



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Congratulations on being accepted into the Nutcracker Dance Ensemble!
For those of you new to the Nutcracker, the Gotta Dance team leaders are:

[Caroline Hidalgo](#), Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Director
Ella Blackmore, Nutcracker Rehearsal Educator
[Olivia Del Duca](#) & [Mandy Lekites](#), Communications

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

Emails are checked consistently during the season. Your questions will be answered quickly and efficiently through our dedicated Nutcracker Dance Ensemble email and all questions should be directed there instead of the Gotta Dance Office email.

Important Goals and Purpose

The Nutcracker Dance Ensemble aims to envelop young dancers into a world of culture, tradition, and holiday magic. As a team, we will create cherished moments and the Directors will strive to instill discipline, work ethic, and pursuit of excellence. Our journey will culminate in a production, which is approached and executed with the highest level of professionalism, joy, and pride, from backstage to onstage, in every aspect.

Registration Instructions

[Login to your Gotta Dance portal](#) > Browse > Events > Nutcracker Dance Ensemble > Cart Checkout
If you have been accepted into two roles please add event "Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Two Subjects."

Deadline to Register- Wednesday, September 30th by 8:00pm

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.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

One Excused Absence, Punctuality and Consequences

- Dancers are allowed ONE excused absence. Subsequent absences are considered unexcused and require immediate dismissal from the cast.
- We also have a policy that three tardies equals one absence. If dancers are more than five minutes late or leave more than five minutes early three times that will equal one absence.
- 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.

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.

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble 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. After dancers try on jackets, they will receive instructions on how to purchase their troupe jacket. Cost of for jacket is \$80.

Team Day Performance Run Through

The Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Team Day & run-through will be held on Sunday, November 22nd at the Bridgewater studio 340 Route 22 East, Bridgewater, NJ 08807. Cast A will rehearse 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B will rehearse: 3:00-5:15pm, & Full Cast will rehearse 2:00-5:15pm. Please mark this on your calendars.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Performance

Our Performance with the [Magical Christmas Ballet](#) will be held on Friday, December 4th at Raritan Valley Community College. Dancers must commit to the full day. Be prepared to arrive as early as 8:00am and stay through your showtime. Cast A will perform in the 4:00pm show and Cast B will perform in the 8:00pm show. Full Cast dancers will perform in both the 4:00pm & 8:00pm shows. Be sure to order your tickets as soon as possible as ticket sales are open to the public.

Ensemble Fees

1 subject fee- \$360/ 2 Subject fee- \$460 / This fee covers expenses related to the performance including rehearsal time, logistical coordination by staff, and any other fees incurred by Gotta Dance, and are non-refundable. Costumes are loaned by the [Nutcracker Magical Christmas Ballet](#). Performance tickets can be purchased through [Raritan Valley Community College Nash Theater \(RVCC\)](#)

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 Dance Ensemble, 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.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Snow Princesses

Saturday, October 3rd, 7:30-8:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 7:30-8:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 7:30-8:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 7:30-8:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 7:00-7:45pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm
[Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 7:00-7:45pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 7:00-7:45pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Dancers must commit to a full day. Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.

Snow Maidens

Saturday, October 3rd, 6:45-7:30pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 6:45-7:30pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 6:45-7:30pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 6:45-7:30pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 6:45-7:30pm, [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 4:15-5:00pm, [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 6:45-7:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 6:45-7:30pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 6:45-7:30pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Snow flakes

Saturday, October 3th, 5:15-6:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 5:15-6:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 5:15-6:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 5:15-6:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 5:15-6:00pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 5:00-5:45pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 5:15-6:00pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm at
[Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 5:15-6:00pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 5:15-6:00pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.

Mice

Saturday, October 3rd, 6:00-6:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 6:00-6:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 6:00-6:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 6:00-6:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 6:00-6:45pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 4:15-5:00pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 6:00-6:45pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm
[Bridgewater Studio](#)- **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 6:00-6:45pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 6:00-6:45pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Slavic Page

Saturday, October 3rd, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 3:45-4:30pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 3:30-4:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 4:30-5:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm
[Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 3:45-4:30pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 3:45-4:30pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.

French Page

Saturday, October 3rd, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 4:30-5:15pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 3:30-4:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 3:45-4:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm
[Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 4:30-5:15pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 4:30-5:15pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Chinese Page

Saturday, October 3rd, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 3:45-4:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 4:30-5:15pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 2:45-3:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 3:45-4:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm
[Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 4:30-5:15pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 4:30-5:15pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.

Spanish Page

Saturday, October 3rd, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 4:30-5:15pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 3:45-4:30pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 2:45-3:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 4:30-5:15p [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm
[Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 3:45-4:30pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 3:45-4:30pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Party Scene

Saturday, October 3rd, 7:30-8:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 10th, 7:30-8:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 7:30-8:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 7:30-8:30pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 7:45-9:15pm *NOTE TIME* [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Sunday, November 8th, 5:00-6:00pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 7:30-8:30pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Cast A 2:00-4:15pm, Cast B 3:00-5:15pm, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) - **TEAM DAY**
Monday, November 30th, 7:45-8:45pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Wednesday, December 2nd, 7:45-8:45pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Arabian Variation

Saturday, October 10th, 2:15-3:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)

Saturday, October 17th, 2:15-3:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)

Saturday, October 24th, 2:15-3:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#) Tuesday, November 3rd, 7:30-8:15pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

Saturday, November 21st, 2:15-3:00pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)

Sunday, November 22nd, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm [Bridgewater Studio](#) **TEAM DAY**

Wednesday, December 2nd, 7:30-8:15pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.

Chinese Variation

Saturday, October 10th, 2:15-3:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)

Saturday, October 17th, 2:15-3:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)

Saturday, October 24th, 2:15-3:00pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)

Tuesday, November 3rd, 4:30-5:15pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

Saturday, November 21st, 2:15-3:00pm at [Bridgewater Studio](#)

Sunday, November 22nd, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm at [Bridgewater Studio](#) **TEAM DAY**

Wednesday, December 2nd, 4:30-5:15pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.



Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Contract 2026

Nutcracker Dance Ensemble Schedule 2026

Slavic Variation

Saturday, October 10th, 3:00-3:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 3:00-3:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 3:00-3:45pm [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 3:45-4:30pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 3:00-3:45pm [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm at [Bridgewater Studio](#) **TEAM DAY**
Wednesday, December 2nd, 3:45-4:30pm at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.

Spanish Variation

Saturday, October 10th, 3:00-3:45pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 17th, 3:00-3:45pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Saturday, October 24th, 3:00-3:45pm, [Basking Ridge Studio](#)
Tuesday, November 3rd, 3:45-4:30pm, [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Saturday, November 21st, 3:00-3:45pm, [Bridgewater Studio](#)
Sunday, November 22nd, Full Cast 2:00-5:15pm, [Bridgewater Studio](#) **TEAM DAY**
Wednesday, December 2nd, 3:45-4:30pm [Raritan Valley Community College](#)
Friday, December 4th, **SHOW DAY** at [Raritan Valley Community College](#)

*Dancers must commit to a full day. *Be prepared to be available 8am-10pm.