



"Petit Nutcracker"

Parent Packet 2017

Dear DCP Parents,

The annual performance of Miss Caroline's "Petit Nutcracker" will take place on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, at 1:30 in the afternoon**. This performance will take place at Arcadia High School. (*NOT MONROVIA HIGH SCHOOL - address and directions to follow.) The entire performance runs about one hour. Your dancer needs to arrive to the Theater at **12:30** in order to get dressed and ready. There will be a sign-in sheet at the back-stage entrance that must be signed by a parent or guardian, and again upon dismissal. There will be a professional videographer taping the show. You may purchase a DVD on this day. Please do not bring any video equipment or take any flash pictures during the show. It is extremely distracting to the young dancers.

There will be two separate performances on Sunday December 3. Your child will perform at 1:30 in the afternoon. Older students of Miss Patricia, Miss Mariana, and Mr. Sasha, will be performing in their own separate show at 6:00 in the evening. Miss Caroline's students and their parents are encouraged to come back that evening to see the "big dancers" perform. There are many beautiful and talented students this year, and it would be a great opportunity to see what DCP has to offer your child in the future.

There will be a mandatory dress rehearsal the day before, on **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm**. Dress rehearsal will also take place at Arcadia High School. (There will be no regular children's classes at DCP scheduled on this day.) Dress rehearsal is very important for all involved in the production, especially for our tiny dancers. **Please understand that if the dress rehearsal is missed for any reason, your child will not be permitted to perform on Sunday.** Please be on time. Drop your child off at the designated backstage door. There will be a sign-in sheet that must be signed by a parent or guardian upon drop off and again at pick-up at 2:00. Parents may wait outside, or may drop off and come back to pick up at 2:00. All children are very well supervised and taken care of! They have a great time and get to wear beautiful costumes. (All costumes stay at the Theater.) No parents are allowed backstage unless you are signed up to be a "Backstage Mom." No men or boys are allowed backstage. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Tickets may be purchased online at:

<http://www.arcadiapaf.org/tickets/leased-events>.

You may purchase as many tickets as you like, and choose your seat. General admission tickets are \$25, and VIP seat are \$30. **Children and siblings of performers under 5 years old must be able to sit quietly in their own seat for the duration of the show.**

Please volunteer to be a "Backstage Mom"! Duties include organizing your group's costumes and supervising on both December 2 and 3. If you have a very young performer, this is the perfect opportunity to stay with your child on both days. Backstage Moms do not need to purchase a ticket, and may watch their child perform from the wings.

Details for **DRESS REHEARSAL**

Saturday December 2:

Drop off at 12:00 pm. Pick up at 2:00 pm.

Dress rehearsal will last approx. two hours. Please drop your child off backstage at the Theater promptly at 12:00. (PLEASE do not be late). Have a name tag pinned to your child's clothing that includes things: 1.) first name 2.) last name, and 3.) the part they are dancing (example: "Susie Smith, Mouse"). It is very important to know what part your child is playing! Parents are invited to wait outside, or may drop off and come back to pick up at the designated time. No parents are allowed backstage or in the audience. No men or boys are allowed backstage or in the dressing rooms. Your child will be safe and taken care of by Miss Caroline or a designated "Backstage Mommy." DCP has a proven track record of nurturing and loving your darling young dancers!

Have your dancer arrive on Saturday wearing clean or new pink tights, with a shirt or dress that zips or buttons up. (This way hair will not be ruined when changing into the costume.) Have your dancer arrive with **HAIR AND MAKE-UP ALREADY DONE**. (Details will follow). Bring pink ballet shoes. Please write your child's first and last name inside the ballet shoes with a Sharpie. (Over 200 little pink ballet shoes will be floating around backstage!) Leotards are not necessary. The costume will be provided. All costumes stay at the Theater.

Please have your dancer eat a healthy meal before arriving for both the dress rehearsal and the performance. **NO FOOD IS ALLOWED** backstage or anywhere inside the Theater. Most stains do not come out of the costumes. Please have your child use the restroom before arriving to the Theater on Saturday and Sunday.

Details for the **PERFORMANCE**

Sunday December 3:

Drop off by 12:30 pm. Performance starts at 1:30 pm.

Arrive at the Theater already wearing new or clean pink tights, with a big shirt or dress over them that buttons or zips. Have name tag on. Bring pink ballet shoes. Have your dancer arrive with **HAIR AND MAKE-UP ALREADY DONE**. Have your dancer eat a healthy meal before arriving. (Miss Caroline suggests no sugary treats, but food packed with protein: chicken, cheese, peanut butter, or anything else that has "staying power", and that will be easy on excited tummies.) There is no food allowed backstage or inside the Theater.

