PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT:

Gary Tucker 206.441.2426

GTucker@PNB.org

It's the Gigantosaurus of holiday press releases!

(Everything you ever wanted to know about George Balanchine's The Nutcracker® ...but were afraid to ask.)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET PRESENTS



November 28 - December 28, 2025

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center Seattle, WA 98109

Streaming Digitally December 20 - 28

SEATTLE, WA – Pacific Northwest Ballet's sparkling production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* returns to the McCaw Hall stage for 35 public performances this holiday season. Featuring Tchaikovsky's timeless score performed by the world-famous PNB Orchestra, PNB Company dancers in show-stopping roles, bright young stars from the PNB School, unique-to-Seattle sets and costumes designed by Ian Falconer (creator of *Olivia the Pig*), and McCaw Hall's lobbies decked out with the season's best photo ops – PNB's production is the Pacific Northwest's favorite holiday tradition.

George Balanchine's The Nutcracker® runs November 28 through December 28, 2025 at Seattle Center's McCaw Hall. Tickets start at just \$39. (See "2025 Performance Schedule" below, for showtime details.) The Nutcracker will also stream digitally from December 20 through 28, for families and friends across the globe to watch from the comfort of home. Access for the digital performance is \$55. For tickets and additional information, contact the PNB Box Office at 206.441.2424, online at PNB.org/Nutcracker, or in person at 301 Mercer St. (Be mindful of unauthorized online resellers: When purchasing tickets for PNB's production of The Nutcracker, order directly through PNB for peace of mind.)

PNB offers a **sensory-friendly matinee** of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* on Friday, December 12 at 2pm, designed to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for people with sensory-processing challenges to enjoy the performance with family and friends. Modified lighting and sound levels, allowance of devices and fidgets, entry/exit privileges, trained staff, and designated quiet and activity areas will be offered at the performance. Sensory-friendly performances also provide a flexible, relaxed environment for PNB's youngest audience members.

PNB offers select **audio-described performances** for visually impaired and blind patrons at \$20 per ticket. Audio-described performances of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* are Saturdays, December 6 and 13 at 2:00 pm, and Friday, December 12 at 2:00 pm (sensory-friendly matinee) and 7:30 pm. To access the Audio Dance Description pricing, visit PNB.org/accessibility. PNB's Audio Dance Description program is generously underwritten by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. Thanks also to Darkroom Ballet, Seattle Public Libraries, L.E.A.P., Seattle Cultural Accessibility Consortium (SCAC), and PNB's I.D.E.A. Committee for support of this program.

2025 NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Times</u> |
|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Friday | Nov. 28 | 2:00 & 7:30pm |
| Saturday | Nov. 29 | 2:00 & 7:30 pm |
| Sunday | Nov. 30 | 12:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Friday | Dec. 5 | 7:30 pm |
| Saturday | Dec. 6 | 2:00* & 7:30 pm |
| Sunday | Dec. 7 | 12:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Thursday | Dec. 11 | 7:30pm |
| Friday | Dec. 12 | 2:00 pm* Sensory-Friendly Performance |
| Friday | Dec. 12 | 7:30 pm* |
| Saturday | Dec. 13 | 2:00* & 7:30 pm |
| Sunday | Dec. 14 | 12:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Wednesday | Dec. 17 | 7:30 pm |
| Friday | Dec. 19 | 2:00 & 7:30 pm |
| Saturday | Dec. 20 | 2:00 & 7:30 pm |
| Sunday | Dec. 21 | 12:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Monday | Dec. 22 | 2:00 & 7:30 pm |
| Tuesday | Dec. 23 | 2:00 & 7:30 pm |
| Wednesday | Dec. 24 | 12:30 pm |
| Thursday | Dec. 25 | No show, ho-ho-ho! |
| Friday | Dec. 26 | 12:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Saturday | Dec. 27 | 12:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Sunday | Dec. 28 | 12:30 pm |

^{*}Audio-described performances.

The show must go on: Pacific Northwest Ballet is committed to honoring its performance calendar. Performances will not be cancelled for sleet, snow, or government shut-downs. In the unlikely event that the status of a performance does change, an announcement will be posted on PNB.org.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets to PNB's live and/or digital performances may be purchased through the PNB Box Office:

- Phone 206.441.2424
- In Person 301 Mercer Street at Seattle Center
- Online (24/7) PNB.org

(Advance tickets through the PNB Box Office are strongly suggested for lowest prices and greatest availability. Tickets may also be purchased – subject to availability – 90 minutes prior to each performance at McCaw Hall.)

