



# FOOTNOTES

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

WINTER 2008

## “The Nutcracker” Performances at the Clay Center



The West Virginia Symphony Orchestra and Charleston Ballet present Tchaikovsky’s holiday classic “**The Nutcracker**” on Friday, December 19, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 20, 2008 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. All three performances are at the Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences of West Virginia. The Nutcracker is proudly presented by **Steptoe and Johnson, PLLC**.

The Nutcracker features over seventy dancers, guest artists and children from the Charleston Ballet, accompanied by the WVSO under the direction of conductor Grant Cooper. Choral voices for the famous “snow scene” will be provided by the members of ChildSong and DanceSong, under the

direction of Joann Cordell.

This is the ballet the way Tchaikovsky intended it to be performed, with a live symphony orchestra. The combination of live music and local artists makes this a great event for the whole community. We’re very pleased to work with Steptoe and Johnson and the WV Symphony Orchestra to bring this special event to life.

The production features a number of distinguished guest artists. Jerry Rose, Artistic Director of Beckley Dance Theatre in Beckley, WV, will perform the role of Herr Drosselmeyer. Guest Olivier Wecxsteen, a former principal dancer with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and Boston Ballet, will dance the role of the Snow King with Charleston’s Artistic Director Kim Pauley’s Snow Queen. Born in the northern region of France, Mr. Wecxsteen began his ballet training at the Conservatoire de Tourcoing and has made many guest appearances in the United States and Europe. Jose Rodriguez, principal dancer with National Ballet Theatre of Puerto Rico, will return to perform the role of the Cavalier with Charleston Ballet’s principal Rhiannon Turley’s Sugar Plum Fairy.

In addition, local artist Ted Brightwell is cast as Mother Ginger, guest dancers Susan Fulks, Freddie Fourie, Donald Laney and students from the American Academy Ballet will join artists of the Charleston Ballet to create a wonderful cast for these ballet performances.

Seats are reserved, and ticket prices range from \$9 to \$47 for adults and \$5 to \$26 for children under 12 years of age. They are available at the Clay Center Box Office, 304-561-3570, or online at [www.wvsymphony.org](http://www.wvsymphony.org)

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HAP





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POINSETTIA CARE

BY PAT HAROLD



Although beautiful, poinsettias must be handled properly to ensure their beauty throughout the holiday season. When you purchase a poinsettia, be sure to have it completely covered if transporting from one location to another. Use a large roomy shopping bag to protect it. Make certain that your plant will not be exposed to chilling winds. Since poinsettias are native to a warm environment, they will not survive in any cold temperatures not even for a few moments. They should never be exposed to temperatures below 50 degrees. Never place them outside during the winter months.

When determining where to place your poinsettia, make certain that you do not place them near cold drafts or excessive heat. Avoid placing them near ventilating ducts, fireplaces, or appliances. They should be in a place where the temperature is between 68-70 degrees and where they will receive indirect sunlight for at least six hours per day. Be sure to remove any plastic shipping sleeves as soon as possible. Leaves will drop if left in the sleeves too long.

Poinsettias should be watered when the soil feels dry to the touch. Do not over-water or allow it to sit in standing water. If possible, remove the plant from any decorative container before watering and allow the water to drain completely. Poinsettias should be fertilized only after the blooming season is over, using a balanced, all purpose type of fertilizer. Never fertilize a poinsettia while it is in bloom.



TO THE POINTE

"We dance for laughter, we dance for tears, we dance for madness, we dance for fears, we dance for hopes, we dance for screams, we are the dancers, we create the dreams ."

— unknown

Did you know that.... you can add a Modern class ( 9 yrs - adult) or a Tap class ( 5 yrs - 7) for about \$32 per month?

**PILATES FITNESS**  
 A Kinder, Gentler Exercise  
 Six Week Introductory Class  
 Beginning January 9, 2009  
 Classes Saturdays 11:30 - 12:30  
 \$63.00 for 6 weeks  
*Intermediate & Advanced Classes also Offered*

**ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS NOW**

Charleston Ballet is currently taking orders for Poinsettias 6 1/2" pots in 4 colors (red, pink, white and marble) \$12.00 each. Orders will be taken until Nov. 6 with pickup on Dec. 2nd. For more info call 342-6541

Volunteers are needed for assisting with children's performances of the NUTCRACKER on December 17-18, 2008 at the Clay Center. Call Elaine at 342-6541 if you can help.

