



Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe Contract 2023

Congratulations on being accepted into the Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe!

[Jackie Segledi](#)- Rehearsal Dance Educator
[Linda Kilponen](#)- Rehearsal Dance Educator
[Courtney Rottenberger](#)-Rehearsal Dance Educator
[Olivia Del Duca](#)-Communications

Throughout the season, all questions and communications should be made using:
Nutcrackersweetsgottadance@gmail.com

Emails are checked every Monday and Friday during the season. Please do not contact the main office with questions because they don't have information to answer your questions.

Important Goals and Purpose

The Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe is a community-based performance group which envelops young dancers in a world of culture, tradition, and holiday magic. As a team, we will create cherished moments and develop discipline. The dancers' cast will perform with the [Axelrod Contemporary Ballet Theater](#). This season we will be performing the first production of the [Polar Express at the Axelrod Performing Arts Center](#) in Deal Park, NJ on Saturday, December 9th at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 10th at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Cast A of Carol of the Bells Ballet, Dolls Ballet, Teddy Bears Acro, Penguins Jazz, The Polar Express, and Elves will perform on December 9th at 2pm and 7pm. Cast B of Carol of the Bells Ballet, Dolls Ballet, Teddy Bears Acro, Penguins Jazz, The Polar Express, and Elves will perform on December 10th at 1pm and 5pm. Hot Chocolate and Superheroes will perform in all four shows.

Choreographed by [Gabriel Chajnik](#), [The Polar Express](#), based on the beloved children's book by Chris Van Allsburg, is an inspiring theatrical journey of uplifting holiday music and exciting original choreography featuring the dancers of the [Axelrod Contemporary Ballet Theater](#) and the apprentices and students of Gotta Dance and the [Axelrod Academy](#). On Christmas Eve, a young boy embarks on a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express. Through dazzling dance scenes and heartwarming holiday songs, he learns about friendship, bravery, and the spirit of Christmas. With hot chocolate in hand, and snowy landscapes whizzing past the windows, he embarks on a fantastical journey to the North Pole meeting incredible characters that will make you dance in your seat.

Registration Instructions

Please register for Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe by Wednesday, October 4th by 8pm.

How to register: Log into your portal>Find Events>
Select Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe>Cart Checkout

Registration Fees: \$305



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Attendance Policy:

Rehearsals are mandatory. We understand that it is a challenge to juggle busy schedules, and that emergencies do arise, but please do NOT ask us for exceptions to these rules. Attendance is taken promptly at the start of rehearsals. Nutcracker rehearsals are planned to have no conflicts with other Gotta Dance companies like Immortal, Edge etc. and minimal dance class conflicts so that you can take advantage of all opportunities that we have to offer. Any dancer who has a class-rehearsal conflict will receive an excused absence from dance class.

One Excused Absence, Punctuality and Consequences

- Dancers are allowed ONE excused absence. Subsequent absences are considered unexcused and require immediate dismissal from the cast.
- If you participate in Immortal and your competition day conflicts with a rehearsal, you will need to use your excused absence for that rehearsal.
- Missing more than half of any rehearsal is equivalent to a no-show and will result in one absence.
- If your dancer tests positive for COVID or another significant illness like strep throat or the flu, then we require that you email a picture of your dancer's doctor's note. Your dancer must rehearse with their group over zoom if they feel up to it or they can watch rehearsal while resting. Their camera needs to be turned on for the entire rehearsal so that the Dance Educator can see them clearly. If they don't turn on their camera then your dancer will be counted as absent. If your dancer doesn't have a doctor's note then it will count as one excused absence.

New Excused Absence Form

If your dancer needs to use their one excused absence, please complete this form in advance.

[Click here for the excused absence form.](#)

Rehearsal Attire

Dancers are required to wear [Gotta Dance class attire](#) to all rehearsals.

Shoes and Tights

All dancers will be required to wear a specific style, and color of shoes and tights to ensure a uniform look on stage. The purchase of tights and/or shoes will be necessary if your dancer does not own the required item. Requirements vary based on role and will be addressed during the season.

