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The Nutcracker Ballet

Live music by
The Polar Bear Orchestra,
featuring the Snowflake Chorus



December 21 & 22, 2024 at 2 pm

Temple of Music & Art 330 s. Scott Ave





Presents

The Nutcracker

Music by

**Choreography by the Founding Artistic
Directors Joseph Rodgers & Soleste Lupu**

Saturday, & Sunday

December 21 22, , 2024

Temple of Music and Art

330 s. Scott Avenue Tucson, AZ

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HOW TO ENJOY LIVE THEATRE

Let's share the excitement of live theatre together! When young people attend a live theatrical performance for the first time they often do not realize how different it is from watching a movie, YouTube video, or a television show. Because the performers and audience are together in the same room, they are creating the event together. The performers can see and hear the audience just as the audience can see and hear them. A live presentation has not been pre-recorded, with the mistakes taken out, which means it's riskier for the performers and more exciting for the audience. It also means the audience has a real contribution to make the overall experience enjoyable. Audience members affect those around them as well as the performers. The more the audience "gives" to the performers, the more the performers can give back to the audience. Remember, without the audience, there would be no show! Live theatre is successful because of the efforts of many people working together. Listening, laughing and applaud Clapping in the appropriate places is welcomed and greatly appreciated by performers. They are the signs of a good audience.

**The Audience • The Technical Crew • The House Manager •
The Ushers • The Performers**

Talking or texting during a performance is distracting. Ushers have been instructed to ask anyone creating a distraction to leave the theater.

- No hats or chewing gum in the theatre; these must be removed upon entering the lobbies.
- Trips to the bathroom should be taken before and after the performance, or during intermissions.
- Please encourage your young children to listen to the ushers carefully when being seated and when leaving the theatre. The ushers are trained to ensure the comfort and safety of the audience.

There is no photography of any kind allowed during the performance ushers may ask you to leave the performance.



For the safety of all dancers, and to abide by copyright laws we ask that you do not take any flash photography or cell phone pictures or video's during the performance. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Thank you for your support

**This production and others was made possible in part,
by the following individuals and Foundations :**



Eliot Spalding Foundation

Mary Anne Stubbs Trust and Michelle Stubbs

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Dale Lupu-Gladstein & Richard Gladstein

Jarold & Jana Lupu

The Kasser Family Foundation

HISTORY OF THE NUTCRACKER BALLET



The Nutcracker ballet, cherished by audiences worldwide, premiered on December 18, 1892, at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia. The story, adapted from E.T.A. Hoffmann's *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*, was choreographed by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, with a legendary score composed by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Though its debut received mixed reviews, the ballet grew into one of the most beloved holiday traditions of all time. The enchanting tale begins at a lively holiday party, where young Clara (or Marie, in some versions) receives a nutcracker doll from her mysterious and magical Uncle Drosselmeyer. That night, under Drosselmeyer's spell, the Nutcracker comes to life, leading Clara on an extraordinary journey. Together, they battle the fearsome Mouse King and venture to the Land of Sweets, where the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier perform dazzling dances to celebrate their victory.

Although *The Nutcracker* initially found modest success in Russia, it wasn't until the mid-20th century that it became a global sensation. Productions by the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and George Balanchine's 1954 staging for the New York City Ballet helped establish it as a holiday staple in the United States and beyond.

Today, *The Nutcracker* is performed by ballet companies around the world, bringing communities together to celebrate its timeless themes of magic, imagination, and holiday joy.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was commissioned to write the score for this ballet by the director of Moscow's Imperial Theatres. While in the process of composing the score, Tchaikovsky discovered a newly invented instrument called the celesta. The celesta looks like a piano, but uses metal bars instead of piano strings. These metal bars make it sound like a music box. Tchaikovsky immediately knew this instrument had to be incorporated into his ballet about a magical land. This instrument is what you hear in the bell-like melody of the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy. (You'll also recognize this sound in the first notes of "Hedwig's Theme" from *Harry Potter*.)