Tickets for the live performances of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* start at \$39. (Some prices are subject to change. Discounts available for children 14 and under. All ages require a ticket for admission, including babes-in-arms. For helpful hints and frequently asked questions about attending the ballet with children, visit PNB.org/Community/Resources/PNB-Kids.) It pays to bring a group: **Groups** of ten or more save 20% off regular ticket prices above \$69, and waived fees: Visit PNB.org/season/group-sales for info. (Discounts not valid on lowest-priced tickets and may not be combined with other offers.)

Tickets for PNB's digital presentation of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® are \$55, and viewing access for the program is December 20 – 28.

Don't get fleeced for the holidays! Like many performing arts, PNB struggles with <u>ticket resellers</u>. At their most mundane, third-party sites snap up less expensive tickets and sell them for a profit. At their most dastardly, they sometimes sell invalid tickets. For peace of mind and to enjoy the ballet at the best prices available, always purchase tickets directly from PNB. Suspected ticket scams should be reported to the Better Business Bureau.

Health & Safety: At this time, masks are not required as part of the McCaw Hall audience experience. For details and current info regarding PNB's health and safety policies, visit PNB.org/Health.

EXPERIENTIAL ADD-ONS:

Nutcracker Intermission Suites: Skip the lines and bustle of the lobby at half-time by treating your party to an enchanted intermission experience in the Nutcracker Suite. The Nutcracker Suite adds ease to a memorable trip to the ballet, with an array of snacks, confections, and beverages. Nutcracker Suites are \$52 per person (includes applicable tax and service charge); performance tickets sold separately. New for 2025: Most performances offer family-friendly or adult-only 21+ options for Nutcracker Suites! Subject to availability: Most Nutcracker Suites sell out in advance.

VIP Sugar Plum Boxes: For the ultimate pampering, the Sugar Plum Fairy has picked out her favorite seats in the house for up to seven guests to enjoy the show in their own personal Land of Sweets, with a host of VIP treats including two parking passes, a PNB gift basket, and a full menu of treats for both young and old, delivered directly to your private box seats. Sugar Plum Box Suites sell for \$2,600. Very limited availability.

Nutcracker Membership: Celebrate PNB's 10th anniversary of *George Balanchine's The* Nutcracker by becoming a Nutcracker Member: Gifts of \$150 come with perks including a packet of real Nutcracker snow, a voucher for McCaw Hall's popular Mouse King cookies, access to the digital stream of *The Nutcracker*, a 10% discount at Amusements Gift Shop, and more.

HARK, THE HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS SING!

The McCaw Hall lobby will once again be alive with the sound of music, as two-dozen+ choirs, quartets, and choral ensembles serenade audiences arriving for *The Nutcracker*. Since 2009, PNB has been inviting high school, college, and community choirs, and the program has become a *Nutcracker* tradition. "The choirs create such a festive holiday atmosphere in McCaw Hall, and it's a fantastic experience for both the singers and our audiences," said Max Frauel, PNB's indefatigable Audience Experience Manager. "We look forward to welcoming them back year after year!" Groups serenade audiences starting a half-hour before showtime. The line-up includes:

Friday, November 28, 2:00 pm*: Robert Eagle Staff Middle School Chorus

Friday, November 28, 7:30 pm*: Northwest Chamber Choir

Saturday, November 29, 2:00 pm: Washington/Franklin Pierce High School Chamber Choir

Saturday, Nov. 29, 7:30 pm: Jet Cities Chorus Sunday, Nov. 30, 12:30 pm: Kamiak MidKnights

Sunday, Nov. 30, 5:30 pm*:

Friday, Dec. 5, 7:30pm:

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2:00 pm:

Saturday, Dec. 6, 7:30 pm:

Klahowya Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Edmonds-Woodway Mello-Aires

Stadium High School Choir

Liberty High School Jazz Choir

Sunday, Dec. 7, 12:30 pm: Aberdeen Goldenaires
Sunday, Dec. 7, 5:30 pm*: Rogers High School Choir

