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Summer 2018 Newsletter

## North Country Ballet Ensemble (NCBE) President's Greetings

Hello and welcome to what looks to be an exciting kickoff to the 2018/19 North Country Ballet Ensemble season. School is just finishing up, weather is warmer, the sun is shining and yet the thoughts of fall and winter are quickly approaching. I would like to say "Thank You" to the previous board members whose terms have expired and welcome the new board members.

I would also like to provide a special sign of recognition and admiration to Terpsie Toon for all the hard work and dedication she has provided the NCBE over the last nine years. The standard she has set is a wonderful challenge for us to strive to continue providing. I encourage everyone to read through the newsletter as there are some broad changes for NCBE as well as some basic in-house information, which I hope will ease your communication with NCBE.

I look forward to working with all of you throughout this season. Please feel free to contact me at PNCBE@yahoo.com if there is anything pertaining to NCBE you would like to see or concerns you may have. I am looking for your feedback to help strength NCBE even further.

Regards,  
Adam

## 2018 Nutcracker

### Auditions:

Nutcracker auditions are less than three months away. Actually, 72 days from the mailing of this newsletter. Mark your calendars, auditions will be held



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on two days this year: Friday, September 7 and Sunday, September 9.

After listening to suggestions on ways to improve auditions, we have split audition days by age group. Children ages 5-9 will audition on Sunday and children ages 10-18 will audition on Friday.

Also, to ease the burden of travelling for parents with younger children, we will have 2 different auditions on Sunday; one location in Lake Placid and the second location in Plattsburgh. Lake Placid auditions will begin at 12:30 at the LPCA Main Studio. Plattsburgh auditions will begin at 3:00 pm at Clinton Community College Dance Studio, in the Gymnasium Building.

There will be one audition for older children on Friday located at the Tahawus Center in Ausable Forks. Ages 10-12 will begin at 5pm with sign-in at 4:30 pm. Ages 12 and up will begin at 6:15 with sign-in at 5:45 pm. The audition fee will be \$20.00 per dancer.

### Registration:

After careful thought, conversation, and brainstorming, the registration to participate in the 2018 Nutcracker has been completely renovated to encompass a similar system used by other extra-

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-curricular organizations throughout the region. We are taking away the burden of asking parents to participate in fundraisers as well as various buy-in sales.

Instead, we are having a registration fee rate per dancer by age grouping. Registration for students 9 and under will be \$100 per dancer, students aged 10-12 will be \$200 per dancer, and students aged 13 and older will be \$300 per dancer.

Although, this is completely different from what has been done in the past, we hope this new registration structure will take away many of burdens and confusion placed on the parents. There will be limited financial assistance for those dancers who may not be able to participate in the Nutcracker due to the registration fee.

### **Rehearsal Mistresses**

Alice Schonbek will again lead as Artistic Director for the 2018 season. It is with her guidance and professionalism that the Nutcracker performance and the artistic direction has flourished over recent years and we are pleased that she will be providing this experience for another season.

We are very excited to announce that Kristen Glazier has agreed to take on a much larger role this coming Nutcracker season. Ms. Glazier will bring a different eye to rehearsals, which will bring new energy to the performances and to our dancers. Both Kristen and Alice have been meeting as they begin outlining Nutcracker for the fall.

We do want to also let you know that although she is officially “retired,” Terpsie is going to assist Alice and Kristen in a limited fashion this season, which will be welcome.

### **The Future Vision of NCBE**

It is a goal of this current board to improve NCBE to be more than just “Nutcracker”. We want NCBE to be the preeminent dance ensemble in the North Country for all to enjoy. We want to bring together the dancers from all the various dance schools under one

unified umbrella where they can all grow together and flourish. It is through the audition process, rehearsals, the performance, where the children are learning more than just dance, but life skills. We want to encourage and promote this development through more activities, as the season progresses.

## **Events**

We are looking to host two events during the fall to bring the NCBE community together for a little laughter, dance, and music. Details to come, but hopefully these events will become annual functions, that both the NCBE community and the outside community will look forward to attending.

## **How to Communicate with Us**

Throughout life there is constant transition, but we are hoping with a few changes, reaching NCBE does not need to be a challenge. We have instituted new emails for officers and board members that will remain regardless of who is President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Artistic Director of the organization. If there are questions or concerns, please send us a note.

### **Email**

President: PNCBE@yahoo.com  
Secretary: SECRETARYNCBE@yahoo.com  
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