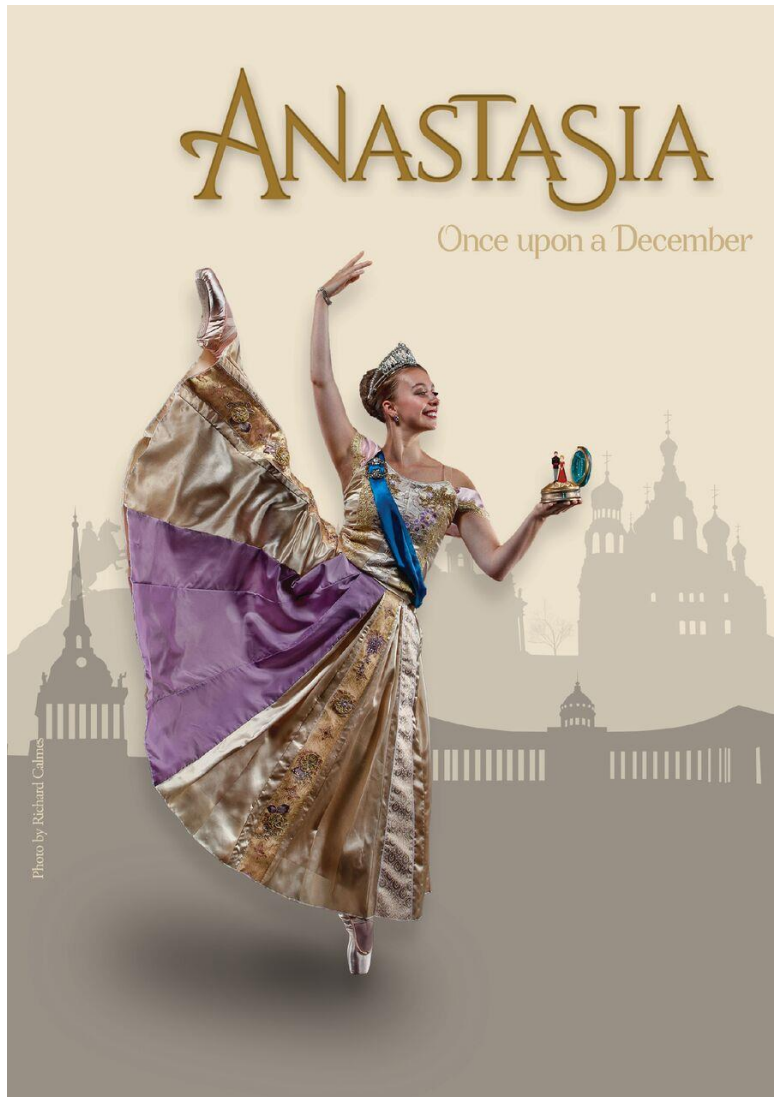


EDUCATOR GUIDE



Presented by...

Roswell Dance Theatre

Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance



In partnership with



A Note to our Educators...

Welcome to the 2018-19 Student Matinee Series at the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center! The City of Sandy Springs and City Springs Theatre Company are excited to serve the students of metro Atlanta through high quality arts education programming.

The City of Sandy Springs is committed to ensuring all students from every background have access to the arts. To do this, the City partnered with City Springs Theatre Company, one of the affiliate companies of the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center. This partnership provides educational programs at the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center to introduce people of all backgrounds and generations to high quality and diverse arts education programming.

Educators, we thank you for providing this theatrical experience to your students. It is because of you that many of your students may see a live production for the first time. The excitement of live theatre is a feeling that many never forget, and we are thrilled to host you and your students for many years to come.

As you prepare for the performance, we hope this Educator Guide provides useful information including student activities, vocabulary, and important “Know Before You Go” information for ticketing and transportation.

We encourage you to open your eyes, hearts, and minds as you join us at the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center this Season!

