



**NEW HAVEN BALLET
THE NUTCRACKER 2026**

Audition & Participation Information

We are delighted to invite New Haven Ballet students to audition for our annual production of *The Nutcracker*, to be presented at the historic Shubert Theatre in New Haven.

This beloved production is often one of the most memorable performance experiences of the year. Dancers take part in a full-length classical ballet on a professional stage, build confidence and artistry, and share in a meaningful holiday tradition with their peers and families.

Every eligible student who auditions and participates will be part of the production and appear on stage.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

**Shubert Theatre
247 College Street
New Haven, Connecticut**

Friday, December 11, 2026

10:00–11:15 a.m. (Children's Matinee)
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 12, 2026

1:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 13, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Performance assignments vary by role and cast. Not all dancers will perform in every performance.

NUTCRACKER INFORMATION MEETING

Saturday, September 12, 2026

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Whitney Avenue Studio

591 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut



Stop by anytime between 9:30 and 1:00 p.m. to meet Volunteer Coordinator Deana Vendetto and NHB Administrator Ruth Barker, who will be available to explain the audition and rehearsal process, review participation requirements, answer questions, and assist families with registration. Families new to *The Nutcracker* are warmly encouraged to attend.

NUTCRACKER ELIGIBILITY & REHEARSALS

Students enrolled in Creative Ballet I and above for Fall 2026 are eligible to audition. Student accounts must be current in order to audition and participate. Students are expected to maintain regular attendance in their ballet classes and participate consistently in rehearsals so they feel confident, prepared, and supported in their roles.

Mandatory Rehearsal Schedule

- **Pre-Ballet through Level 8** rehearse on Saturdays and Sundays
- **Levels 6–8** also rehearse on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **Creative Ballet I & II** rehearse two weeks prior to the show and Tech Week

Tech Week (Shubert Theatre)

December 8–11, 2026

All cast members are required to attend daily rehearsals at the Shubert Theatre during Tech Week. This is a critical part of the production process, when dancers bring together staging, spacing, costumes, and performance preparation on stage. Attendance at rehearsals is required in order to perform in *The Nutcracker*. Students who miss more than two rehearsals may be unable to participate in the production.

AUDITION SCHEDULE

Please arrive promptly at your assigned check-in time

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

70 Audubon Street, New Haven, CT 06510

LEVEL	CHECK IN	CHECK OUT
Boys Primary to Level 5	1:45	2:30
Level 6 & 7 Boys; Girls <i>en pointe</i>	2:15	3:30
Level 8 Boys; Girls <i>en pointe</i>	3:00	5:00
Girls Level 5	4:45	5:30



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
70 Audubon Street, New Haven, CT 06510

LEVEL	CHECK IN	CHECK OUT
Girls Level 4	12:00	12:45
Girls Level 3	12:30	1:15
Girls Level 2	1:00	1:45
Girls Level 1	1:30	2:00
Primary Girls Only	1:45	2:15
Pre-Ballet Boys & Girls	2:00	2:30
Creative Ballet II ALL	2:15	2:45
Creative Ballet I ALL	2:30	3:00

Students will:

- Receive an audition number
- Have measurements taken by the costume department
- Submit registration materials if needed

Students should wear their regular class uniform. Level 6–8 dancers should wear or bring pointe shoes.

Parents and guardians are asked to wait outside the building during auditions.

REGISTRATION & PRODUCTION FEES

Registration and payment are due no later than: **September 13, 2026**

Production Fees:

- Creative Ballet 1 & Creative Ballet 2: **\$151**
- Pre-Ballet through Level 5: **\$260**
- Levels 6–8: **\$422**

Production fees support costumes, theater expenses, technical production, backstage staff, and all elements required to bring a full-length ballet to the stage at the Shubert Theatre.

An additional **\$10 late fee** will be added to registrations received after September 13, 2026.

No refunds.



Payment may be made by:

- Venmo
- Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express)
- Check payable to New Haven Ballet

Each child requires a separate completed and signed registration form.

PAYMENT: Payment may be made via VENMO, credit card (MC, VISA, AMEX), or check. Please make checks payable to **New Haven Ballet**. Each child requires a separate, complete, and signed form.

PARTICIPATION FEE: CB I & II: **\$151**. Pre-Ballet to Level 5: **\$260**. Levels 6–8: **\$422**.

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVC _____

Name on card: _____

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to NHB policies. I agree to accept the role(s) in which I am cast, attend weekly classes and rehearsals, and perform in all performances in which I am cast.

Student Name: _____

Age _____ Academic Grade: _____ NHB Class Level _____

New Haven Branford Q House

Years at NHB _____ Summer Program 2026 _____

Number of weeks _____

NHB 2025 Nutcracker roles _____

Sibling(s) _____

Sibling's NHB class level _____ Academic School Grade _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

(Parent/Guardian, if under 18)