



*Artistic Director Nicole Kelsch*

Dear Director/School Principal,

Ballet Theatre of Maryland, founded in 1978, is the only professional ballet company and fully comprehensive professional dance-training academy in the State of Maryland, a vital element of the cultural development of Annapolis and the State. During the 2022-2023 academic year, the Ballet Theatre of Maryland will present shortened performances of three of the company's season productions, called Mini shows. Mini shows are performances especially staged for school groups and senior centers held at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts at 801 Chase Street in Annapolis.

Audience members will be engaged with a full-fledged story ballet as sets, costumes, props, professional dancers, and music mesh to transform historic, classic, and fabled tales into powerful artistic experiences. Each performance is approximately one hour long and is preceded by a brief introduction to help the students enjoy and appreciate the ballet to follow. The goal is to introduce ballet to children using the powerful language of dance as a means of understanding literature, history, and culture.

**Our Minis begin in October with *Les Sylphides*.** This classic ballet with music by Chopin follows the "poet" as he dances with ghostly sylphs through the romantic atmosphere of a moonlit park. Described as a "romantic reverie," this one act ballet celebrates the beauty of romantic ballet with a setting evocative of the Halloween season.

**Next, in December,** we invite you to experience the wonder of the timeless holiday tradition of *The Nutcracker*. Allow yourself to be magically swept away by the tale of the young heroine Clara and her adventures to rescue her beloved Nutcracker from the Rat Queen's evil spell. Travel with Clara through the whirling Kingdoms of Snow and Sweets to the place where the possibility of dreams, the magic of Christmas, and the wonder of the child merge to reveal her destiny through the powerful language of dance and theater.

**In February,** we present *Don Quixote*. A family-friendly ballet full of bravery, fantasy, and love, this revered ballet classic centers on Don Quixote, an aging and eccentric nobleman, who imagines himself to be a valiant knight. With his trusted sidekick Sancho Panza in tow, Quixote embarks on a humorous and fateful journey, ready to breathe life into a world where windmills become monsters and adventure awaits beyond the horizon.

All tickets for students, teachers, chaperones, and senior center residents are **\$10** each. There is ample free parking for buses and the building and theater is handicap accessible.

We hope you will consider this cultural learning experience as an enriching field trip for your students and senior residents.

***Les Sylphides***

Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am

To purchase tickets, visit <https://lessylphidesmini.eventbrite.com>

***The Nutcracker***

Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am and 11:15am

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am and 11:15am

To purchase tickets, visit <https://thenutcrackermini.eventbrite.com>

***Don Quixote***

Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am

To purchase tickets, visit <https://donquixotemini.eventbrite.com>

If you have any questions, please call our office at 410-224-5644 or email [btmmgr@balletmaryland.org](mailto:btmmgr@balletmaryland.org).  
To pay by check, please call our office.

Sincerely,

Olivia Fohsz

Ballet Theatre of Maryland

Office Manager