

WEST MICHIGAN YOUTH BALLET

# THE NUTCRACKER



[WMYB.ORG](http://WMYB.ORG)



DECEMBER 6-7, 2025, FOREST HILLS FINE ARTS CENTER  
DECEMBER 13, 2025, FRAUENTHAL CENTER, MUSKEGON

WEST MICHIGAN YOUTH BALLE

# COPPÉLIA



Illustration by Brigette Barrager

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**JUNE 8-12, 2026**

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# WHO IS WEST MICHIGAN YOUTH BALLET

West Michigan Youth Ballet (WMYB), founded in 2007 in Ada, Michigan, is committed to developing young people in their pursuit and passion for artistic expression through dance.

Company members, ranging in age from 8 to 18, with varied backgrounds and experience across the full spectrum of dance, come together for weekly rehearsals. Their common goal is the desire to be part of a performing company built on a solid foundation of classical ballet.

Our winter seasonal offering is *The Nutcracker*, with traditional choreography set to Tchaikovsky's original score. The spring production ranges from time-honored masterpieces like *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, and *Coppélia* to brand-new productions like *The Wizard of Oz*. Our young artists shine in their performances, gaining athletic and artistic skills, as well as collaborative and memorable experiences. Personal growth, both as individuals and as part of a whole, is evident in every dancer.

## OUR MISSION

West Michigan Youth Ballet provides our community opportunities for lifelong confidence, discipline, and belonging that result from participating in the physical and social art of ballet.

## OUR VISION

We are committed to providing access to the art of ballet, transcending age and socioeconomic boundaries, to cultivate enduring connections to performing arts and inspiring future careers.



## WMYB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marlene Kenneway, *Chairperson/Co-Founder*      Brigitte Nelson, *Co-Founder*

Jessica Terry, <i>Artistic Director</i>	Nicole Bergsma	Liz Henry	Harlee Scholten
Patricia Diaz-Lawton, <i>President</i>	Adam Bird	Caren Kerprich	Kevin Stauffer
Carola Gulick, <i>Vice President</i>	Cassidy Carlisle	Mary Jo Kuhlman	Judy Sulka
Greg Sanial, <i>Treasurer</i>	Dana Doyle	Courtney Lee	Rachel Yenchar
Missie Endres, <i>Secretary</i>	Carolyn Evans	Claire Pomeroy	

### Student Representatives

Hadley Breit	Carli Mais
Emma Diaz-Lawton	Josie Sulka
Ren Keast	Ella Yenchar

### Advisory Board

Maria DeVos	Maria Anne Rosely
Marlene Kenneway	Laura Berman
Melissa Meldrum-Aaberg, M.D.	Ariel Serrano

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

West Michigan Youth Ballet would like to extend heartfelt appreciation for the continued generosity and support of Doug and Maria DeVos.



### Center Stage

Doug & Maria DeVos Foundation  
Olivia & Grant Griffioen

### Soloist

Erbentraut Family  
Carola, Greg, & Maya Gulick

Thomas & Lupe Izzo

Dani & Justin Machata

Juan & Diana Martinez

Eric & Jenny Martz

Nonna's Trattoria

PNC Bank

Mary Ellen & Mike Ramsby

Skerbeck Family

Joel Schoon-Tanis

Voilà Nails

### Principal

Larry & Patti Diaz-Lawton

Mary Anne & Brad Rosely

Greg Sanial & Eva Habetinova

Jeff & Sally Shull

### Ensemble

Marc & Darcy Afman Family

Beem Light Therapy

Matthew & Gina Biersack

Tim & Dana Doyle

Esmiles Dentistry

Al & Liz Henry

### ***Help Us Continue To Make A Difference!***

*Your donation will directly support the professional level experience for our young artists in our community. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!*

Go to **www.wmyb.org**. Choose your level under the Support Us menu.  
OR scan this QR code with your smartphone.



Center Stage.....	\$10,000 +
Principal.....	\$5,000 - 9,999
Soloist.....	\$1,500 - 4,999
Ensemble .....	\$75 - 1,499

West Michigan Youth Ballet is a 501 (c) (3) Michigan non-profit corporation. PO Box 725 Ada, MI 49301



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7505 River St Ste 108

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*Dear Friends of the West Michigan Youth Ballet,*

Welcome to West Michigan Youth Ballet's *The Nutcracker!* This production is extra special to me, as it is my very first as Artistic Director. It has been such a joy to step into this role and to share in the excitement of bringing this holiday tradition to life with such amazing young dancers.

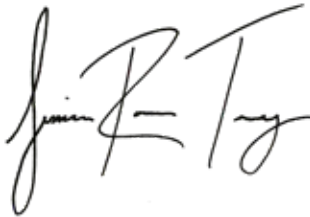
Like many of them, I began my own journey in *The Nutcracker* at a very young age. My first time on stage with a professional ballet company was in the Mother Ginger scene, and from there I had a chance to grow into a mouse, a snowflake, a flower, and a reed flute. Eventually I danced as Snow Queen, and finally, Sugar Plum Fairy. Each role was a stepping stone, shaping who I became as a dancer and deepening my love for this ballet. Watching the dancers experience those same milestones, whether it's their first *Nutcracker* or their fifth, is one of the most rewarding parts of this work.

Some of our cast members are stepping onto the stage for the very first time tonight full of excitement. Others are seasoned performers who return to the stage to these roles with growing artistry and confidence. Together, they bring an energy that is inspiring and heartwarming.

None of this would be possible without you, our audience, families and supporters across West Michigan. Your encouragement and contributions make it possible for these dancers to grow, create, and share their passion with the community. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for making productions like this happen.

I am so grateful to share this magical holiday tradition with you and look forward to many more to come.

*With gratitude and joy,*



Jessica Ramm Terry  
*Artistic Director*  
West Michigan Youth Ballet

## WMYB BIOGRAPHIES



### **JESSICA RAMM TERRY • ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER**

Jessica has trained at The Houston Ballet Academy for six years before completing her training with the Texas Ballet Theater. She completed training programs hosted by Boston Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet Theater, Oklahoma City Ballet, and Ballet Austin. Her professional experience includes Coastal City Ballet located in Canada, Oklahoma City Ballet, Ballet Austin, Alabama Ballet, and Ballet San Antonio.

As a member of these companies, she has performed in popular ballets such as *The Nutcracker*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Les Sylphides*, *Cinderella*, *Coppélia*, *Giselle*, and George Balanchine's *Rubies*, in addition to a variety of other classical and contemporary works. After leaving Ballet San Antonio, Jessica became a principal guest artist around Texas performing various lead roles such as Sugar Plum Fairy, Snow Queen, Bluebird pas de deux, Moszkowski Waltz, and contemporary works. With Jessica's performance experience, she is an established choreographer who has choreographed contemporary works on ballet companies such as the Alabama Ballet and Ballet San Antonio.



### **LAURA SCHWENK-BERMAN • CHOREOGRAPHER, ARTISTIC ADVISOR**

Laura Schwenk-Berman has been performing, teaching, choreographing, and staging works for over 45 years. She began her professional career dancing principal roles for the Garden State Ballet and subsequently danced with Chicago Ballet, Boston Ballet, and for seven years with the Pacific Northwest Ballet. There she performed as a soloist with Gelsey Kirkland and Mikhail Baryshnikov in *Swan Lake* and danced in *Nutcracker: The Motion Picture*. She has toured

as a guest artist throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. Ms. Berman served as the Interim Artistic Director, Associate Artistic Director, and Director of the School of the Grand Rapids Ballet Company from 1992-2010. She conducted two capital campaigns for GRB, one to renovate the old North Star Bus Terminal into four beautiful studios and administrative offices; the second, to build the company's Peter Martin Wege Theatre and costume shop. At that time, GRB received the Michigan Governor's Arts Award for excellence and toured the Midwest and Canada, reaching an audience of over 500,000. As Director of the School of the Grand Rapids Ballet Company, Laura established the school's curriculum, syllabus, faculty, and performances, while placing students in major ballet companies around the world. Ms. Berman has a Master's Degree in Theatre from Northwestern University where she graduated with honors. Currently, she works as a freelance artist; choreographing original works and full-length ballets, and as a guest master instructor and private coach. She also serves on the Advisory Board of WMYB.

## WMYB BIOGRAPHIES



### HEATHER CASSADY • COSTUME DESIGNER, COSTUMER

Heather graduated from Michigan State University with a BA in Clothing and Textile Design with an emphasis in Fashion Design. She then began an 11-year career as a Costumer with the Walt Disney Company. She was the Costumer for a variety of parades and stage shows in all four of the Walt Disney World Parks and many of their resort properties. Some of her shows included the *Remember the Magic Parade*, *SpectroMagic*, *Around the World with Mickey and Minnie*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Jungle Book*, and several U.S. tours and conventions. Heather would like to thank her husband, John, and their children John, Katie, Joshua, and Katrina for all their love and support.

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## THE STORY OF CLARA'S NUTCRACKER

*Music by Peter Olyich Tchaikovsky*

On a foggy Christmas Eve in 1891, in the Stahlbaums' sitting room, family and friends merrily trimmed the tree. Clara, Fritz, and friends play with new Christmas toys and Mr. Stahlbaum invites the guests to dance. Drosselmeyer warmly greets the family and entertains everyone with magic. The children are delighted by a toy soldier and a beautiful pair of life-sized harlequin dolls.

