



BALLET IDAHO

THE NUTCRACKER HANDBOOK 2008

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Important Names to Know

- Peter Anastos (Mr. Anastos) Ballet Idaho Artistic Director
Choreographer of Ballet Idaho's
version of *The Nutcracker*
- Alex Ossadnik (Mr. Ossadnik) Ballet Idaho Ballet Master
- Lana Kroth (Mrs. Kroth) Children's Rehearsal Director
- Aidan Riordan Buell (Miss Aidan) Mini Mice rehearsal teacher
- Julie Numbers Smith (Ms. Smith) Ballet Idaho Executive Director
- Wendy de la Harpe (Ms. de la Harpe) Ballet Idaho Education Director
- Jaki Covington (Ms. Jaki) Ballet Idaho Administrative
Assistant
- Durea Thrall (Mrs. Thrall) Ballet Idaho Volunteer Coordinator
- Genny Goldy (Mrs Goldy) Nutcracker Volunteer Coordinator

Performer's Rules and Reasons

Ballet Idaho's production of *The Nutcracker* includes more than two hundred dancers from the Treasure Valley. Organizations that participate in the production include dancers from Ballet Idaho, singers from Opera Idaho's Children's Chorus and the Capital City Children's Chorus, musicians from the Boise Philharmonic and a professional technical crew.

In a collaboration of this size, your child's experience should be extremely exciting, educational, inspirational and fun. Many rules and regulations must be followed in order to ensure your child's safety as well as the safety of the professional dancers, singers, musicians and crew who execute the production.

Please review this section with your child. It is also helpful to review these rules before any rehearsal in the theater. Parental assistance with these important regulations is very helpful.

Rule: **Quiet in the dressing room**

Reason: The backstage volunteers must be able to listen for instructions from the rehearsal director and technical crew. If you are talking loudly, these individuals may not be able to hear important instructions, which could lead to missed cues. There will be many dancers in the same dressing room with you. Please remain quiet in the dressing room at all times.

Rule: **Quiet in the hallways and backstage**

Reason: The magic of the performance is ruined for the audience if they can hear talking backstage. When you come onstage, you are not a surprise if they have already heard you coming. It is also very distracting for the dancers waiting for their cue to go onstage and for those currently performing. You would not want to be distracted while you were onstage, so please be courteous to others.

Rule: **Stay in your assigned dressing room**

Reason: We do not want you to miss your performance opportunity. If we can't find you when it is time to go onstage, we do not have time to look for you and you will miss your part. It is against the Morrison Center rules for children to be unsupervised while in the theater. We will be monitoring security very closely, but we can't always watch children individually. For your own safety, stay in your **assigned** dressing room.

Rule: **Listen respectfully to your chaperone**

Reason: Your backstage chaperones are volunteering their time to help make your performance experience run smoothly. Without volunteers to help you and to keep you safe, it would not be possible for Ballet Idaho to include children in the production. You **must** obey the volunteers, who receive instructions from the production staff.

Rule: **Arrive early**

Reason: The rehearsal and performance schedule is planned months in advance. It is extremely important to respect the time of your fellow performers. If you are late to a rehearsal, photo session or costume fitting, it could delay many other people. Please arrive **15 minutes** in advance for every rehearsal, and costume fitting.

Rule: **No food or drink allowed backstage**

Reason: Costumes take many hours to make and are expensive to replace. No food or drink is allowed backstage. Also, costumes are not to be removed from backstage.

Procedures for Parents

Rehearsals at the Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy

- Rehearsals will be held in the Annex Building in Studio 1 .
- Attendance at all rehearsals for *The Nutcracker* is mandatory. Missing a rehearsal could mean that you lose the part.
- Please arrive **15 minutes** prior to any scheduled rehearsal.
- Children will be excused only when seriously ill. Please call Mrs. Kroth (343-0556 ext. 27) and leave a telephone message when a child cannot attend a rehearsal due to illness.
- Rehearsal times listed in the schedule are strictly followed by the staff.
- Parents are not allowed to observe rehearsal.

***The Nutcracker* bulletin board**

A bulletin board dedicated solely to information about *The Nutcracker* is located near the front desk. Please get in the habit of checking this bulletin board every rehearsal weekend for important information about the production.