After the show, pick your dancer up and sign them out at the backstage door. Dancers in Act I must stay backstage until the entire show is over. (The entire show is only one hour.) Last year a parent of a dancer in Act I came and took her child from backstage without signing her out, so she could sit in the audience to see her sister perform in Act II. Miss Caroline thought the child was "missing" and still has nightmares about it to this day. Please tell your children that they are the "PERFORMERS", and friends and relatives are the "AUDIENCE." They may not be both.

How to Do a Classic Ballet Bun:

- 1.) Pull hair back into a tight ponytail with a thick ponytail band.
Gel all bangs off face, and gel the "tail" too.
- 2.) Twist "tail" really tightly, and hair-pin into a tight bun as you go. (Hair-pins are for the bun; bobby pins are to secure bangs.)
- 3.) Wrap a hair net, same color as hair, around the bun.
- 4.) Hairspray finished hair. (Do not include bows, clips, bun covers or other decorations, as these are supplied with the costumes.)
*Party Children wear hair down and curly, with front pieces pulled back.

What to Bring on Saturday and Sunday:

- 1.) **Pink ballet shoes**, with first and last name clearly printed on them in permanent ink.
- 2.) **Clean or new pink tights**. (Worn without underwear.)
- 3.) **Hair supplies**: Extra bobby pins, a brush and a little bottle of hair spray.
- 4.) **Lipstick** (only if you do not want your dancer to share.)

*Please put your child's name on EVERYTHING, including dresses, pants, skirts, street shoes, hairbrushes, etc.

What NOT to Bring:

Food of any kind (**Eat before arriving**)

Beverages

Siblings or friends

Leotards

Underwear (No underwear is to be worn under the tights - it shows on stage, and looks inappropriate.)

JEWELRY (So sad - every year someone loses something special - please leave all jewelry at home, including earrings.)

*Please remove all nail polish.

*Please scrub off all "tattoos". Thank you!

Stage Makeup (for Saturday and Sunday)

The purpose of stage makeup is to ensure that the dancers' faces can be seen on stage by the audience. Without makeup, dancers look faceless!

Please have your dancer arrive for the performance and dress rehearsal with hair and makeup already done. (Makeup will NOT be provided by the studio, or applied at the Theater). Hair should be done first, so you have a clean "pallet" to work with. Make sure your dancer is wearing a shirt or dress that buttons or zips up the front, so all your hard work isn't "undone" when she changes into her costume.

1.) **Makeup base** should be applied first. If your dancer has fair skin, makeup should be 2-3 times darker than skin color. Blend into the neck and shoulders with fingertips or a makeup sponge. For darker complexions, apply makeup the same shade as skin, and then blend.

2.) **Blush** is next. Blush should be red in color. My suggestion is that you go to Rite Aid, and get the brightest red you can find. Stay away from pinks and corals, as they do not show up under the lights. Blush should be applied heavily in the hollows of the cheek, sweeping upward to the ears. A big blush brush is helpful.

3.) **Eye shadow** should be brown, never blue. Apply the shadow to upper lids, and extend it slightly past the eyebrow. For darker skin, a lighter shade of beige or white highlighter may be applied right under the eyebrow. If your dancer has blonde eyelashes, mascara on top and bottom lashes is appropriate. (If your dancer can stand it, and you are very patient and talented, false eyelashes are great! Practice before the show.)

4.) **Translucent loose powder** is a good last step before the lipstick. Apply with a big powder brush, all over face. This "sets" the makeup, and keeps foundation from getting on clothes and costumes.

5.) **Lipstick** is the most important part of stage makeup. Without it, the audience never sees the smile, beauty, or the emotion the dancer feels! Lipstick is tricky because of the lighting. Any pink, orange, or brown colors do not get picked up by the stage lights. The only color that works, on any skin color, is a bright fire engine red. Remember, this color is for the STAGE, and is not meant to look great up close. My favorite is **Revlon #725**. A lipstick brush is helpful for application. If you have a preschool student, may I suggest sending your own tube, with name on it, in their ballet bag. It will be applied just before the performance, to eliminate any smudges or mistakes.

Please use the steps above as a guide for makeup. If you do not want to have your child wear any makeup at all, your wishes will be respected, but please let Miss Caroline know. Thank you!