**Spring Semester begins January 5, 2009**

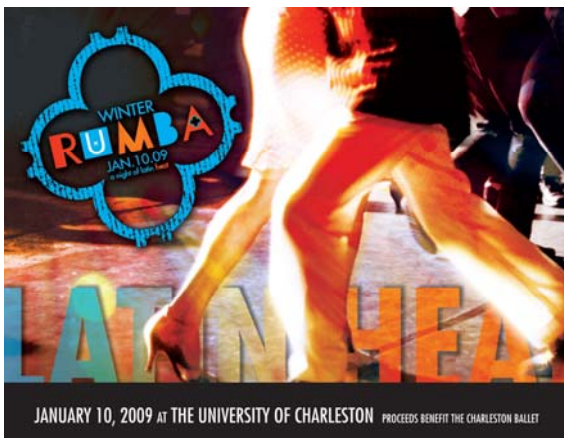


## Teddy Bear Tea



The third annual Teddy Bear Tea will be held at the Clay Center Grand Hall on December 7, 2008 from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Charleston Ballet and the West Virginia Symphony League. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and can be purchased through the Charleston Ballet office by calling 304-342-6541.

## WINTER RUMBA



A night of Latin Heat featuring live music by COMPARSA on January 10, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the University of Charleston. Tickets are \$35.00 each or \$60.00 for two and are available on line at [www.thecharlestonballet.com](http://www.thecharlestonballet.com) or by calling 304-342-6541.

## GETTING TO KNOW RENATA DI GREGORIO

**Pet Peeve:** It bugs me when you're at a restaurant and the waiter is a teenager and calls your mom 'hun'. It would be like me calling my grandma 'baby'.

**Most Important Item in my Dance Bag:** Blister band-aids!! That's probably boring and unoriginal but it is also very true and those band-aids deserve some credit.

**Favorite TV Show:** It's a tie between Heroes and Gilmore Girls. If the characters on Gilmore Girls had powers and went into the future a lot there would be no tie, but...

**What do you do on your off Time?** Off time? What? Chemistry, of course..No. I hang out with my friends and go to Cedar Point with my best friend for my birthday!

**Most memorable performance experience:** Right now, it would have to be doing Michael Jackson's Thriller at BSBC this summer. Three of my friends and I learned the dance and were unleashed on zombie make-up and costumes. The set guy, Galen, had the background red and spotlights on three of us as we became undead zombies. My other friend came in as Michael with this girl, like in the music video before he turns Jacob Black on her. It was great.

**Future Roles:** Hopefully something good in Nutcracker!

**Other interests:** I like to hang out with my friends, make movies, ride roller coasters, make collages, sit in hot tubs, go tubing, drive, speak in spanish, and not do chemistry



## VALENTINE RAFFLE

Watch for your upcoming invitation to participate in our 5th annual VALENTINE PACKAGE RAFFLE. Only 400 chances will be available with **three** lucky winners. Last year, William Newton, Kim Patterson and John Sirianni took away prizes that included a *Weekend Package* at the Marriott Town Center Hotel, *Dinner for Two* at the Chop House, a gift package from Visions Day Spa, 2 tickets to a Charleston Ballet performance, flowers, champagne, chocolates, and much more. *Tickets will be \$20!*

Proceeds from this raffle will assist with our performances of Flavors of Spain in March. *You may be one of the next lucky winners!*

Charleston Ballet  
822 Virginia Street East  
Charleston, WV 25301

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The  
**NUTCRACKER**  
Charleston Ballet  
WV Symphony



**December 19** 7:30 pm **December 20, 2008** 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm **THE NUTCRACKER** with WV Symphony at Maier Performance Hall at the Clay Center

**January 5, 2009 American Academy Ballet** Semester II begins

**January 10, 2009 WINTER RUMBA** 7:00 pm at University of Charleston

**February 2009 VALENTINE RAFFLE** Fundraiser

**March 27-28, 2009** 7:00 pm **FLAVORS OF SPAIN** at the Charleston Civic Center

**April 2009 WV DANCE FESTIVAL**

**May 22, 2009** 7:30 pm **American Academy Ballet** Recital at the Charleston Civic Center