Volunteer opportunities

It takes more than 200 volunteers to completely staff the needs of *The Nutcracker*. Chaperones, check-in desk staff, boutique set-up and sales staff, photography assistants and costuming assistants are needed for each of the four performances. There are numerous opportunities to volunteer for *The Nutcracker*. Volunteer needs are posted in *The Nutcracker Volunteer Book*. Sign-up early for your pick of the opportunities.

Backstage volunteers (chaperones) will not be allowed to watch from the wings during any performance. Please kindly choose to volunteer for a performance other than when your child is performing.

All volunteers will be checked in at the stage door. You will be given an official Ballet Idaho volunteer pass and notified at that time of your job duties. Chaperones are required to remain with the children in their care until the parents have arrived to pick them up.

You may also consider becoming one of the *Friends of Ballet Idaho* – a group of volunteers who play a crucial role in ensuring the continued vitality of the company by participating in fundraising events and other activities. A membership application is included in this packet.

Tickets

Ballet Idaho allows parents of children performing in *The Nutcracker* to purchase tickets before the general public. Tickets for cast members will be available at the Ballet Idaho offices until Friday, October 31st at 5:00 pm. Tickets go on sale to the general public through *Select-A-Seat* on Monday, November 3rd at 10:00 am. **You must fill out the ticket order form available at the front desk and return it to the front desk to order your tickets through Ballet Idaho for the best seats.**

Complimentary tickets are not given to any student appearing in *The Nutcracker*. At intermission parents may pick up Act I cast members who are not in Act II. They may join their parents in the auditorium if a ticket has been purchased for them. Please realize that *The Nutcracker* successfully sells out virtually every seat in the theater and an assigned ticket seat is required for every audience member.

***The Nutcracker* Boutique**

The boutique pre-sale event will be held on Saturday, December 6th at Ballet Holiday. Select items from *The Nutcracker* will be available for purchase in the lobby of the Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy Annex building. Avoid lines by purchasing all of your mementos prior to the performances at the Morrison Center.

Photographs

A designated photographer will take pictures during rehearsals and these will be made available for purchase. Pre-orders will not be accepted.

Names

Ballet Idaho confirms the spelling of each child's name as it will appear in the program by posting final cast lists on the bulletin board. Please check your child's name for spelling and make any changes on the posted program by November 1st.

Procedures for Parents **Rehearsals at the Morrison Center**

Dropping off and picking up

Drop your child off at the stage door (see enclosed map) where stage security and a Ballet Idaho staff member will have a list of names of all cast members. A volunteer will escort your child from the stage door to his/her assigned dressing room.

Parents are responsible for signing their child both in and out. It is suggested that only **one** primary parent/guardian pick up a child after a rehearsal or a performance.

Please pick your child up in the same location where you dropped them off. Specific pick-up times will be listed on the schedule.

No one will be allowed backstage or in the dressing room area unless they are a cast member or an official Ballet Idaho volunteer. Volunteers will be assigned badges so they will be easily identified.

Stage Etiquette

The Morrison Center is a professional theatre space and the Ballet Idaho performance of *The Nutcracker* is a professional production. Visitors are never permitted backstage. Please drop your child off at the stage door where the stage door keeper and a Ballet Idaho volunteer chaperone will have a list of all names of performers.

Volunteer chaperones will take your child to the correct dressing room and release them to you at the stage door after the performance or at the time that will be given to you. Your child will only be released to the person who checked them in unless a written communication from you as parent/guardian gives permission for some other person to pick up your child.

The backstage area is controlled by the Stage Manager, who gives the cues for sets to be moved and cues dancers when it is safe to proceed to the stage. Only performers and stage crew are permitted onto the stage or backstage. Chaperones will not be permitted into the wings (the area backstage on either side of the stage) unless requested to be there by the Stage Manager.

Dressing rooms

Children are each assigned to specific dressing rooms, where they must remain when not in rehearsal. The dressing room chaperones will escort children to and from the stage, and to costume fittings and photo shoots. Children are required to remain in the dressing room until called for the performance or rehearsal. Other areas backstage such as the Green Room, professional company dressing rooms, orchestra room, choir room and technical crew rooms are off limits to students in the Nutcracker

Once they have been taken into the wings, (the area immediately on the side of the stage), they have to be absolutely quiet and stand still until told to proceed. We will practice this at rehearsals.