Directions to the Theater:

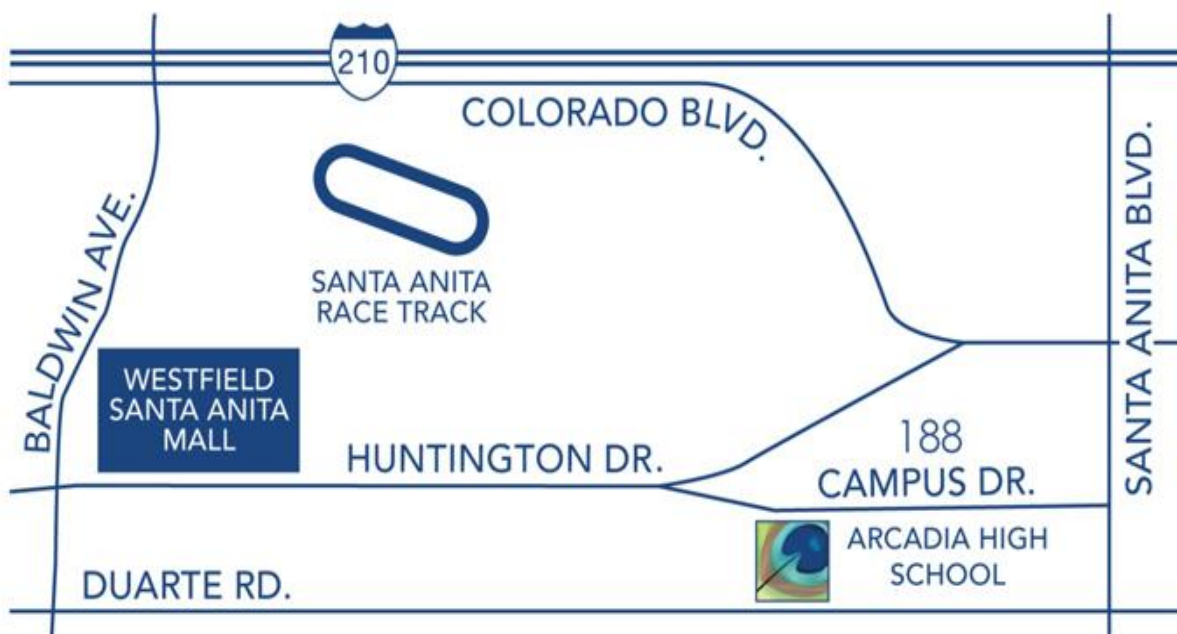
The dress rehearsal and the performance both take place at Arcadia High School. The name of the theater is the:

Arcadia Performing Arts Center.

The address is:
188 Campus Drive.
Arcadia, CA 91007

From DCP :

- *210 East, and exit Santa Anita Ave. Drive (towards Arcadia.)
- *Turn R. onto Santa Anita Ave.
- *Turn R. onto Campus Drive. (Campus is just past Alice Street)
If you reach W. Duarte Rd. you've gone a little too far.
- *Building is on the Left.





Miss Caroline's Picture Week!

Pictures will take place during regular class times the week of **November 13 through November 18**. Please make sure your dancer attends class on this important picture day! This class is like a "dress rehearsal before the dress rehearsal". At this time costumes will be checked, and adjustments will be made. Dancers will run through their dance in costumes. Pictures will be taken in the loft. Please no siblings of dancers on this day. (This class is counted as a regular class on the class pass, even if your child is not enrolled in the show.)

Monday November 13

4:15 - 5:00 - Arabian and Chinese Dancers

Tuesday November 14

1:30 - 2:15 Waltz de Fleurs 3:45 - 4:30 Petit Snowflakes
4:30 - 5:30 Grand Snowflake Corps de Ballet

Wednesday November 15

3:45 - 4:30 Sugar Plum Fairies 4:30 - 5:45 Entire Fight Scene, Spanish

Thursday November 16

1:20 - 2:15 Waltz de Fleurs 3:45 - 4:30 Reed Flutes 4:30 - 5:30 Mother Ginger, Peps

Friday November 17

3:30 - 4:15 Candy Canes 4:15 - 5:00 Russian Dancers

Saturday November 18

9:00 - 9:45 Teddy Bears 9:45 - 10:30 Party Children & Dolls
10:30 - 11:15 Petit Mice 11:15 - 12:00 Angels

Please have your dancer come to class with hair and make-up already done, clean or new pink tights, and a big SMILE!