



Cinderella 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Performers,

The following packet has been put together to help answer any questions you may have regarding the production of *Cinderella*. This production will feature original classic choreography focused on Springfield Ballet's 2014 production of *Cinderella*. Additional information will be distributed throughout the semester with regards to rehearsal schedules, parent volunteer opportunities, costume and stage makeup requirements, and other important dates or information.

We will primarily be using email for communicating with parents and performers, so it is extremely important that you provide a reliable email address on the Audition and Consent Form. This form can be found [through this link](#) and must be submitted to Springfield Ballet before the dancer's audition date and time. We encourage any and all questions regarding the production to be sent via email. **We would also recommend that you add the email addresses below to your contact list in order to avoid any emails going to your spam or junk mail.**

Please also check your Gmail Promotions folder as our emails sometimes get filtered there as well. Contact information is listed below for your reference:

Email for Artistic Director, Andrew Parker: aparker@springfieldballet.org

Email for Production Assistant, Emily Walley: production@springfieldballet.org

Phone: (417) 862-1343

Website: www.springfieldballet.org

Tickets for the production are on sale now. You may purchase single tickets through the Landers Theatre box office by calling (417) 869-1334 or at www.landerstheatre.org. Ticket prices* are \$24 for adults, \$20 for students/senior/military, \$18 for children 12 and under, \$18 for groups up to 10, and \$24-\$54 for the NEW at home streaming option. Additional information regarding social distance seating and Returning to the Theatre Guidelines is found on our website on the Tickets page.

CAST LIST:

The Cast List will be emailed and posted no later than **Friday, January 15, 2021**.

We look forward to sharing this exciting experience with you and your child/children. Being a part of a production is a fulfilling experience for dancers of any age and offers numerous learning opportunities for everyone involved! Thank you in advance for allowing your child to participate and for your cooperation in making our production a success.

With passion for dance,

Springfield Ballet Staff & Faculty

**Additional processing fees will apply to single ticket purchases.*



Criteria and Rules for Participation in *Cinderella* 2021

Please read over these rules carefully with your child. Signing the consent form to participate implies understanding and acceptance of these rules.

Criteria

1. **Auditions** are open to students 7 years through adult. (Seven year olds must be four by January 1, 2021.) Auditioning dancers should be prepared to perform combinations in ballet as directed by the artistic staff for roles in *Cinderella*. Proper dancewear and shoes are required.
2. Springfield Ballet **requires** that the consent form be filled out online prior to the audition and the participant and a parent (if the dancer is under 18 years of age) watch the informational video that will be emailed out.
3. Springfield Ballet will provide most of the **costumes** needed; however, each dancer will be required to provide basic dancewear items, including appropriate footwear, tights, and leotards. A damage or replacement fee will be charged for damaged or lost costumes.
4. It is understood that **each participant will maintain a dance class schedule** appropriate for age and skill-level. This is to ensure a high performance level throughout the production process. Each participant must be currently enrolled in dance classes, not necessarily at Springfield Ballet.
5. All cast members must pay a non-refundable production fee: \$100.00 for Springfield Ballet students enrolled in the Winter/Spring 2021 semester or \$150.00 for non-Springfield Ballet students. **All production fees are due by February 1st.** Failure to do so may result in a late fee assessment of \$15.00 and/or dismissal from the production.

Rules

1. **Casting decisions** are at the discretion of the directors/choreographers. Students and their parents must be prepared to accept the role(s) and cast to which they are assigned without question; otherwise, dismissal from the production may result. It is very important that a positive atmosphere be cultivated from the beginning of the production process. Failure to accept a particular role or cast after your child has turned in the consent form will result in not being eligible to audition for Springfield Ballet's *The Nutcracker* 2021 or spring production in 2022.
2. **All rehearsals are mandatory.** Please consult the Detailed Schedule and Rehearsal Expectations documents for specific dates and times (subject to change as needed). In order to provide a professional experience for students and accomplish as much as possible in a short period of time, all rehearsals are closed to parents. Dancers should wear freshly laundered leotards and tights, have appropriate footwear for each rehearsal and be on time and adhere to all schedules. Dancers should arrive in enough time to give themselves a thorough warm-up and transition into rehearsal. Latecomers run the risk of dismissal from the performance. Professional behavior is expected of every performer at all times. Children must conduct themselves in a quiet, orderly fashion during all rehearsals, costume fittings and performances. No running, pushing, shoving, or abusive language is permitted. No eating, drinking, or sitting in costume. No sitting or standing on counters, pianos, or tables. No touching props or scenery. No disrespect to Springfield Ballet or Landers Theatre staff or supervisors. Children are expected to clean up after themselves in the restrooms, keep track of their personal belongings and place all belongings in designated areas. Theft, vandalism, and graffiti are strictly prohibited and will be grounds for immediate dismissal. Writing in or otherwise defacing the costumes or other Springfield Ballet or Landers Theatre property is also grounds for dismissal.
3. **NO absences are allowed whatsoever from dress rehearsals and performances and NO absences are allowed from rehearsals except for extraordinary situations** (one's own religious ceremony, school required event, short-term injury or illness). Social events will not be considered valid reasons to miss rehearsal. Every anticipated conflict must be brought to the director's attention well before the event (please list requested absences on the Audition and Consent Form). Long-term illness or injury subjects the dancer to dismissal. It is the responsibility of the dancer to remain healthy. If a dancer misses a rehearsal due to short-term illness (1-3 days), the absence may be excused as long as Springfield Ballet is informed before the rehearsal begins. One unexcused absence constitutes grounds for dismissal from the production. Performers who have absences (excused or unexcused) may be asked to schedule a make-up

