

PRESS RELEASE

The Vacaville Ballet Theatre Company to perform a brand new full-length Ballet, “The Nightmare Before Nutcracker” this holiday season.

Get ready for a whole new take on the Christmas classic, “The Nutcracker.” The Vacaville Ballet Theatre Company has a wonderful, original ballet inspired by Tim Burton’s 1993 cult classic film, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.” Opening night is Friday, December 13th at 7 p.m. at the Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre.

The Vacaville Ballet Company ushers you into the Land of Nightmares where the Queen of Nightmares, performed by Vacaville High School senior, Abby Scully, is bored of her dark kingdom filled with vampires, ghosts, and witches. She leaves the Land of Nightmares and finds herself in the wonderful, sugary Land of Sweet Dreams.

The Queen of Sweet Dreams, performed by Vanden High School senior, Macie LaGrand and Vacaville Christian Academy Junior, Katelyn Reid, welcomes the Queen of Nightmares into her domain. The Land of Sweet Dreams comes to life as candy confections perform in traditional Nutcracker style. Spanish Chocolate Cherry Cordials, Turkish Delights, Russian Tea Cakes, Sugar Crystals, and much more dance for the Queen of Nightmares. As she leaves the Land of Sweet Dreams and returns to her home, the Queen of Nightmares realizes what her land has been missing is some Christmas cheer. Both worlds will collide in a twist of sugar and shadows!

Artistic Director of the Vacaville Ballet Company Cassandra Kamakeeiana says rehearsing with all 60 cast members for “Nightmare Before Nutcracker” was a wonderful experience.

“We wanted to keep the classic Nutcracker but add something new and fresh to the story,” Kamakeeiana said. “The first act, which is set in the “Land of Sweet Dreams,” has all the traditional Nutcracker scenes. But in the second act, the “Land of Nightmares,” the pieces are edgier and have more contemporary choreography and music.”

Rehearsing for the show wasn’t without its challenges. The Vacaville Ballet Company is currently waiting for a new studio home, which will open shortly in Downtown Vacaville. As for the old saying, “the show must go on,” the community opened its doors to the company, allowing rehearsal times at various businesses and other non-profits.

“We practiced at gyms, in churches, and schools,” Kamakeeina said. “It’s great to have the support we did, and the dancers learned how to be adaptable.”

“The Nightmare Before Nutcracker” features music from Tchaikovsky’s classic score, The Trans-Siberian Orchestra, as well as original music from “The Nightmare Before Christmas” soundtrack.