



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

November 2020

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**Columbia's Largest Professional Nutcracker Ballet by William Starrett**

*Columbia City Ballet celebrates its 60th performance year*

**Columbia, S.C.-** William Starrett and Columbia City Ballet are bringing holiday magic to Columbia this November with their 60th-anniversary professional socially distant production of **Nutcracker!** Executive and Artistic Director, William Starrett, has created a captivating performance perfect for this unique holiday season. The production will waltz onto the stage of the Koger Center for the Arts for two weekends and eight magical performances on December 12-13 and December 19-20.

Columbia City Ballet, the largest performing arts organization in South Carolina, is marking its 60th Anniversary season this year, making the company's **Nutcracker** the longest continuously running performing arts event produced in South Carolina. In celebration of the 60th anniversary, this year's performance will be an exciting blend of the classic production with new enchantment and magic worthy of the landmark season.

We will be presenting 8 performances at the Koger Center for the Performing Arts, in order to accommodate everyone who wants to be a part of this holiday tradition. There are strict COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place, to protect our patrons, dancers, staff, and volunteers. To provide you with some advance information, seating will be socially distanced. Every other row in the theatre will be empty and seating is **ONLY** in pairs. There will be 3 vacant seats between each pair of occupied seats.

Columbia City Ballet's 60th-anniversary production will be presented with eight performances between the two weekends of December 12-13 and December 19-20. You can see this delightful production on December 12th at 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and on December 13th at 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. at the Koger Center for the Arts. The following weekend performances will be held on December 19th at 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and on December 20th at 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. at the Koger Center for the Arts. All eight performances will adhere to strict Covid-19 safety guidelines, with social distancing and limited seating. Face masks will also be required. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.kogercenterforthearts.com](http://www.kogercenterforthearts.com), by calling (803)-251-2222 or in person at the box office.

*Columbia City Ballet's mission is to offer South Carolina and Southeastern audiences the highest quality ballet. We in South Carolina can proudly claim one of the strongest and most versatile ballet companies in the Southeast. Since the Columbia City Ballet's founding in 1961, it has fully integrated the world of dance within the community as the largest performing arts organization in the state.*

Columbia City Ballet ◇ 1545 Main Street Columbia 29201 ◇ 803.799.7605 ◇ [www.ColumbiaCityBallet.com](http://www.ColumbiaCityBallet.com)