Thursday, Dec. 11, 7:30 pm*: Elysium

Friday, Dec. 12, 2:00 pm: Lake Stevens High School Choir

Friday, Dec. 12, 7:30 pm: Maywood Chorale

Saturday, Dec. 13, 2:00 pm: Tumwater High School Noteables

Saturday, Dec. 13, 7:30 pm: Mount Si Carolers

Sunday, Dec. 14, 12:30 pm: Bonney Lake High School Choir

Sunday, Dec. 14, 5:30 pm: Eastside Preparatory School Chamber Choir

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7:30 pm: Ingraham High School Choirs

Friday, Dec. 19, 2:00 pm: Cloud Nine Singers

Friday, Dec. 19, 7:30 pm*: Newport High School KnightSounds

Saturday, Dec. 20, 2:00 pm*: Emerald Ridge High School Chamber Singers

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7:30 pm: Choir of the Sound

Sunday, Dec. 21, 12:30 pm: Spanaway Lake High School Music Company

Sunday, Dec. 21, 5:30 pm: Spectrum Choral Academy Ensemble

Monday, Dec. 22, 2:00 pm:

Monday, Dec. 22, 7:30 pm:

Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2:00 pm:

Seattle Girls Choir - Sorella

Bellevue Youth Choirs - Cantare

Seattle Girls Choir - Sorella

Friday, Dec. 26, 5:30 pm: Emerald City Voices

Sunday, Dec. 28, 12:30 pm: Finnish Choral Society of Seattle

LOBBY THEME NIGHTS

Checking out the tiny but fabulous fashionistas gracing the McCaw Hall lobby at every performance, decked to the nines in their finest pint-sized holiday togs, can be a show unto itself. Whatever anyone chooses to wear, all are welcomed, but guests can make their trip to *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* even more magical at select performances with an extra-special lobby experience:

Enchanted Lobby

All performances opening weekend, November 28, 29, and 30

PNB's festive opening weekend lobby is enhanced by photo ops with Snowflake characters, pop-up magic shows, and sweet treats from Tacoma's own Brown & Haley for a sugar-high on the ride home.

Show Your Stripes

December 5, 7:30 pm

Clara's iconic red stripes make quite an impression. Attendees can make their own impact by wearing stripes to this performance (bonus points if they are red and white), and will be entered to win two tickets to PNB's upcoming production of Kent Stowell's *Cinderella*!

Beer & Ballet Night

December 11, 7:30 pm

PNB's Beer & Ballet Nights have become a favorite of hopheads and bunheads all around town. This performance will feature \$5 beer specials, and the opportunity to spin-to-win a PNB coozie! For more information, visit PNB.org/season/offers/beer-ballet.

Break the Ice: A Nutcracker Social

December 12, 7:30 pm

Looking to meet new friends this holiday season? PNB's come up with a cozy pre-show event where guests can sip hot chocolate, mingle, and thaw the Seattle Freeze before enjoying the magic of *The Nutcracker*! Advance registration is required: click here.

Team Mouse King Night

December 17, 7:30 pm

Under-dogs (or -mice) unite! Show your love for the best antagonist around: our regal Mouse King. Head to the concierge table in the lobby to show your support and get some mouse swag. PNB: Smiting rodents since 1983!

Ugly Sweater Day

December 19, 2:00 and 7:00 pm

Oh, the weather outside is frightful, and so is that winter outfit you've been holding onto as a guilty pleasure: National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day is traditionally the third Friday in December. Celebrate by

^{*}Seattle Girls Choir singers will also perform from the pit with the PNB Orchestra during the iconic Snow scene at seven performances over the run of *The Nutcracker*.

wearing your fabulously garish sweaters to either performance, and you'll be entered to win two tickets to our upcoming production of Kent Stowell's *Cinderella*! Bonus points for matching outfits: Fun and embarrassment for the whole family!

Sugar Plum Fairy Meet & Greets December 22 and 23, 7:30 pm

Say hello to the Sugar Plum Fairy after the show! Free with admission, subject to capacity.

Pajama Day

December 26, 12:30 and 5:30 pm

Whew, we're pooped! (And yet, there's still two more days to go.) Feeling worn out as the holiday season winds down? Relax and join PNB on Pajama Day. Guests are encouraged to wear their comfiest gear, their most festive PJs. (Nothing too risqué, please – we're a family show!) All pajama-wearers will be entered to win two tickets to our upcoming production of Kent Stowell's *Cinderella*. PNB is also partnering with <u>TeenTix</u> to offer \$5 tickets to <u>TeenTix</u> members for both performances on the 26th. (No TeenTix "companion tickets" are available for these performances.)