DANCE VOCABULARY

Ballet: A highly refined Western European art form dating back to the courts of sixteenth-century France (Catherine de Medici and Louis XIV). Ballet is characterized by a desire to defy gravity (jumps, leaps, and rising on the toes). Balance and verticality, symmetry, clearly defined roles for men and women, and a hierarchical structure (prima ballerina or soloist vs. corps de ballet or chorus) reflect the European court that gave birth to it. Dance

Technique: The method which dancers use to develop and maintain their bodies as expressive and articulate instruments. All artists must explore and gain control of their materials. Dance technique involves exercises and dance movements that promote strength, flexibility, balance, control, speed, and articulation. It is also a way for the dancer to test the limits and range of his or her physical abilities and artistic expression.

Choreography: The process through which a dance is created. It involves both creativity and craftsmanship. While the choreographer's vision guides the dance, many dances are the result of the combined efforts and ideas of the choreographer and the dancers (performers) with whom they work. Choreographers draw their inspiration from many sources, including everyday life, the natural world, relationships (family, peers, etc.), social and political events, dreams, images, and memories.

FOUNDERS/ARTISTIC DIRECTORS



Soleste Lupu-Rodgers is a Tucson native and by her own admission she has been dancing for any audience she could find since she was 2 years old. Soleste received her early ballet training at Maria Morton's Tucson academy of dance. Later she trained under the direction of Ismet Mouhedine, George Zoritch, Danseur Noble of the famed Ballet Russe, Jose Valenzuela, Stephanie Steigher and Neil Cowey. Soleste is versed in both the Royal Academy of Dancing syllabus and the Vaganova syllabus. Mrs. Lupu has received additional professional training in jazz dance, operatic and musical theater. In the 1980's She performed with the Arizona Light Opera Company (SALOC) and the University of Arizona College of Fine Arts Music and Dance programs, as well as playing viola with the UA Symphony Orchestra. Later, she choreographed and performed in productions of "Babes in Arms" and "Macbeth" in South Korea and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. She has been with numerous regional dance companies across the west coast before retiring from performance and starting Dancing In the Streets AZ with her husband Joseph Rodgers.

Joseph Rodgers' energetic style and motivational talent have translated well as he moved from performer to teacher. As performed with LaMond Dance Ensemble in Tacoma, Washington. She and Joseph received additional teacher training from the Finish Jhung teaching program in New York. As Co-Founder of Dancing in the Streets Arizona, Soleste works with her husband Joseph to help Tucson's children experience the joy, creativity and self-expression that comes with the serious study of ballet. She also employs skills gained from her eclectic professional background to run the business side of the studio, without neglecting important duties such as stuffing lamb's wool into toe shoes and coaxing fly-away hair into killer ballet buns. After spending years helping low-income families through public policy and advocacy work, Soleste sees Dancing in the Streets AZ as a way for children and families to discover a lifelong love for ballet and the arts. Most recently Joseph and Soleste were selected as Arts Heroes by ON Media for 2018-19 season. Joseph Rodgers and his wife Soleste Lupu received the 2014 Dance Teacher of the Year award from Discount Dance Supply. They also received 2016, 2021 Community Service Awards from Council Member Richard Fimbres office Ward V. Joseph Rodgers, Co-Founder/Artistic Director Tucson native Joseph Rodgers began dance studies at the age of seven, when he was "discovered" at St. Ambrose School by Maria Morton of the Tucson Academy of Dancing and offered a full scholarship to train in the Royal Academy of Dancing syllabus. George Zoritch, danseur noble of the famed Ballet Russe, was another early architect of Joseph's career, offering wisdom and encouragement as he grew in his profession. Rodgers received a second scholarship to continue his training with the San Francisco Ballet School. For the past 25 years, he has performed with companies such as the Arizona Dance Theater, Ballet Arizona, Feld Ballet New York, Ballet Chicago and Milwaukee Ballet. His final appearance was in a 2004 PBS-televized performance of Der Fledermaus with the Washington National Opera directed by Placido Domingo an at-risk child himself, he is proud to be able to give back to the community that helped him see another, better way of life and to help others do the same.



