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BALLET ANNOUNCES 'NUTCRACKER' DATES

Flint Center to be this year's setting for Nahat's magical holiday favorite

Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley announced today that for the first time the Company's magical holiday offering of **The Nutcracker** will be mounted at the 2,433-seat Flint Center in Cupertino. The perennial favorite with choreography by Dennis Nahat will play an expanded schedule of 20 dates from Friday, December 7th through Sunday, December 23rd.

This triumphant tale of Maria and her beloved Nutcracker will delight audiences young and old alike. The theater itself will be dressed as a wonderland of surprises, replete with lights and garlands, choirs singing carols, the "Pocket Lady" passing out free toys, and Nutcracker and Mouse King characters posing for free photos with the children.

More than 40 company dancers and dozens of advanced-level students from Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley School will perform to Tchaikovsky's impeccable musical score, originally written in 1892. Designer David Guthrie presents an eye-catching depiction of a fantasy world that comes alive on stage with his amazing sets and festive costumes. The production is danced to an expanded score played live by the Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley Orchestra.

This is only the second year that the Company is in residence in Silicon Valley and therefore available to present an expanded run in December. **The Nutcracker** set box office records for Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley last season. Acquiring the desired dates at Flint Center was no easy feat. The facility was already booked for most of the month, but Executive Director Andrew Bales was very excited by the cooperation and flexibility shown by the other arts organizations in changing their plans. "We are very grateful to our colleagues at San Jose Symphony and Mexican Heritage Corporation for accommodating our run at Flint Center by altering their schedules," said Executive Director Andrew Bales. "This will enable us to present 20 performances of **The Nutcracker** in prime holiday dates and continue our long-standing tradition of donating full-scale student programs with two free matinees offered to area schools."

The Nutcracker runs from Friday, December 7th through Sunday, December 23rd at Flint Center, 21250 Stevens Creek at Highway 85 in Cupertino. Single tickets to the holiday production will go on sale September 24th for \$26 to \$62 with special discounts for students, seniors and groups. Subscription packages for the entire 2001-02 season including **The Nutcracker** are currently available.

For information contact the **Ballet Box Office at (408) 288-2800** Tickets are also available online at www.balletsanjose.org.

FACT SHEET THE NUTCRACKER

A full-length holiday ballet in two acts
December 7 through 23 at Flint Center in Cupertino
Choreography - Dennis Nahat
Music - Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Costumes & Scenery - David Guthrie
Conductor - Dwight Oltman
First Performed December 1979, Cleveland Public Music Hall

Short Byte: The perennial holiday favorite moves to Flint Center in Cupertino for an extended run this season. An amazing journey begins when young Maria joins her family and friends at a holiday party and is given a nutcracker by her beloved godfather, Herr Drosselmeyer. Set to Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's immortal musical score, Nahat's sumptuous production is augmented by more than 60 young dancers and students in the advanced program from the Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley School. This full-length, two-act production has been hailed by critics as "...the Bay Area's best Nutcracker."

Performance Dates & Times

Fri, Dec. 7 at 7:30pm Sat, Dec. 8 at 1:30pm & 7:30pm Sun, Dec. 9 at 1:30pm
Tues, Dec. 11 at 4:00pm
Wed, Dec 12 at 7:30pm Thurs, Dec. 13 at 7:30pm
Fri, Dec. 14 at 7:30pm Sat, Dec. 15 at 1:30pm & 7:30pm
Sun, Dec. 16 at 1:30pm & 7:30pm Tues, Dec. 18 at 7:30pm
Wed, Dec. 19 at 7:30pm Thurs, Dec. 20 at 7:30pm
Fri, Dec. 21 at 7:30pm Sat, Dec. 22 at 1:30pm & 7:30pm
Sun, Dec. 23 at 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Location

Presented at Flint Center
21250 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino

Tickets

Single Tickets/\$26 to \$62 (Available September 24)
Ballet Box Office: (408) 288-2800
(Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Ticket Master: (408) 998-TIXS (415) 421-TIXS
Web Tickets available through: www.balletsanjose.org

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