Drosselmeyer then presents a magical nutcracker to Clara. Captivated, she dances with the magical doll. Fritz is envious. He mischievously pulls the nutcracker from his sister's hands, breaking it. Drosselmeyer carefully bandages the doll and returns it to Clara, who plays with it gently. The grandparents begin their annual holiday dance and all join in.

As the hour grows late, guests drift home and the Stahlbaums go upstairs to bed. Too excited to sleep, Clara returns to the darkened sitting room in search of her nutcracker doll. As the clock strikes midnight, she falls asleep on the sofa.

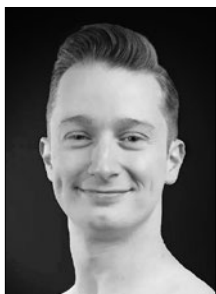
In her dreams, Clara relives memories of the evening. As she awakens into her dream, her house begins to expand around her and the Christmas tree grows wondrously large over tiny Clara. Giant mice appear, frightening her. The nutcracker doll comes to life to defend her. He summons an army of toy soldiers and a fierce battle ensues.

The Mouse Empress challenges the Nutcracker to a duel. Clara's quick thinking helps the Nutcracker defeat her. The Nutcracker, now Prince, thanks Clara for saving him and together they embark on an enchanting journey through the Land of Snow. As snow falls, snowflakes begin to dance. The King and Queen of Snow send Clara and the Prince off to their next adventure in a beautiful sleigh.

In the Land of Sweets, the Sugar Plum Fairy welcomes Clara and the Prince and asks them to tell her about the adventure that brought them to her world. Clara recounts the tale of war with the Mouse Empress. The Sugar Plum Fairy commands a festival filled with dancing to honor her guests. The celebration begins with Spanish flair, followed by an alluring Arabian genie, whirling performers from China, and flirtatious French dancers with fluttery ribbons. Russian dancers fly through the air with joy and verve. Dew Drop waltzes with her Court of Flowers, dazzling Clara and the Prince. As the festivities draw to a close, the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier dance for Clara and the Prince.

Clara awakens, still smiling from her joyous dream. It is Christmas morning, and the nutcracker doll is safe in her arms.

## FOREST HILLS FAC GUEST PERFORMERS



**JOHN MINGLE** is a distinguished principal guest artist and ballet teacher, acclaimed for his dynamic stage presence and more than a decade of professional performances. A Texas native, John began his training at Corpus Christi Ballet under Cristina Stirling Munro and later trained at Dallas Metropolitan Ballet under Ann Etgen and Bill Atkinson. He furthered his studies on scholarship with the San Francisco Ballet School, Pacific Northwest Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and Ballet Frontier of Texas before earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Performance from Southern Methodist University. While at SMU, he was selected to perform *Waltz Man* in George Balanchine's *Serenade* at the grand opening of the Winspear Opera House.

John's performance career includes 10 seasons with Alabama Ballet, as well as seasons with Cincinnati Ballet and Dayton Ballet and appearances with regional companies across the country. His extensive repertoire spans both classical and contemporary works, with principal roles such as Basilio and Espada in *Don Quixote*, Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, Prince Désiré in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Franz in *Coppélia*, the Cavalier in George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*, Hilarion in *Giselle*, and Von Rothbart in *Swan Lake*. He has also performed lead roles in Balanchine's *Western Symphony*, Christopher Bruce's *Rooster*, and Twyla Tharp's *Nine Sinatra Songs*, and has collaborated with acclaimed choreographers including Jessica Lang, Amy Seiwert, and Joshua Peugh. His artistry was recognized nationally with a 2019 feature in *Pointe Magazine*.

In addition to performing, John is a sought-after ballet teacher and currently serves on the faculty as an adjunct instructor at Samford University, Birmingham, AL. His students have earned numerous accolades, including winning the 2025 Miss Alabama Pageant and placing as 4th runner-up at Miss America 2025. John is excited for his first appearance with West Michigan Youth Ballet.



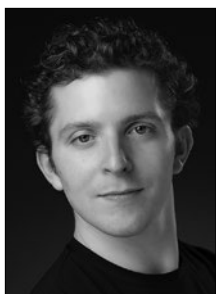
**EVAN AMBROSE** is originally from Huntsville, Alabama. He trained at Soles Dance Center, Huntsville Ballet School, The Rock School for Dance Education and was a Trainee in the pre-professional division at Charlotte Ballet. Evan has danced professionally with Alabama Ballet, Oakland Ballet, Ballet 22, San Jose Dance Theater, Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo, The Florida Grand Opera, Ballet Theatre of Scranton, The Lone Star Ballet, Columbia Classical Ballet, and is currently the Principal Artist in residence with Palmetto Ballet Theatre in Columbia, South Carolina.

## FRAUENTHAL GUEST PERFORMERS



**RENAN CERDEIRO** was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At a young age he began practicing in various dance styles at the Escola de dança Alice Arja in Rio de Janeiro, where he did most of his training. In 2008, Renan was named a finalist at the Prix de Lausanne in Switzerland, and that same year was awarded a scholarship to train at the Miami City Ballet School. Within two years, he was invited by the company's founding artistic director, Edward Villella, to join the Miami City Ballet as a company apprentice. In 2013, he was promoted to principal

dancer by artistic director Lourdes Lopez. Renan has performed numerous principal roles in works by George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Christopher Wheeldon, Alexei Ratmansky, Liam Scarlett, Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, Nacho Duato, Pam Tanowitz, Brian Brooks, Peter Martins, Sir Kenneth Macmillan, Richard Alston, and original works by Justin Peck. Renan has performed leading roles in classics such as Petipa's *Coppélia*, *Giselle*, and *Don Quixote*, John Cranko's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Alexei Ratmansky's *Swan Lake*. Renan has danced at New York City Center and at the Koch Theater in New York, participated in multiple Works & Process performances at the Guggenheim, was part of the Vail Dance Festival and Nantucket Dance Festival, performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and at the Music Center and Cal Performances in California, Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts, Harris Theater in Chicago, Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, as well at the Bolshoi Theater in Russia as part of the Benois de la Danse Gala. Renan was named one of the world's "Top 25 Artists to Watch in 2011" by Dance Magazine. Renan is currently a Company Artist with Dance Theatre of Harlem.



**JOSEPH VAN HARN** is a dance performer and educator living in Providence, Rhode Island. Recent company credits include Deos Contemporary Ballet, Freedom Dances (RI), and Festival Ballet Providence, where he was a Company Dancer for three seasons. Joseph has performed works by accomplished choreographers such as Nicole Laliberte, Tess Sinke, Trey McIntyre, Ja Malik, Eugenia Zinovieva, and Viktor Plotnikov; and he has performed as a guest artist with dance schools and companies across the U.S., including Michigan Ballet Academy,

Indiana Ballet Theatre, Ballet Kalamazoo, Franklin School of Performing Arts (MA), Northwest Arkansas Ballet Theatre, Colorado Conservatory of Dance, and Victoria Ballet Theatre (TX). An operations professional, Joseph has over five years of experience in hospitality, medical, retail, and event operations, most recently as Operations Coordinator at Vail Dance Festival (CO). Joseph received his dance training from Grand Rapids Ballet School under the direction of Attila and Mindy Mosolygo and Laura Berman, and he graduated in 2018 from the University of Oklahoma with a B.F.A. in Ballet Pedagogy and a B.A. in Professional Writing.

## FHFAC/FRAUENTHAL GUEST PERFORMERS



**WOLFGANG GOLUSKA** started his dance journey at Elizabeth Williams School of Dance at age 8, where he focused on ballet while also studying tap and jazz. Wolfgang was eventually invited to guest dance with Children's Ballet Theater, which led to him to join their company for their 2018-2019 season. He has also attended summer intensives at Grand Rapids Ballet, Northeast Academy of Dance, Cincinnati Ballet, and New York Dance Project. At Grand Valley State University, Wolfgang studied ballet and modern dance technique along with dance history, dance costuming, dance on camera, choreography, urban dance, and dance pedagogy. While at GVSU, Wolfgang continued to perform as a guest dancer with various companies, including HIS Dance, Greater Lansing Ballet Company, and WMYB. In 2023, he graduated with a B.A. in Dance. Currently, Wolfgang is dancing with CPR Dance: Inhale Movement for their sophomore season, as well as guest dancing with various groups around Michigan.



**WILLIAM SCHUTTE** is so excited to be joining West Michigan Youth Ballet for *The Nutcracker!* He has performed both nationally and internationally in several musicals. Since moving to Grand Rapids, he has choreographed for both Circle Theatre and Grand Rapids Civic Theatre. William has been most recently seen in *The Music of Moulin Rouge* at Circle Theatre Grand Rapids. He is the owner of Kicks Dancewear, and a proud sponsor of West Michigan Youth Ballet. William would like to dedicate this performance to his father Richard.