THE NUTCRACKER BALLET STORY OUTLINE

Act I AT THE STAULBAUM'S VICTORIAN PALACE

The Stahlbaums, Clara's family are prominent members of the community and host an festive annual winter holiday party. Guests fill the house with music, dancing, and cheer. Clara's mysterious and magical godfather, Herr Drosselmeyer, arrives with magical gifts, including a beautifully life sized ballerina and Soldier dolls, and a hand crafted Nutcracker doll for Clara. When her mischievous brother Fritz accidentally breaks the Nutcracker, Drosselmeyer repairs it, much to Clara's delight.

Scene 2: The Battle

As midnight strikes, Clara falls asleep on the couch with her beloved Nutcracker doll. Suddenly, her magical godfather Herr Drosselmeyer appears and the room transforms: the tree grows to enormous size, and toys come to life. The Nutcracker leads an army of toy soldiers against the fearsome Mouse King and his army. With Clara's bravery and quick thinking, the Mouse King is defeated, and the Nutcracker is victorious.

Scene 3: The Land of Snow

The Nutcracker transforms into a handsome Prince and invites Clara to journey with him. Together, they travel through an enchanting snowy forest, greeted by the graceful Snow Queen and her shimmering snowflakes.

Act 2 : The Kingdom of Sweets

Clara and the Nutcracker Prince arrive in the magical Land of Sweets, ruled by the elegant Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. The Nutcracker Prince recounts their adventure, and in their honor, the Sugar Plum Fairy hosts a spectacular celebration of dances from around the world. Each dance brings a holiday treat from their land

- Spanish Dance (Chocolate) – A spirited and bold offering from Spain.
- Arabian Dance (Coffee) – A rich and exotic delight from the Middle East.
- Candy Canes – A dazzling and joyful treat symbolizing the holiday season.
- Mirlitons (Marzipan) – A sweet and cheerful almond confection from Europe.
- Chinese Dance (Tea) – A light and delicate treat from China.
- Russian Dance (Trepak) – A vibrant and energetic gift from Russia.
- Waltz of the Flowers – A breathtaking bouquet of flowers with the Dew Drop Fairy.

The Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier perform a breathtaking pas de deux, the crowning jewel of the celebration. As the festivities conclude, Clara bids farewell to the magical Land of Sweets. She wakes at home on her couch, left to wonder if it was all a dream or a glimpse into a magical world.



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Polar Bear Club Orchestra Musical Director



Chris Tackett is a Masters Degree graduate of Indiana University. He has been involved with many different instrumental and vocal ensembles all over the country. He was the AD of Desert Voices (the LGBTQ community chorus in Tucson) from 2002-2013, the director of music at Temple Emanu-El in Tucson from 2007-2016, and director of music at Saguaro Christian Church from 2000-2010. While working for these organizations he composed, edited, or arranged much of the music that they performed.

As a composer and arranger he has worked for many groups around the world including the Gregg Smith Singers, the BBC Big Band and Concert Orchestra, and the Brodsky Quartet. His clients have included Dave Brubeck and George Shearing. For over fifteen years he served as music librarian and archivist for Mr Shearing. Mr Tackett has also discovered that writing about himself in the third person makes it sound a lot less like bragging.

Polar Bear Club Orchestra

Violin I

Lincoln Brown, Samantha Gardner
Abby Mize

Violin II

Chris Byron, Teresa Finley
Amy Osmun

Cello

Steve Bryan, Jenna

MedlynHarp/Celesta

Jose Solorzano

Timpani

Russell Turner,

Bassoon

Dave Stewart

Horn

Marcia Molter

Trumpet

Michael Kiefer

Percussion

Joel Yelland, Monica Bauer

Flute-Piccolo

Mike Padilla
Fran Moskovitz
Laurie Mering

Oboe-English horn

Grace Yelland
James Meyer

Clarinet

Pat Montoya, Cedric de Klerk

Snowflake Chorus



Soprano

Kathi VanOs, Layni Drenfeld,
Dale Whitmore-Choir Director

Alto

LynnRae Lowe



About our Guest Artists:



Alejandro Ozuna, a talented ballet dancer and native of Tucson, Arizona, received his training from Dancing In The Streets AZ, a diverse and inclusive non-profit ballet school. He further honed his craft through a Summer Intensive with State Street Ballet in Santa Barbara, California. In addition to his dedication to dance, Alejandro is a proud member of the color guard in the University of Arizona's marching band, showcasing his artistry and versatility. He is currently attending Pima Community College in Tucson, balancing his passion for performance with his academic pursuits.



