



## PROGRAM

- Tchaikovsky     **Nutcracker For Kids**  
*The Christmas Tree & March*  
*Arrival of Drosselmeyer*  
*Clara's Gift*  
*The Battle*  
*A Pine Forest in Winter*  
*(Journey through the Snow)*  
*Divertissement:*  
*The Spanish Dance (Chocolate)*  
*The Russian Dance (Candy Canes)*  
*Dance of the Reed Flutes*  
*Waltz of the Flowers*  
*Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*  
*Final Waltz and Grand Finale*
- Richman     **Hanukkah Festival Overture**
- Anderson     **Sleigh Ride**

## SPOTLIGHT ON PERCUSSION

Of all the instrument families in the orchestra, the **percussion family** has the widest variety of instruments. This is because percussion includes anything that makes a sound when it is **shaken, scraped** or **hit**. Instruments like the **tambourine** and the **maracas** are **shaken**, while the **güiro** is **scraped with a stick** to make sound. **Keyboards** and all kinds of **drums** are **hit** with **drumsticks, mallets** or **hands**. Even more percussion instruments, like the **cymbals** or **castanets**, make sound when you **hit them together**. Everyday things you might not think of—like **pots, buckets** or even mechanical items like a **ratchet**—can also be used as percussion instruments!

*The Nutcracker* features many percussion instruments throughout the different dances. Each instrument helps add to the story of *The Nutcracker*, representing different characters from the ballet. For example, a **ratchet** makes the Nutcracker's sound, while the **tambourine** helps make the dancing dolls come to life. Perhaps the most recognizable percussion instrument in *The Nutcracker* is the **celeste**, a **keyboard** instrument that represents the Sugar Plum Fairy with its **light, high-pitched sound**. Listen for these and many other percussion instruments as you watch today's concert!



ratchet



celeste



tambourine

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presents  
 Pacific Symphony Family Musical Mornings

## NUTCRACKER FOR KIDS

Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021 @ 10 and 11:30 a.m.

Jacob Sustaita, conductor  
 Joe Lauderdale, director  
 Lori Freeman, Ellen  
 Luke Bruderer, Phillip  
 Festival Ballet Theatre—  
 Salwa Rizkalla, artistic director

Performance at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts  
 Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

SPOTLIGHT:

## W. HENRY WALKER, PRESIDENT OF FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK

Farmers & Merchants Bank (F&M) has long been prominent in the Southern California banking industry, spanning more than 100 years of continuous, successful, family-managed business. F&M also is legendary for its dedication to enriching the communities it serves. Regardless of economic climate, F&M has remained unwavering in its commitment to the arts.

For more than a century, the Walker family has woven its support into the rich fabric and cultural identity of Southern California and views Pacific Symphony as one of the key cultural assets that defines Orange County as a tremendous place to live and work. Because the Walker family believes music education at a young age serves to help establish the cultural tone for future generations, F&M is pleased to be a long-standing sponsor of Pacific Symphony's Family Musical Mornings.

W. Henry Walker, F&M's president, is proud to serve on the Board of Directors of Pacific Symphony and enjoys investing time and energy in the organization. Beyond its support of the arts, F&M maintains a strong philanthropic orientation, providing funding to a wide array of deserving charitable, civic and religious organizations.

The Bank's corporate philanthropy is complemented at each F&M location, as F&M branch managers engage in community activities and regularly support local

endeavors. Through boom times and economic downturns, F&M has remained one of the strongest banks in California. F&M's is evidenced by high employee retention, yielding customers who get to enjoy banking with the same tellers, loan officers and branch managers for many years—even generations.

F&M's emphasis on relationship banking underscores its venerable standing in Orange and Los Angeles counties.

In addition to an old-fashioned focus on banking driven by personal associations, F&M provides clients with a full range of state-of-the-art banking technology, ranging from remote deposit to mobile payment processing solutions.