### *Special Thanks To These Special People!*

#### ***Our Mother Gingers***

Grace Schafer, Shelley Irwin, Connie Butler,  
Jenna Arcidiacono, Sophia Erbentraut

#### ***Jeff & Sally Shull and an Anonymous Donor***

Your generous funding allowed us to make the beautiful updates to The Land of Sweets. It is with support like this that we can continue to bring new life to this holiday classic.



<b>CAST</b>	<b>Saturday 1:00</b>	<b>Saturday 4:30</b>
<b><i>Maids</i></b>	Ella Yenchar, Maja Vidinlic	
<b><i>Drosselmeyer</i></b>	William Schutte	William Schutte
<b><i>Nephew</i></b>	Ray Qiao	Rainer Qiao
<b><i>Clara</i></b>	Lexie White	Charlotte Watson
<b><i>Fritz</i></b>	Clara Schultz	Colin Gietzen
<b><i>Party Boys</i></b>	Cassidy Harris, Madeleine Stauffer, Nora Periard, Rebekah Holland, Colin Gietzen, Clara Schultz, Mason Grusling, Tripp Ritter, Allison Greer, Addison Hondorp, Bristol Routley	
<b><i>Party Girls</i></b>	Mina Jacobs, Alexa Wilson, Natalia Schaap, Audrey Biersack, Ella Rottman, Elise Hinkley, Sky Guydon, Olivia Velicevic, Morgan VanderWagen, Elanor Schutter, Bailey Taylor	
<b><i>Clara's Mom</i></b>	Elaina Sanford	Hadley Breit
<b><i>Clara's Dad</i></b>	Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska
<b><i>Party Parents 1</i></b>	Connor Rapson Emma Diaz-Lawton	Connor Rapson Josie Sulka
<b><i>Party Parents 2</i></b>	Mars Maiden Katya Kval	Mars Maiden Katya Kval
<b><i>Party Parents 3</i></b>	Matt White Carli Mais	Matt White Ariel Botsko-Wilson
<b><i>Party Parents 4</i></b>	Mayko Noriega Mikena Ismail	Mayko Noriega Mikena Ismail
<b><i>Grandparents</i></b>	Grace Schafer, Kevin McCasland	
<b><i>Harlequin Dolls</i></b>	Rainer Qiao Charlotte Watson Emily McGlinchey	Ray Qiao Lexie White Livia Burnson
<b><i>Soldier Doll</i></b>	Sophie Gietzen	Kate Wisser
<b><i>Pointe Soldiers</i></b>	Charlotte Biersack, Norah Newberg, Lauren Hendricks, Ella DeWildt, Lynnlee Ashton, Leila Thompson, Abigail Carlisle, Emi Conn, Liv Viegelahn, Sunny Lancaster, Scarlett Noriega, Molly Tate, Olivia Wisser, Charlotte DeYoung, Livia Burnson, Emily McGlinchey, Charlotte Watson, Lucy Langejans, Lexie White	
<b><i>Nutcracker</i></b>	Ray Qiao	Rainer Qiao
<b><i>Mouse Empress</i></b>	Ariel Botsko-Wilson	Iris Adamczak
<b><i>Big Mice</i></b>	Stella Gulick, Aubrey Doyle, Mikayla Ismail, Deidra Uzarski, Leah Selleck, Sophie Gietzen	
<b><i>Little Mice Duet</i></b>	Jocelyn Schaap, Lucy Sanford	
<b><i>Little Mice</i></b>	Allison Baker, Lauren Holland, Rylen Conn, Madeline Hamelund, Chloe Hinkley, Madelyn Michelli, Evelyn Peters, Lydia Doorlag	

<b>Sunday 1:00</b>	<b>Sunday 4:30</b>	<b>Frauenthal</b>
Vanessa Ward, Maja Vidinlic		Ella Yenchar, Maja Vidinlic
William Schutte	William Schutte	William Schutte
Ray Qiao	Rainer Qiao	Ray Qiao
Emily McGlinchey	Livia Burnson	Lucy Langejans
Clara Schultz	Colin Gietzen	Madeleine Stauffer
Cassidy Harris, Madeleine Stauffer, Nora Periard, Rebekah Holland, Colin Gietzen, Clara Schultz, Mason Grusling, Tripp Ritter, Allison Greer, Addison Hondorp, Bristol Routley		
Mina Jacobs, Alexa Wilson, Natalia Schaap, Audrey Biersack, Ella Rottman, Elise Hinkley, Sky Guydon, Olivia Velicevic, Morgan VanderWagen, Elanor Schutter, Bailey Taylor		
Elaina Sanford	Hadley Breit	Elaina Sanford
Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska
Connor Rapson	Connor Rapson	Connor Rapson
Emma Diaz-Lawton	Emma Diaz-Lawton	Josie Sulka
Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden
Ren Keast	Katya Kval	Katya Kval
Matt White	Matt White	Matt White
Carli Mais	Ariel Botsko-Wilson	Carli Mais
Mayko Noriega	Mayko Noriega	Mayko Noriega
Mikena Ismail	Mikena Ismail	Mikena Ismail
Grace Schafer, Kevin McCasland		Lexi Erbentraut, Katrina Cassady
Rainer Qiao	Ray Qiao	Rainer Qiao
Lucy Langejans	Lucy Langejans	Charlotte Watson
Livia Burnson	Emily McGlinchey	Lexie White
Charley Sanial	Mikayla Ismail	Deidra Uzarski
Charlotte Biersack, Norah Newberg, Lauren Hendricks, Ella DeWildt, Lynnlee Ashton, Leila Thompson, Abigail Carlisle, Emi Conn, Liv Viegelahn, Sunny Lancaster, Scarlett Noriega, Molly Tate, Olivia Wisser, Charlotte DeYoung, Livia Burnson, Emily McGlinchey, Charlotte Watson, Lucy Langejans, Lexie White		
Ray Qiao	Rainer Qiao	Ray Qiao
Ariel Botsko-Wilson	Iris Adamczak	Ariel Botsko-Wilson
Stella Gulick, Aubrey Doyle, Mikayla Ismail, Deidra Uzarski, Leah Selleck, Sophie Gietzen		
Jocelyn Schaap, Lucy Sanford		
Allison Baker, Lauren Holland, Rylen Conn, Madeline Hamelund, Chloe Hinkley, Madelyn Michelli, Evelyn Peters, Lydia Doorlag		

<b>CAST</b>	<b>Saturday 1:00</b>	<b>Saturday 4:30</b>
<b><i>Battle Soldiers</i></b>	Piper Seekell, Audrey Blink, Aayla Rykse, Olivia Truskowski, Ali Vanderveen, Peyton Kooienga, Macy Langejans, Eleanor Masterson, Lorelai Feeny, Charlene DeBruler, Janae Frazier, Rosanna Schutter, Reese VanWagoner	
<b><i>Lieutenant</i></b>	Nathan Sanford	Nathan Sanford
<b><i>Snow Queen</i></b>	Ren Keast	Mileah Ismail
<b><i>Snow King</i></b>	Evan Ambrose	Evan Ambrose
<b><i>Snow Quartet</i></b>	Emma Diaz-Lawton	Josie Sulka
	Ella Yenchar	Ella Yenchar
	Hadley Breit	Carli Mais
	Elaina Sanford	Sydney Byrne
<b><i>Snow Ensemble</i></b>	Iris Adamczak, Cate Afman, Lydia Boucher, Caylee Miller, Mikayla Ismail, Evelyn Uzarski, Kate Wisser, Madelyne Frang, Vanessa Ward, Aubrey Doyle, Carli Mais, Leah Selleck, Charley Sanial, Maja Vidinlic, Hadley Breit, Ren Keast, Mikena Ismail, Sydney Byrne, Casimira Hovinga, Shay Duffy, Mileah Ismail, Meagan Conn, Sophie Gietzen, Stella Gulick, Ariel Botsko-Wilson, Kendall Wisniewski, Deidra Uzarski, Elaina Sanford, Kendall Wisniewski, Shay Duffy, Katya Kval	
<b><i>Reindeer</i></b>	Allison Baker, Lauren Holland, Lydia Doorlag, Jocelyn Schaap, Madeline Hamelund, Chloe Hinkley, Madelyn Michelli, Evelyn Peters, Lucy Sanford	
<b><i>Guardian Angel</i></b>	Carli Mais	Meagan Conn
<b><i>Little Angels</i></b>	Allison Baker, Lauren Holland, Lydia Doorlag, Jocelyn Schaap, Madeline Hamelund, Chloe Hinkley, Madelyn Michelli, Evelyn Peters, Lucy Sanford	
<b><i>Pointe Angels</i></b>	Charlotte Biersack, Ella DeWildt, Lauren Hendricks, Abigail Carlisle, Molly Tate, Emi Conn, Liv Viegelahn, Leila Thompson, Charlotte DeYoung, Sunny Lancaster, Scarlett Noriega, Olivia Wisser, Norah Newberg	
<b><i>Spanish Leads</i></b>	Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden
	Maja Vidinlic	Stella Gulick
<b><i>Spanish Corp</i></b>	Alexa Wilson, Madeleine Stauffer, Bailey Taylor, Elanor Schutter, Natalia Schaap	
<b><i>Arabian Leads</i></b>	Katya Kval	Maja Vidinlic
	Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska
<b><i>Arabian Corp</i></b>	Meagan Conn	Sydney Byrne
	Madelyne Frang	Iris Adamczak
	Mikena Ismail	Caylee Miller
	Casimira Hovinga	Cate Afman
<b><i>Chinese Lead</i></b>	Kate Wisser	Deidra Uzarski

