

OPENING NIGHT!

Can you feel the excitement in the air? It is Ballet West's biggest opening night of the year. The Nutcracker opens tonight! Come follow Clara as she journeys to a dreamland full of wonder and enchantment! Whether you are watching for the first time or one of many, this yearly tradition always brings the magic of the holidays!

Did you know this version of The Nutcracker, created by Willam Christensen is in the 1st Nutcracker danced in the US? Ballets West's productions is not only the 1st, but the longest running, and some say the best, and we humbly agree!

Check out some fun history, critics reviews, and an interview with Ballet West Director Adam Sklute [here!](#)

There are over 300 children in 4 casts of The Nutcracker dancing at the Capitol Theatre from December 2-24. Chances are one of your classmates will be dancing when you go to the ballet.

Do you have a favorite role or scene in The Nutcracker? If you haven't been, you can [purchase tickets now.](#)



MOVEMENT MENTOR PROGRAM



Jackson was born with spina bifida and hip dysplasia. He met William about 3 years ago at the Shriners Hospital where they were in a Spina Bifida Physical Therapy Program together. Jackson and William (pictured left) have the opportunity to dance together in the Movement Mentor Program. "So far, the class has been a delight! It helps them be more aware of their abilities through movement and dance." Says Jackson's mom, Clarisa.

Movement Mentor is an adaptive dance program which pairs special needs dancers, age 5-22 with one of our BWA advanced students as a mentor in their weekly dance classes. Classes are taught by faculty member Jessica

Baynes at JEQBC. Each year our SLC Movement Mentor students like Jackson and William, alongside their Mentors, perform in the Primary School Spring Showcase in May. Similar classes are taught at our Utah County Campus.

MEET AND GREET RECEPTION



Thanks to all the Utah County families who attended our reception at the Capitol Theatre on Thursday evening. This was a great opportunity to get our students from the new Utah County Campus and the former Barlow Arts Conservatory together to meet each other, and staff and administration of BWA. We loved seeing so many new and familiar faces together in our happy spaces. We hope you enjoyed the evening. We can't wait to see what amazing things you will do together as the new Utah County Campus of Ballet West Academy. You can see students from Utah County Campus along side former Barlow Arts Conservatory students performing at the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium "Festival of the Seas" on December 12th at 6:30.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

- Ballet West – The Nutcracker, December 2nd -24th at The Capitol Theatre [Get tickets here!](#)
- Master Class with Sara Knight December 9th 6-8:00 pm at JEQ Ballet Centre [Sign up here.](#)
- Utah County Campus - Aquarium Festival of the Seas Performance, December 12th 6:30
- Park City Campus – Nutcrackers Suite, December 20th 2:00, 7:00 [Tickets here.](#)
- Nutcracker Tea at Grande America Hotel, December 21st 11:00
- Winter Break – December 19th – January 2nd, No Classes – All Campuses
- Trolley Corners Winter Showcase "Fairy Tale Birthday Celebration", January 16th at Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center
- JEQ Ballet Center Winter Showcase "Bournonville Dances", January 21st at Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center