SEE YOU AT THE THEATRE!
The City Springs Team

GUIDE CONTENTS

Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center.....3

Know Before You Go.....4

Transportation & Arrival.....5

During The Performance.....6

Roswell Dance Theatre.....7

Story of Anastasia.....8

The Characters.....9

Exploring Movement, Dance, and Ballet.....10

Ballet Vocabulary.....11

Student Activity Pages.....12-14

Curriculum Connections.....15



City Springs Theatre Company's arts education programs are made possible by a generous donation from the Sandy Springs Arts Foundation.

SANDY SPRINGS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

MISSION

The mission of the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center is to enhance the quality of life of the Sandy Springs community by providing diverse arts, entertainment, educational, business, and civic opportunities.



THE HISTORY

As Sandy Springs became a city in 2005, there was unity in spirit, but the city lacked a center point and a traditional component of most cities - a town square. A year-long visioning session in 2012 created the genesis from which City Springs was envisioned. Key community objectives were the creation of a unique, vibrant, walkable City Center, incorporating mixed-use development, amenity retail and entertainment options, as well as an appropriate setting for a performing arts facility. The result of the community-involved planning process is a complex which features a main theatre and studio theatre, designed to support a wide-range of programs and activities.



BYERS THEATRE

Named after Sandy Springs residents Ken and Trish Byers and sizeable at 1,070 seats, the Byers Theatre also incorporates a sense of intimacy ideal for large theatre productions, such as Roswell Dance Theatre's "The Nutcracker."

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Below are guidelines to ensure your experience at the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center is exceptional! We look forward to seeing you very soon! Please read carefully and contact us if you have any additional questions at 404-477-4365 or jenna@cityspringstheatre.com.

RESERVATIONS: All field trip admissions are to be made in advance. Please do not bring more than the number of seats reserved. Performances are expected to sell out, and we will not be able to accommodate an increase in numbers at the last minute. All patrons, including teachers and chaperones, must have a reservation in order to attend these performances.

PARKING: The venue can accommodate school buses, vans, and cars. Vans and cars will be instructed to park in the underground parking garage. The first two (2) hours in the parking garage are free of charge. There is no charge for parking school buses. All buses, vans, and cars must comply with directions provided by on-site staff.

BEHAVIOR: Students and teachers are encouraged to enjoy performances, applaud, and express enthusiasm in a manner that is appropriate for the performance, yet not disruptive for others. We request that all phones, tablets, and any other electronic devices be turned off or switched to silent mode during the performance. We ask that chaperones on upper levels prevent students from tossing or throwing items to lower levels and stop students from climbing or leaning on railings. No student may leave the theatre seating without an accompanying chaperone. Students/classes that are disruptive may be asked to leave the performance without a refund.

SEATING: Students and teachers are seated upon arrival, starting with the Orchestra level, first row. The only exception to this is for programs with older and younger students in attendance at the same time. In this case, students in kindergarten and first-grade will be seated in the first few rows of the theatre.

RESTROOMS: Please seat your entire group before taking restroom breaks. Students MUST be accompanied by adult chaperones when going to the restroom. We encourage that you take groups so that there are fewer trips.

CHAPERONES: Chaperones have a job to do while at the performance. Please make sure that your chaperones are interspersed among students, and that they are prepared for the day's responsibilities. Please discuss restroom visits, emergencies, behavior, etc. with your chaperones prior to arrival. Please also set a good example for your students by paying attention and not utilizing your phone, tablet, or any other electronic device during the performance.

DEPARTURE: Performances last approximately one hour. Upon conclusion of the performance, classes will be dismissed to the designated parking area to board their buses and return to school.

LUNCH: The Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center is unable to provide a facility or location for lunch. We recommend students eat lunch at a local Sandy Springs restaurant, at a park on the route to/from the venue, or on their bus.

**All student matinee performances
take place at the brand-new
Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center!**

**1 Galambos Way
Sandy Springs, GA 30328**



TRANSPORTATION & ARRIVAL

BUSES: All school buses must approach the building from Roswell Road by turning onto Mount Vernon Highway from Roswell Road ONLY. This is crucial in assuring a fairly smooth flow of traffic. There will be a Performing Arts Center (PAC) representative guiding you. Buses will pull onto Mount Vernon Highway and park on the actual street in between Blue Stone Road and Galambos Way. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR DRIVERS USE THE MAP BELOW.** There is no charge to park school buses on-site.