Sunday 1:00	Sunday 4:30	Frauenthal
Piper Seekell, Audrey Blink, Aayla Rykse, Olivia Truszkowski, Ali Vanderveen, Peyton Kooienga, Macy Langejans, Eleanor Masterson, Lorelai Feeny, Charlene DeBruler, Janae Frazier, Rosanna Schutter, Reese VanWagoner		
Nathan Sanford	Nathan Sanford	Nathan Sanford
Katya Kval	Kendall Wisniewski	Ren Keast
Evan Ambrose	Evan Ambrose	Joseph Van Harn
Josie Sulka	Emma Diaz-Lawton	Josie Sulka
Emma Diaz-Lawton	Ella Yenchar	Ella Yenchar
Hadley Breit	Carli Mais	Hadley Breit
Elaina Sanford	Sydney Byrne	Elaina Sanford
Iris Adamczak, Cate Afman, Lydia Boucher, Caylee Miller, Mikayla Ismail, Evelyn Uzarski, Kate Wisser, Madelyne Frang, Vanessa Ward, Aubrey Doyle, Carli Mais, Leah Selleck, Charley Sanial, Maja Vidinlic, Hadley Breit, Ren Keast, Mikena Ismail, Sydney Byrne, Casimira Hovinga, Shay Duffy, Mileah Ismail, Meagan Conn, Sophie Gietzen, Stella Gulick, Ariel Botsko-Wilson, Kendall Wisniewski, Deidra Uzarski, Elaina Sanford, Kendall Wisniewski, Shay Duffy, Katya Kval		
Allison Baker, Lauren Holland, Lydia Doorlag, Jocelyn Schaap Madeline Hamelund, Chloe Hinkley, Madelyn Michelli, Evelyn Peters, Lucy Sanford		
Casimira Hovinga	Mikena Ismail	Evelyn Uzarski
Allison Baker, Lauren Holland, Lydia Doorlag, Jocelyn Schaap Madeline Hamelund, Chloe Hinkley, Madelyn Michelli, Evelyn Peters, Lucy Sanford		
Charlotte Biersack, Ella DeWildt, Lauren Hendricks, Abigail Carlisle, Molly Tate, Emi Conn, Liv Viegelahn, Leila Thompson, Charlotte DeYoung, Sunny Lancaster, Scarlett Noriega, Olivia Wisser, Norah Newberg		
Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden
Maja Vidinlic	Aubrey Doyle	Maja Vidinlic
Alexa Wilson, Madeleine Stauffer, Bailey Taylor, Elanor Schutter, Natalia Schaap		
Emma Diaz-Lawton	Mileah Ismail	Elaina Sanford
Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska
Meagan Conn	Sydney Byrne	Iris Adamczak
Madelyne Frang	Iris Adamczak	Madelyne Frang
Mikena Ismail	Meagan Conn	Leah Selleck
Elaina Sanford	Elaina Sanford	Casimira Hovinga
Sophie Gietzen	Charley Sanial	Mikayla Ismail

<b>CAST</b>	<b>Saturday 1:00</b>	<b>Saturday 4:30</b>
<b><i>Chinese Corp</i></b>	Ella Rottman, Cassidy Harris, Mina Jacobs, Elise Hinkley, Audrey Biersack, Rebekah Holland, Allison Greer, Sky Guydon, Addison Hondorp, Olivia Velicevic, Morgan VanderWagen	
<b><i>Reed Flute Lead</i></b>	Hadley Breit	Kendall Wisniewski
<b><i>Reed Flute Corp</i></b>	Ella Yenchar Kendall Wisniewski Elaina Sanford Mileah Ismail Ren Keast	Josie Sulka Elaina Sanford Katya Kval Mileah Ismail Hadley Breit
<b><i>Russians</i></b>	Colin Gietzen, Mason Grusling, Tripp Ritter, Rylen Conn	
<b><i>Couple 1</i></b>	Nathan Sanford Livia Burnson	Nathan Sanford Livia Burnson
<b><i>Couple 2</i></b>	Ray Qiao Lexie White	Ray Qiao Emily McGlinchey
<b><i>Couple 3</i></b>	Rainer Qiao Emily McGlinchey	Rainer Qiao Charlotte Watson
<b><i>Couple 4</i></b>	Connor Rapson Charlotte Watson	Connor Rapson Lexie White
<b><i>Couple 5</i></b>	Mars Maiden Lucy Langejans	Mars Maiden Lucy Langejans
<b><i>Mother Ginger</i></b>	Grace Schafer	Shelley Irwin
<b><i>Patisseries Leads</i></b>	Sydney Byrne Iris Adamczak	Madelyne Frang Casimira Hovinga
<b><i>Frosters/Gingerbread</i></b>	Piper Seekell, Audrey Blink, Aayla Rykse, Olivia Truszkowski, Ali Vanderveen, Peyton Kooienga, Macy Langejans, Eleanor Masterson, Lorelei Feeny, Charlene DeBruler, Janae Frazier, Rosanna Schutter, Reese VanWagoner	
<b><i>Dew Drop</i></b>	Emma Diaz-Lawton	Ella Yenchar
<b><i>Daffodils</i></b>	Stella Gulick Connor Rapson Aubrey Doyle Wolfgang Goluska	Ren Keast Connor Rapson Carli Mais Wolfgang Goluska
<b><i>Flowers</i></b>	Ariel Botsko-Wilson, Vanessa Ward, Lydia Boucher, Caylee Miller, Leah Selleck, Sophie Gietzen, Evelyn Uzarski, Deidra Uzarski, Mikayla Ismail, Cate Afman, Shay Duffy, Norah Newberg, Charley Sanial, Lynnlee Ashton, Mikena Ismail, Kate Wisser, Aubrey Doyle, Charlotte Biersack, Mileah Ismail, Maja Vidinlic, Stella Gulick	
<b><i>Butterflies</i></b>	Bristol Routley, Sky Guydon, Nora Periard, Clara Schultz, Audrey Biersack	
<b><i>Sugar Plum</i></b>	Josie Sulka	Emma Diaz-Lawton
<b><i>Cavalier</i></b>	John Mingle	John Mingle

<b>Sunday 1:00</b>	<b>Sunday 4:30</b>	<b>Frauenthal</b>
Ella Rottman, Cassidy Harris, Mina Jacobs, Elise Hinkley, Audrey Biersack, Rebekah Holland, Allison Greer, Sky Guydon, Addison Hondorp, Olivia Velicevic, Morgan VanderWagen		
Vanessa Ward	Ren Keast	Hadley Breit
Josie Sulka	Ella Yenchar	Ella Yenchar
Kendall Wisniewski	Stella Gulick	Kendall Wisniewski
Katya Kval	Katya Kval	Katya Kval
Carli Mais	Emma Diaz-Lawton	Carli Mais
Ren Keast	Hadley Breit	Aubrey Doyle
Colin Gietzen, Mason Grusling, Tripp Ritter, Rylen Conn		
Nathan Sanford	Nathan Sanford	Nathan Sanford
Livia Burnson	Emily McGlinchey	Livia Burnson
Ray Qiao	Ray Qiao	Ray Qiao
Emily McGlinchey	Lexie White	Lucy Langejans
Rainer Qiao	Rainer Qiao	Rainer Qiao
Lexie White	Livia Burnson	Emily McGlinchey
Connor Rapson	Connor Rapson	Connor Rapson
Charlotte Watson	Charlotte Watson	Charlotte Watson
Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden	Mars Maiden
Lucy Langejans	Lucy Langejans	Lexie White
Connie Butler	Jenna Arcidiacono	Sophia Erbentraut
Sydney Byrne	Madelyne Frang	Sydney Byrne
Iris Adamczak	Casimira Hovinga	Meagan Conn
Piper Seekell, Audrey Blink, Aayla Rykse, Olivia Truskowski, Ali Vanderveen, Peyton Kooienga, Macy Langejans, Eleanor Masterson, Lorelei Feeny, Charlene DeBruler, Janae Frazier, Rosanna Schutter, Reese VanWagoner		
Hadley Breit	Vanessa Ward	Josie Sulka
Stella Gulick	Kendall Wisniewski	Ren Keast
Connor Rapson	Connor Rapson	Connor Rapson
Aubrey Doyle	Carli Mais	Mileah Ismail
Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska	Wolfgang Goluska
Ariel Botsko-Wilson, Vanessa Ward, Lydia Boucher, Caylee Miller, Leah Selleck, Sophie Gietzen, Evelyn Uzarski, Deidra Uzarski, Mikayla Ismail, Cate Afman, Shay Duffy, Norah Newberg, Charley Sanial, Lynnlee Ashton, Mikena Ismail, Kate Wisser, Aubrey Doyle, Charlotte Biersack, Mileah Ismail, Maja Vidinlic, Stella Gulick		
Bristol Routley, Sky Guydon, Nora Periard, Clara Schultz, Audrey Biersack		
Ella Yenchar	Josie Sulka	Emma Diaz-Lawton
John Mingle	John Mingle	Renan Cerdeiro

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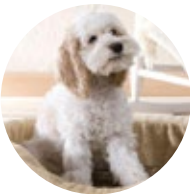
*We are so proud of you, Aubrey! We love you and have loved watching you grow into such a beautiful dancer.  
Love, Dad, Mom, Jack, Lauren, Ellie, Quinn, and Loki*



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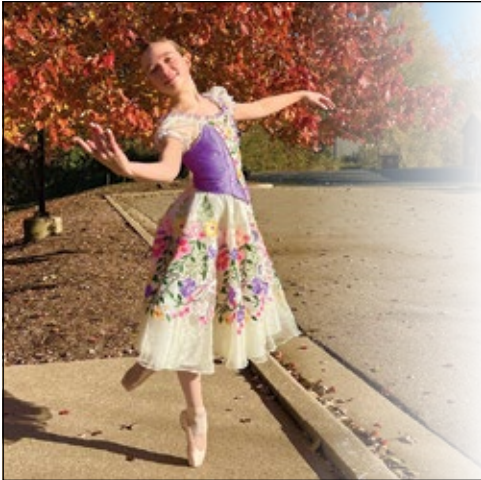


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dancers!

