

ASSEMBLÉ

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THE NUTCRACKER

This year's production of *The Nutcracker* promises to be our most spectacular yet. Artistic Director Monique Foster has been hard at work revising much of the choreography and staging of the show. Some highlights include: a mesmerizing new Party Scene and featuring artists from Dark Circles Contemporary Dance (see below), exciting new takes on many of the second act variations, and a breath-taking re-imagining of the Grand Pas!

Additionally, after reluctantly retiring our Waltz of the Snowflakes costumes for newly designed ones in 2021, we went all-in this year and with custom designed Waltz of the Flowers tutus with beautiful petal-like layering. (Continued page 3)

BBC WELCOMES DARK CIRCLES CONTEMPORARY DANCE ONSTAGE

Borderlands Ballet is excited to be collaborating this year with Dark Circles Contemporary Dance. DCCDUSA was founded in 2010 in Seoul, South Korea with a Dallas-based branch opening in 2013. In 2021, DCCDUSA relocated to Las Cruces, N.M. – the hometown of its artistic director and internationally renowned choreographer, Joshua L. Peugh.

In addition to contributing world-premiere choreography for Drosselmeyer and Marie (Clara) by Joshua L. Peugh, DCCDUSA artists Chadi El-Khoury and Skye Todaro will be performing those roles in the show. This collaboration is a great opportunity for our dancers to be exposed on a regular basis to a professional ethic and to get a feel for what the professional dance world is like.



Dark Circles Contemporary Dance artist Chadi El-Khoury (as Drosselmeyer) and Cole Novello (as Fritz) during a rehearsal for the opening party scene of *Nutcracker*. (Mia Berkson and Juliana Garcia looking on.)

*“Having world-class, in-demand professional dancers rehearsing and performing in *The Nutcracker* with the pre-professional artists of Borderlands Ballet and the students of LCSDM gives these young dancers a chance to see, learn from, and work with artists who have chosen dance as a career.”*

- Joshua L. Peugh,
Founder and Artistic Director DCCDUSA

COMPANY NEWS

POHL & HERNANDEZ PROMOTED TO PRINCIPALS



John Pohl



Janelle Hernandez

BBC is proud to announce the promotion of our first two artists, John Pohl (JP) and Janelle Hernandez, to Principal dancer. Principal dancers display not only technical excellence in ballet but also a commanding performance presence.

Last season JP rivetted audiences with his virtuoso performance as Cavalier in *The Nutcracker* and had us rolling in the aisles as Dumpy, the Ugly Stepsister in *Cinderella*. Janelle likewise “wowed” audiences in two of the repertoire’s more demanding roles – Dew Drop Fairy (*The Nutcracker*) and the Fairy Godmother (*Cinderella*).

In addition to their outstanding artistry and technical mastery, both JP and Janelle are deeply committed to Borderlands Ballet and its mission. Janelle serves as president of the Board of BBC and JP is a Board Member as well. Moreover, both dancers are incredible mentors for the younger Company members and apprentices.

Congratulations, JP and Janelle!

MEET BORDERLANDS’ NEWEST DANCE ARTISTS

Each year Borderlands Ballet is privileged to have the most talented dancers from the Borderland region audition for our Company. This year was no exception and we are excited to introduce you to BBC’s newest artists: Saddle Hilburn, Maitlyn Warner, and Allene (Ally) Barton. These lovely dancers are already making a big impact. You can see them perform in *The Nutcracker* in the Peacock Variation (formerly, Coffee), Dew Drop Fairy, and the Spanish Variation, respectively.



Saddle Hilburn



Maitlyn Warner



Allene Barton

BBC APPRENTICES: A CHANCE TO SHINE

Meet the next generation of BBC dancers. The Borderlands apprentice program is an audition-only mentoring project that allows exceptionally talented younger dancers to participate in BBC classes and gives them the opportunity to audition as soloists for Borderlands productions.

The experience gives promising dancers the opportunity to refine their skills and to be prepared to take the next steps in their dance journey.

This year’s apprentices (from top to bottom) are: Tara Gandy, Juliana Garcia, Brooke Gonzales, and Cienna Parker.





HALLOWEEN BASH! 2022

The 2nd Annual Halloween Bash! fundraiser will be held on Saturday, October 29th with activities beginning at 5:00 pm and the Borderlands Ballet performance at 7:00 pm.

This fun, family-friendly event is an excellent way to kick-off Halloween while supporting Borderlands Ballet - it's a win-win!

Entry is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children five and up (free for kids under five). The **Bash** will feature a bouncy house and other games for the kids, a silent auction, magic and fortune-telling, costume contests for kids and adults, and an opportunity to "dunk" a well-known member of the Borderlands family in our pitch burst game!

Halloween is THE holiday for the aspiring performer in all of us. So dress up and join us onstage for a frightful good time and a great cause.



NUTCRACKER (CONT'D)

Finally, thanks to Scott Lucas's engineering prowess, we are set for a BIG first act surprise.

This year's *Nutcracker* is a spectacle you won't want to miss. Tickets are now onsale.



↑ Scan for Tickets ↑

NUTCRACKER DONOR GALA

The Nutcracker is more than a ballet; it's more than a holiday tradition. *The Nutcracker* is a celebration. This year our donors can celebrate the *Nutcracker* in a whole new way!

We are thrilled to be hosting our 1st Annual Opening Night Gala. This very special "black tie" event is an invitation only celebration for our Benefactors and Patrons (Bronze through Platinum) as well as their mature children (aged 14 and up).

It will include wine (and sparkling cider), a buffet, live piano music, and a chance to mix and mingle with the Borderlands artists. The Gala will begin immediately following curtain close on opening night (Friday, December 16th) and will be held on the second floor of the NMSU Center for the Arts.

Would like to become a BBC Patron? We would love to have your support!

You can scan the QR on the final page of this newsletter or send a check to our home address.



BBC Company members Performing for SalsaFest 2022 at the Encanto stage in downtown Las Cruces.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

This fall, BBC has volunteered to support two important community events. On September 25th the company performed four pieces in support of the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership's SalsaFest 2022. The performance included a salsa dance set on the Company by the incredibly talented Joseph Gonzales. We greatly appreciate those of you who came out to support this event!

Our next community outreach opportunity will be a performance in support of the non-profit Desert Community Wellness on November 18-19, 2022. Desert Community Wellness aims "to share accessible wellness practices for the benefit of our diverse communities. [They] view wellness as an active process of growth in being curious, becoming aware of, and making choices toward a healthy and fulfilling life suited for each unique individual."

Finally, BBC's free community masterclasses with the incredibly talented Marco Jimenez on accompaniment are still going strong.

⇓ Scan to Donate ⇓

SUPPORT US!

Donation Levels:

Benefactor	\$5,000+
Platinum Patron	\$3,500-\$4,999
Gold Patron	\$2,000-\$3,499
Silver Patron	\$500-\$1,999
Bronze Patron	\$150-\$499
Friend	\$1-\$149



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