



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

VARIOUS

Holiday Sing Along

"The Dreidel Song"

"Deck the Halls"

"Jingle Bells"

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presents

Pacific Symphony Family Musical Mornings

NUTCRACKER FOR KIDS!

Saturday, Dec. 3 @ 10 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3 @ 11:30 a.m.

Jacob Sustaita, conductor & narrator

Festival Ballet Theatre

Salwa Rizkalla, artistic director

Joe Lauderdale, stage director

Pacific Symphony



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

WELCOME TO NUTCRACKER FOR KIDS!



Dear Friends,

I am thrilled to have all of you with us today for our performance of **Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker***. I will be conducting the fantastic **musicians of Pacific Symphony** as well as the talented **dancers from Festival Ballet Theatre** for this unique production.

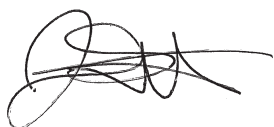
From the very opening notes played by **Pacific Symphony**, our imaginations will take us to a **fantastical world** filled with **dolls, mice, and sugar plum fairies**. We will also feature the **percussion section**, which is our **Spotlight Instrument** for this concert.

The **percussion** section consists of many instruments including the **tambourine** and **ratchet**, both of which you will hear during the performance today. The **ratchet** represents none other than the **Nutcracker!**



I hope that you will join us on **February 25** for our next concert, **The Great Outdoors**, featuring the **amazing young musicians of Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra** playing side-by-side with **Pacific Symphony** in a **nature-themed** concert. But first, enjoy the magical journey that you are about to embark on, and who knows, maybe there will even be a **special guest** chanting the words, "Ho, Ho Ho..."

May your holidays be filled with joy, and I wish you all the best for the New Year! Celebrating music and life.



Dr. Jacob Sustaita
Assistant Conductor



ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

Jacob Sustaita
Assistant Conductor for Pacific Symphony,
Music Director for Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra
Mary E. Moore Family Assistant Conductor Chair

Dr. Jacob Sustaita serves as the assistant conductor for Pacific Symphony and Music Director Carl St.Clair, a position he has held since the fall of 2020. Dr. Sustaita also serves as Music Director and Conductor for Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra (PSYO), the premier training orchestra of Orange County, recognized as one of the most outstanding youth orchestras in the country.

Dr. Sustaita is also the newly appointed Orchestra Director for the Orange County School of the Arts Symphony Orchestra. In the fall of 2021-22, Sustaita served as Acting Director of Orchestras at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University Long Beach (CSULB). From 2015 to 2020, he led the Sam Houston State University Symphony, Chamber, Ballet, and Opera Orchestras as Director of Orchestral Studies. In 2016, Sustaita and the Symphony 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.

Dr. Sustaita is a frequent guest conductor and clinician across the country. 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 (NYO). Sustaita regularly conducted and coached the orchestra during its New York residency and on their seven-city tour of China and Hong Kong.

A native of Texas, Sustaita completed his Doctorate and Bachelor of Music degrees at the University of Houston, where he served as assistant conductor for the Moores Opera Center for three seasons. He also earned a Master of Music degree from both Penn State University and Rice University.

His honors include: Schissler Conducting Fellowship, Rice University Prize and Provost Fellowship, and American Prize semi-finalist and finalist. His teachers and mentors include Carl St.Clair, Charles Dutoit, Franz Krager, Brett Mitchell, Gerardo Edelstein, and Paavo Järvi.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTISTS

Festival Ballet Theatre (FBT) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1988 by Salwa Rizkalla.

Its 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.

Festival Ballet Theatre has performed at a variety of Orange County venues including Irvine Barclay Theatre, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Robert B. Moore Theatre, Karen & Richard Carpenter Center, Historic Huntington Beach High School Auditorium, and more. FBT collaborates with other prestigious Orange County organizations and events including Pacific Symphony, Festival of Children at South Coast Plaza, and Imagination Celebration.

Southland Ballet Academy, founded 1983, is the official school of Festival Ballet Theatre. Named one of the Top 7 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. Arts Orange County named Festival Ballet Theatre Outstanding Arts Organization of the Year in 2001 and recognized Artistic Director Salwa Rizkalla with the Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Award in 2014. Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) has recognized Southland Ballet Academy numerous times with its Outstanding School Award, an accolade given to only a few select dance schools nationwide. YAGP also recognized Southland Ballet Academy founder Salwa Rizkalla with Best Teacher Award multiple times since its inception in 1999.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTISTS



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, Ms. Rizkalla has presented the finest classical and contemporary

repertoire ranging from full-length classical ballets to world-premiere contemporary works through Festival Ballet Theatre.

