

# Nutcracker Tea Party Frequently Asked Questions

## **What does the Nutcracker Tea Party benefit?**

Friends of Overland Park Arts support public art and performance in Overland Park. The group is committed to growing arts and culture in our community. The Nutcracker Tea Party is in its sixth year and is the Friends' major fundraiser. Proceeds support public art installations, exhibits and performances throughout the year.

## **Who dances in the show?**

All dancers are students at the Legacy School of the Arts and range in age from 9-18. The dancers audition for their roles and practice for months prior to the performances. Many of the girls with Ballet Legacy train five or six days a week and perform at events throughout the year. Legacy also offers classes in drama, music and voice.

## **I'd like to buy tickets. When do they go on sale?**

If you've attended the Nutcracker Tea Party in the past three years, you'll have the opportunity to buy tickets in July. Ticket sales to the public begin in early September. Seating at the parties is reserved in the order in which the tickets are purchased with sponsors at the front of the room. And . . . the parties sell out early!!! Don't wait to order. Parties will begin to sell out before Thanksgiving.

## **How do I get seats in the first few rows?**

If you'd like the best seats, become a Clara's Dream Sponsor, Holiday Party Sponsor or Pirouette Patron (all levels of sponsorship are outlined on the website). Sponsors receive seating for 10, and Patrons receive seating for 5. If you'd like great seats and can't fill half a table, we've added single patron seats at \$75. Please note we do not discount children's tickets at this level and a portion of your ticket purchase is tax deductible.

## **Would my son and husband enjoy the event?**

Absolutely, it's a family-friendly event enjoyed by all.

## **How many seats are at a table?**

We can only accommodate ten at a table (highchairs included).

## **I'd like to be sure to sit with my friends. How do I make that happen?**

When you order tickets, please let us know (and have your friends let us know as well). While we do our best to make sure everyone's accommodated, if you'd like to be guaranteed, order all the seats at one time and coordinate with your friends and family.

## **How should we dress?**

It's a party, so come dressed for the holidays. You'll see a little bit of everything from dressy pants outfits to little girls decked out in velvet and taffeta. Don't have a tiara? You can buy one at the boutique along with dozens of other Nutcracker items.

## **May I bring my camera?**

Of course, but we ask that you refrain from flash photography during the performance to protect our dancers. There's plenty of opportunity to get pictures with the dancers – as they stroll among the guests during the tea party before the performance – and we have a photo booth set-up if you'd like to purchase more formal photos.

## **Will the children be able to see the performance?**

Absolutely! We reserve an open space in front of the stage for the children to watch the performance after the tea party portion of the event.

## **My children are young. May I sit in the front with them?**

While all children are allowed to sit in front of the stage, we require that parents return to their seats. We have security set up around the area and if a child starts to search for a parent, we have volunteers assigned to help them. Be sure to let your children know your table number to make it easy to find you if need be.

## **What else can I expect?**

We have a silent auction that's perfect for holiday shopping. You can get some great deals on sports memorabilia, gift certificates and children's items. Come prepared to shop.