NutKraken

December 28, 12:30 pm

Hockey fans who are also ballet lovers can make it a double-header at Seattle Center, by attending the matinee of *The Nutcracker*, then cheering on the Kraken at 5:00 as they face off against the Philadelphia Flyers. Bonus points to guests wearing their Kraken jerseys to *The Nutcracker*. Oh, Buoy!

PROGRAM NOTES

George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®

A Ballet in Two Acts, Four Scenes, and Prologue

Based on E.T.A. Hoffman's tale, *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* (1816)

Music: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (The Nutcracker, Op. 71, 1891-1892, with an excerpt from The Sleeping

Beauty, Op. 66, 1889)

Choreography: George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust

Staging: Judith Fugate with Peter Boal and Garielle Whittle

Scenic and Costume Design: Ian Falconer

Lighting Design: James F. Ingalls

Original Production Premiere: December 6, 1892; Imperial Ballet, St. Petersburg, choreography by Lev

Ivanov

Balanchine Production Premiere: February 2, 1954; New York City Ballet

Pacific Northwest Ballet Premiere: November 27, 2015

Running Time: Two hours and ten minutes, including one intermission

"The Nutcracker at our theater is for children young and old. That is, for children and for adults who are children at heart. Because, if an adult is a good person, in his heart he is still a child. In every person the best, the most important part is that which remains from his childhood." -- George Balanchine

The Imperial Ballet's first performances of *The Nutcracker* in 1892 at the Maryinsky Theater in St. Petersburg received mixed reviews. Critics complained the music was "too symphonic" and the Sugar Plum Fairy wasn't given enough to do. Yet, the ballet endured and the suite of musical numbers subsequently drawn from Tchaikovsky's complete score for performance in the concert hall was immediately popular. The composer was particularly delighted by his use of the celesta, the "heavenly" keyboard instrument newly invented in Paris, for the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy.

When George Balanchine staged *The Nutcracker* for New York City Ballet in 1954, it was the six-year-old company's most ambitious project to date. Although NYCB's *Nutcracker* established the ballet as a perennial holiday favorite and became the model for many subsequent productions, the ballet had been danced in the United States since 1940, when Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo performed Alexandra Fedorova's staging of a one-act *Nutcracker* in New York City. The production subsequently toured the country throughout the '40s and '50s, giving many Americans their first experience of *The Nutcracker*.

The first full-length *Nutcracker* in the U.S. was choreographed for San Francisco Ballet by Willam Christensen in 1944, replaced in 1954 with a production by Willam's brother, Lew Christensen.

When NYCB moved to the newly built New York State Theater in 1964, the *Nutcracker* scenery was completely redesigned to take advantage of the larger space. That same year, a young Judith Fugate, newly enrolled in the School of American Ballet, danced the role of Clara for the first time. She would continue in the role for four seasons before moving on to other parts, eventually joining New York City Ballet and adding the leading roles of Dewdrop and the Sugar Plum Fairy to her repertory. In 2015, Fugate took on the role of *repetiteur*, joining PNB Artistic Director Peter Boal and Garielle Whittle to stage Balanchine's *Nutcracker* for Pacific Northwest Ballet.

Pacific Northwest Ballet has its own *Nutcracker* history: In 1975, Pacific Northwest Dance, as the company was then called, acquired Lew Christensen's *Nutcracker*, performing the work for eight seasons. In 1983, under artistic directors Kent Stowell and Francia Russell, the Company presented a new production with choreography by Stowell and scenic and costume designs by famed children's author and illustrator Maurice Sendak. The Stowell & Sendak *Nutcracker* contributed significantly to the Company's identity, holding the stage for 32 seasons. In 2015, PNB acquired Balanchine's iconic production. New designs by another renowned children's author and illustrator, Ian Falconer, carry the Balanchine staging forward into the 21st century, while the staging by Fugate, Boal, and Whittle ensures the heritage of a tradition reaching back to 1892. [Excerpted from program notes by Doug Fullington. For complete notes and more, visit PNB.org.]

LAST BUT NOT LEAST: NUTCRACKER FUN FACTS & FACTOIDS!

99.98% of PNB's production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® was built entirely by artisans, craftspeople, carpenters, painters, and animators in the Pacific Northwest.