The Biersacks



***Congratulations Livia  
and all of the WMYB  
dancers! We are so  
proud of your hard  
work and dedication.***

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***Love,  
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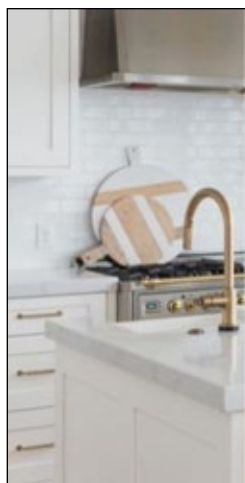
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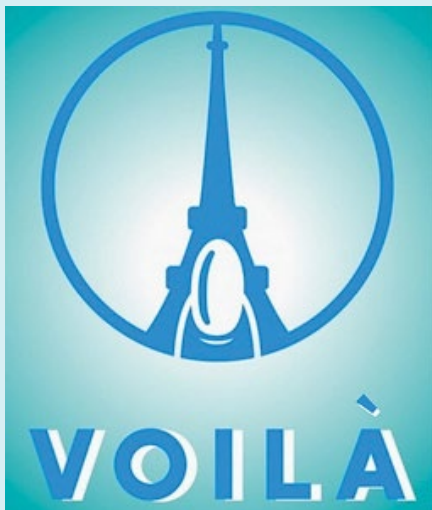
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***Congratulations  
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***With Love,  
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## CONGRATS TO OUR WMYB SENIORS!



**MEAGAN CONN** • It's so hard to believe that this is my last year with WMYB. All of the shows I have been in since I was ten have taught me valuable lessons that I still carry with me. From learning responsibility backstage to learning how to sew, this community has helped me grow so much. I'm so grateful to all of the backstage crew members who make the shows over the years possible. I would also like to thank Laura Berman for making these shows so organized and Heather Cassady for making the exquisite costumes. I would especially like to thank Jessica Terry for stepping into the role of Artistic Director, and making this year's show so memorable. Lastly, I'm very grateful for all who have shown up to support me over the years: my grandparents, my family, my friends, my teachers, and so many more. I cannot explain how much of an impact their support has had on me. After this year I'm hoping to attend college at Western Michigan University to study Social Psychology, Sociology, or History. I will cherish all of the friendships I've had here and will definitely come back to watch future shows.

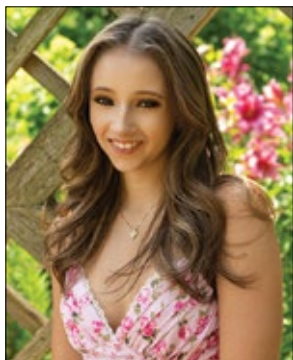


**CARLI MAIS** • I can't believe this is my final year performing with WMYB. Time has flown by. I have made so many memories and relationships that I will never forget. I am beyond grateful for all of the opportunities I have had from WMYB. I'm truly thankful for all of my teachers who have believed in me and have made me the person I am today. Thank you to my family and friends who have supported me throughout my time at WMYB. Finally, I would like to thank every volunteer and member of WMYB who has made each performance so special. WMYB will always hold a special place in my heart, and I'll treasure those memories forever.



**CONNOR RAPSON** • I started dancing at the age 14 when I was asked to help with a partnering class. I never expected to be dancing with WMYB, but am grateful for the experience and the friends I have made. Outside of dance, I am involved in rowing, where I am one of the Captains for the Grand Rapids Rowing Club's Junior program. I also play trumpet and am a sports broadcaster for Lowell Radio where I am the lead play-by-play announcer for Red Arrow basketball. Thank you to Noah and Hannah Trulock with Verity Ballet for their support and instruction over these past four years. Thank you to my friends for supporting my dancing and coming to watch me perform. Finally, thank you to my parents and family for their love and support.

## CONGRATS TO OUR WMYB SENIORS!



**MAJA VIDINLIC** • Maja has dancing since age two. This is her fourth *Nutcracker* with WMYB. She dances at Imprint Dance Co. and on the Forest Hills Central Varsity Dance Team. Her favorite styles of dance are Lyrical and Contemporary. She has been to various dance intensities and competitions all around the country. Currently she is on Artist Simply Human Company on Tour for 25/26. Maja is undecided but is hoping to audition for college dance programs and teams in addition to doing Kinesiology or business. She would like to thank all her dance teachers over the years.



**HADLEY BREIT** • As my time with the company comes to a close, I am so grateful to have gotten to spend the best 7 years performing with WMYB. I will forever cherish the memories and relationships I have created over my time at the studio. Being on stage is an experience I will never forget and I am so excited for my last performances with all of my best friends. The opportunities to grow and learn throughout my years at WMYB is what makes performing my favorite part about being a dancer. Over the past 10 years, dancing has been a huge aspect of my life and will always have a piece of my heart. I am thankful for all of my friends and family who have always supported my passion, and I thank every teacher I have had for helping me make it to where I am now. I plan to go to college after high school with hopes to study nursing and minor in dance to carry on my love for the art. Saying goodbye is bittersweet, but I couldn't be happier to have been a part of such an incredible company.



**MILEAH ISMAIL** • Being part of WMYB will be an experience I will never forget. I will always treasure these performances. I would like to thank my dance instructors, WMYB volunteers, my friends, and my parents for their guidance and support. Through my twelve years of dancing, seven of them with WMYB, I have been given many opportunities such as performing in numerous ballets, competing in many competitions, and performing on my school's dance team. Outside of dance I enjoy running cross country, running track, and jumping high jump. As graduation from high school is quickly approaching, I am sad to close this chapter of my life; however, I am excited for what God has planned next. *Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.*

## CONGRATS TO OUR WMYB SENIORS!



**JOSEPHINE SULKA** • Goodbyes are never easy, and there's no doubt that this one won't be either. For the past eight years, I've been dancing with WMYB, making lifelong friendships, and creating memories that I will cherish forever. Through the guidance of multiple instructors, including Laura Berman, I've been able to grow into the dancer and person I am today. I would like to personally thank Laura for truly believing in me every step of the way, and I couldn't be more grateful for all the love and support I've received from the entire WMYB

community. I am honored to have had the opportunity to dance some of my favorite roles, including the Sugar Plum Fairy, Dew Drop, Aurora, and many more. I am so thankful to every volunteer for making WMYB such an incredible experience. Thank you to my friends and family who have attended every performance and for always supporting me. I plan to attend college to further my dance career, with majors in Dance and Kinesiology. Although my Sundays will be empty, without long rehearsals surrounded by my best friends, my heart will forever be full of love and gratitude for everyone involved in this organization.

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## WMYB DANCERS



**IRIS ADAMCZAK** is a freshman at Byron Center High School. This will be her second *Nutcracker* at WMYB. She also dances with Academy of Dance Arts and Grand Rapids Ballet. She would like to thank her family and friends for the support and WMYB for this opportunity to perform.



**CATE AFMAN** is 15 years old and a 10th grader at Grand Rapids Christian High School. She has danced since age 3. While not dancing she loves to sing, practice all types of mixed media art, explore outside, and hang out with her cat. She is grateful to be in another WMYB performance!



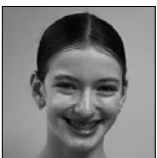
**LYNNLEE ASHTON** is 13 years old and in 8th grade at Northern Hills. She has been dancing since age 3 at Academy of Dance Arts. She is also part of their competition team. This is her 3rd *Nutcracker* performance with WMYB. Lynnlee is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing show.



**ALLISON BAKER** is 8 years old and in 3rd grade at Pine Ridge. She is thrilled to perform in her 1st *Nutcracker* with WMYB. Allison started dancing at age 2 and dances at Imprint Dance Co. She also enjoys swimming, skiing, and cheer. Allison thanks her family, friends and teachers for their love and support.