CHECKING IN: When you arrive at the front of the building, a representative from the PAC will board your bus to check-in your school. You and your bus driver will be given a large number that will be taped to the bus windows. Please remember your number, as it will help you find your bus after the performance.

AFTER THE SHOW: After the performance, buses will be parked in the same place as drop off, in numerical order, and representatives will assist you in locating your bus(es). We encourage everyone to board their buses as quickly and safely as possible. For safety reasons, we will hold all buses until everyone has boarded, so please make your way directly to Mount Vernon Highway across the Green following the performance. (see map below)

CARS/VANS/SUVS: Approach the building from Roswell Road onto Mount Vernon Highway and immediately turn right onto Galambos Way. You will park in the underground parking deck utilizing the east entrance. Please note the first two (2) hours of parking is free, therefore you should not receive a charge given the hour-long performance. If you do stay past the two (2) hour limit, the parking charge will start at \$4 and increase based on your time on the property. We suggest parking in the **BLUE** area of the parking deck, which is immediately on your right/left as soon as you pull a ticket in the garage. Take the elevator to the STREET level and you will arrive directly in front of the PAC. Enter the lobby doors and find the SMALL GROUP CHECK-IN table!



THE  MARKS THE ENTRANCE TO THE THEATRE!

DURING THE PERFORMANCE

A live performance is a very exciting experience for the audience as well as for the performers! The audience should pay close attention to what is happening on stage, and participate and applaud at the appropriate times. What are some of the differences between going to the theatre to see a live performance and watching a video or going to a movie? What makes a good audience?

DURING THE PERFORMANCE

- Watch the dancers carefully!
- Look for familiar ballet steps, impressive jumps, and exciting partnering lifts.
- Think about how the costumes and set design (backdrop, set pieces, etc.) help tell the audience something about the story, idea, or mood of the ballet.
- Consider how the dancers are using movement to express themselves or tell a story.

LISTEN TO THE MUSIC

- Think about how the music and the choreography work together!

A GOOD AUDIENCE MEMBER WILL...

- Arrive early so you are seated and ready for the performance as soon as it begins.
- Watch the performance quietly. No talking, texting, or eating is permitted in the theatre.
- Remain seated during the performance. Do not put your feet on the seats or kick the seat in front of you. We want all patrons to have a wonderful experience!
- Use the restroom before the performance, so you do not disturb those around you by getting out of your seat.
- Turn off all electronics. Use of an electronic device for texting, taking photos/videos, or other purposes is not allowed during the performance.



RESPOND APPROPRIATELY!

- When you see something you really like, we encourage you to applaud and let the performers know you are enjoying yourself!
- During a ballet performance, the audience usually claps at the end of a scene or ballet, but the audience can also clap after a difficult sequence of turns, exciting jumps, or when a dancer lifts another dancer high in the air.

ABOUT ROSWELL DANCE THEATRE

The Roswell Dance Theatre, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, was founded in 1985 by Nancy Tolbert Yilmaz and Mary Lynn Taylor. It was created as the resident performing company of The Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance. Through annual auditions, dancers are selected who exhibit high levels of proficiency in ballet, pointe, jazz, lyrical and modern dance. Once selected, dancers attend a rigorous schedule of weekly classes.

Roswell Dance Theatre

Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance



Members of the Roswell Dance Theatre have been accepted into and received scholarships from some of the finest dance programs and performing arts schools in the nation. Among these are American Ballet Theatre, Joffrey Ballet, North Carolina School of the Arts, Boston Ballet, Houston Ballet, Cleveland/San Jose Ballet, Interlochen Arts Academy, Ballet Hispanico, Point Park College, Lines Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Marymount Manhattan College, and many others. There are approximately 100 dancers in the Roswell Dance Theatre.