Kaila Stoglin was born dancing and began her formal study of ballet at the age of five. She has performed with Dancing in the Streets AZ every year since then. "Nutcracker is my favorite season," she says with a smile. From a baby at the party, to Clara, corps de ballet, and Snow Queen, she has loved bringing each of her Nutcracker roles to life, especially that of the Sugar Plum Fairy. "The 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy' fills the stage with magic," she explains. "Bringing that to life is an amazing privilege." She is extremely grateful to be a guest artist in Dancing in the Streets Arizona's production of The Nutcracker leading role with Alejandro. "DITSAZ has an extraordinary mission that I am honored to share."



For the safety of all dancers, and to abide by copyright laws we ask that you do not take any flash photography or cell phone pictures or video's during the performance. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Thank You To Our Community Guests:

A huge thank you to those who stepped out of their comfort zone and volunteered to be a part of our Nutcracker words can't express our gratitude!!! We at Dancing In The Streets hope you had fun!!



THE NUTCRACKER BALLET CAST

Act I AT THE STAULBAUM'S VICTORIAN PALACE

CLARA: SATURDAY: AUBRIANA ROBERTS SUNDAY: MASINA DANIEL
FRITZ (CLARA'S BROTHER): JOSH STOGLIN
AMBASSADOR & MRS. STAHLBAUM: (CLARA AND FRITZ'S PARENTS) THOM LEWIS, DALE WHITMORE
GODFATHER HERR DROSSELMAYER : JOSEPH RODGERS
MAIDS: LEYLA MIRANDA, ANGELINA RIVERA
ADULT PARTY GUESTS: LYNNE RAE ROSE, SCOTT ROSMAIER, DAVID NEVINS, KIKI ROGERS,
(SATURDAY) KAILA STOGLIN, (SUNDAY) LEA ANDERSON, AL STEINBERG

FLOPPY DOLLS: SATURDAY: IVY BEAUDRY SUNDAY: ELSIE VANDER WOUDE
BALLERINA DOLL: SATURDAY: LEA ANDERSON SUNDAY: MARISELLA MOLINA
SOLDIER DOLL: ALEX OZUNA
PARTY GIRLS-BALLET 3: GIULIANA GUIFFRE BALLET 2.5's JOSEPHYNA BEGOODY, MAISIE SHARP,
ELSIE VANDER-WOUDE , IVY BEAUDRY, MARCELINE BEAUDRY, AYIANA FELIX, BALLET 2'S: SOFIA
GRIJALVA, NATHALIA GOMEZ, LEYNA MIRANDA Party Parents:

BATTLE SCENE

BABY MICE -BALLET 1'S: VALENTINA PULIDO, FREYAH BUTCHER, MELODY MORALES, VERA
OROZCO, DAMIANA PATRICK, KIDA VALVERDE, KARINA VANDER-WOUDE, ADELIN FLORES

RAT QUEEN: ALONDRA AVALOS
NUTCRACKER/PRINCE: JOSHUA STOGLIN

BIG MICE-BALLET 2.5's: JOSEPHYNA BEGOODY, MAISIE SHARP, ELSIE WOUDE, IVY BEAUDRY,
MARCELINE BEAUDRY, AYIANA FELIX, BALLET 2'S: SOFIA GRIJALVA, NATHALIA GOMEZ, LEYNA
MIRANDA

TOY SOLDIERS - BALLET 3's: MASINA DANIEL, KIRA LEWANDOWSKI-PAGAS, DEBORAH RAMON,
AUBRIANA ROBERTS, ALEXANDRA ARELLANO, GIULIANA GUIFFRE, AMI POXTAN

WINTER WONDERLAND (SNOW)