**AUDREY BIERSACK** is 10 years old and in 5th grade at Central Woodlands. She dances at Ada Dance Academy and this is her 3rd year in *The Nutcracker*. She loves to swim, ski, and dance in her free time. She would like to thank her dance teachers and parents for all their support.



**CHARLOTTE BIERSACK** is in the 7th grade at FHC Middle School. She has been dancing at Ada Dance Academy for the last 6 years and this is her 4th year with the WMYB. When not at dance, she enjoys reading, baking, playing her violin, and hanging out with friends.



**AUDREY BLINK** is a 4th grader at Knapp Forest Elementary. She has studied dance at Rhythm Dance Center for the past 2 years and is excited to perform in her second *Nutcracker* production. Audrey thanks her family and friends for attending the show and for always supporting her love of the arts.

## WMYB DANCERS



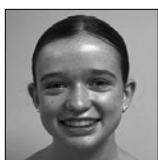
**ARIEL BOTSKO-WILSON** is performing in her first *Nutcracker* with WMYB. She's passionate about ballet, training at Tye Chua, Ballet Centré and Mosaic Dance. She's 16 and a junior at the Kalamazoo Area Math & Science Center. She thanks her parents, dance teachers, friends, and her cat for their support.



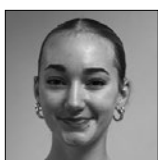
**LYDIA BOUCHER** is 16 years old and a sophomore at Lakewood High School. Her home dance studio is Center Stage Dance Academy and this is her fourth *Nutcracker* performance with WMYB. She would like to thank her dance teachers, family, and friends for always supporting her.



**HADLEY BREIT** is 17 years and is a senior at Byron Center. She has been dancing for 10 years at Ada Dance Academy and 6 years with WMYB. She enjoys hanging out with her friends in her free time. Hadley is super excited to perform in her last ever *Nutcracker*!!



**LIVIA BURNSON** is an 8th grader at Forest Hills Central Middle. She has danced with Ada Dance Academy for 10 years and WMYB for 6 years. She enjoys time with family and friends, babysitting, and caring for her bunny, Willow. She thanks her teachers, family, and friends for their love and support.



**SYDNEY BYRNE** is a sophomore at Forest Hills Northern High School. When she's not dancing she loves painting and sewing. Sydney would also love to thank all of her friends and family that have supported her love for dance.



**ABIGAIL CARLISLE** is a 12 year old, 7th grade homeschool student. She's been dancing for 8 years, currently at Ada Dance Academy and Grand Rapids Ballet School. This is her 9th show with WMYB. She also enjoys reading and baking. Abigail thanks God, her family, and all her great teachers!



**EMI CONN** is a freshmen at Forest Hills Eastern High School. She has been dancing since she was 2 and has danced at WMYB for 6 years. She is also on the FHNE Varsity Dance Team. She is excited for her roles this year and cannot wait to perform with this year's cast.

## WMYB DANCERS



**MEAGAN CONN** is a senior at Forest Hills Eastern High School. She began dancing at the age of 2 and began competition dance at 6. She has performed with WMYB since she was 8. She is also on the Forest Hills Northern Eastern Varsity Dance Team. In her free time, she loves to read and crochet.



**RYLEN CONN** is 8 years old and a 2nd grader at Knapp Forest. She has been dancing since age 3 at Imprint Dance Company. This is her first show with WMYB and she is excited to perform as a Little Mouse and a Russian. She also enjoys sports, including lacrosse, basketball, flag football, and swimming.



**CHARLENE DEBRULER**, a 5th grader at Northern Trails, has been dancing since she was 4 and loves every minute of it! This is her 2nd season with West Michigan Youth Ballet, and she's so excited to twirl, leap, and share the magic of *The Nutcracker* with everyone!



**ELLA DeWILDT** is 12 years old and in 7th grade at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. She has been dancing since kindergarten at Ada Dance Academy. This is her 6th performance with the West Michigan Youth Ballet. In her free time, Ella loves to be outdoors, play volleyball, and hang out with family and friends.



**CHARLOTTE DeYOUNG** is 13 years old and has been dancing for 9 years, currently at Avalon School of the Arts and Grand Rapids Ballet School. After five spring shows with WMYB, this is her first *Nutcracker!* She is grateful to Miss Marie, Miss Jessica, and Miss Laura for all their teaching and support!



**EMMA DIAZ-LAWTON** is a junior at FHN. She's been dancing with Ada Dance Academy for the past 13 years and WMYB for the past 8. Emma has attended summer programs, including Boston Ballet, Houston Ballet, PNB, and Miami City Ballet. She thanks her family and teachers for their endless encouragement and support.



**LYDIA DOORLAG** is 9 years old and in 4th grade at Cedar View Elementary. She has been dancing since the age 4 at Rockford Dance Company. This is her first show with the WMYB. She also enjoys baking, reading, cheer, and camping. Lydia thanks her mom, dad, grandparents, and friends for their support.

## WMYB DANCERS



**AUBREY DOYLE** is in 8th grade at Forest Hills Eastern Middle School. Aubrey has competed both locally and nationally, and has attended summer intensives at both Ballet West and Sarasota Cuban Ballet. This will be her 11th performance with WMYB. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support.



**SHAY DUFFY** is a 10th grader at Forest Hills Eastern High School. She has been dancing since she was 3 with the Ada Dance Academy, and has been with the WMYB for 4 years. She would like to thank her teachers, friends, family, and God for always supporting her.



**LORELAI FEENY** is 10 years old and a 5th grader at Wealthy Elementary. Lo has been dancing since she was 3, currently for Hearts in Motion Dance as part of the competition team. This is her 3rd *Nutcracker* with WMYB. She enjoys reading, playing piano, and Girl Scouts. She thanks her family for their love and support.



**MADELYNE FRANG** is 16 years old and a sophomore at Reeths-Puffer High School. She dances with Relevé dance studio. She would like to thank her teachers, family, friends, and God for making every opportunity possible.



**JANAE FRAZIER** is a 5th grader who loves life and is often dancing through her day. She dances for her church, draws, paints, bakes, cooks, and writes. She embraces the world around her, noticing its beauty and caring about its struggles. She is excited to be in *The Nutcracker* with the opportunities it gives her to bring joy to others!



**COLIN GIETZEN** is 10 and in 4th grade at Thornapple Elementary. He dances with Hearts in Motion and Verity Ballet. This is his 3rd year performing with WMYB and he enjoys dancing with his big sister, Sophie. He plays soccer, tennis, basketball, golf, and swims. He thanks his family and teachers.



**SOPHIE GIETZEN** is an 8th grader at FHC Middle School. She has been dancing since age 3 and dances at Ada Dance Academy and Verity Ballet. This is her 6th season with WMYB and she loves getting to dance with her little brother, Colin. She thanks her instructors, friends, and family for support.

## WMYB DANCERS



**ALLISON GREER** is in 5th grade at Central Woodlands in Forest Hills. This is her 8th year of dancing at Ada Dance Academy and 3rd year with the WMYB. Allie is also on the FHC Middle School Dance Team. She dedicates her performances to her family and her dog, Flynn.



**MASON GRUSLING** is a 4th grader at Thornapple Elementary School. He has been dancing for just over a year and loves tap most of all. When he's not at dance, he spends his time at gymnastics or playing outside with his dogs!



**STELLA GULICK** is an 8th grader at Northern Hills Middle. She dances at Ada Dance. This is her 10th WMYB show. Her favorite part of *The Nutcracker* is the amazing costumes and performing with her best friends. She thanks her family and dedicated coaches for support.



**SKY GUYDON** is 10 years old and in 6th grade. She has been dancing for 3 years at Hearts in Motion. Her favorite styles of dance are jazz/acro. This is her first show with WMYB. She also enjoys cheer, tumbling, and traveling. Sky thanks her family and dance instructors for the support!



**MADELINE HAMELUND** is 8 years old. She has been dancing for 5 years and is a competitive dancer with Rockford Dance Company. This is her 1st season performing with WMYB. The oldest of four sisters, Madeline enjoys reading, playing outside, hanging out with her dad, and riding ATVs.



**CASSIDY HARRIS** is a 5th grader at Roguewood Elementary in Rockford. She dances at Hearts in Motion and this is her 1st year with WMYB. Cassidy gives a special thanks to her family for driving her every week so that she can do what she loves. Thank you also to those that came to watch her perform.



**LAUREN HENDRICKS** is 12 years old and a 7th grader at Lowell Middle School. Her home studios are Fine Arts School of Dance and Ada Dance Academy. This is her 4th season with WMYB! A special thanks to all of the friends and family that make the trip to support Lauren's love of dance each year!

## WMYB DANCERS



**CHLOE HINKLEY** is 9 years old and in 3rd grade in Grandville. She has been dancing since age 2 and is on the competition team at Body Language Dance Company. This is her first *Nutcracker* performance and she couldn't be more excited to be a mouse! Chloe thanks her amazing dance teachers and family.



**ELISE HINKLEY** is 11 years old and in 5th grade in Grandville. She has been dancing since age 2 at Body Language Dance Company and competes in ballet, tap, lyrical, jazz, and hip hop. This is her first *Nutcracker* show and she is so excited! Elise gives thanks to her supportive family and friends!



