

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 28, 2021

## NEW YORK CITY BALLET CANCELS REMAINING LIVE PERFORMANCES OF GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER®

## THE PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO BE AVAILABLE FOR AT-HOME STREAMING ON MARQUEE TV THROUGH SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

New York City Ballet has canceled all remaining performances of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*<sup>®</sup> through Sunday, January 2 at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts due to a number of additional positive test results for breakthrough COVID-19 among people involved in the production.

In making the announcement, NYCB Executive Director Kathy Brown and Artistic Director Jonathan Stafford said, "While New York City Ballet had hoped to resume performances this evening we have made the decision that continuing to perform at this time would not be in the best interest of the NYCB community, whose health and safety is our number one priority. We are extraordinarily proud of everyone who safely came together to present 30 beautiful performances of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*<sup>®</sup> in recent weeks, and we are also very grateful to the thousands of people who attended."

Audience members holding tickets for the canceled performances can receive a full refund or donate the value of their tickets to NYCB as a tax-deductible charitable contribution. Donations can be processed by emailing <u>customercare@nycballet.com</u> and including "Donate My Nutcracker Tickets" in the subject line, or visiting the David H. Koch Theater box office. Refunds will be automatically processed for all ticket buyers who have not donated their tickets by January 10.

## **GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER® ON MARQUEE TV**

This year New York City Ballet has partnered with Marquee TV to once again bring *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*<sup>®</sup> to viewers around the world, in a special streaming event that is available through January 2, 2022 on Marquee TV. Filmed during the Company's 2019 season at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center, the Marquee TV broadcast features recently retired NYCB Principal Dancer Maria Kowroski as the Sugarplum Fairy, Tyler Angle as Her Cavalier, and Megan Fairchild as Dewdrop. Tickets are available for purchase at <u>welcome.marquee.tv/nutcracker</u> and are priced at \$20 in the United States. (Prices vary internationally.)

## ABOUT GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER®

New York City Ballet's acclaimed production of Balanchine's masterpiece, which premiered on February 2, 1954, helped to establish *The Nutcracker* and its score as perennial favorites in the United States, evident by the now countless versions of the ballet performed all over the country. With the exception of the 2020 season when performances could not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NYCB's beloved production has been performed in New York City every year since its premiere. 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. The production's grand finale involves one million watts of lighting, the most used in any New York City Ballet production.

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