



Herr and Frau Silberhaus
and their children, Clara and Fritz

Request the Honor of Your Presence

AT A JOYOUS, IMMERSIVE HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Benefitting the Nutcracker Orchestra.

THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-FOURTH OF JULY

TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE

AT SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

Bakersfield Country Club

4200 COUNTRY CLUB DR.

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Tickets

TABLE OF 8: \$800

ADULT: \$120 YOUTH: \$80

<https://givebutter.com/JulyChristmas>

"Party Scene" themed attire encouraged.
Well-behaved age six & older are invited.

CIVIC DANCE CENTER'S

The Nutcracker

A MAGICAL HOLIDAY TRADITION



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Dear Friends and Supporters,

After years of being part of this remarkable tradition, I've learned that planning for *The Nutcracker* begins long before anyone thinks of snowflakes or sugar plums. In fact, while many are enjoying summer vacations, we are already preparing – building the foundation for something truly magical. It's this early preparation that makes our community production so extraordinary as one of the few in the nation to feature a live orchestra.

This summer, we're thrilled to present our second annual Christmas in July on July 24th. It is a "Party Scene" themed dinner party and fundraiser. With live *Nutcracker* excerpts, catered dinner, and a silent auction, this festive event at Bakersfield Country Club raises vital funds for our live orchestra. We hope you'll join us in celebrating and supporting this one-of-a-kind tradition.

During Nutcracker week we also perform four Young People's Concerts that are educational performances for Kern County students. Our younger audiences are shown how dancers prepare, what happens during scene changes, and see a shortened version of the show. We feel it is vital to our community that our students see the living collaboration of performers with live musicians. To help with this we are seeking a Young People's Concert presenter – a sponsor to help bring live ballet and orchestra to **thousands** of Kern County students – sparking imagination and inspiration for the next generation.

We invite you to be part of this tradition by supporting the Nutcracker Orchestra. Your tax-deductible donation helps us provide live music, support local musicians, and offer unforgettable experiences for families and students across our region.

Every year I am amazed by the quality and beauty that happen during our *Nutcracker* performances. The care that the musicians have for getting Tchaikovsky's music just right for the dancers, combined with the expressiveness, excellence, and commitment offered by the dancers all creates deeply moving art. Each year our audiences recognize that immense contribution from all 200 performers who transform into artists. We do it to serve, love, and bring beautiful life to our audiences. Whether you donate, attend Christmas in July, or attend the show – your support brings *The Nutcracker* to life.

Sincerely,



Stephen C. Penner

Music Director

Bakersfield Nutcracker Orchestra

Bakersfield City Ballet | 501c(3) EIN 77-0335833
8200 Stockdale Hwy. M-10 321
Bakersfield, CA 93311

CIVIC DANCE CENTER'S

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

For 47 years, Civic Dance Center's production of *The Nutcracker* has been more than a holiday tradition — it's been a powerful expression of community, artistry, and collaboration. At the heart of this magic lies a rare and cherished element: a live orchestra.

Ours is one of only a few Nutcracker productions nationwide that features live music, and this choice reflects our deep commitment to enriching the local arts scene. When our dancers take the stage, they don't simply follow choreography — they respond to the conductor's downbeat, the swell of the violins, and the pulse of the timpani. This live dialogue between musician and dancer creates an electric synergy that audiences feel in every movement and every note.

The result is more than a performance. It's a shared, immersive experience that evokes joy, nostalgia, and wonder — for children and adults alike. It's also an invaluable opportunity for our pre-professional dancers to perform with live musicians, nurturing the next generation of artists and arts lovers right here in our community.

But the impact of the arts goes far beyond the stage.

Countless studies have shown that engagement with the arts contributes to improved mental and physical health — from reduced anxiety and lower blood pressure to improved recovery outcomes and emotional well-being. In this way, performances like *The Nutcracker* don't just entertain — they uplift and heal, offering restorative experiences that unite people across generations and backgrounds.