SNOW QUEEN & SNOW KING: TERAH ROSMAIER, ALEX OZUNA

PIXIE SNOW FARIES - BALLET 1'S: VALENTINA PULIDO, FREYAH BUTCHER, MELODY MORALES, VERA
OROZCO, DAMIANA PATRICK, KIDA VALVERDE, KARINA VANDER-WOUDE, ADELIN FLORES

SNOW FLAKES-BALLET 4'S: ALONDRA AVALOS, MIKAYLA JOHNSON, LEYLA MIRANDA, ANGELINA
RIVERA, ZAMIRAH YODEL, ADULTS: LEA ANDERSON, MARISELA MOLINA, ARDEN MOORE, KAILA
STOGLIN, SEWAILO VAI SEVOI, MARISELLA MOLINA

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET CAST

Act 2 KINGDOM OF SWEETS PALACE

OVERTURE : KINGDOM OF SWEETS
Entry of Clara and the Nutcracker Prince, Sugar Plum fairy and other dances

DIVERTISSEMENTS

CHOCOLATE (SPANISH DANCE)
SOLOIST: SEWAILO VAI SEVOI

ALEXANDRA ARELLANO, MASINA DANIEL, AMI POXTAN, DEBORAH RAMON, LEYLA MIRANDA KIRA
LEWANDOWSKI-PARGAS, AUBRIANA ROBERTS, ZAMIRAH YODEL

COFFEE (ARABIAN DANCE)
LEA ANDERSON, MARISELLA MOLINA

CANDY CANES (MOTHER GISSONE)
SOFIA GRIJALVA, NATHALIA NAZARETH, LEYNA MIRANDA, MAISIE SHARP

MIRLITONS (MARZIPAN)
ALEXANDRIA ARELLANO, ARDEN MOORE, LEYLA MIRANDA, MIKAYLA JOHNSON, ANGELINA
RIVERA, ZAMIRAH YODEL

TREPAK: RUSSIAN DANCE
ALONDRA AVALO, TERAH ROSMAIER, JOSHUA STOGLIN

TEA (CHINESE DANCE)
BALLET 2.5's JOSEPHYNA BEGOODY, ELSIE WOUDE, IVY BEAUDRY, MARCELINE BEAUDRY, AYIANA
FELIX, GIULIANA GUIFFRE

WALTZ OF THE FLOWERS
DEW DROP FAIRY: ALONDRA AVALOS

FLOWER CORPE: BALLET 4'S LEYLA MIRANDA, MIKAYLA JOHNSON, ANGELINA RIVERA, TERAH
ROSMAIER, ZAMIRAH YODEL, ADULTS: LEA ANDERSON, MARISELA MOLINA, ARDEN MOORE,
SEWAILO VAI SEVOI,

BALLET 3'S- ALEXANDRA ARELLANO, MASINA DANIEL, GIULIANA GUIFFRE, KIRA LEWANDOWSKI-
PAGAS, DEBORAH RAMON, AUBRIANA ROBERTS, AMI POXTAN

PAS DE DEUX: SUGAR PLUM FAIRY & CAVALIER
SUGAR PLUM FAIRY: KAILA STOGLIN CAVALIER: ALEJANDRO OZUNA

FINALE- ALL CAST

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF
DANCING IN THE STREETS AZ**

In the Seventeen years since our studio was opened, the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization known as Dancing in the Streets Arizona has provided for the children of South Tucson, and the greater Tucson area opportunities that were once beyond their wildest dreams. You can be proud of your own role in helping with this remarkable transformation. In the process of applying themselves to the study of dance, kids who might otherwise be making poor life choices are beginning to realize that through hard work and personal discipline anything is possible. One of the rewards of diligence and focus has been the thrill of performing a classic full-length story ballet in costume.

To recap our brief history, Dancing in the Streets AZ is both a well-appointed ballet studio and a laboratory for success. Founded by husband and wife team Soleste Lupu-Rodgers and Joseph Rodgers, who met in ballet school in Tucson, in the early 1970's. They Started the school with a modest sum of money received in celebration of their wedding, our South Tucson program is dedicated to helping non-traditional ballet students, and low-income families assume personal responsibility for their future through the discipline of dance and the teamwork of performance. We are also committed to instilling a lifelong love of dance whether a performer or audience member.