As soon as they have finished their performance they must leave the stage just as quietly and will be escorted back to the dressing rooms.

Activities

Performers will have free time while waiting in the dressing rooms. Children are allowed to bring a book or a quiet activity to occupy their free time. Please use discretion when bringing expensive electronic devices. Ballet Idaho and the Morrison Center are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Food and drink

Please make sure that your child has had a good, nutritious meal before every rehearsal or performance. Children are not allowed to bring food to the Morrison Center.

Water is the only beverage allowed backstage. No other beverages are allowed. Juice is kept backstage in case of a low blood sugar episode.

Watching rehearsals

It is the policy of both Ballet Idaho and the Morrison Center that all rehearsals remain closed to the public.

Costumes, hair and make-up

Please see the enclosed list for your child's specific costume requirements.

The Nutcracker 2008 Rehearsal Schedule

* Mini Mice begin rehearsing Oct 25th at 11:00am

Saturday, November 1st

Bakers	10:00 am – 11:00 am
Party Scene	11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Mini Mice	11:00am – 12:00pm
Mini Variations	12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
Sailors	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Mice and Soldiers	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Angels	4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Saturday, November 8th

Bakers	10:00 am – 11:00 am
Angels	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Mini Mice	11:00 am – 12:00pm
Sailors	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Party Scene	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Mini Variations	3:00pm – 4:00 pm
Mice and Soldiers	4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Future rehearsals at the ESPAA will be handed out two weeks in advance

The Nutcracker 2008 Dress Rehearsals and Performance Schedule

**All dress rehearsals held at the Morrison Center for the Performing Arts
All performances at the Morrison Center for the Performing Arts**

DRESS REHEARSAL TIMES TO BE ANNOUNCED

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, December 12th evening performance

Saturday December 13th evening performance

Arrival time for performance everyone in Act 1	6:15pm
Mini mice	7:00pm
Pick up time if not in Act 1	9:00pm (Intermission)
Arrival time for performance everyone in Act 2	7:15pm
Pick-up time	10:00 pm

Saturday, December 13th afternoon performance

Sunday December 14th afternoon performance

Arrival time for performance everyone in Act 1	12:15pm
Mini mice	1:00pm
Pick up time if not in Act 1	3:00pm (Intermission)
Arrival time Act 2	1:15pm
Pick up time	4:00 pm

ACT 1	ACT 2
Party scene	Bakers
Mini Mice	Angels
Mice and soldiers	Sailors
	Mini Variations

This schedule is subject to change.

Costume and Make-Up Requirements

Costumes are provided for all dancers by Ballet Idaho. Cast members will need to provide the following personal and performance items:

Big Mice

Hair (girls): tight bun, no bangs
Hair (boys): combed neatly
Make-up: none
Costume: pink or white leotard, gray tights, gray ballet shoes

Mini Mice

Hair (girls): tight bun, no bangs
Hair (boys): Combed neatly
Make up: none
Costume: pink leotard pink tights , pink ballet shoes

Angels:

Hair: loose hair pre-raphaelite ringlets (frizzy curls) no bangs
Make-up: stage make-up
Costume: pink tights (Danskin #32), nude leotard clean *pointe* shoes

Party Children

Hair (girls playing girls): ringlets
Hair (girls playing boys): up flat against the head; wigs will be provided
Hair (boys): combed neatly
Make-up (girls): blush, red lipstick, black mascara
Make up boys: blush, blush lipstick
Make-up (girls playing boys and boys): a little blush and brownish lipstick
Costume (girls): tank or spaghetti-strap leotard (any color; preferably nude), pink tights, pink ballet shoes
Costume (girls playing boys and boys): black footed tights, black ballet shoes

Soldiers

Hair: tight bun, no bangs
Make-up: blush, red lipstick, black mascara
Costume: black leotard, black footed tights, black jazz or ballet shoes

Sailors

Hair: tight bun no bangs
Make up: blush red lipstick mascara
Costume: nude leotard, white tights, white ballet shoes

Bakers

Hair: tight bun, no bangs
Make up: blush, red lipstick, mascara
Costume: pink tights nude leotard, pink ballet shoes