As we prepare for this year's production, we invite you to become a part of this legacy by supporting our live Nutcracker Orchestra. Your tax-deductible donation helps fund the talented local musicians who make this magic possible and ensures that *The Nutcracker* continues to inspire, delight, and bring our community together year after year.

Thank you for believing in the power of the arts. We couldn't do it without you!

With gratitude,



Erica Ueberroth

Executive Artistic Director
Civic Dance Center

Artistic Director
Bakersfield City Ballet

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DONOR LEVELS

SUGAR PLUM FAIRY **\$15,000**

As the orchestra presenter your logo and branding will be on all distributed materials, signage, media correspondence/releases and social media, exclusive acknowledgement display in the lobby, space reserved in lobby for your promotional materials, pre-content 2-page spread* in Performance Program, listing on sponsors page, 8 VIP performance tickets, prominent display with logo at top of sponsors list on fundraising website. 1 VIP Table (8 seats) at the Christmas in July Event.

NUTCRACKER PRINCE **\$5,000**

Company logo on all advertising materials and tagging in social media posts. 1 full page pre-content ad/space. Prominent display with logo near top of sponsors list on fundraising website, * 4 VIP Performance Tickets and a Table (8 seats) at the Christmas in July Event.

CLARA **\$2,500**

Company logo on all advertising materials and tagging in social media posts, a half page ad/space*, prominent display near top of sponsors list on fundraising website. 2 VIP Performance Tickets and 4 seats at the Christmas in July Event.

DROSSELMEYER **\$1,000**

Acknowledgement in the Nutcracker Program, on the Fundraising Website, and a quarter page ad/space.* Also receives 2 VIP Performance Tickets and 2 tickets to the Christmas in July Event.

SNOW QUEEN **\$500**

Everything described in Fritz and:
2 VIP performance tickets, 2 Christmas in July Event Tickets.

FRITZ **\$250**

Everything described in Party Guests, and social media feature.

PARTY GUEST **\$100**

Acknowledgement in the Nutcracker program and on the fundraising website.

BON BON **<\$100**

The littlest sweets that make the show. Bon Bons get listed on the fundraising website.

*This year's program book will be a full-color 8.5"x11"
Deadline for inclusion in full marketing materials is 9/22/25.
Deadline for inclusion in program is 11/7/25.

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According to research, the benefits of exposure to music and the arts for at-risk youth into adulthood are incredible:

Exposure and access to music and the arts...

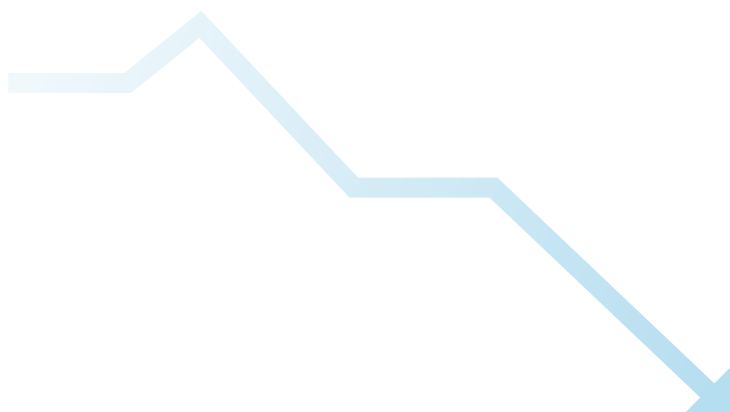
Increases

- School attendance
- Self-esteem, cultural empathy
- Confidence
- Personal empowerment
- Exercise capacity
- Healthy nutrition
- Executive functioning
- Memory
- Immune activity
- Control of blood glucose levels in diabetics



Decreases

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Emotional alienation
- Truancy
- Aggression
- Likelihood of mental illness/ dementia
- Cognitive decline
- Blood pressure
- Heartrate
- Stress hormones



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Evidence on the Role of Arts in Improving Health and Well-being

