

SACRAMENTO BALLET

NUTCRACKER

SACRAMENTO BALLET'S NUTCRACKER RETURNS TO SPREAD HOLIDAY MAGIC AND COMMUNITY CHEER

*Beloved Production Returns with 200+ Local Children Cast as Mice, Mushrooms,
Peppermints, and Shooting Stars*

*Presented by California Walnuts, families can enjoy festive photos, discounted
tickets, fresh walnut samples and elevated holiday recipes*

WHAT:

Sacramento's favorite holiday tradition, *Nutcracker*, returns **December 12–21, 2025**, at the SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center. Presented by **California Walnuts**, this timeless classic, accompanied by the **Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera**, promises to delight audiences of all ages with sparkling choreography, lavish sets and costumes, and over 200 local youth performers sharing the stage with Sacramento Ballet's professional company.

California Walnuts, whose growers live and farm across the region, once again joins as **Presenting Sponsor**, helping to extend the Nutcracker magic beyond the stage. Families can visit select Nugget Market locations on November 22 and December 6 to meet costumed dancers, take festive photos and secure discount codes for tickets to this year's performances. Ballet goers can also enjoy samples of fresh California walnuts and bring home feel-good holiday recipe cards inspired by the performance.

WHEN:

Performances:

Friday, December 12 – 7:00 PM

Saturday, December 13 – 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 14 – 12:00 PM & 5:00 PM

Friday, December 19 – 7:00 PM

Saturday, December 20 – 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 21 – 12:00 PM & 5:00 PM

WHERE:

SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center

1301 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Tickets and details: www.sacballet.org

**Photo Opportunities with Nutcracker Cast presented by California Walnuts at
Nugget Market locations:**

- **Saturday, November 22**
 - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Nugget Market, 771 Pleasant Grove Blvd, Roseville
 - 12:15 PM – 2:15 PM: Nugget Market, 1509 Blue Oaks Blvd, Roseville
 - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Nugget Market, 4080 Douglas Blvd, Granite Bay
 - 12:45 PM – 2:45 PM: Nugget Market, 4500 Post St, El Dorado Hills
- **Saturday, December 6**
 - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Nugget Market, 2000 Town Center Plaza, West Sacramento
 - 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: Nugget Market, 157 Main St, Woodland
 - 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM: Nugget Market, 130 Browns Valley Pkwy, Vacaville

WHO:

Under the direction of **Elise Elliott and Stefan Calka**, Sacramento Ballet's 2025 *Nutcracker* showcases the heart of the Capital City's dance community, featuring original choreography by former and current company artists **Colby Damon, Julia Feldman, and Nicole Haskins**. With a cast of more than 200 local children, a full live orchestra, and the beloved story that has charmed generations, *Nutcracker* remains the region's most cherished holiday production.

"Nutcracker is such a beautiful reminder of why we dance. It brings our community together in joy, music, and movement," said **Elise Elliott**, Rehearsal Director of Sacramento Ballet. *"Every year, we're inspired by the young dancers who join us on*

stage for the first time and by the families who make this tradition part of their holiday season year after year.”

*“We can’t wait to share the wonder of live performance again this December,” added **Stefan Calka**, Rehearsal Director. “Our dancers bring such heart to this story, and we’re grateful to California Walnuts for helping us share that spirit beyond the theater and into the community.”*

WHY THIS MATTERS:

Sacramento Ballet’s *Nutcracker* is more than a performance; it’s a cornerstone of holiday celebration in Northern California. With live orchestral accompaniment, dazzling staging, and the participation of local children, it represents the very best of community, artistry, and tradition.

Furthermore, engaging with world-class performances like *Nutcracker* provides significant cultural and personal value, fostering creativity, empathy, and mental well-being in audiences. On a larger scale, Sacramento Ballet’s ability to present such productions connects the city to the global dance community, enhancing its cultural vibrancy while contributing to economic growth. By bringing this visionary work to the California Capital, Sacramento Ballet continues to elevate the region’s profile as a hub for artistic excellence, cementing its place on the national and international cultural stage.

ABOUT SACRAMENTO BALLET

Since its founding in 1954, Sacramento Ballet has been a beacon of artistic excellence in the California Capital Region, delivering world-class dance performances, education, and community outreach programs. As the only dance company in the region with a roster of professional artists, Sacramento Ballet’s mission is to enhance the human condition through dance, making this transformative art form accessible to all. The company’s innovative programming and collaborations with internationally renowned artists position it as a vital contributor to the thriving cultural landscape of California.

Sacramento Ballet is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, supported by ticket sales, individual donors, and contributions from corporate, foundation, and government entities. This support enables the company to inspire audiences through unparalleled performances and impactful educational initiatives.

ABOUT CALIFORNIA WALNUTS

More than 99% of the walnuts grown in the United States are from California, produced by multi-generational farmers encompassing more than 3,700 family orchards. California walnuts, known for their excellent nutritional value and quality, are shipped

around the world all year long. With the focus on plant-forward eating, walnuts are enjoyed in a variety of innovative and delicious ways, such as a plant-based meat alternative, walnut milk and walnut butter. They are recognized as a versatile and nutritious snack, a topper for yogurt and oatmeal, and the perfect nut to pair with salads and vegetables. To explore recipes and learn more about California walnut growers, industry information and health research, visit walnuts.org.

ABOUT NUGGET MARKETS

Founded in 1926, Nugget Market is a family-owned grocery chain dedicated to providing exceptional service, quality products, and strong community connections. With multiple locations across the Capital Region, Nugget Market proudly supports the arts and local traditions that make our region shine.

Sacramento Ballet's 2025/26 Season Sponsors:
WESTERN HEALTH ADVANTAGE
DIGNITY HEALTH

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