Over the years we have been blessed with dedicated teachers—many of them volunteers from other parts of the country—who join us as their schedules permit to provide master classes and summer intensive training in modern, jazz, ballet, and Pilates movement. More than 100 students ages 3 to adult, boys and girls, are enrolled in each of our sessions. We hope you will want to see this program for yourself on our web site: www.ditsaz.org.

DITSAZ AWARDS AND RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- DITSAZ received Business of the Year award from Blue Cross Blue Shield in March 2020
- DITSAZ students accepted with full scholarship into a summer intensive ballet program at the Prestigious State Street Ballet School,
- Founders/Artistic Directors, Joseph Rodgers and Soleste Lupu, selected as On/Medias 2018-2019 Arts Heroes.
- DITSAZ was nominated in 2017 & 2018 for the Metro Chamber Copper Cactus Awards,
- Founders/Artistic Directors, Joseph Rodgers and Soleste Lupu, were awarded Dance Teacher of the Year Award 2014 in a national competition of 600 nominees.
- Nominated for Governor's Arts Award 2014 Artist Category
- Tucson Pima Arts Council (TPAC) 2013 Lummie Award, Emerging Arts Organization
- League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Community Service Award 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2008 Living History Makers Award.
- DITSAZ was a host for Alonzo King Lines ballet Discovery Outreach community-wide workshop
- The nurturing of some students have enabled them to attend the University of Arizona and Pima Community College.



Special Note of Thanks to...

All those who volunteered, too numerous to mention, but without whom we would have been lost. All the local businesses who donated their services and time to help Dancing in the Streets Arizona. Thank you to the Dwight at the Gloo Factory for saving the program! Viviane Thompson, CPA for never letting us bounce a check.

Thank you to our board of directors, and all our past and present donors. Thank you to South Tucson Mayor and South Tucson City Council and staff, whose support is so greatly appreciated. Many thanks to City of Tucson Former Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, and current Mayor Regina Romero, staff and City Council, all our special community guests, thanks for your participation and enthusiasm! Huge Thank you to Paul Cunningham for

To our many past and present volunteers and parents, Roy & Yesenia Alvarez, Aurelio & Alica Cramer, Tenaya & Chris Rosmaier, Michael Daniel & Cynthia Qintero, Jan Hatunen, Carol Dupuis, among many others, words can't express our gratitude for all your hard work!

David Nevins, AJI you are truly a webmaster and you can dance too! Thank you Scott, Anna, & Christian Griessel, from CREATISTA for documenting our history and growth beautifully! Todd Poelstra, thank you for being a friend to Dancing in the Streets AZ., we cherish your Theatrical Technical expertise Jodi Horton thank you for all the word-smithing you have done! Special thank you to Pam Francis and Kacey Ernst for wisdom and help with grant writing. Thank you to Richard Moret, & David Slavin, thanks for your creative genius, and for passing your gift on to your students! Thank you to Lynne Rae and Wendi Farr of the Rose Petal Foundation.

Big shout of thanks to the staff of ATC and Temple of Music and Art Theater you guys are great! Thanks to all the media who helped us spread the word and fill the house for the students!! Big thank you to all of you sitting in the audience today enjoying the hard work these young people have put all year!

Special Note of Thanks to...



Special Thanks to Clayton Niles and Mary Westmoreland

We extend our deepest gratitude to Clayton Niles and Mary Westmoreland for their incredible generosity and unwavering support. Without your kindness and belief in our mission, we would not have a ballet studio space to provide lessons to our students.

Your contributions have made it possible for our community to experience the joy, discipline, and beauty of ballet in an inclusive and welcoming environment. You have helped us create a space where dreams take flight, and for that, we are forever grateful. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. With heartfelt appreciation,

The Dancing In The Streets AZ Team



How you can help

As we prepare to embark on a magical journey with Dancing in The Streets AZ Nutcracker program, we invite you to become an integral part of the enchantment by supporting our non-profit ballet school. Your generosity can make a significant impact and help us continue to spread the joy of dance and the arts in our community.