- English longitudinal study of ageing cohort 50 years and older showed people who engaged with receptive arts activities on an infrequent basis such as attending a music or theater performance once or twice a year had a 14% lower risk of dying at any point during the follow-up compared with those who never engaged. ("The art of life and death: 14 year follow-up analyses of associations between arts engagement and mortality in the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing" Fancourt D, Steptoe A. *The BMJ*)
- Among children specifically identified as at risk (living in areas characterized by high levels of economic deprivation, substandard housing, lack of health care, and social isolation), music has been found to reduce anxiety, depression, emotional alienation, truancy and aggression, as well as increasing school attendance, self-esteem, cultural empathy, confidence, personal empowerment, and healthy nutrition. ("Short and long term outcomes for culturally and linguistically diverse and at-risk communities in participatory music programs: a systematic review." Cain M, Lakhani A, Istvandy L. *Arts Health*)
- People who engage with the arts are more likely to lead healthier lives, including healthily and staying physically active, irrespective of their socioeconomic status and social capital ("Think of your art-eries: arts participation, behavioral cardiovascular risk and mental well-being in deprived communities. Renton A, Phillips G, Daykin N, Yu G, Taylor K, Petticrew M. *London Public Health*)
- Arts engagement can help to reduce the risk of developing mental illness such as depression in adolescence and older age ("Effects of creativity on social and behavioral adjustment in 7- to 11-year old children" Fancourt D, Steptoe A. *N Y Academy of Science*)
- Cultural engagement (going to the theatre, concerts, museums or exhibitions) contributes to cognitive reserve: the resilience of our brains as we age. Stronger visual spatial abilities, executive functioning, memory, as well as lower risk of cognitive decline or dementia have been found in individuals engaged in music and dance arts in particular. ("What is cognitive reserve? Theory and research application of the reserve concept" Stern Y. *J Int Neuropsychology Soc*)
- Outside of treatment sessions, regular participation in arts activities have been found to help with the management of mental health in patients with cancer including reducing stress, anxiety, depression and improving quality of life. These positive effects on psychological factors are accompanied by physiological changes including decreases in blood pressure and heart rate, decreases in stress hormones, increases in immune activity, and reductions in inflammation ("Effects of music intervention on the physical and mental status of patients with breast cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis" Wang X, Zhang Y, Fan Y, Tan XS, Lei X. *Breast Care*)
- Listening to music has been found to help control blood glucose levels and glycated haemoglobin during ordinary and stressful situations in both those with diabetes and those without. ("The biological impact of listening to music in clinical and nonclinical settings: a systematic review" Finn S, Fancourt D. *Prog Brain Res*)
- Listening to music improved exercise capacity and individuals ability to manage breathlessness while exercising; reduced anxiety, blood pressure, breathlessness; improved long-term quality of life, lung, fatigue, and oxygen saturation among individuals with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. ("Distractive auditory stimuli in the form of music in individuals with COPD: a systematic review" Lee AL, Desveaux L, Goldstein RS, Brooks D. *Chest*)

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SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT

Yes, I'd like to support the live orchestra tradition
of Civic Dance Center's *The Nutcracker*!

Check all that apply:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Plum Fairy \$15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Party Guest \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutcracker Prince \$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas in July Table \$800 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clara \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Unfortunately, I am unable to sponsor,
but I would like to donate \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drosselmeyer \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to donate this silent auction
item: _____
valued at \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Queen \$500 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fritz \$250 | |

Please mail checks & this form to:

Bakersfield City Ballet
8200 Stockdale Hwy. M-10 321
Bakersfield, CA 93311

For credit cards please visit:

<https://givebutter.com/NutcrackerOrchestra>

Sponsor Name:

Representative:

Address:

Phone Email

Deadline for Christmas in July table sponsorships and silent auction items is 7/17/25. Deadline for inclusion in full sponsorship marketing materials is 9/22/25.
Deadline for inclusion in the program is 11/7/25.

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