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**OLYMPIC PERFORMANCE GROUP PRESENTS
THE NUTCRACKER, DEC. 4-7 – TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

Bainbridge Island & Poulsbo– Olympic Performance Group (OPG) presents an unexpected twist on the classic holiday favorite “*The Nutcracker*.” Highlights of this unusual production include a Roaring Twenties party scene, a whimsical Waltz of the Flowers featuring lyrical modern choreography with Clara dancing alongside the Wildflowers, funky hip-hop Russian dancers, Arabian reinvented as a genie in a bottle, and a novel addition to the Land of the Sweets – the sultry flapper girl, “Sweet Tart.”

Choreographers for this production include OPG president Sara L. Cramer, OPG staff choreographers Anna James Percival, Stephanie Clarke, Jordan Lindy Piehl, and Seattle choreographers Alex Ung, Lauren Matthew, and Gareth Scott.

OPG soloist Johanna Lund (most recently seen sharing the title role in *Cinderella* with Becca Smith) plays the Sugar Plum Fairy, one of the most technically challenging roles in classical ballet. Seattle dancer and choreographer Gareth Scott plays the Prince and will be showcasing his own choreography in the *Grand Pas de Deux* in the second act.

Other soloists in the production include Kari Schanilec as Clara, Stephanie Clarke playing the terrifying Mouse Queen, Becca Smith as Dew Drop, Jessica Orr as the Ballerina Doll, Emily Gordon as the Snow Queen, Caitlin O'Marchoe as the Christmas Angel, Lauren Matthew as Arabian, Dawn Petty Weber as Sweet Tart, Chris Laughbon as Drossylmeyer, and Guy Sidora reprising his 2007 performance of Mother Ginger.

OPG's *Nutcracker*, sponsored by Island Dental–Dr. Nathan G. Russell and Cook Family Funeral Home, debuts at North Kitsap Community Auditorium with a special charity dress rehearsal preview performance, on Thursday, December 4, at 7pm. This performance will benefit local retirement homes Stephens House and The Helpline House. Tickets to this performance only are \$12 general admission and are available only at the door.

The production opens on December 5 and will have two evening performances at 7pm on Friday and Saturday, December 5 and 6, and two matinees at 2pm on Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7.

Tickets by phone at 206-842-1205 or by email info@bainbridgeballet.com.

The Nutcracker
Olympic Performance Group

Music by Peter Illyich Tchaikovsky, Duke Ellington, and various artists

North Kitsap Community Auditorium – 1881 NE Hostmark Street, Poulsbo, WA
4 performances: December 5 evening, 6 matinee, 6 evening, 7 matinee, 2008
Evening performances at 7:00 PM, matinees at 2:00 PM.

Tickets:

\$18 / 1 ticket
\$32 / 2 tickets
\$45 / 3 tickets
\$56 / 4 tickets
\$120 / 10 tickets

Tickets Available at these locations:

Bainbridge Ballet – 945 Hildebrand Lane NE, Bainbridge Island
Winslow Drugs – 290 Winslow Way E, Bainbridge Island
Book Stop - 18954 Front Street, Ste 100, Poulsbo
Holly Days – 100 Winslow Way W, Bainbridge Island
KiDiMu – 305 Madison Ave N, Ste C, Bainbridge Island
Windermere Real Estate - 10373 Hwy 104, Kingston

Phone orders: (206) 842-1205

Credits:

Artistic Director & OPG President: Sara L. Cramer
Choreographers: Anna James Percival, Stephanie Clarke, Jordan Lindy Piehl, Alex Ung,
Lauren Matthew, Gareth Scott
Costumes: Olympic Performance Group and Bainbridge Ballet
Sets: Scott Weaver
Props: Seattle Opera
Sponsors: Island Dental – Dr. Nathan G. Russell, Cook Family Funeral Home

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