**LAUREN HOLLAND** is 8 years old and in 2nd grade at Lakes Elementary. She has been dancing since she was 6 at Ada Dance Academy. This is her 1st show with WMYB. She also enjoys cheerleading, softball, swimming, and playing with friends. Lauren thanks her family, friends and teachers for their support.



**REBEKAH HOLLAND** is a 6th grader at Calvary Christian Schools in Fruitport. Dancing since age 4, she dances at Relevé Dance Studio in Whitehall. This is her 2nd *Nutcracker* with WMYB. She is the youngest of five siblings. She hopes you enjoy the show.



**ADDISON HONDORP**, 5th grader at Baldwin Heights in Greenville, is debuting her in 1st performance with WMYB. Addison has been dancing for 7 years with Flat River Dance Company and has previously danced in *The Nutcracker* as an angel, battle soldier, and party girl. She has also danced with GRB the past two summers.



**CASIMIRA HOVINGA** has been dancing for 12 years, and this is her 3rd year performing with WMYB. She is a member of the Forest Hills Central Varsity Dance Team, and trains at Imprint Dance Company. Dancing many different genres brings her joy. A special thank you to her family and friends for their constant love and support.



**MIKAYLA ISMAIL** is 14 years old and a freshman at Lowell High School. She enjoys dancing on Lowell's Varsity Dance Team, running cross country and track, and playing her trumpet. She would like to thank God, her dance instructors, family, and friends for their wonderful support.

## WMYB DANCERS



**MIKENA ISMAIL** is 16 years old and a junior at Lowell High School. She loves dancing on Lowell's Varsity Dance Team and running on and serving as a captain for cross country. Mikena would like to thank God, her dance instructors, family, and friends for supporting her dream of dance.



**MILEAH ISMAIL** is 17 years old and a senior at Lowell High School. She enjoys dancing on Lowell's Varsity Dance Team, running cross country, running track, and jumping high jump. Mileah would like to thank God, her dance instructors, family, and friends for supporting her passion of dancing.



**MINA JACOBS** is and in 6th grade at Greenville Middle School. She is excited for her 3rd WMYB *Nutcracker* performance. This is her 6th year of dance at Hearts in Motion. Mina loves performing with HCAT, reading books, and exploring nature. Thank you to WMYB, HMD teachers, family and friends for continued love and support.



**REN KEAST**, a junior at Forest Hills Central High School, is a member of the Varsity Dance Team and has competed in several events. This is her 2nd performance with WMYB, and she is excited to showcase her talent. Ren thanks her family, friends, and teachers for their ongoing support.



**PEYTON KOOIENGA** is 10 years old, and is homeschooled for 4th grade. This is her 1st year at Letha Fulton's School of Dance, but 6th year dancing. She is excited for her 2nd year with WMYB! Peyton also enjoys cartwheeling, and playing with friends. She thanks her family and teachers for their support.



**KATYA KVAL** is 15 years old and in 10th grade at Spring Lake. She has been dancing since age 2 at Spotlight Dance Academy, then at Grand Rapids Ballet School. This is her 3rd show with WMYB. She thanks family, friends, and teachers for supporting her and giving her this and many other opportunities throughout her life.



**SUNNY LANCASTER** loves dancing, her dogs, and singing. She hopes to potentially choreograph someday and enjoys every minute that she gets on stage. She has two dogs and two cats, but would love more pets. She loves her friends at Ada Dance and is happy to be performing with WMYB as she has been for many years.

## WMYB DANCERS



**LUCY LANGEJANS** is 13 and attends Forest Hills Eastern. Her home studio is Rhythm Dance Center, and she also trains at Ada Dance Academy. This is her 3rd *Nutcracker* with WMYB and she is grateful for the chance to dance the role of Clara at the Frauenthal. Lucy would like to thank her family and dance teachers for their support.



**MACY LANGEJANS** is 9 years old and a 4th grader at Knapp Forest. She is thrilled to be in her second *Nutcracker* season! Macy is on the competitive team at Rhythm Dance Center and also enjoys biking and reading. Macy thanks her family, friends, and dance instructors for supporting her love of dance!



**MARS MAIDEN**, age 15, is a sophomore at Grand Rapids Montessori High School. This is his 5th year performing with West Michigan Youth Ballet. Mars's home studio is Imprint Dance Company, where he receives instruction in a variety of dance styles and competes on the pre-professional team.



**CARLI MAIS** is 17 years old and a senior at Forest Hills Eastern. She has been dancing for 13 years and is a student at Ada Dance Academy. Carli is also on the FHNE Varsity Dance Team, and this is her 9th year with WMYB. She would like to thank her family and teachers for their love and support.



**ELEANOR MASTERSON** is 9 years old. She is excited to be in her 3rd WMYB production. She has been dancing since she was 2 years old at Hearts in Motion. Besides dancing, Eleanor loves being outside, building CrunchLab projects, and spending time with family and friends.



**EMILY McGLINCHEY** is 13 years old and an 8th grader at Forest Hills Northern Middle School. This will be her 4th *Nutcracker* performance with WMYB. When she is not dancing she enjoys hanging out with family and friends. Emily would like to thank her instructors, family, and friends for all their love and support.



**MADELYN MICHELLI** is 8 years old and in 3rd grade at Ada Elementary. She has been dancing since age 4 at Ada Dance Academy. This is her first show with WMYB. She also enjoys swimming, cheerleading, and soccer. Madelyn thanks her family, friends, and teachers for their support.

## WMYB DANCERS



**CAYLEE MILLER** is a freshman at Ionia. She has been dancing at Center Stage Dance Academy in Lake Odessa since she was 3. She has done multiple shows with WMYB. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends and thanks her teachers, parents, and friends for support over the years to help reach her goals.



**NORAH NEWBERG** is 13 years old and a 8th grader at East Grand Rapids Middle School. She has been dancing for 9 years and dances at Imprint Dance Co. and on the competition team. This is her 2nd year with WMYB. She would like to thank her family, friends, and dance teachers for their support.



**SCARLETT NORIEGA** believes the magic of dance is in making others smile. Her love for the stage shines with dedication, positivity, and joy, adding sparkle to every step. She is delighted to share this *Nutcracker* season with WMYB friends. Congratulations to all the dancers, and heartfelt thanks to her wonderful teachers.



**NORA PERIARD** is 11 years old and in 6th grade at Forest Hills Northern Trails. She practices ballet and jazz at Ada Dance Academy. This is her first performance with WMYB. Nora enjoys camping, skiing, and spending time with her pets. She thanks her dance teachers and family for their support.



**EVELYN PETERS** is 8 years old and in the 3rd grade at Collins Elementary. She is beginning her 4th year of dance at the Ada Dance Academy. Evelyn is so excited to join the WMYB family for her first performance in *The Nutcracker!* She also enjoys gymnastics, cheerleading and reading! Thanks for your support!



**RAINER QIAO**, a 9th grader, has been dancing for about 4 years. He enjoys tennis, reading, and playing piano. His dance journey has been inspired by the encouragement and guidance of his wonderful teacher/mentor, Mr. Stephen, whose support continues to nurture his love for dance.



**RAY QIAO** is a 9th grader and has been dancing for about 4 years. This is his 3rd performance with WMYB. Outside of dance, Ray enjoys tennis and has studied piano and figure skating for about ten years. He is especially thankful to Mr. Stephen for his steady guidance, encouragement, and support!

## WMYB DANCERS



**CONNOR RAPSON** is 17 years old and a senior at Lowell High School. He began dancing at the age of 14 and studies at Verity Ballet. This is his 3rd show with WMYB. Connor thanks his family, friends, and instructors for their support.



**TRIPP RITTER** is 10 years old and in 4th grade at Roguewood Elementary. Tripp is on Rhythm Dance Center's petite competitive team, and has danced there for 4 years. This is his first performance with WMYB and he couldn't be more excited to make his debut in *The Nutcracker!*



**ELLA ROTTMAN** is in 5th grade at Northern Trails and has been dancing since she was 2. She is excited for her 6th performance with WMYB. Ella enjoys spending time with friends and family and playing with her dog, Teddy. Thank you WMYB, Ada Dance Academy, HMD, friends and family for your love and support.



**BRISTOL ROUTLEY** is a 5th grade homeschooler, dancing her 5th season at Rockford Dance Company. This is her first *Nutcracker*. She would like to thank her parents for everything they do. To Miss Lindsey and Miss Sarah, thank you for believing in me and pushing to be my best.



**AAYLA RYKSE** is 9 years old and in 4th grade at Pine Ridge Elementary School. She has been dancing since she was 2 years old. She also enjoys cheer, softball, and spending time her friends in her free time.



**ELAINA SANFORD** is a sophomore at West Catholic High School. She has been dancing since the age of 3. Elaina is very thankful for her training at Ada Dance Academy, where she is also a member of the competition team. She enjoys spending time with all of her friends.



**LUCY SANFORD** is a 3rd grader at Holy Spirit Catholic School. Lucy is very thankful for the love and support she has received during her training at Ada Dance Academy. She enjoys camping, bike riding, and jeeping with her family.

