

Greetings Dancers, Families, and Community:

This year has brought all of us some tremendous challenges and disparities due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Our world was flipped backwards, and our community faced many economic challenges along the way. We have seen many cancelled events here in Durango- some of those events being ones that have been held for years prior. As a part of this colorful town and community, I have come to love many of the events, live performances, and shows that have been put on hold this year due to the virus.

Artists and their industries have taken a major hit especially during these times. Yet, despite these challenges, many organizations and artists have persevered and continued to embrace the new reality in front of them. To reflect this determination, Durango Dance has decided to put on a collaborative show that highlights the many organizations and programs that make Durango great.

**And so, we welcome you to join us in creating a magical (Covid) Nutcracker 2020!**

Durango Dance will be holding video auditions for our upcoming Nutcracker performance beginning Today, **October 3, 2020** and will be accepting videos until **Friday, October 9, 2020**.

**In your Audition video and email please include:**

- Dancer's age, height, and girth measurement
- Please include your dancer performing 2 plies in each position, 4 tendus en croix, a first arabesque, 4 sautees in first position, 4 Echappe Sautees from fifth position, and a single pirouette on each side. (We will send a video demonstration of what this looks like).
- Please email your audition video to Amanda at [eleve@durangodance.com](mailto:eleve@durangodance.com) with the following in the subject line: **(Last Name, First Name) Nutcracker 2020 Audition**

**Things to note:**

- Auditions are open and free to anyone in our community ages 5-15 years old.
- Pricing for participation in our Covid Nutcracker 2020 is **TBD** but will include the cost of costuming, one digital copy of the performance, and two tickets to a catered live show and screening.
- Our guided audition video focuses on a few basic ballet skills. If you have other performance skills or talents, please include them after you have demonstrated the dance portion of the audition in your video. Additionally, some skills may be beyond your dancer (5 year olds are not expected to perform pirouettes!). Please only do what they feel comfortable performing.

**The commitment** - once auditions have been submitted and casting has been sent out, we'll ask you to commit to the following dates and rehearsals:

- October 10-November 7 will include at home rehearsal using a pre-recorded video

- November 7th and 8th (time TBD) - in-person (masked, social distanced) at Durango Dance or zoom rehearsals for those who feel more comfortable
- November 14th and 15th (time TBD) - in-person (masked, social distanced) at Durango Dance or zoom rehearsals for those who feel more comfortable
- November 21st (time TBD) - performances filmed in-person, individually at Durango Dance
- December 5th and 6th - Performance Showing

I am so thrilled to extend this invitation to the community, and look forward to watching all of the auditions that come our way. These auditions will not determine whether a child can participate. Rather, they will determine which number the dancer will perform in. We welcome all dancers of our community!

Video Demonstration: <https://youtu.be/UBvy9gTt8dQ>

Let the countdown to Nutcracker season begin!

Amanda McKovich  
Elevé Director  
Durango Dance