

THE FIRST

Nancy Gold McFall, who was the VERY FIRST Clara for Ballet West Nutcracker from 1955-1961, says she relives the experience every year she comes back to watch the production. "I just fell in love with Clara and became her on stage," said McFall. "I can still see myself dancing on stage when I watch it now."

Ballet West's founder, Willam Christensen, introduced the world to the first American version of The Nutcracker on Christmas Eve in 1944 after founding the San Francisco Ballet. When he moved to Salt Lake City in 1955, he brought his choreographed production, and since then, Christensen's The Nutcracker has been the centerpiece of Salt Lake City's holiday festivities.

If you have had the opportunity to perform in, or watch Christensen's The Nutcracker at Ballet West, you have been a part of the longest running Nutcracker in the country!



Nancy Gold McFall

DANCING WITH THE FISHIES!

Our Utah County Campus returned to Loveland Living Planet Aquarium for 2 special performances as part of their Festival of the Seas holiday celebration. This year was extra special with students from the newly formed Utah County Campus which combines our Thanksgiving Point students and students from the former Barlow Arts Conservatory. This was the first opportunity that these beautiful dancers have had to take the stage together! It was a fun and festive event for the whole family!



GUESS WHO? – NUTCRACKER EDITION

If you haven't been to our Trolley Corners Campus lately you may not have seen our fun guessing game with pictures of all our faculty and staff when they were young dancers. We all started dancer sometime and here is the proof! Here are a couple of fun BW Nutcracker throwback pictures for you to try and guess. The first is a darling buffoon from 1979, and the second in a party girl in 1965! We love seeing all these fun BW Nutcracker pictures!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

- Ballet West – The Nutcracker, December 2nd -24th at The Capitol Theatre [Get tickets here!](#)
- Park City Campus Nutcrackers Suite, December 20th 2:00, 7:00 [Tickets here.](#)
- Nutcracker Tea at Grande America Hotel, December 21st 11:00 [Nutcracker Tea here.](#)
- **Winter Break – December 19th – January 2nd**, No Classes - All Campuses
- **Adult Ballet Starter Series Begins January 12** Sign up on BWA website for true beginners.
- Trolley Corners Campus Winter Showcase "Fairy Tale Birthday Celebration", January 16th at Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center for Beginning and Elementary students.
- JEQ Ballet Centre Campus Winter Showcase "Bournonville Dances", January 21st at Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center for Levels 1-PTD.

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