## WMYB DANCERS



**NATE SANFORD** is Nate is a 5th grader at Holy Spirit Catholic School. Nate is very thankful for the love and support he has received during his training at Ada Dance Academy. He enjoys playing flag football at recess and the Harry Potter series.



**CHARLEY SANIAL** is 13 and in 8th grade at GRCMS. She has danced for 7 years at Ada Dance Academy. This is her 5th season at WMYB, and she couldn't be more excited! In addition to dancing, she loves reading, playing the violin, and math. She would like to thank the volunteers and her dance teachers.



**JOCELYN SCHAAP** is a 4th grader at Cannonsburg Elementary School. She has been dancing for 7 years. She competitively dances with Rockford Dance Company. Aside from dancing, she enjoys singing, cooking, hunting, and drawing. This is her 2nd year with WMYB's *The Nutcracker*.



**NATALIA SCHAAP** is a 7th grader at East Rockford Middle School. She has been dancing for 9 years. She competitively dances with Rockford Dance Company. Aside from dancing, she enjoys playing the violin, baking, and various crafts. This is her 2nd year with WMYB's *The Nutcracker*.



**CLARA SCHULTZ** is in 5th grade at Cherry Creek Elementary. This is her 3rd season and 5th production with WMYB. Dancing is her passion, but in her spare time she loves being with her family, friends, and animals. She would like to thank all of her family and her instructors for their continued dedication to her growth.

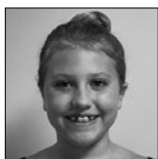


**ELANOR SCHUTTER** is 13 years old and in 8th grade at Crossroads Middle School. She has been dancing for 4 years at Hearts in Motion. This is her 2nd show with WMYB. She enjoys the beach, baking, dancing, and being with her friends. Elanor thanks her family, friends, and teachers for their support!



**ROSANNA SCHUTTER** is 10 years old and in 5th grade at Highlands Middle School. She has been dancing since age 6 at Hearts in Motion. This is her 1st show with WMYB. She also enjoys Pom Squad, her cats, and riding her scooter. Rosanna thanks God, her family, friends, and teachers for their support.

## WMYB DANCERS



**PIPER SEEKELL** is in her 2nd season with WMYB. Piper loves to spend time with her family and friends. Piper has been dancing from the age of four. Thank you for your support.



**LEAH SELLECK** is 14, in 8th grade at FHN Middle School, and attends Ada Dance Academy. This is her 10th year dancing and 10th WMYB performance. She extends her thanks to her WMYB friends, as well as to the parent volunteers, Mrs. Laura, and Mrs. Jessica, for all the hard work they put into the shows to make them successful.



**MADELEINE STAUFFER** is 11 years old and is in 6th grade at Northern Trails 5/6. This is her 9th year of dance and her 4th season with WMYB. Madeleine enjoys reading, playing the violin, and spending time with family, friends and her dog, Finn. Thank you to all her amazing dance teachers their love and support.



**JOSIE SULKA** is a 12th grader at Forest Hills Northern High School. She dances at Ada Dance Academy and this is her 9th and final year with WMYB. She plans to pursue a degree in Dance and Kinesiology after high school. She would love to thank her dance teachers, friends, and family for all their love and support.



**MOLLY TATE** is a 12 year old 6th grade Homeschooler. She has been dancing for 5 years at Ada Dance Academy. This is her 5th show with WMYB. She enjoys playing the piano, gel nails, and hanging out with her 2 cats. Molly thanks God for her talent, and family, friends, and teachers for their support.



**BAILEY TAYLOR** is a 12-year-old homeschooler. She celebrates her second time with WMYB as well as the opportunity to dance as a Party Girl. Bailey would like to dedicate her dances to Mimi - who encourages her during practices and honor her Grandma Jill - who is cheering her on from heaven this year.



**LEILA THOMPSON** is an 8th grader at Northern Hills Middle School. She has been dancing since she was 3 years old and this is her second year with WMYB! She enjoys playing the flute, baking, and traveling the world!

## WMYB DANCERS



**OLIVIA TRUSZKOWSKI** is in 4th grade at Rockford. She dances at Rockford Dance Company with their competition team. This is her 1st year with WMYB. Olivia loves hanging out with friends and family. She thanks her mom for supporting her, stepdad for countless rides to practice, and friends and family for their love and support.



**DEIDRA UZARSKI** is 14 years old and in 9th grade at Lowell. She has danced with Ada Dance Academy for 10 years. This is her 2nd *Nutcracker* with WMYB. Deidra always inspires others to do their best. She is active in Youth Group and Girl Scouts. She thanks her family, friends, instructors, and God for their support.



**EVELYN UZARSKI** is 16 years old and in her junior year of high school. She has been dancing for 12 years. This will be her 4th show with WMYB in *The Nutcracker*. Evelyn also participates in her high school's dance team.



**MORGAN VANDERWAGEN** is a 6th grader at Allendale Middle School and has danced at West Michigan Elite Pom and Dance for 10 years. She loves hip-hop and ballet. She is excited to perform in this year's *Nutcracker!* Morgan is grateful for her family and dance teachers, who inspire her passion for dance.



**ALLISON VANDERVEEN** is a 4th grader at Ada Elementary. Allison has been dancing for 7 years, primarily at Hearts in Motion. She's excited for her first *Nutcracker* performance! Allison would like to thank her parents, dance teachers, and her two adorable cats.

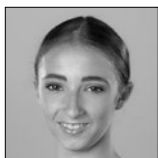


**REESE VANWAGONER** is 10 years old and has been dancing since she was 2 years old at Dance Dimensions. This year, Reese is on the Senior Novice Competition team. Reese also enjoys acting and singing and will perform in her school's production of *The Wizard of Oz* this fall. This is her first year with WMYB.



**OLIVIA VELICEVIC** is 11 years old and a 6th Grader at Central Woodlands. She is in her 5th year of competition at Studio Dance. She is very excited to play a Party Girl in *The Nutcracker!* She will also be taking part in the Forest Hills Central Middle School Dance Team. Olivia is thankful for her dance teachers, family and friends!

## WMYB DANCERS



**MAJA VIDINLIC** is a senior at Forest Hills Central. She has been dancing since age 2. She dances at Imprint Dance Co. and on the Forest Hills Central Varsity Dance Team. Her favorite styles of dance are Lyrical and Contemporary. This is Maja's 4th *Nutcracker* for WMYB.



**LIV VIEGELAHN**, age 13, from Whitehall, has danced for 10 years in ballet, contemporary, and jazz. She performed in *The Nutcracker* with MYBT for nine seasons, including Clara and Dew Drop Fairy, and in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. When not dancing, she enjoys volleyball and lake activities. This is her WMYB debut.



**VANESSA WARD** is 15 years old. She has been dancing since age 3 and on pointe for 4 years. She dances at Grand Rapids Ballet and Dance Dimensions. This is her 4th *Nutcracker* with WMYB. She enjoys baking and cooking. Thanks to her friends, family, and dance teachers who have supported her.



**CHARLOTTE WATSON** is a 7th grader at Central Middle School. Dancing since age 3, she is honored to compete with Ada Dance Academy. She is an amazing big sister to her three younger siblings. She's grateful to family and friends for all their support and is truly inspired by all her amazing teachers.



**LEXIE WHITE** is in 7th grade at Northpointe Christian and trains at Michigan Ballet Academy. She also attended The Royal Ballet School and School of American Ballet intensives this year. She thanks God for her talent, her dance teachers, and family for supporting her dreams of professional ballet.



**ALEXA WILSON** is a 7th grader at City High Middle School. She dances at Ada Dance Academy and this is her 4th show with WMYB. In her spare time, she enjoys playing sports, camping, and snuggling with her guinea pigs. She wishes to thank her dance instructors and her family for all of their support.



**KENDALL WISNIEWSKI** is 17 years old and in 11th grade at Kenowa Hills. She has been dancing for 15 years. Kendall is currently taking classes at Academy of Dance Arts and Ada Dance Academy. She thanks her instructors for believing in her and helping her grow, and her parents for their support.

## WMYB DANCERS



**KATE WISSER** is 16 years old and in 11th grade at City High Middle School. She has been dancing for almost 10 years and currently dances at Ada Dance Academy. This is her 9th year with WMYB. She also enjoys playing soccer and hanging out with friends and family.



**OLIVIA WISSER** is in 7th grade at City High Middle School. This is her 4th year dancing with WMYB. When not dancing, she enjoys playing soccer, hanging out with friends and reading. She would like to thank God, her teachers and her family for their support.



**ELLA YENCHAR** is 17 years old and a junior at Ionia High School. She has danced at Ada Dance Academy for 10 years and WMYB for 8 years. She attended Cincinnati Ballet's summer intensive the past two summers. She would like to thank her teachers, family, and friends for all of their support.



*We are so grateful to these studios for sharing their talented students with WMYB.*

Academy of Dance Arts

Ada Dance Academy

Avalon School of the Arts

Body Language Dance Company

Center Stage Dance Academy

Dance Dimensions

David Matthews Studio

Fine Arts School of Dance

Flat River Dance Company

Grand Rapids Ballet School

Hearts in Motion Dance

HIS Dance Academy

Imprint Dance Co.

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