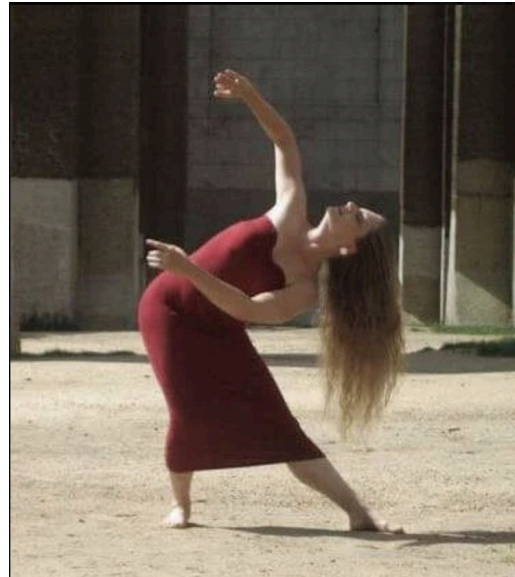


Wild Rivers Dance live Nutcracker performance returns

December 6, 2022



The Nutcracker Ballet returns to a local stage after its two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. This season's Wild Rivers Dance Company performance will take place at the recently renovated Crescent Elks Auditorium in Crescent City, with performances on Friday, December 16, at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 17, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, December 18 at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors, \$10 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available through eventbrite Wild Rivers Dance Nutcracker 2022 (<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/wild-rivers-dance-57536394073>),

Sky-Marie McDonald has adapted the Nutcracker ballet for the current Wild Rivers Dance Company in a way that keeps the production fresh and professional. New York dancers Robert Jamie Mason and Cara Gardella will join the Company this year, along with Amber Bailey of Ft. Wayne, Indiana and Sarah Worden from Houston, Texas.

Robert Mason is a multidisciplinary artist who began dancing jazz, tap, and hip hop at the age of nine and classical ballet and modern at age 14.

He recently received his Bachelor's of Fine Arts Degree in Dance from the Juilliard School. Cara Gardella trained at SUNY Purchase conservatory of dance, completing her formal training in ballet and modern dance at Adelphi University and The Martha Graham School of Contemporary dance. Amber Bailey trained at the University of Oklahoma and is in her fifth season with Ft. Wayne Ballet, where she has performed in principal roles in a variety of productions, including the Nutcracker.

Sarah Worden began performing principal roles with Houston Dance Theatre at 17, earning her BFA in Ballet Performance and her MFA in Dance at the University of Oklahoma.

Her professional career includes the Montgomery Ballet and Ballet Idaho. She is currently performing with the City Ballet of Houston, while also guest teaching and choreographing nationwide.

This year's performance has been supported in part through grants from Business Oregon and Advance Health. Many thanks to Ione Trapp for her generous support of the new studio this year, and to the Babin Family and Amanda McVay for their support of annual scholarships for Company dancers. And thanks to the many other businesses and individuals in the community who sponsor individual dancers.

Sponsorship affirms the commitment these young dancers put into their performance. Any remaining balance after production expenses are paid will go back into supporting dance education and cultural performances for the next year.