Mini Variations

Hair girls: tight bun, no bangs
Hair boys: neatly combed back
Make up: blush, red lipstick, mascara
Costume girls: light colored tank leotard, pink shoes, pink ballet shoes
Costume boys: white t shirt black tights black shoes

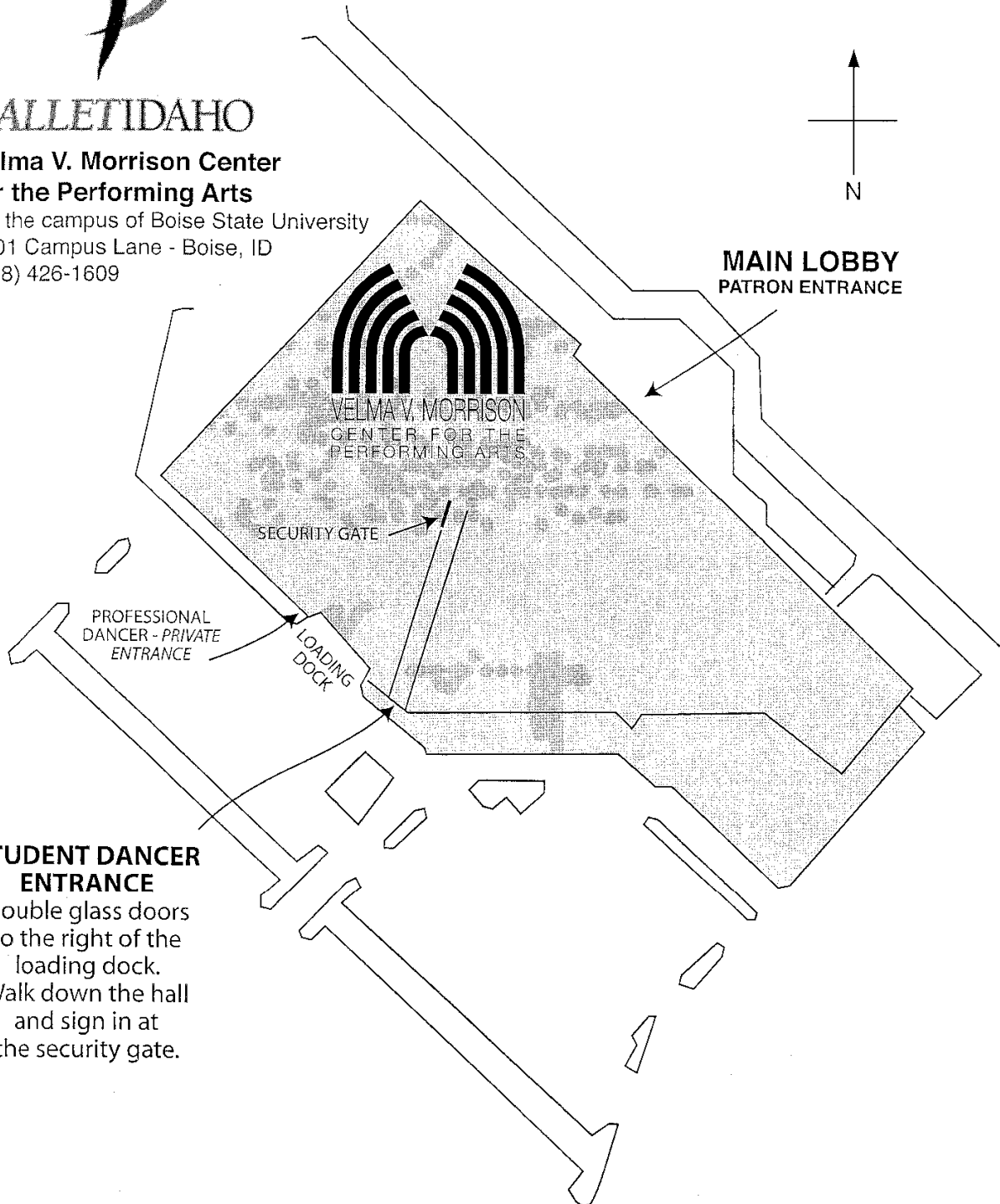
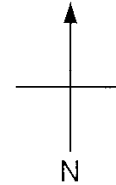


STUDENT DANCERS ENTRANCE INFORMATION

BALLET IDAHO

**Velma V. Morrison Center
for the Performing Arts**

On the campus of Boise State University
2201 Campus Lane - Boise, ID
(208) 426-1609



STUDENT DANCER ENTRANCE

Double glass doors
to the right of the
loading dock.
Walk down the hall
and sign in at
the security gate.