FROM THE COSTUME and WARDROBE DEPARTMENTS

Over 50 drapers, stitchers, first hands, milliners, dyers, and painters built the *Nutcracker* costumes. PNB's shop was not large enough to accommodate the number of costumers required, so some were constructed at the Seattle Children's Theater and Seattle Repertory Theatre costume shops. There are 154 costumes in the show, not counting duplicates (i.e., multiple versions of the same costume, for different-sized dancers playing the same role – Sugar Plum Fairy, Cavalier, Dewdrop, etc.)

- Clara's party dress and Drosselmeier's coat lining required 10 light coats of red paint for each stripe.
- Each Snow skirt has nine layers of various fabrics. There are 56 points on each skirt.
- There are 174 velvet diamonds and 322 jewels on the Harlequin costume. The Harlequin's partner, Columbine, has 160 velvet diamonds and 272 jewels.
- 640: Black pompoms on the eight Polichinelle costumes.
- 760: Petals on the Waltz of the Flowers costumes. (19 costumes, including extras.)
- 10 feet and 60 pounds: The width and weight of Mother Ginger's skirt.
- 175: Number of snaps on the Mother Ginger costume.
- 4,000: Holes cut by hand to create the lace "doily" tutus and headpieces for the Marzipan costumes.
- 300: Jewels hand-sewn on the two Arabian (peacock) headpieces.
- 500: Yards of tubular horsehair used for the Party Mothers' hairpieces.
- 1,428: Cabochons sewn onto the Spanish women's costumes.
- 2,568: Appliques machine-sewn on the seven Spanish dresses.
- 117: Pairs of shoulder straps (in four different flesh colors) for Snow, Flowers, Marzipan, Dewdrop, and Sugar Plum bodices.
- Sewing the Nutcracker doll required a 16" long needle.

While built to last, *Nutcracker* costumes require regular update, and have to be refurbished or rebuilt over time. In 2025, the PNB Costume shop...

Made all new petticoats for the Party Girls, and suspenders for 26 pairs of Soldier pants.

- Built a new Sugar Plum bodice, bringing our total to five.
- Created a new Drosselmeier wig; We now have three, for different head sizes.
- Made all new Hot Chocolate tights, breeches, and hats.
- Sewed two new Snow costumes, for a total of 20.

Notes from the Wardrobe department (where costumes are maintained and managed once the Costume shop has finished building them):

- 17: Number of dressers required for a performance
- 15: Number of Wardrobe Maintenance crew during The Nutcracker (7 per shift)
- 8: Loads of laundry per show (for a total of 328 loads for the 41-show run)
- 7: Jugs of detergent
- 55: Rolling racks required to hang costumes
- 1-1/2: Gallons of stain remover
- 10 cases: Vodka used to deodorize and disinfect costumes that can't be laundered. (The Wardrobe team goes through 1.5 handles of vodka approximately 2.25 liters per show.)
- It takes 3 dressers and 2 stage crew to help Mother Ginger into/out of the costume.

Seventeen mice (eight adult mice, eight young mice, and the seven-headed Mouse King) were built by Erik Andor and a team of fabricators in his Pioneer Square studio.

- 98 yards of "fur" were used to create the mice. They have a total of 230 whiskers. Each adult tail
 consists of 25 segments. Each ear is made up of six pieces. Laid end-to-end, the mice's upper
 lips total 782 inches.
- Eagle-eyed audience members may spy one gold tooth on the Mouse King.

SCENE SHOP / PRODUCTION FACTS

35 carpenters, painters, artisans and craftspeople in the PNB Scene shop built and painted the sets and props.

- There are 22 painted drops.
- 3,000 square yards of fabric were used in the creation of the scenery.
- 343 gallons of paint were used in the painting of the scenery.
- The Stahlbaum's house is modeled after designer Ian Falconer's stepfather's home in Mystic, CT, and the corridor scrim during the Prologue depicts *Nutcracker* historical figures Alexander Dumas, E.T.A. Hoffman, Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Marius Petipa, Lev Ivanov, George Balanchine, and Lincoln Kirstein.
- It took 400 hours to build the Christmas tree. At its full height it stands 40 feet. There are 450 lights on it.
- There are 32 snow pompons, and 30 cubic feet of "snow" are deployed during the Act I Snow scene, per performance.
- Ian Falconer's most famous creation, Olivia the Pig, has enjoyed nearly 400 performances of PNB's production, from her box seat on the stage right proscenium.