Dancers can wear either ballet or jazz shoes to rehearsal for Hot Chocolate, Superheroes, The Polar Express and Elves and the specific shoe needed for the performance will be announced at a later date. Carol of the Bells Ballet and Dolls Ballet should wear ballet shoes to rehearsal. Penguins Jazz should wear jazz shoes to rehearsal. Teddy Bears Acro should be barefoot.

Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe Jackets

All dancers are required to purchase a team warm-up jacket to be worn backstage, for official pictures, and to showcase their team spirit! Dancers love wearing their team jackets to rehearsals and performances. Dancers will be able to try on jackets at rehearsal for sizing prior to purchasing. Purchase the team jacket for \$75 through your family portal. Dancers will be able to try on jackets at rehearsal for sizing prior to ordering. After dancers try on jackets, they will receive instructions on how to purchase their troupe jacket.



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Team Day

Team day includes, group rehearsal, holiday event, team building and run through of dances for the entire team.

Performance Day

Performance Day details are still being finalized and will be announced soon. A bus will be provided from Gotta Dance Bridgewater to Axelrod Performing Arts Center, timing TBD. Dancers must be picked up at Axelrod Performing Arts Center at the end of the day, there will not be a bus back to Gotta Dance.

Gotta Dance Behavior Policy

Gotta Dance is committed to providing a safe and supportive community that fosters a lifelong love for dance and creative expression. In order to guarantee that all of our dancers are able to best pursue their passion, we adhere to a [Gotta Dance Behavior Policy](#). Sometimes we experience a situation that appears to be rude or insensitive, but wouldn't necessarily qualify it as bullying. In this case we ask dancers to complete our [I Don't Know What To Do Form](#) which will allow us to begin a discussion with parties involved.

Should dancers feel that they are being bullied then we ask them to complete our [Report an Instance of Bullying form](#). We define bullying as any behavior; physical, verbal, written (either electronically or in person), that detrimentally targets another dancer. This behavior is described as bullying if it physically or emotionally harms a dancer, targets a dancer for any actual or perceived characteristic, or creates a hostile environment in the dance studio. Gotta Dance will not tolerate bullying in any form; physical, emotional, social or otherwise. As such, we have implemented a Zero Tolerance Bullying Policy. Dancers who bully others will be dismissed from Nutcracker s at the discretion of the director of Gotta Dance. Please refer to our [Anti-Bullying policy](#).

Photography/Video Release

By registering for the Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe, you give Gotta Dance, Inc. permission to publish in print, electronic, or video format the likeness or image of your child to be used for marketing purposes. You release all claims against Gotta Dance, Inc. and associated photographers with respect to copyright ownership and publication including any claim for compensation related to use of the materials.

Gotta Dance, Inc. will take cautionary steps to provide minimal identifying information and will not use specific street or mailing addresses, email addresses, or phone numbers. Signed release forms are not needed when subjects are in public places, such as fairgrounds, parades, or parks.



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Nutcracker Sweets Traveling Troupe Schedule 2023

Hot Chocolate and Superheroes

Saturday October 7, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday October 14, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday October 21, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday October 28, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday November 4, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday November 18, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Sunday November 19, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday December 2, 4:15pm-6:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Sunday December 3, TEAM DAY, 2:30pm-6:00pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Friday December 8 *Mandatory, 6:30pm-7:45pm [Martinsville Studio](#)
at 1924 Washington Valley Rd, Martinsville
Saturday December 9--Cast A Performances, 2pm and 7pm, Bus call time TBA
[Axelrod Performing Arts Center](#), 100 Grant Ave, Deal Park
Sunday December 10--Cast B Performances, 1pm and 5pm, Bus call time TBA
[Axelrod Performing Arts Center](#), 100 Grant Ave, Deal Park

Carol of the Bells/Dolls

Saturday October 7, 2:00pm-3:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday October 14, 2:00pm-3:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday October 21, 2:00pm-3:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday October 28, 2:00pm-3:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday November 4, 2:00pm-3:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
Saturday November 18, 2:00pm-3:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
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Teddy Bears Acro

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Penguins Jazz

Saturday October 7, 3:30pm-4:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) at 340 US 22 East, Bridgewater
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The Polar Express and Elves

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