The cast includes world-class professionals, who have danced nationally and internationally, and aspiring young professionals from the Roswell Dance Theatre. Previous spring productions have included classics such as *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Cinderella*, and more contemporary works such as *Alice in Wonderland*, *Frozen* and *Mary Poppins*. *Anastasia* is a brand new production with original choreography from Cassandra Taylor Newberry.

For More information, contact:

Roswell Dance Theatre

10400 D Alpharetta Street, Roswell, GA 30075

<https://www.tysod.com/>



THE STORY OF ANASTASIA



Our story begins in 1916 in St. Petersburg, Russia. The Dowager Empress Maria comforts her youngest granddaughter, 7-year old Princess Anastasia, who is saddened by the fact that her grandmother is moving to Paris. Before leaving, the Dowager Empress gives Anastasia a beautiful music box as a parting gift.

Ten Years Later . . .

Our story picks up in a Russian marketplace where the townspeople are excited about an intriguing rumor. Is it possible that after the Dowager Empress left for Paris ten years ago, her granddaughter Anastasia may have escaped and survived when the rest of the family had been executed? Two scheming men, Dmitri and Vlad, hear the rumors and brainstorm “the biggest con in history.” Why not groom a naive girl to become Anastasia in order to extract money from the Dowager Empress? Dmitri and Vlad hold auditions

for the scheme at the abandoned Romanov palace. Just as they are about to give up hope of finding a suitable impostor, in walks a girl named Anya, looking for help to get tickets to Paris.

Amazed by her amnesia and resemblance to Anastasia, they select Anya as their perfect impostor. Vlad and Dmitri groom a feisty Anya to become “Anastasia” through lessons in history, dining, and dancing. As they spend time together, Dmitri starts to open up to Anya and shares a very special music box, a huge key to Anastasia’s past. Slowly, Anya’s memories begin to return and they are brought to life dancing around her.

All aboard to Paris....

Dmitri, Vlad and Anya board a train to Paris and prepare to meet the Dowager Empress. They are welcomed to the city by Countess Lily, the Empress’s lady in waiting and a past sweetheart of Vlad’s. As Dmitri starts to fall in love with Anya, he recounts a story of how he bowed to Anastasia at a parade as a young boy. Anya vividly remembers this, and the two realize that Anya is indeed the royal Princess Anastasia.

The Dowager Empress Maria, heartbroken from never finding her granddaughter, is now a bitter elderly woman. Lily convinces the Dowager Empress to attend a performance of Swan Lake in the hopes of introducing Anya to her and reconnecting them. The Dowager Empress reluctantly agrees to hear Anya out and soon realizes that she is in fact her beloved granddaughter, Anastasia.

Anya is renamed the official Princess Anastasia in a press conference held by Lily and Vlad. Happy at the return of her granddaughter, the Dowager Empress offers Dmitri a handsome amount of reward money for the safe return of Anastasia, but he will not accept it. Though he is in love with Anastasia, Dimitri comes to say goodbye to Anastasia as he realizes that a con man and a princess could never be together. As Dimitri turns to leave, Anastasia musters up all the courage she can to tell him that she loves him. Delighted and thrilled, Dimitri runs to embrace her and they decide to spend their lives together. Anastasia realizes she has found her family and found herself as well along this incredible journey!



THE CHARACTERS

Young Anastasia: the only surviving daughter of five in the Romanov family.

Anya: found on the side of a road when she was young and taken to an orphanage. She had no memory of who she was-the only thing she knew was that one day she had to find her way to Paris.

Dowager Empress: Anastasia's grandmother who lives in Paris.

Dimitri: a conman from St. Petersburg trying to find an Anastasia look alike to get the royal reward money from the Dowager Empress

Vlad: another conman working with Dimitri from St. Petersburg-once a member of the imperial court

Countess Lily: Dowager Empress' lady in waiting and an old flame of Vlad's

Townspeople: the people of St. Petersburg.



