About Our Programs

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Annual "The Nutcracker" Dance Therapy/ Movement Mentor Children's Ballet Series World Ballet Competition School "Informances” Annual "The Nutcracker"

Central Florida Ballet’s Nutcracker rises above the traditional crowd with its use of fiber optics and thrilling pyrotechnics. Premiering in 2001, just two years later this production was highlighted by USA Today as the “pyrotechnic Nutcracker” and was also named “one of the top-five outstanding productions in the nation” by CNN Headline News! The Southeast Tourism Society named it “One of the Top 20” events in the southeast region in 2007.

The Central Florida Ballet brings this beloved holiday tale to life with an annual rendition onstage at the Linda W. Chapin Theater inside the Orange County Convention Center. A number of local and international stars have been featured in the production including, Sascha Radetsky (ABT & Star of feature film “Center Stage”), Irina Dvorovenko (ABT), Maxim Beloserkovsky (ABT), Israel Rodiguez (Orlando Ballet), Heather Sanders-Fryxell (prev. Southern Ballet Theatre), Dragos Milhacea (Royal Swedish Ballet), and Joseph Gatti (Boston Ballet).

The “Nutcracker” ballet is a classic holiday tradition performed all over the world. The story is based on a fairytale in which the Nutcracker doll comes to life as an enchanted prince who saves the pretty young maiden Maria, from distress. Prince “Nikita” then takes her through a magical journey to his kingdom “The Land of Sweets” where they are greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. The Prince tells them about their daring battle with the army of mice and she rewards them with a celebration of dances from all around the world.

To purchase your tickets for this year's Nutcracker, please click here or call 407.849.9948.

Dance Therapy/ Movement Mentor

A one-of-a-kind Outreach program since 2001 that provides special needs children with physical or developmental challenges the opportunity to benefit and grow through dance. Program concludes with a special performance at the CFB Academy - Annual Recital at the Linda Chapin Theatre (OCCC).

During the nine month program, weekly classes are offered free of charge and held at Central Florida Ballet's Academy where each student is partnered with the same mentor each week. During the ballet lesson, students complete a number of dance exercises to strengthen their coordination, flexibility and muscle control.

Dance Therapy students are delighted to attend this program each week. They enjoy forming friendships with their mentors who help them progress throughout the school year and of whom become role models for the students. In addition, students have the opportunity to meet and bond with other children with disabilities that may be similar or very different from their own.This program is held on Fridays from 4:30-5:15pm for the 2013-14 school year. Please contact the Central Florida Ballet at 407-849-9948, ext 10 to inquire about registering your child for this program. Children's Ballet Series

Created to introduce even the youngest viewer to the art form of dance.

Premiering in 2003 to sold-out audiences, the Children's Ballet Series consists of hour-long, narrated performances adapted specifically for children. These shortened presentations bring dance to the young viewer’s level through an intimate atmosphere. For each performance, children are able to sit next to the front of the stage with their friends; allowing them to see each dancer up close and in person. Narration is provided to help the young audience understand the story and to keep their interest at its peak. At the end of each show, children have the unique opportunities to meet characters, touch the costumes, and interact with the show’s performers. Past performances of the Series have included, Toy Shop, Peter and the Wolf, Ugly Duckling, Carnival of Animals, The Fairy Doll, and "9/11 An American Moment”. World Ballet Competition & All Stars of Dance

The WBC having just completed its fifth year in June of 2011 is one of the world’s top ballet competitions and places a strong emphasis on the professional dancer. The vision and mission of WBC is to be the most objective and fair competition in the world and to attract the highest level of talent that exists. This has been well documented in Dancer Magazine and Dance for You Magazine (based in Europe). In 2008, the WBC became the first ballet competition to be entirely broadcast on the internet and the first to use a computerized scoring system similar to the Olympics.

The competition is an exhausting and thorough test of any competitor. Each year hundreds of competitors apply to be accepted into the competition, from which less than 65% are accepted into the competition. Those that are accepted pass through three elimination rounds and, as a result, even to reach the final round is an accomplishment in itself, and representative of being part of an elite group of dancers. Over 700,000 online viewer minutes were generated during the

WBC 2011 where competitors received cash prizes, dancewear scholarships to leading dance schools, and job offers.

The WBC also includes:

· International Master Class Workshop consisting of master classes in ballet, modern, jazz and dance related seminars.

· International Job Fair – an intercontinental vehicle for dancers seeking professional careers in dance. Dancers audition onstage at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center in front of directors worldwide via LIVE internet broadcast.

· College Recruitment Program – Dancers, seeking to further education while continuing to pursue a dance career, will be recruited from the International Job Fair and Master Class Workshop by directors of university dance programs.

· “All Stars of Dance” – Highly acclaimed by directors and critics worldwide, this concluding performance features world renowned artists of the world’s leading dance companies and winners of the WBC.

To learn more about the World Ballet Competition, please visit the official website at http://www.worldballetcompetition.com.

School "Informances” A program for Central Florida students to attend a ballet performance which is presented by the Central Florida Ballet’s Studio Company. Informances introduce students to dance while providing fun and memorable education about the art form. The ballet is narrated and adapted to make the performance student-friendly and also involves a pre-show question and answer session to increase student involvement. Performances are held at the Linda Chapin Theater in the Orange County Convention Center and several throughout the year are held directly in local public schools.

Each program contains lesson plans meeting the Sunshine State Standards (available online to educators) which allows teachers to prepare students with information about the upcoming performance. A follow-up student survey and contest-like quiz aids in giving students a better understanding of each ballet and is also used to evaluate the program’s success.

To have your school attend a CFB School Informance, please click here for more information.