



Welcome to The Nutcracker!

We are so excited to share another magical production of *The Nutcracker* with our dancers and families! Participating in this beloved holiday tradition is a wonderful opportunity for dancers to grow artistically, develop responsibility, and create lasting memories.

Please review the following information carefully, as it outlines all expectations, rehearsal requirements, fees, and important dates for the 2026 production.

Rehearsal Schedule

Saturday Rehearsals

- Nutcracker rehearsals will take place on Saturdays between 12:30 PM and 4:00 PM.
- Additional Friday rehearsals may occasionally be scheduled if needed. Families will always be notified in advance.

Required Classes

- Level 3 and Level 4 dancers are required to attend:
 - Ballet Class: Saturdays at 9:45 AM
- Dancers cast in pointe roles are required to attend:
 - Pointe Class: Saturdays at 11:15 AM

Participation Requirement

All dancers participating in The Nutcracker must be enrolled in at least one ballet class per week at Midwest Dance Conservatory.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is essential to the success of the production. Weekly rehearsals are mandatory, and additional private lessons may be required if necessary. Dancers are expected to remain focused, demonstrate consistent effort, and maintain full commitment throughout the rehearsal process.

- Any dancer who misses more than three rehearsals may be removed from their role(s).
- Dancers arriving more than 10 minutes late to rehearsal will be considered absent.
- If a dancer is ill, please notify us by email as soon as possible.

Email Contacts:

- Leah@midwestdanceconservatory.com, Kaleigh@midwestdanceconservatory.com

Please communicate all known conflicts in advance, including:

- Vacations
- Holidays
- Graduations
- College visits
- Homecoming dances
- Dance intensives
- Any other important commitments

Conflicts that are not communicated in advance will be considered unexcused absences.

If your schedule changes throughout the season, please email us immediately.

Mandatory Rehearsals & Performances

Mandatory Dress Rehearsals

- December 9, 2026 (At ECC)
- December 10, 2026 (At ECC)

Mandatory Performances

- December 11, 2026 (School Show)
- December 12, 2026
- December 13, 2026

All dancers are expected to attend every dress rehearsal and performance.

Performance Fees

Performance fees are based on a dancer's highest level of casting.

For example, a dancer cast in both a Corps de Ballet role and a Character Artist role would pay the Character Artist fee of \$450.

Role	Fee
Walk-on roles	\$100
Corps de Ballet	\$300
Character/ Artist	\$450
Adult	\$50

Examples:

Walk-On Roles

- Reindeer

Corps de Ballet Roles

- Snow Corps
- Flower Corps
- Land of Sweets Corps
- Battle Scene
- Party Scene

Character Artist Roles

- Soloist Roles in Snow
- Soloist Roles in Land of Sweets
- Dolls

Adult Performers

- Party Scene
- Mother Ginger

Costume Information

Each role requires a costume and may include a headpiece and earrings when applicable.

Costume Rental Fee

- \$25 per costume
- Includes any alterations needed.

Dancers Are Responsible for Purchasing:

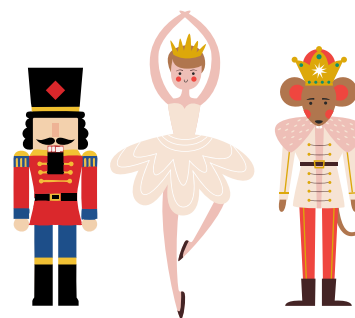
- Undergarments
- Tights
- Dance shoes

Costume Return Policy

All costumes must be:

1. Dry cleaned before being returned to MDC in January.
2. Returned inside the dry-cleaning bag.

A cleaning fee will be assessed for any costume returned without being professionally cleaned.



Payment Information

Due Date

All casting and costume fees are due on:

August 24, 2026

Payment Methods

- Cash
- Check
- Credit Card (processing fees apply)

Checks:

All checks must be placed in the MDC drop box located next to the studio door.

Late Payments

- A \$15 late fee will be applied to any unpaid balance.
- Additional late fees will be added every month an invoice remains unpaid.
- Late fees will not be removed for any reason.

Nutcracker Tea

Dancers cast in soloist roles will be required to participate in our new Nutcracker Tea (Dec 6th).

This special event is designed to inspire younger dancers and bring the magic of The Nutcracker to aspiring performers. Soloists will have the opportunity to:

- Perform for younger dancers
- Interact and speak with attendees
- Share their love of dance and the Nutcracker tradition

Additional details will be shared as the event approaches.

Communication

Open communication is essential to a successful Nutcracker season.

Primary Method of Communication

MDC uses email as our primary form of communication. Please ensure that at least one active email address is listed on your account. We also encourage families to add their dancer's email address to the portal when appropriate.

For questions regarding:

- Schedules
- Billing
- Casting
- Teacher communication
- General information

Please email:

Leah@midwestdanceconservatory.com

Kaleigh@midwestdanceconservatory.com

To ensure all inquiries are received and addressed promptly, please do not text or call teachers directly.

Please allow up to 72 hours for a response.

We also have a MDC Nutcracker Band app, that we will send outdated as well be sure to join!



We are looking forward to creating another magical holiday season with all of our dancers and families. Thank you for being part of the Midwest Dance Conservatory Nutcracker 2026!