Reagan Woods
Theatre Design and Production .....	Walker Scott
Dance, Arts Department Chair.....	Dean Williams

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