



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 24, 2020

**NEW YORK CITY BALLET and MARQUEE TV
Present the Beloved Holiday Classic
GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER®**

**Available for Streaming on Marquee TV From
DECEMBER 11, 2020 through JANUARY 3, 2021**

**Never-Before-Seen Film Adaptation of NYCB's Landmark Staging
Was Captured During a Live Performance Last Year**

**NYCB's Production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*®
is Sponsored by The Travelers Companies, Inc.**

For the upcoming holiday season New York City Ballet (NYCB) and Marquee TV will bring viewers around the world NYCB's acclaimed production of the beloved masterpiece *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® in a special streaming event that will be available from December 11, 2020 through January 3, 2021 on Marquee TV. Tickets will be available for purchase starting November 27 at 10am EST at marquee.tv/nycbnutcracker and will be priced at \$25 in the United States. (Prices will vary internationally.)

NYCB's landmark version of the Balanchine favorite, which *The New York Times* has called "the gold standard" Nutcracker, premiered on February 2, 1954 and helped to establish *The Nutcracker* and its score as perennial favorites in the United States. A signature event of the holiday season in New York City, with the exception of the 2020 season when performances were cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the treasured classic had been performed by NYCB every year since its premiere more than 65 years ago.

Filmed during the Company's 2019 season at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center, the Marquee TV broadcast features NYCB Principal Dancers Maria Kowroski as the Sugarplum Fairy, Tyler Angle as Her Cavalier, Megan Fairchild as Dewdrop, and more than 50 dancers from NYCB, the largest dance organization in America and one of the world's greatest ballet companies. The production also features the 62-piece New York City Ballet Orchestra under the direction of NYCB Music Director Andrew Litton, and more than 60 children from the School of American Ballet, the official school of NYCB.

This film of *George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker*® was captured in 2019 for use in “On Pointe,” an original six-part docu-series produced by Imagine Documentaries and DCTV that follows the lives of several SAB students during the 2019-20 school year, including the children who perform the roles of Marie and the Nutcracker prince in the film. The “On Pointe” docu-series will be available on Disney+ beginning December 18.

“New York City Ballet and *George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker*® are essential parts of the holiday season in New York City and we are thrilled that through our new partnership with Marquee TV audiences everywhere will now have the opportunity to experience the beauty and magic of this treasured classic in the comfort and safety of their own homes during what continues to be a very challenging year,” said Jonathan Stafford, the Artistic Director of NYCB and SAB.

“The past nine months have certainly put the Marquee TV platform to the test. We’ve seen an incredible amount of growth and a humbling level of trust from our partners in the arts field, most of whom have had to quickly and drastically change the course of their 20-21 seasons,” said Kathleya Afanador, co-founder of Marquee TV and Head of Content. “*George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker*® is not simply an iconic production—it’s a cherished holiday tradition that brings joy to so many people every year. We’re so pleased to be partnering with New York City Ballet to bring that joy to families and homes across the world.”

“Each year New York City Ballet’s live performances of *George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker*® provide a vital introduction to ballet for countless children who attend performances with their families, or attend special matinees for students from New York City’s public schools,” said Katherine Brown, Executive Director of NYCB. “For the past nine years The Travelers Companies, Inc. has helped to make this ongoing tradition possible with their generous sponsorship of the production. We are extremely grateful to have their support again this year, and we hope that more people than ever before will be able to make this cherished production a part of their holiday.”

“We could not be more pleased to continue our support of New York City Ballet and are excited that this extraordinary production of *George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker*® will be available for families everywhere to enjoy this holiday season,” said Lisa Caputo, Executive Vice President of Marketing, Communications and Customer Experience at Travelers.

ABOUT GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER®

Set to Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky's glorious score, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® features choreography by Balanchine, scenery by Rouben Ter-Arutunian, costumes by Karinska, and lighting by Mark Stanley, after the original design by Ronald Bates. Highlights of this world-renowned holiday production include a one-ton Christmas tree that grows from 12 to 40 feet, an onstage snowstorm, and hundreds of elaborate costumes, including one for Mother Ginger that measures 9 feet wide and weighs 85 pounds. The production's grand finale involves one million watts of lighting, the most used in any New York City Ballet production.

ABOUT MARQUEE TV and HOW TO WATCH

Launched in 2018, Marquee TV (marquee.tv) is the on-demand streaming platform dedicated to global arts and culture. Serving up a world-class catalogue of contemporary and classic masterpieces, including dance, opera, music, theatre, and documentaries, Marquee TV has been designed for a growing digital audience of determined culture lovers and the arts-curious. Learn more at marquee.tv and follow along [@MarqueeArtsTV](https://twitter.com/MarqueeArtsTV) on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).

Viewers can purchase tickets at marquee.tv/nycbnutcracker, or via in-app purchase via Apple and Android devices, and will then be able to enjoy the performance on all of Marquee TV's apps, including browser, iOS, Apple TV, Android TV, Android, Fire TV, Roku and the soon to be released Samsung app. Viewers will be able to start the performance at their own convenience from December 11th to January 3, and will have 48 hours to finish watching after first play. Marquee TV's apps also include AirPlay and Chromecast support.

ABOUT NEW YORK CITY BALLET

New York City Ballet is one of the foremost dance companies in the world. The Company was founded in 1948 by George Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein, and quickly became world-renowned for its athletic and contemporary style. Jerome Robbins joined NYCB the following year and, with Balanchine, helped to build its unparalleled repertory. Now under the direction of NYCB Artistic Director Jonathan Stafford, NYCB Associate Artistic Director Wendy Whelan, and NYCB Executive Director Katherine Brown, NYCB is committed to promoting creative excellence and nurturing a new generation of dancers and choreographers.

PRINCIPAL CASTING for *GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER*® on MARQUEE TV

Filmed on December 5, 2019, David H. Koch Theater, Lincoln Center

Conductor ANDREW LITTON

The Sugarplum Fairy MARIA KOWROSKI

Her Cavalier TYLER ANGLE

Dewdrop MEGAN FAIRCHILD

Marie SOPHIA THOMOPOULOS+

Herr Drosselmeier ADAM HENDRICKSON++

His Nephew (The Nutcracker) KAI MISRA-STONE+

Marzipan Shepherdess LAUREN KING

Hot Chocolate ASHLEY HOD and PETER WALKER

Coffee GEORGINA PAZCOGUIN

Tea SPARTAK HOXHA

Candy Cane DANIEL ULBRICHT

Mother Ginger PRESTON CHAMBLEE

Flowers MIRA NADON and UNITY PHELAN

Harlequin and Columbine INDIA BRADLEY and RACHEL HUTSELL

Soldier ROMAN MEJIA

Mouse King SILAS FARLEY

Dr. Stahlbaum ASK la COUR

Frau Stahlbaum MARIKA ANDERSON

with Dancers of the NEW YORK CITY BALLET, Students of the SCHOOL OF AMERICAN BALLET,
and Musicians of the NEW YORK CITY BALLET ORCHESTRA

+ *Student of the School of American Ballet*

++ *Guest Artist*