EXPLORING MOVEMENT, DANCE, & BALLET



MOVEMENT

How can movement alone tell a story? Think about this: you can often tell a lot about how people are feeling just by looking at them. Their emotions, and sometimes their thoughts, show on their faces and in how they move. There are many ways people can communicate without words.

Try communicating without words. Use facial expressions and body movement to communicate that you are feeling excited, nervous, or surprised. Did you change the expressions on your face for each emotion? How did you use your body to add to the emotion? Did you stand very still, or did you jump or skip?

DANCE

Dance is a way to express yourself! In ballet, dancers don't use their voices to tell the story to the audience.

Instead, ballet dancers move their bodies to show how a character is feeling.

Dance is a special way of moving, usually to music. Dance has always been a way for communities and groups of people to tell stories and pass values from one generation to another. Some dances are performed on a stage for an audience while others are forms of social dances (line dances or salsa). Often dances have set steps that everyone in a culture or community knows, but sometimes dance can be an individual form of self-expression.



BALLET

Ballet is a form of dance that began hundreds of years ago in the royal courts of Italy and France.

Formal group dances from the royal courts developed into the art form we know now. Because France was the very first ballet school location, French became the official language of ballet. To this day, all steps in ballet still have French names, so you can take a ballet class anywhere in the world and know exactly what to do!

