



Salish Sea Ballet Friday Harbor Nutcracker Audition Policies

Do you love to dance? Would you like to be part of our annual holiday tradition on San Juan Island? Audition for Salish Sea Ballet's Friday Harbor Nutcracker!

Audition Fee (non-refundable): \$15

Arrival & Registration

Dancers should arrive 10-15 minutes before their scheduled audition to allow time for registration and to stretch before class. Late arrivals will not be permitted to audition. You may pre-register at the SSB studio or mail your form with payment to PO Box 827, Friday Harbor, WA 98250. **Audition fees must be paid prior to the start of the audition.** Current SSB students may pay their audition fees through the online Parent Portal.

The audition is structured like a dance class. Dancers will be asked to perform steps at the barre and in center. All steps will be demonstrated by the teacher and will be appropriate for dancers' age and experience. Attitude, behavior, and focus during class are just as important as demonstrating excellent technique. Have fun and show us your love for dance!

Attire

Current SSB dancers should wear their class color leotard, tights, and ballet slippers.

New dancers should follow the dress code:

- Girls should wear a solid color leotard and pink tights. Ballet slippers are required (SSB has shoes available for purchase at the studio). Hair should be pulled back into a bun, or pinned off the face if too short for a bun.
- Boys should wear a white shirt and black shorts or leggings. Ballet slippers are required (SSB has shoes available for purchase at the studio).

Casting

It is possible for dancers to receive more than one role (especially for level 3 and up), and it is possible for dancers to not be given a role at all. If you believe that your dancer is not ready for the possibility of being turned down for a role, we suggest that you wait until next year to audition. Auditions are a learning experience, regardless of the outcome. It is our goal to make this a positive experience for all dancers, and we expect dancers and their families to maintain a professional attitude no matter the outcome.

Casting is decided by a panel of experienced ballet teachers and professional dancers, with the final decision by the Artistic Director. Casting will be announced via email and posted at the SSB studio within two days of the audition. All casting decisions are final.

Performance Fee

For dancers cast in the production, the performance fee of \$80 is due within 7 days of casting notice. Performance fee covers costume rental, cast T-shirt, and 12 weeks of rehearsal classes. Performance fees are non-refundable.

Time Commitment

We will hold a mandatory cast meeting on Friday, September 13th from 6:30-7:00pm at the SSB studio. All dancers cast in the production must attend with a parent/guardian. Dancers age 3-5 are exempt from this meeting, but a parent must attend.

Rehearsals are scheduled once a week for each role, starting the week of September 9th (if your dancer is cast in more than one role, he/she may be required to attend more than one rehearsal per week). Rehearsals will generally be scheduled on Monday or Wednesday evenings, or Sunday afternoons. SSB makes an effort to keep rehearsal times consistent, but days and times are subject to change each week. The rehearsal schedule will be posted monthly.

All rehearsals are mandatory and should only be missed with prior approval of the Artistic Director. Anticipated vacations or other schedule conflicts must be disclosed on your audition form.

Dress rehearsal will take place on Friday, December 6th (time TBD).

Dancers will perform in two shows at Brickworks:

Saturday, December 7th, 7:00-8:30pm

Sunday, December 8th, 2:00-3:30pm

Call times will be announced in November, but will generally be 45-60 minutes prior to the show.

Nutcracker rehearsals are separate from our regular ballet classes. Dancers must also maintain enrollment at SSB in the ballet class corresponding to their age/level, from September through December 2019. Rehearsals focus on choreography, performance preparation, and artistic refinement. Dancers also need regular ballet classes to maintain their technique and learn new skills. Dancers who miss excessive dance classes (more than one per month) without making up missed classes may be dismissed from the production. Please contact us if you anticipate your dancer missing class. We are happy to work with you to help your dancer succeed!

Each dance family must pledge to volunteer a minimum of two hours to assist with the production. This requirement may be met by a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or any other adult in the dancer's extended family. Volunteer roles are listed on the audition form - we have roles for every interest and we're flexible!

Thank you for auditioning!
We are looking forward to a fantastic Nutcracker season.