

Shira Greenberg's 20th Annual **NUTCRACKER** On the Rocks

A Tip Sheet for the Sensory Friendly Performances

Saturday, December 3rd at 2:00pm
Saturday, December 10th at 2:00pm
At Keshet Center for the Arts

What to expect during the performance

- *Nutcracker on the Rocks* is a dance performance. The dancers will tell the story by dancing. The audience will hear music being played, but the dancers will not be talking while they dance. The *Nutcracker on the Rocks* performance is not like the traditional Nutcracker ballet. It is a similar holiday story but it uses rock n' roll music and all different styles of dance to tell the story.



*Madame
Drosselmeier*

- *Nutcracker on the Rocks* is also a performance that combines professional and community dancers of various physical and developmental abilities.
- *Nutcracker on the Rocks* tells the story of a girl, Marie. Guests arrive at the family holiday party, including the mean lady from across town and a new handsome fella. The magical Madame Drosselmeier arrives to the party with terrific gifts. This year she has created a special gift for Marie—a Nutcracker doll with an extra kiss of magic. That yucky mean lady has never liked Marie and really can't stand her excitement for the new Nutcracker.



Rat Queen

- After the guests finally leave and Marie is sent to bed, she sneaks back to the living room to be with her Nutcracker, and falls asleep with the doll in her arms.
- What starts as just a few little mice checking out the living room, becomes an army of rats, invading Marie's dream. She tries to wake herself, but apparently it's real and there's no waking up. Suddenly, the Rat Queen appears and is intent on having Marie for dinner. To everyone's surprise, the Nutcracker doll becomes real and battles the Rat Queen. Together they celebrate their victory and dance into the night.

There will be a 15 minute intermission at the end of Act One.



- Drosselmeier leads Marie and Nutcracker further into their dream, introducing them to her friends, the snowflakes. They find a comfortable place to rest, while folks from the 20's and the 50's come and entertain them.

- The Nutcracker and Marie are enjoying themselves when suddenly the rats appear, celebrating the recovery of their beloved Queen. After the rats' celebration, Drosselmeier coaxes the Nutcracker and Marie out of hiding.



- The duo are beginning to fall in love as the 60's folks fade away. They don't notice the Rat Queen who has come back to reclaim her crown. The Nutcracker chases after the Rat Queen. As Marie follows, the dream begins to fade. Marie ends up back in her living room, asleep where she began. When her mother wakes her, it is impossible to explain the places she has been. She holds her Nutcracker close and can still feel their love with all of her heart.

About the Sensory Friendly performance

- The doors to Keshet Center for the Arts will open at 1:00 pm. The doors to the theater will open for seating at 12:30 pm. **The performances will start at 2:00pm** and will last for approximately **one hour and 35 minutes**. There will be a **15 minute intermission**.
- Visit the Keshet website (<http://keshetarts.org/keshet-center-for-the-arts/>) for **directions and parking information**.
- **Seating** is not assigned for this performance. It is all Open/ General seating. The ushers inside the theater can help you find a seat. Please let them know if you can't climb stairs or would like to sit on the floor level.
- During the performance, the **lights** will remain at half brightness. The **sound level** will be reduced for loud or startling sounds.
- You are welcome to **enter and exit the theater as needed** during the sensory friendly performance. You are permitted to bring fidgets, handheld devices and noise cancelling headphones.
- **Restrooms** are located through the lobby and into the dance studio on the left side hallway. The toilets are in a portable restroom trailer to accommodate all our audience members. The toilets do not automatically flush, you have to step on a pedal on the floor to flush. Paper towels are available to dry your hands.
- For this performance there will be **two break areas**. The quiet break area is out in the Lobby in the hall between studios. The other break area is the open space beside the seats inside the theatre – you can move here or dance along. Eating and drinking **will** be allowed in the theater during this performance.
- **Photography** is **NOT** permitted inside the theater.

Questions: If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Tobias, Carolyn@Keshetarts.org or 505-224-9808