Friends of Ballet Idaho is a group of patrons and worker-bee volunteers who play a crucial role in ensuring the continued vitality of Ballet Idaho by participating in fundraising events, dance advocacy and other activities described below. Membership in *Friends* provides a way to contribute time, talent and treasure to support excellence in dance performance and training, an opportunity to learn more about each other and have fun along the way.

Please indicate at which event(s) or activities you would like to volunteer:

FAMILY SERIES

Volunteers assist with mailings and help take tickets at these one hour excerpts of the upcoming performances. Family Series events are held at 4 pm and 7 pm the Tuesday before each main stage ballet performance.

PHOTO SALES

During recitals and at *The Nutcracker* performance, photographs are taken of our young children. Volunteers help organize the children for their photographs and assist the photographer.

BALLET IDAHO BOUTIQUE

Ballet Idaho merchandise is sold at the Morrison Center performances, recitals and Family Series events. Volunteers assist with sales in the Boutique.

CURTAIN CLUB

These post-performances soirees celebrate the afterglow of a wonder performance. Volunteers may assist with event coordination, invitations and other mailings and with front door check-in.

DANCE ACADEMY

The Ballet Idaho Dance Academy enrolls 350 students and performs multiple times during the year. Volunteers will chaperone at recitals and performances and provide backstage support and front of house staffing and floral sales. Volunteers will also provide support and chaperone summer dance camp programs.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE

Volunteers assist Ballet Idaho staff with mailings, program inserts and data entry.

NUTCRACKER

During *The Nutcracker* auditions, rehearsals, and performances, volunteers assist with registration, chaperoning and food.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Volunteers serve on the event committee, assist with live and silent auctions, work at the event, serve as table captains and/or assist with invitations and other mailings.

Events include:

- **Autumn Brunch: October 5th, 2008**
- **Ballet Holiday: December 6, 2008**
- **Tea for Tutus: February 14, 2009**
- **Artful Living: April 4, 2009**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I would like to apply to become a Member of *Friends of Ballet Idaho*.

Please check here if you would like more information on how to contribute in our Annual Membership Campaign and become a part of one of our many circles: Patron's Club, Curtain Club, Silver Circle or Choreographer's Circle. These memberships allow for a variety of benefits including invitations to our Curtain Club soiree during the 2008-2009 Season.

(Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr.) First Name _____ Last Name _____

Spouse's Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ (h) _____ (w) _____ (c)

Employer _____ Title _____

Past Volunteer Experience _____

Please complete and return to: Friends of Ballet Idaho
 501 South 8th Street, Boise, ID 83702 or call Siva Laughlin at (208) 343-0556 X23 with your membership information.
 Please visit www.balletidaho.org and apply online.

Ballet Idaho Medical Information Form

Emergency Contact and Medical Information for a Student

		M	F
Student's First and Last Name		Date of Birth	
Parent /Guardian's Name		Parent /Guardian's Name	
()	()	()	()
Home Phone	Work Phone	Home Phone	Work Phone
()	()	()	()
Cell Phone		Cell Phone	
Address		Address	
City, ST ZIP Code		City, ST ZIP Code	

Alternative Emergency Contacts

Primary Emergency Contact		Second Emergency Contact	
()	()	()	()
Home Phone	Work Phone	Home Phone	Work Phone
()	()	()	()
Cell Phone		Cell Phone	
Address		Address	
City, ST Zip Code		City, ST ZIP Code	

Medical Information

Physician's Name

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

I authorize all medical and surgical treatment, X-ray, laboratory, anesthesia, and other medical and/or hospital procedures as may be performed or prescribed by the attending physician and/or paramedics for my child and waive my right to informed consent of treatment. This waiver applies only in the event that neither parent/guardian can be reached in the case of an emergency.

Parent's /Guardian's Signature

