

# Summary of Volunteer Opportunities for *The Nutcracker*

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Milwaukee Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* involves nearly 150 students. These students bring worlds of joy to the performance, but to coordinate all these students in the performance, extensive assistance is needed from parent volunteers. We hope you will consider giving time to this year's production. **Only after your volunteer application is approved will you receive the sign-up link(s).** Initially, parents/guardians may sign up for one of each opportunity available. After the initial sign-up period, parents/guardians may volunteer for any remaining open slots. In late November, other volunteers that are not parents/guardians of student cast members may sign up for remaining open slots. Descriptions of each available opportunity is below.

## Backstage Volunteers – All Student Cast Roles, except “Friends”

Backstage volunteers work with the student cast at the theater. This is an exciting way to see the performance from a unique point of view and get a glimpse of the behind-the-scenes action. Volunteers are responsible for supervising students while in dressing rooms and assisting with costumes. Student cast members must adhere to posted guidelines and these guidelines are to be enforced by volunteers. Volunteers are able to watch their group perform from backstage. Female backstage volunteers are needed for all roles. A male volunteer is needed for each show when boys are scheduled to perform. Backstage volunteers arrive 15 minutes prior to the arrival time of the role for which they are volunteering and depart after the students in their group are dismissed.

## Check-out – All Roles

While the staff is running the show backstage, a volunteer is needed to check students out at the stage door as they are dismissed after dancing. This is a quiet place to sit and get personal work done between waves of students leaving. The staff will take over for the rush after the show. The Check-out volunteer arrives to the stage door at the start of the performance and remains until the staff member arrives as the show ends.

## Boutique Volunteers – All roles

**Complete Boutique volunteer details, sign ups, and training information will be distributed and managed by Milwaukee Ballet's Marketing & Development teams.**

Milwaukee Ballet offers a wonderful Boutique where patrons can shop for Ballet and other holiday merchandise. A large team of volunteers is needed for this effort. Boutique volunteers arrive 105 minutes before the show to allow ample time to train on our POS system and merchandise layout. Volunteers will work pre-show, during intermission and for about 30 minutes after the show to complete purchases. Boutique volunteers may view the show from house seats in the back of the theatre at no cost, as seating availability allows.

## Promotional Outreach – varies based on event

In November and December, several promotional opportunities will be available to market *The Nutcracker* through the Milwaukee-metro area such as the Whitefish Bay Holiday Parade, Holiday Tree Lightings, etc. As the details are available for each of these events, roles eligible to participate will be contacted. Everyone in the role needed will be eligible to participate on a first-come, first-served basis until all spots are filled.