

PRESS RELEASE

For the first time in its 20 year history, the Vacaville Ballet Company presents the holiday classic, 'Nutcracker' December 11-13

VACAVILLE, CALIF. October 1, 2015 – The Vacaville Ballet Company will present Nutcracker on Friday, December 11 through Sunday, December 13 at the Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre, 1010 Ulatis Drive, Vacaville, CA.

Evening performances on Friday, December 11 and Saturday, December 12 at 7pm and afternoon performances on Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, December 13 at 1pm. Tickets are available at the Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre box office, open Tues.-Fri. 12pm-6pm. Performance tickets range from \$15-\$20. The Vacaville Ballet Company will also host an opening night gala on Friday, December 11 in the VPAT lobby starting at 5:30 and a Nutcracker tea party on Saturday, December 12 in the VPAT lobby at 11am. Gala tickets are \$20/person and tea party tickets are \$15/person, or \$25/couple. Performance and event tickets are all available at the VPAT box office. Visit www.vacavilleballetcompany.org or www.vpat.net for more information.

Over its 20 year history, the Vacaville Ballet Company has presented a variety of holiday-themed productions. This season, VBC is pleased to present its brand new, full-length production holiday classic from Artistic Director Cassandra Kamakeeaina, Nutcracker.

The Vacaville Ballet Company kicks off the enchanting weekend with an opening night gala, Friday, December 11th before the 7pm performance. Toast champagne and enjoy appetizers with the Vacaville Ballet Company Board of Directors before you join Clara and her friends on this charming holiday experience. For the families looking for a magical theater experience or to start a new holiday tradition, VBC will host a Nutcracker Tea Party on Saturday, December 12th before the 1pm matinee performance. Families are invited to a seated tea service and children will have the opportunity to meet with members of our Nutcracker cast. Both events are sure to get you in the holiday spirit before you enjoy in the delights of VBC's all new full-length production of Nutcracker!

Based on the story by E.T.A. Hoffman, the Nutcracker opens on a Christmas celebration with Clara, performed by Vacaville Christian High School Junior Jessica Reid and Buckingham Charter High School Senior Shelbie Petersen, and her best friends. Amidst the festivities, Clara's mysterious Godmother, Aunt Drosselmeyer entertains the party guests with a life size mechanical doll, performed by Vacaville Christian High School Junior Madelyn Ruffner and Vacaville High School Senior Sarah DiMichele, as well as the Harlequin, performed by Vacaville High School Senior Miranda Psaila and Chloe Thornbrugh of Bethany Lutheran. Among the many gifts, Drosselmeyer presents Clara with a beautiful Nutcracker. As the evening's delights draw to an end, Clara drifts to sleep with dreams of her dear Nutcracker.

Little does she know, Drosselmeyer has presented her with an enchanted Nutcracker, performed by Will C. Wood High School Senior Victoria Joyce and Vanden High School Senior Alexandra Busto, who is brought to life at the stroke of midnight to protect her. Clara and her Nutcracker must defeat the Rat King, performed by Vacaville High School Junior Brooklyn Robertson, and his army of mischievous rats. As a reward for her bravery, the Nutcracker takes Clara on a journey through the Land of Snow where they meet the lovely Snow Queen, performed by Buckingham Charter High School Senior Jenna Fusaro and Will C. Wood High School Senior Darby Gover, who helps them find safe passage through the snow storm to the Nutcracker's Palace. Once there, the Sugar Plum Fairy, performed by Armijo High School Senior Grace Baxter and Vacaville High School Junior Casey Nielsen, celebrates their arrival and invites all the treats of the diverse land to perform in their honor, including the Dew Drop Fairy, performed by Will C. Wood Senior Kealani Kamakeeaina and graduate Macie La Grand, Mother Ginger and her children, and the exotic Arabian bird. At the end of the festivities, Clara awakens back home left wondering if her magical journey was real or all a dream.