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**Miami City Ballet seeks Naples area children to be a part of
Miami City Ballet's spectacular *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*™ --
the biggest holiday production in South Florida!**

Auditions to be held September 14 at Artis-Naples

Miami Beach, FL -- Aspiring dancers from Naples and the surrounding areas will have the opportunity to perform with the internationally acclaimed **Miami City Ballet (MCB)** during its annual performances of the beloved holiday extravaganza -- ***George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*™**. MCB Children's Ballet Masters will hold auditions throughout the day on **Sunday, September 14, 2014 beginning at 11:30am at Artis-Naples** and are open to children ages 8 and up with previous ballet training.

MCB is one of the only companies in the country to perform *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*™. The ballet is admired for its dazzling choreography, ornate costuming and visually stunning sets. It boasts a cast of over 100, with many of these roles performed by children. Performances of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*™ will be held at **Artis-Naples December 6-7, 2014**.

Darleen Callaghan, Miami City Ballet School Director states, "This is a terrific opportunity for children to perform with a world-class ballet company in a large scale, high caliber, professionally-produced ballet. I am grateful to Christophe Maraval of Naples Ballet and Naples Academy of Ballet for partnering with us to find and rehearse area talent to perform in our production of *The Nutcracker* at Artis-Naples this year."

Naples Ballet Artistic Director, Christophe Maraval says, "Naples Academy of Ballet and I are honored to be working with the internationally esteemed Miami City Ballet. What a wonderful opportunity for Naples children to be able to perform in Balanchine's *Nutcracker* alongside such talented dancers. I'm sure it will be a memorable experience... one they'll cherish forever."

Children selected to perform will participate in daily rehearsals September 15 – 21, followed by weekly rehearsals beginning September 22 at Naples Academy of Ballet leading up to the performance.

Sunday, September 14 Audition Details:

Location: Artis-Naples (5833 Pelican Bay Blvd, Naples, FL 34108)

Contact: Christophe Maraval at 239-249-0306 or Christophepm@gmail.com.

11:30am-12pm: Registration (Height up to 4'4") / 12pm-1:30pm: Audition

1pm-1:30pm: Registration (Height 4'5" to 4'10") / 1:30pm – 3:30pm: Audition

3pm-3:30pm: Registration (Height 4'10" to 5') / 3:30-4:30pm: Audition