Make a Donation: Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a crucial role in sustaining our ballet school. Your financial support helps us provide scholarships, continue to grow so that we can enhance our dance programs, and maintain the high standards of excellence that define Dancing in The Streets AZ.

Sponsor a Dancer: Consider sponsoring a talented dancer in our program. Your sponsorship can cover the costs of training, costumes, and participation in events, ensuring that these aspiring artists can pursue their passion without financial barriers.

Spread the Word: Help us broaden our reach by sharing your enthusiasm for Dancing in The Streets AZ on social media, among friends, and within your community. Your voice can inspire others to join our cause and make a positive impact.

Attend Fundraising Events: Keep an eye out for our upcoming fundraising events. Your attendance not only supports us financially but also adds to the vibrancy of our community. These events are opportunities to connect with fellow supporters, artists, and the magic of dance.

As we celebrate the magic of The Nutcracker, let us also honor the incredible power of community and generosity. Together, we can ensure that Dancing In The Streets Arizona remains a beacon of inspiration, education, and artistic expression for years to come. If you'd like to support our mission, please consider making a donation or getting involved. Visit our website at www.ditsaz.org or contact us at (520) 607-8750 or slupul@cox.net. Prefer to send a check? Please make checks payable to Dancing In The Streets Arizona and mail them to:

Dancing In The Streets Arizona
6411 E. Brian Kent
Tucson, AZ 85710

Thank you for being a part of our dance family and for helping us keep the spirit of the Nutcracker alive in our community for everyone who wants to experience the art of ballet.

FOUNDERS/DIRECTORS' MESSAGE
Joseph Rodgers & Soleste Lupu-Rodgers



Thank you
All photos courtesy of
Scott, Christian & Anna Griessel,
CREATISTA Red Star Studio



Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health crisis, the arts community is still recovering financially. This year has been especially challenging for Dancing In The Streets AZ, and we are in urgent need of continued support to keep our mission alive. Thanks to your incredible generosity, we've been able to persevere and continue serving our community during these difficult times.

We deeply appreciate the support of donors, families, and our hardworking Board of Directors—David Adams and Sandy Emerson, your efforts are invaluable! Special thanks to arts advocates like Steve Farley, Senator Andrea Dalessandro, Congressman Raul Grijalva, Former Mayor Rothschild, Council Members Richard Fimbres and Paul Cunningham, the Pima County Board of Supervisors, and the South Tucson Mayor and Council for standing with us. A heartfelt shoutout to Todd Poelstra for volunteering his time and technical expertise that brings our performances to life!! To all the volunteers who coach and mentor our students.

Dancing In The Streets AZ exists because of your belief in our vision to transform lives through ballet. Together, we're creating a brighter future—one jeté at a time. Your support now is more critical than ever. Thank you for standing with us, and enjoy the show!

THANK YOU TO MEDIA ANGELS



Kristine Levine, & Frank, The World Famous Frank Show, KLPX 96.1 FM
Christopher DeSimone, Wake Up, Tucson show, 1030 KVOI AM
Zach Yentzer, Radio Talk Show Host at 1030 The Voice
Bill Buckmaster, The Buckmaster show 1030 KVOI AM radio
Fredd & Jeff Ronstadt, The Fred & Jeff Radio Show 104.1FM
Ben Bueler-Garcia The Daily Male Show 104.1 FM The Truth

James T. Harris
Daniel Buckley
Bob Lee

Heather Janssen, Erin Christianson, Andres Rendon, KOLD, Channel 13
Aalia Shaheed , KVOA Channel 4
Megan Thompson, KGUN Channel 9

Maria Powell TV show | Azteca America Tucson Channels Cox 61, Comcast 13

Matrix Media
Kathleen Allen

Dave Slavin & Rich Moret
Scott Barker & Anne Kellog, Tucson Lifestyle Magazine

Cathelena E. Burch, Claire Conrad, Mari Herreras,
Margaret Regan, & Henry Barajas, Tucson Weekly

Luis Carrion
Check Graham www.tucsonstage.com

Cathelena E. Burch , Arizona Daily Star -Callienté
Marcelino C. Flores , Pascua Yaqui Nation

