

NUTCRACKER AUDITIONS

Tomorrow is the day for Nutcracker Auditions!!! There is still time to register your 8-20-year-old child if you have not yet done so. There will be a video sent to you with the choreography for the audition and there will also be rehearsal time prior to the audition, after check in.

This year, the auditions will be held at the Ballet West Academy JEQ Ballet Centre located at 52 W. 200 S. in SLC.

Casting for children's roles in Ballet West's production of The Nutcracker are based on age AND height. Dancers must be able to fit into the amazing, custom-designed costumes, be mature enough to learn and retain the choreography in a short amount of time, and be responsible and respectful in a professional production with the Company on stage a full audience watching. It is a BIG job. We hope you will join us! [Sign up to audition here.](#)



DANCE FOR LIFE GALA AND MASTER CLASSES

Dance for Life is an annual event raising awareness for mental health and suicide. This year's event includes a wellness workshop, silent auction, masterclasses, and afternoon and evening performances. We are excited to have members of the Ballet West Academy family participating in the master classes offered on Saturday, and our Trainee Division performing at the Gala performance. You can register for [Master Classes here.](#)

Bridget Boutin - teaching lower levels 9:00 -10:00 a.m.

Jeff Rogers - teaching intermediate/advance 10:00-11:30

Special Guest Teacher from San Francisco Ballet, Principal Dancer Katherine Barkman 4:00-6:30

The Ballet West Trainee Division has been working hard preparing the finale of "Second Before the Ground" by Trey McIntyre - to perform at the Dance for Life Gala on Saturday. We are excited to watch our Trainees in their first performance of the 2023-2024 Season!

The Gala will be held on Saturday, September 16th for two performances. 2:00pm and 7:30pm, at the Capitol Theatre. This annual performance brings together performing groups from around the state for this inspiring fundraiser. If you would like to support this cause you may purchase tickets [HERE.](#)

NASD CONFERENCE

Principal Faculty and Associate Director of Curriculum, Stacey Mahan and Senior Operations Manager, Jennifer Hildreth attended the National Association for Schools of Dance Annual Conference in Tucson, Arizona. During the conference, they connected with other leaders in the field of dance education and professional dance training, and attended sessions addressing the ever-evolving environment of best teaching practices. Ballet West Academy is currently in the process of becoming a nationally accredited institution, as the Academy is role model for professional training programs across the country. Stacey and Jennifer also found inspiration in the dancing saguaro cacti!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

- **Nutcracker Auditions September 16th.** Held at the JEQBC.
- **Dance for Life Workshops September 16th** - Held at BC [Sign up here.](#)
- **Dance for Life Suicide Awareness Gala September 16th** - 2:00pm, 7:30pm Capitol Theatre [Get tickets here!](#)