rehearsal with the director or rehearsal assistant. These make-up rehearsals cannot fully replace missing a rehearsal as they are done privately with the director or rehearsal assistant as opposed to with the full group, but may be deemed necessary to ensure the dancer is prepared for the performances. The director will contact the dancer's family should it be determined that a make-up rehearsal is necessary. Cost for the make-up rehearsal is the private lesson rate (\$60 per hour, \$30 per half-hour, \$15 per quarter-hour) and is due at the time of the make-up rehearsal.



Frequently Asked Questions for *Cinderella*

What is the *Cinderella* production?

One of two main-stage productions performed by Springfield Ballet.

When and where are performances held?

Landers Theatre performances are **scheduled for Friday, April 16 at 7:30pm; Saturday, April 17 at 11:00am & 4:00pm and Sunday, April 18 at 2:00pm.** (Rehearsals until production week are held at The Creamery Arts Center.) It is a possibility that not all performers will perform in all shows; however, they must be ready to fill in for their alternate in another cast in case of injury or illness.

Who is eligible to audition and participate?

Any dancer 7 years through adult is eligible to audition for *Cinderella*. Seven-year-olds must be seven by January 1, 2021. Students are expected to maintain an appropriate dance class schedule for their level and to continue attending their regular dance classes as scheduled during *Cinderella* rehearsal period.

What is the cost to participate in the production?

The audition is free of charge. If cast, all cast members must pay a non-refundable production fee: \$100.00 for Springfield Ballet students enrolled in the Winter/Spring 2021 semester or \$150.00 for non-SB students. **All production fees are due by February 1st.** Failure to do so will result in a late fee assessment of \$15.00 or dismissal from the production. Springfield Ballet is a not-for-profit organization. The production fee helps cover the cost of use of the costumes, rehearsal time and a production poster. Other costs associated with the production are tickets to the performances and personal costume items (see below).

How do I know if my child is ready for this experience?

Ask your child's dance instructor if you are unsure. Dance instructors see sides of a child in the studio that may not be apparent in their home or academic settings. You should plan on not being able to be with your child at all times (during rehearsals and backstage during performance). Please make sure you can meet all of the rehearsal commitments.

How does the audition process work?

1. The dancer will be measured and confirmation of receipt of their online Audition and Consent Form will be made.
2. Then, students will be divided into small groups and asked to perform various steps and combinations as directed by the artistic staff. Consideration will be given to technical and artistic skills as well as height and size. Feedback will not be given at the audition itself.
3. A casting sheet will be posted by Friday, January 15 on Springfield Ballet's bulletin board at The Creamery Arts Center; it will also be emailed to the address/es provided on the Audition and Consent Form. Do not call the business office for casting information.
4. Rehearsals begin. A dancer's attitude and participation in rehearsals will be taken into account for casting in a specific role.

What is appropriate attire for the audition and what is the attire for rehearsals?

Ladies—Black leotard (pale pink leotard accepted for age 7), pink tights, pink ballet slippers, hair slicked back to a bun, pointe shoes (if applicable)

Gentlemen—White t-shirt, black tights or pants, black ballet shoes with white socks

Once rehearsals begin, all performers should follow Springfield Ballet's dress code for rehearsals.

What if my child doesn't get a part or doesn't get the part she or he wanted?

Please talk with your child about this possibility in advance and emphasize that as long as something is learned from the experience, it is worthwhile. Children (and their parents!) must be prepared to accept the role and cast as assigned by the director/choreographer without question.

What can dancers expect to get out of *the Cinderella* experience?

Children will:

- Learn how to work among several levels of dancers
- Handle their emotions constructively
- Increase their self-sufficiency
- Watch the development of choreography
- Learn and practice dance etiquette in rehearsals, backstage, and on-stage
- Observe many aspects of staging a theater production

Do I have to buy, rent, or clean costumes?

No, but a damage or replacement fee will be charged for any costumes returned in poor condition or not returned at all. Costumes are property of Springfield Ballet. Dancers will need to provide their own tights, footwear, leotards, hair accessories, jewelry and makeup. A detailed list of all costume requirements will be distributed in March via email.

What are the rehearsal commitments?

Performing artists **must** be at every rehearsal, on time, for the complete duration of the rehearsal.

