

Calling All Dancers!

Greater Tucson Area Youth Invited to Open Auditions to Perform in Moscow Ballets Great Russian Nutcracker

(Berkshires, MA) Oct. 8, 2010 Moscow Ballet is in the midst of holding auditions across North America for its Great Russian Nutcracker next stop: Tucson!

Open auditions will be held on Friday, Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. at the Tucson Dance Company. Tatiana Casian, a Russian-trained soloist and dance teacher with Moscow Ballet, will facilitate the auditions and work with the selected students in rehearsal at a later date, to be announced.

Those chosen will perform in the *Great Russian Nutcracker* at the Fox Theatre on Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 4 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m.

Applicants must have dance experience and be between 7 and 16 years old. Applicants must also dress in dance attire and may bring Pointe shoes. For more information about the auditions, contact local Dance Coordinator *Josette Weibrecht* at (520) 670-1301 OR *tdc@yahoo.com*.

This is a rare opportunity for young dancers in the greater Tucson region to work with and learn from a professional, expert Russian ballet dancer and teacher *Tatiana Casian* and to be a part of Moscow Ballets renowned international tour of its *Great Russian Nutcracker* performance.

*****We can put you in touch with Tatiana for an interview and photos. Please contact Moscow Ballet (413.499.1733, x21) to discuss this.***

Praised for exquisite dancing and gorgeous costumes, the *Great Russian Nutcracker* is directed by Ballet Master Vladimir Troschenko. Troschenko partnered such legendary Russian ballerinas as Nadia Pavlova, Ludmilla Seminyaka, and Galina Mezentseva and is an honors graduate of the Bolshoi and Kirov academies. He will tour *Swan Lake* to 61 cities in Europe from June 30 to Aug. 31. Set against Valentin Fedorov's spectacular hand-painted backdrops and life-sized dancing puppets, the *Great Russian Nutcracker* delights audiences with a visual tapestry rich in detail and whimsy. It is especially distinctive for its unique setting of the Land of Peace and Harmony in Act II and for the introduction of a Christmas Dove and a fantasy clock with wings of an owl that cast a shadow over the battle between the Soldiers and the Mice. Fedorov, an Honored Artist of Chuvashia, was a protégée of the legendary designer Valery Leventhal of the Bolshoi Theatre. He is art director at the Chuvashia State Theater and has designed over 40 productions for opera and ballet. Acclaimed for exquisite classical ballet dancers and bejeweled, sumptuous costumes, critics rave that Moscow Ballets *Great Russian Nutcracker* is flawless, breathtaking, and dazzling. The richness of the Russian classical ballet dancers blended with whimsical storytelling have made *The Great Russian Nutcracker* a memorable holiday treat for the last 17 years.

Tickets are now on sale. To purchase by phone call Ticketmaster at (800) 745–3000, or buy online at www.nutcracker.com or www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets start at \$27.50. Group rates are available for 10 or more tickets call 800–320–1733 for more information.

****(Visit <http://www.nutcracker.com/Tickets.php?ballet=nc> for a complete listing of tour dates.)***

And for a truly special Christmas experience Moscow Ballet introduces its ***Platinum Seating and Gift*** promotion. Platinum ticket buyers receive a limited edition fine art giclee print created by contemporary Russian masters from the St. Petersburg Academy of Art. These stunning first edition prints were commissioned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Marius Petipa's life. Renowned as the creator of *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*, Petipa is revered as the Father of Russian Ballet. Platinum Seating includes the best centered seats, a backstage Meet and Greet, gourmet chocolates, preferred parking and a Platinum Members Benefit Card for purchases at www.nutcracker.com. Only seven pairs of platinum tickets per performance are available! For information on Platinum, VIP or discount tickets visit <http://www.nutcracker.com/premium.php>.