W. Henry Walker, President  
Farmers & Merchants Bank

**THANK YOU! We are grateful for the generous support of our Family Musical Mornings series sponsor, Farmers & Merchants Bank**



Dear Friends,  
It is with boundless joy and pleasure for me to **welcome** you all to our performance of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. We are thrilled to share this incredible **ballet** with you. I am **Pacific Symphony's** new **assistant conductor, Jacob Sustaita**, and I am delighted

to share the stage with the **outstanding musicians** of **Pacific Symphony** as well as the **talented dancers** from **Festival Ballet Theatre** as we present one of my favorite holiday musical experiences.

This holiday season we are reminded about the **importance of music** in our lives, and there is no better score than Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* to fill our spirits with thoughts of **miracles, magic** and **fantasy**. Since I was first introduced to *The Nutcracker* as a young man, I have been mesmerized by the story, the dancing and of course the music. For me, the holiday season is not complete without **The Nutcracker**.

This holiday favorite is full of **imagination** and **wonder**. From beginning to end, Tchaikovsky takes us to a fantastic world where **toys** and **sweets** come to life and

**mice** dance alongside **sugar plum fairies**. Our **spotlight instrument section** for this concert is the **percussion section**. Our percussion instruments include **drums, tambourine, a ratchet** and **bells**. Each percussion instrument represents a feeling or character in the story. What percussion instrument is your favorite?

It's time for us to go on a **musical adventure** together. Sit back and enjoy this enchanting and captivating performance of *The Nutcracker*, and there might be a **surprise guest** joining us a little later! Thank you for sharing the holiday spirit with us. I hope to see you at our next performance on **January 29** when we present our **Opera for Kids: CINDERELLA**. You don't want to miss out on the brilliant music, **singing** and **acting** in this opera.

I look forward to conducting more exciting, one-of-a-kind programs that we create **just for you**. From all of us at Pacific Symphony—may your holidays and new year be filled with joy and cheer.

Celebrating music and life,

Dr. Jacob Sustaita

# FESTIVAL BALLET THEATRE

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Celebrating over 30 years of artistic excellence, Festival Ballet Theatre, a non-profit arts organization founded in 1988 by Artistic Director Salwa Rizkalla, is Orange County's premier, accomplished professional ballet company. Our mission is to enrich Orange County's artistic and economic vitality, to inspire love and appreciation for dance and to invigorate ballet by:

- Presenting a season of exhilarating classical and contemporary performances.

- Providing a nurturing environment for dancers and choreographers.
- Offering stimulating educational outreach programs.

With reverence for classic masterpieces and a focus on developing future tours de force, Festival Ballet Theatre is committed to presenting the best of dance, enriching lives and developing a new generation of audiences and artists. Arts Orange County named Festival Ballet Theatre Outstanding Arts Organization of the Year in 2001, and also recognized artistic director Salwa Rizkalla with the Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Award in 2014.

Festival Ballet Theatre is proud to collaborate with Pacific Symphony for over 10 years in presenting *Nutcracker for Kids* at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall showcasing FBT's talented company dancers and the students of Southland Ballet Academy, the official school of FBT.

Southland Ballet Academy, founded in 1983, is dedicated to excellence in dance training. Named one of the top seven producing schools in the nation by *Pointe* magazine, Southland Ballet Academy provides elite ballet training in a creative and nurturing environment. Southland Ballet Academy graduates have gone on to dance professionally in renowned ballet companies across the globe. 🌐

## ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

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### JACOB SUSTAITA

*Conductor*



**Dr. Jacob Sustaita is the recently appointed assistant conductor of Pacific Symphony.** Since 2015, he

served as director of orchestral studies at Sam Houston State University. At Sam Houston State, he was responsible for conducting the symphony, chamber, ballet and opera orchestras. In 2016, Sustaita and

the orchestra performed the American premiere of Anton Bruckner's *Symphony No. 1* (original Linz version) with high praise from the American and European Bruckner Societies.

In 2018, Sustaita was named associate conductor of the Conroe Symphony Orchestra, and in May 2019, he became the orchestra's fourth music director. He is a frequent guest conductor and clinician across the country, and he recently made his debut conducting the Juilliard Orchestra. During the 2016-2017 season, Sustaita

made his debut with the BlueWater Chamber Orchestra in Cleveland, Ohio, and made his debut as cover conductor with the Houston Symphony, assisting David Zinman. In 2015, Sustaita was selected by Carnegie Hall's Weill Institute to serve as assistant conductor for Charles Dutoit and the National Youth Orchestra of America.

Music education has always been at the forefront of his conducting interests. He regularly conducts the *Linked Up Concerts* created by Carnegie Hall, and he continues to develop innovative platforms for youth and family concerts that provide a meaningful and exciting experience for all concertgoers.

A native of Texas, Sustaita completed his doctorate degree at the University of Houston, where he served as assistant conductor and guest music director for the Moores Opera Center for three seasons. He holds a bachelor of music degree from the University of Houston and a master of music degree from both Penn State and Rice University. His teachers and mentors include Charles Dutoit, Franz Krager, Brett Mitchell, Gerardo Edelstein and Paavo Järvi. 🌐

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

## JOE LAUDERDALE

Director



**Joe Lauderdale has written and directed several Family Musical Mornings concerts including *A Sherlock Holmes Halloween, Dinosaurs!, Superheroes and Symphony in Space*.** Lauderdale was the youth theater director at the Laguna Playhouse from 1988-2005 where he directed and produced more than 60

productions. He was honored by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education with the Youth Theatre Director of the Year Award in 2001. His writing credits include adaptations of *The Summer of the Swans, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Tom Sawyer and Cut*, as well as the original works *Lost Children* and *A False Reality*. Currently he is on the board of directors at No Square Theatre in Laguna Beach where he directed productions and serves as the resident director. Productions include *The Rocky Horror Show* (twice), *Xanadu*, *Ruthless* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

## SALWA RIZKALLA

Artistic Director, Festival Ballet Theatre



**Festival Ballet Theatre's Artistic Director Salwa Rizkalla has been firmly committed to developing the art of ballet and the future of dance in Orange County.** For more than 30 years, Rizkalla has presented the finest classical and contemporary repertoire ranging from full-length classical ballets to

world premiere contemporary works through Festival Ballet Theatre. During her professional dancing career, Rizkalla graced the stage in leading roles in well-known classical ballets as well as contemporary pieces. She had the privilege of working under the direction of world-renowned choreographers Leonid Lavrovsky and Serge Lifar. As a young dancer, Rizkalla trained in the Russian Vaganova method and studied with ballet masters of the Bolshoi and the Kirov. As the culmination of her training, Rizkalla completed a bachelor of arts degree in ballet pedagogy. She established Southland Ballet Academy in 1983 and debuted Festival Ballet Theatre in 1988. Rizkalla was named one of OC's 100 Most Influential in 2017 by the *Orange County Register*.

## LORI FREEMAN

Ellen



**Lori Freeman has performed in productions of *The Nutcracker* since the age of 5!** Her dance training began at Ballet Theatre of Scranton and continued on to the Royal Academy of Dancing in London. Professionally, Freeman performed on Broadway with Donny Osmond, toured nationally with David Cassidy and several shows at Goodspeed Opera House. Her television credits include the 1981 Grammy Awards for Fame and the Statue of Liberty Gala with Liza Minnelli and the Pointer Sisters. Freeman is thrilled to join Pacific Symphony for this magical production.

## LUKE BRUDERER

Phillip



**Luke Bruderer - 16, is a Junior at Laguna Beach High School.** He performed in the 2018 Laguna Playhouse production of *The Giver* as Asher and the 2019 production of *Treasure Island*. It's Bruderer's third time at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall: In 2018, he performed in *Video Game*

*Odyssey* and in *The Nutcracker* in 2019. He also performed at the Laguna Beach NoSquare Theatre in *Cinderella*, *School of Rock* as Mason and *A Charlie Brown Christmas* as Charlie Brown, directed by Joe Lauderdale. He is excited to perform in another *Nutcracker* production at Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall with Pacific Symphony.