- Weekly rehearsals will begin as early as Thursday, January 21. Please see Detailed Schedule. Not all roles will begin rehearsing during this week.
- Rehearsals will be held Thursdays 7:00-9:30 pm, Fridays 7:00-9:30 pm, and Saturdays 12:30-6:00pm. Dancers must be available to rehearse during these times but will not be needed for all times listed.
- Other times all cast members will need to be at the studio or theater includes: costume fittings, stage makeup check, studio run-through, technical and blocking rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and all cast performances. Performers ages 10 and up must participate in strike after the last performance. Please check the detailed schedule.

What are blocking, technical and dress rehearsals?

Blocking rehearsals (usually combined with technical rehearsals) involve placing dancers on stage so that they understand where to go and what to do during the performances. Technical rehearsals are done on the performance stage so that the technical crew can set up and design lighting, scenery, props, and sound for the actual performances. Even though the dancers have been rehearsing for weeks, it looks and feels different on the real stage. Blocking and technical rehearsals are generally long and tedious because the dancers don't do a lot of "dancing" during them, but they are absolutely essential to successful performances. Dress rehearsals include costumes and makeup, and usually run through the entire performance. All blocking, technical, and dress rehearsals are **mandatory** for all performers.

Can parents sit in on rehearsals, especially for their young children?

No. Parents are not allowed in any rehearsals at any time. If a child isn't ready for the rehearsal process, she or he is not ready for the challenges of performance.

If my child misses a rehearsal due to illness, will she or he be dismissed from the production?

No, as long as Springfield Ballet is informed before the rehearsal begins. If Springfield Ballet is not informed before rehearsal begins, dismissal may result. Short-term illness (1-3 days) may be excused. It is the responsibility of the dancer to remain healthy. Long-term illness or injury may result in dismissal.

What if our family has an important, pre-planned obligation that would necessitate missing rehearsal(s)?

Make the artistic staff aware of the conflict on the Audition and Consent Form, but as a rule, the only excused absences that will be granted are for a school-required/grade-affected event, one's own religious ceremony, short-term injury or illness, or extraordinary circumstances determined on a case-by-case basis. If you cannot make the entire time commitment (and this includes every part of every rehearsal), please do not plan on participating. The staff makes the same commitment to offer your child this opportunity.

What volunteer opportunities are available for the production?

The Springfield Ballet Guild organizes all production volunteers. The positions available include but are not limited to the following: costumer, backstage helper, dancer sign-in/out, group leader, help with cast party, flower shop, boutique helper, etc. If a parent has a skill or talent that could be put to good use for the production, please let us know.

Cinderella 2021 Rehearsal Expectations

Below is an explanation of what is expected of dancers with regards to rehearsal time commitments and how many conflicts are permitted. Most roles rehearse 1-2 times per week for 30-90 minutes. Rehearsals will begin as early as Jan 21; however, some roles may not begin rehearsing until February. As a reminder, dancers are expected to arrive early and be ready to dance at the scheduled time of each rehearsal.

Roles to rehearse during Thursday 7:00-9:30 pm, Friday 7:00-9:30 pm and Saturday 12:30-6:00 pm:

Most of the roles below are typically for dancers in Ballet 3 through 8.

Roles to rehearse during Thursday 7:00-9:00 pm and Saturday 12:30-6:00 pm (possibility of a Friday 7:00-8:30 rehearsal time for some roles for dancers in Ballet 2, 2/3): Roles for dancers in Creative Movement 1, Creative Movement 2, Pre-Ballet, Ballet 1 through 2/3.

****Expectation for rehearsal commitments is listing a maximum of 2 Thursday conflicts, 2 Friday conflicts and/or 2 Saturday conflicts, with no more than 4 total conflicts listed.** Please indicate any individual dates and the reason that you are not available to rehearse in your listed conflicts.

*****IMPORTANT NOTES*****

- For all listed conflicts, please list the conflict date and the reason for the conflict.
- If you are available for part of a rehearsal time block (for example, on a Saturday you could rehearse anytime from 12:30-3:00, but you are not available to rehearse after 3:00), please indicate that on the form.
- Rehearsals WILL BE held during Spring Break weekends on March 11-13 for ALL roles & March 18-20 for SELECT roles (roles needed will be specified by Feb 15th). If you have a scheduled vacation during that time, please list it on the Audition & Consent Form. These dates will count toward the maximum conflict allotment.
- **IMPORTANT:** Anyone wanting to list April 1-3 and April 8-10 as a conflict needs to get the director's approval prior to Feb 1.
- No conflicts are allowed for April 10 or April 12-18 (production week), except for extraordinary circumstances. These will be approved on a case-by-case basis and need to be brought to the director's attention at or before the auditions.
- If you have more conflicts than what is permitted (as listed above), each additional conflict date needs the director's approval. Please email, aparker@springfieldballet.com to receive approval.
- It is expected that all conflicts are listed on the Audition & Consent Form. Any additional school-required event conflicts or one's own religious ceremony conflicts added after rehearsals begin needs the director's approval. Trips and vacations cannot be added as conflicts after rehearsals begin.
- No conflicts (except sickness) may be added after February 1. HOWEVER, if you already listed the maximum allotment of conflicts, adding additional conflicts later could result in dismissal from the production.