The prominent Christmas star that appears in the Snow scene at the end of Act I is presented by renowned artist Dale Chihuly. *Winter Star*, from Chihuly's popular *Chandelier* series, debuted as part of the artist's iconic *Chihuly in the Light of Jerusalem 2000* exhibition, and has also been exhibited at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (near London) and New York Botanical Garden.

One of the delightful highlights of PNB's production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* is the animated video that accompanies the overture. (For an excerpt, <u>click here</u>.) Created by <u>Straightface Studios</u> located in the Interbay neighborhood of Seattle, the three-and-a-half minute video takes audiences on a flight through the woods and a New England town, up to the front steps of the Stahlbaum home. The town was inspired by antique mid-19th Century maps and satellite images of New England. The terrain covers 372 sq. miles and there are over 1.5 million trees, 8,540 bushes, 287 buildings, and seven mice. In 2016, Straightface created a second video to play during the first act violin solo following the Party scene. This video integrates live-action ballet dancers (current PNB soloists Amanda Morgan and Madison Rayn Abeo) into a computer-generated world.

FROM THE WORLD FAMOUS PNB ORCHESTRA

- The world-famous PNB Orchestra is comprised of 59 musicians, although additional musicians fill in at times during the long Nutcracker run.
- Number of PNBO musicians who have been with the company 25+ years: 29
- Approximate number of *Nutcracker* performances a founding member of the PNB Orchestra could have feasibly played through December 28, 2025: 1,378
- Weight of PNB's celeste, which plays the instantly-recognizable "Waltz of the Sugar Plum Fairy" music: 180 lbs.
- The only note that the basses play during the Chinese Tea divertissement: Low B-flat pizzicato, 46 times (with great feeling, of course.)
- Approximate number of string lights that violinist Tom Dziekonski uses to decorate music stands in the Orchestra pit: 50
- Approximate number of different themed string lights in his personal collection: 900+
- Installation of the Orchestra pit's decorative lights takes approximately five hours.

IN THE LOBBY

The enormous Mouse and Mother Ginger statues in the McCaw Hall lobby, backdrops for 17-bajillion photo ops by audience members, were sculpted by <u>Dillon Works</u> of Mukilteo, WA.

- Both are modeled after the original illustrations by Ian Falconer.
- The Mouse weighs 100 pounds and took two weeks to build, by a team of three sculptors, three fabricators, two metal workers (to create his steel armature) and four painters. 30 yards of fiberglass were required to give him his "shell."
- Mother Ginger is over 100" tall and over 94" wide. She was built by a team of three sculptors, four fabricators, two metal workers, three painters, and two designers. She took two weeks to build, and another two weeks of painting and graphics. Her upper body is 100% hand-painted down to her reflection in the mirror.

731: Different styles of Nutcrackers sold at McCaw Hall's <u>Amusements Gift Shop</u> since they opened in 2003. The smallest is five inches, the largest is 36 inches, and the weirdest was Richard Wagner rendered as a Nutcracker which, according to Amusements' Maggie Case, "was alarmingly popular, considering its price point of over \$300." Seattleites love the *Ring* composer!

#

Supporting sponsor for Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2025 run of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* is Cordelia Corporation, with additional support from BECU. Principal sponsorship support for the 2015 PNB premiere of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* with original scenic and costume design by lan Falconer, was made possible through the generosity of Pam & Dan Baty. Additional major support was provided by Patty Edwards, Carl & Renee Behnke, and Peter & Peggy Horvitz, along with donations from over 900 other individuals. Star Sponsor is Chihuly Studios. The works of George Balanchine performed by Pacific Northwest Ballet, including *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®*, are made possible in part by The Louise Nadeau Endowed Fund.

Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2025-26 season is proudly sponsored by 4Culture, ArtsFund, Microsoft, and The Shubert Foundation. PNB's digital season is made possible by Katherine Graubard and William Calvin. PNB media sponsorship provided by *The Seattle Times*.

<u>Publicity Contact</u> Gary Tucker, Communications Director

O 206.441.2426 / M/T 206.328.TUCK (8825) / GTucker@PNB.org / PNB.org/press Everything is subject to change. For further information, please visit PNB.org.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET
301 Mercer Street • Seattle, WA 98109 • 206.441.2424 • PNB.org