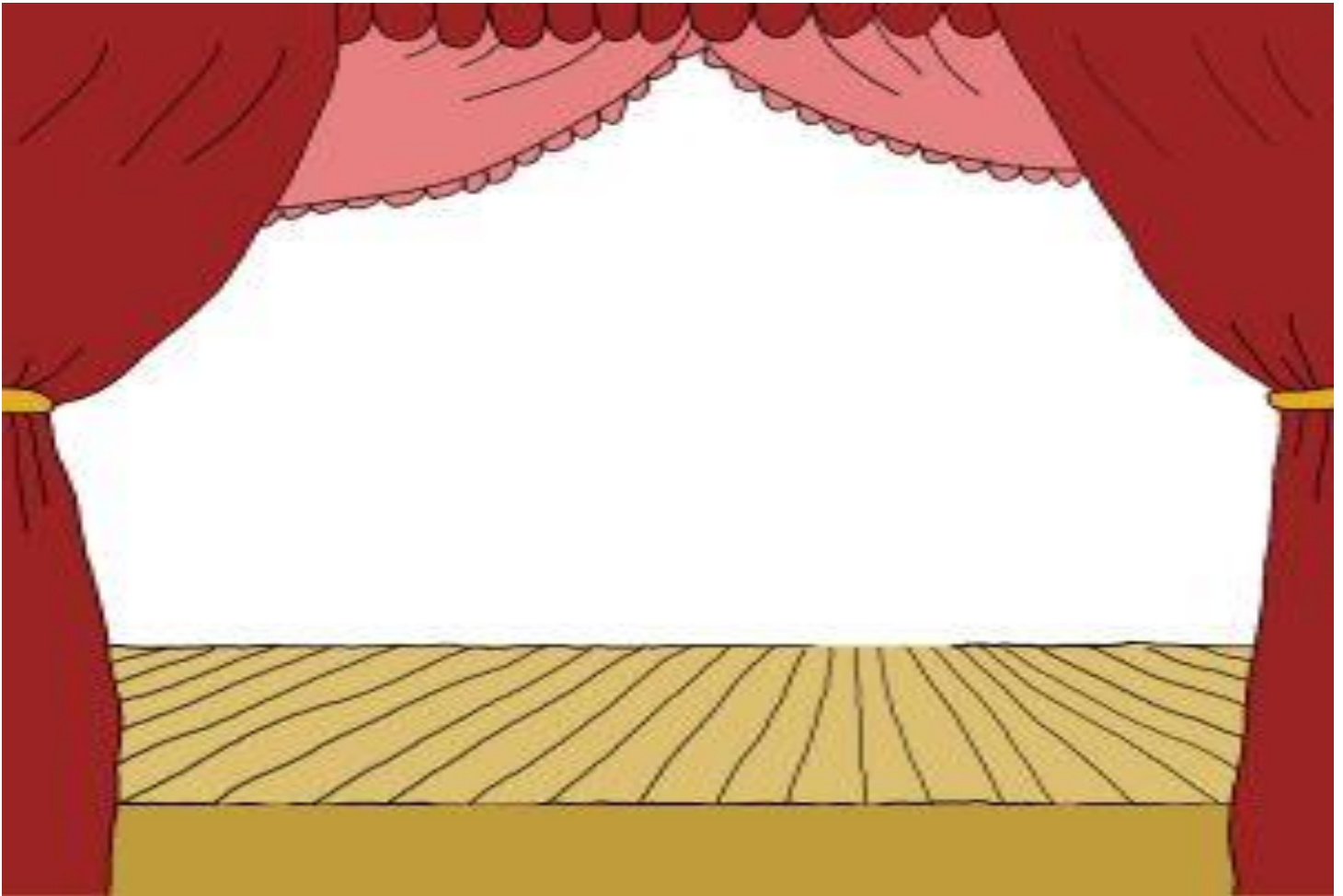
BALLET VOCABULARY

- Choreography:** In ballet, the dancers perform steps that a choreographer creates to communicate a story or idea to the audience. Sometimes the steps go along with music at the same rhythm and speed and tempo.
- Composer:** One who writes the music.
- Corps de Ballet:** A group of dancers who work together as an ensemble; they form a background for the ballerina and her partner in a classical ballet.
- Entrances & Exits:** During a ballet, dancers often enter and exit the stage at various times and places.
- Gesture:** Movement of a body part or combination of parts, with an emphasis on the expressive aspects of the movement.
- Jeté:** A leap from one foot to the other in which the front working leg appears to have been thrown into the air. In a grand jeté, both legs are fully extended.
- Pas de deux:** A “step of two” is a dance duet in which two dancers, typically a male and a female, perform ballet steps together. In Act I, Clara and her Nutcracker dance a pas de deux.
- Pirouette:** To whirl or turn; a rotation of the body on one foot.
- Pointe Shoes:** Shoes traditionally worn by female dancers that enable them to dance on the tips of their toes. Fun fact: for a professional dancer, a pair of pointe shoes may only last a couple of performances!
- Principal Dancer:** A principal dancer is a dancer at the highest rank within a professional dance company. A principal may be male or female.
- Solo:** When a dancer takes center stage and performs alone. There are three doll solos in Act I during the party scene: The Ballerina, The Mouse King, and the Nutcracker.

ACTIVITY PAGES

We encourage students to discover the joy and wonder of dance by not only watching a performance, but also by drawing and writing about their experience and the artform of dance. Use these activity pages after the performance to connect, enjoy, and reflect on the dance experience.

LET'S DANCE!



1. Imagine you are a ballet dancer performing onstage. Think about the dancers, costumes, and sets needed for this performance. Are there others dancing with you? What do the costumes look like? Are there sets and props to help tell the story to the audience? What kind of music is playing? Write and draw about it.
2. What is the title of your ballet? _____

3. Write a review for the show as if going to a newspaper. Here are some questions to help guide you as you write your critique:

As you are watching the ballet, write words or phrases that come into your mind. Did you like the ballet? Why or why not? Did the dancers have good characterization? Could you tell the personality of their character? Did the movement express the story? Was the set effectively used? Did it distract from the ballet or enhance the telling of the story? Did the costumes help to define the characters?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Coloring Activity

Color this picture and give it to someone as a gift and tell them about your experience seeing Anastasia!



CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

FINE ARTS – Georgia Performance Standards

Targeted to students in grades K – 12

DANCE

D3FD.2, D4FD.3, D4FD.2, D5FD.2

MUSIC

M3GM.6-.8 , M4GM.6-.8, M5GM.6-.8, M6GM.6-.8, M7GM.6-.8, M8GM.6-.8,

THEATRE

TAES3.1, TAES4.1, TAES5.1