Production Crew

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:
TODD POELSTRA, * Retired Pima
Community College, Technical Director,
Performing Art

SET DESIGN: SOLESTE LUPU/JOSEPH
RODGERS/TODD POELSTRA

PRODUCTION MANAGER,
COSTUME/PROGRAM DESIGN:
SOLESTE LUPU

COSTUME CREW: CYNTHIA QUINTERO,
YANIN ROBERTS, ROSA GUTIERREZ,
DANIELLE BEAUDRY

BACK STAGE CREW: CYNTHIA
QUINTERO & MICHAEL DANIEL,
TENAYA, CHRIS, & SCOTT ROSMAIER,
CARA LEWANDOWSKI-PARGAS, YANIN
ROBERTS, RACHEL EGGBEEN, &
OTHER PARENTS

BACK STAGE CONSTRUCTION CREW &
SECURITY: AL STEINBERG, MICHAEL
DANIEL, CHRIS & SCOTT ROSMAIER,
GEORGE PARGAS, RUSSELL & MATT
BEAUDRY, AND OTHER PARENTS

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR and SOUND:
ATC STAFF

CARRIAGE DECORATION:
TENEYA ROSMAIER, CYNTHIA
QUINTERO, DAHLIA MIRANDA, KAREN
MIRANDA

PHOTOGRAPHY:
CHRISTIAN GRIESSEL, CREATISTA

PROGRAM PINTING:
THE GLOO FACTORY



IN MEMORIAM

There are so many angels that the city of Tucson has lost we wanted to honor just a few amazing individuals who have not only been Dancing In the Streets AZ Angels but also to the Community of Tucson at large. When Marian Lupu died we lost an important part of our organization she was more than Board President she was, our fairy godmother, cheerleader, and not just our mother, but the community's mother! Marian was born Hannah Marian Koffman died August 14, 2016 at age 91. She married Charles Lupu in 1948 and settled in Tucson in 1966. She was the founding executive director of the Pima Council on Aging, serving 42 years until her retirement at age 82. After Charles' death in 2007, she began her "encore career" as board president of Dancing in the Streets Arizona.

Robert and Wanda Stauffacher both embraced the Tucson community when each moved here as young adults and their support of their churches and local charities lasted a lifetime, including legacy gifts to enrich Tucson for years to come. Wanda Stauffacher was a devoted foster parent, and went on to train and mentor foster parents, facilitate community-based parenting classes for grandparents, and conduct grief counseling groups and stroke support groups with her husband, Robert. As a board member of Tucson Clean and Beautiful, she took an active part in the Trees for Tucson program and initiated city-wide Stephen Ministries training in Tucson in the 1980s. She also volunteered as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for children). Robert S. Stauffacher passed into God's loving arms on August 3, 2020. He was reunited with his wife, Wanda, who passed away July 17, 2020. Bob and his parents moved to Tucson in the late 1950's and called it home ever since. For a period of time, he worked for Levy's Department Store as a luggage buyer. He then owned a candle and gift shop in the Casas Adobes Plaza called Wick-n-Wax. Bob had a strong faith and heard God's calling to start the Senior Adult Ministry program at Catalina United Methodist Church. With his compassionate and giving heart, he developed the program that cared for and ministered to the senior members of the congregation until he retired in 1998.

Scott Griessel, a beautiful and stellar Tucson photographer, passed away on December 1st, 2020 after a courageous 7-month battle with Glioblastoma. It is an understatement to say that Scott will be profoundly missed by those know him. Scott and Anna, owners of Creatista Films, Video and Photography, touched 1000's of lives in Tucson, across the country and world with their documentary and promotional work with 100's of non-profits, private and business clients as well as creating a massive stock photography library. To the person, Scott and Anna extended a kind and generous nature, providing stellar imagery and video with an unmatched professional work ethic.



IN MEMORIAM

OUR ANGEL IN HEAVEN

MRS. MARYANN STUBBS NO WORDS CAN DESCRIBE HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE TO YOU FOR HELP, LOVE, KINDNESS, HUMOR, SUPPORT, AND ADVICE!!! WE LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU