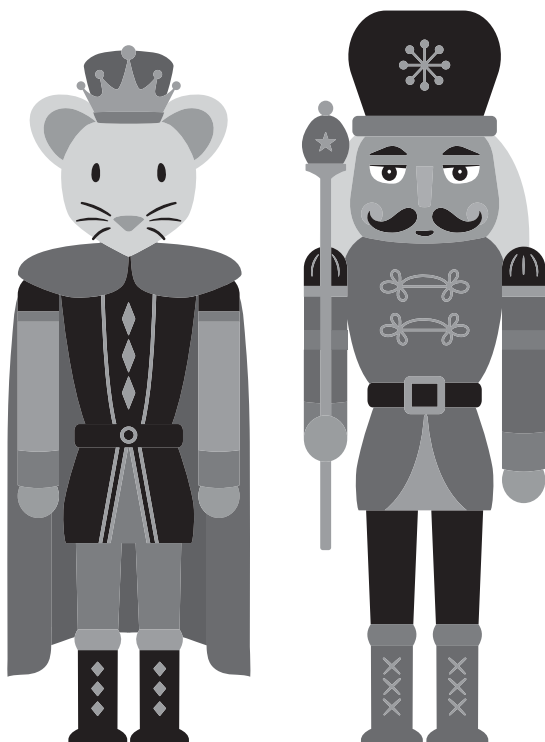
During her professional dancing career, Ms. Rizkalla graced the stage in leading roles in well-known classical ballets as well as contemporary pieces. She had the privilege of working under the direction of world-renowned choreographers Leonid Lavrovsky and Serge Lifar. As a young dancer, Ms. Rizkalla trained in the Russian Vaganova method. As the culmination of her training, Ms. Rizkalla completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Ballet Pedagogy. She established Southland Ballet Academy in 1983 and debuted Festival Ballet Theatre in 1988. In addition to teaching and directing, Ms. Rizkalla was a faculty member of several area institutions. Many arts organizations have recognized her service. The Orange County Music and Arts Administrators and Orange County Performing Arts Center jointly presented her the Orange County Arts Educator of the Year Award for Secondary Dance (2003), Youth America Grand Prix awarded Ms. Rizkalla Outstanding Teacher accolades since its inception, and Arts Orange County recognized Ms. Rizkalla with the Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Award (2014). Ms. Rizkalla was named one of OC's 100 Most Influential in 2017 by the *OC Register*.

Ms. Rizkalla has been honored to impact the lives of hundreds of students and their families through her teaching. She is proud to be a dedicated educator, an energetic promoter of the arts, and an active participant in the cultural life of her community.



Joe Lauderdale has written and directed several Family Musical Mornings concerts including *A Sherlock Holmes Halloween*, *Dinosaurs!*, *Superheroes*, *Symphony in Space*, *Halloween Masquerade*, *Halloween Goes Hollywood*, *Video Game*

Odyssey, and *Nutcracker for Kids!*. He also writes and directs for Class Act, Pacific Symphony's elementary school partnership program. Joe was the Youth Theatre Director at the Laguna Playhouse for 17 years where he directed and produced more than 60 productions during his time. He was honored by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE) with the Youth Theatre Director of the Year Award in 2001. His other 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 *Abandoned*. For No Square Theatre in Laguna Beach, he has directed such productions as *Ruthless*, *Xanadu*, [title of show], *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Avenue Q*, and two Stephen Sondheim shows: *A Little Night Music* and *Into the Woods*.



SPOTLIGHT 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!



SPOTLIGHT ON THE COMPOSER

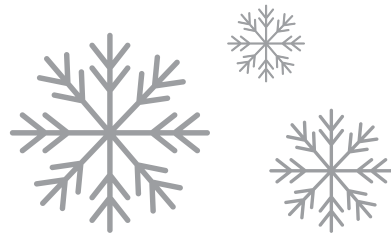


Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky is one of the most famous **Romantic composers** from Russia. He was born in 1840. His mother and father were both trained in the arts, and he started learning how to play piano at age six! Even though he worked as a clerk in the Ministry of Justice, Tchaikovsky would quit this job to follow his passion—music! He went to school full time to study **composition** and would also teach classes. Tchaikovsky wrote many different types of music including **symphonies, concertos, and string quartets**. However, he is most known for his famous **ballets: *The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, and The Sleeping Beauty***.

Thank You!

Pacific Symphony thanks the following for their generous contributions of time to Family Musical Mornings and Heartstrings:
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If you would like to volunteer for Pacific Symphony events, please contact Director of Volunteer Services, Abby Edmunds at aedmunds@pacificsymphony.org or (714) 876-2353 for more information.





The Nutcracker

S	E	K	A	L	F	W	O	N	S	A	I	O	M
N	E	U	O	L	E	B	A	L	L	E	T	L	O
A	F	A	I	R	I	E	S	O	A	R	C	E	U
R	F	N	U	T	C	R	A	C	K	E	R	N	S
N	U	B	E	S	T	D	I	O	Z	F	A	I	E
R	G	Y	K	S	V	O	K	I	A	H	C	T	K
Y	F	R	I	T	Z	W	S	I	A	D	O	N	I
N	S	R	E	O	L	O	L	A	A	A	A	E	N
N	L	T	U	L	O	M	L	C	R	E	C	S	G
U	W	F	I	E	T	D	O	S	L	I	M	I	S
B	S	T	B	R	R	U	D	T	M	A	L	A	O
S	U	G	A	R	P	L	U	M	S	W	R	I	C
C	L	G	S	R	E	I	D	L	O	S	E	A	K
E	E	S	I	U	O	L	F	E	T	U	O	S	A

- SUGAR PLUM
- TCHAIKOVSKY
- BUNNY
- BALLET
- SOLDIERS
- FRITZ
- MICE
- SENTINEL
- SNOWFLAKES
- MOUSE KING
- LOUISE
- DOLLS
- OWL
- NUTCRACKER
- FAIRIES
- CLARA

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Maze

Help Clara escape from the Mouse King!



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