

Lourdes Lopez
Artistic Director

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Tania Castroverde Moskalenko
Executive Director

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Toby Lerner Ansin
Founder

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Edward Villella
Founding Artistic Director

November 15, 2021
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Miami City Ballet returns to live performances
with its beloved, tropical-imbued production of
George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®**

At all three partner venues:

Miami's Arsht Center, Fort Lauderdale's Broward Center, and West Palm Beach's Kravis Center

Thanksgiving Sale: Buy 3 get 1 Free



(Miami Beach, FL) – Marking a joyous South Florida return to live, in-theater performances, [Miami City Ballet](https://miamicityballet.org) (MCB) will perform its celebrated production of **George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*®**. With a cast of over 100 and a live orchestra playing Tchaikovsky's famous score, MCB is thrilled to spread some holiday cheer at all three of its home venues in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach, beginning December 10 through December 30, 2021. [Tickets](#) are on sale now and start at \$34. For the best deals, don't miss MCB's Thanksgiving sale. Buy 3 tickets, get 1 free. November 22 – 30, 2021. Visit miamicityballet.org/nutcracker to purchase.

MCB's production of the Balanchine classic, as performed by MCB's critically acclaimed dancers, stays faithful to the original; the story and choreography remain unchanged. What sets this *Nutcracker* apart is that it is made for and inspired by South Florida's geographical location and the

vibrant communities within. From the sherbet-hued costumes that adorn the children in the opening party scene, to a Land of Sweets embellished with sugar-coated key limes and a pineapple crown, subtle nods to MCB's South Florida home abound throughout.

A time-honored holiday tradition across the nation, it is inspired by Balanchine's own cherished memories of Christmastime as a young boy growing up in Russia. The ballet brilliantly depicts that magical time of year where families celebrate togetherness, and the excitement of the holiday season fills children with endless wonder and giddy delight.

New York City Ballet premiered Balanchine's *Nutcracker* in 1954 and it has been performed by the troupe annually ever since, except for last year, when all major dance companies sadly had to cancel their *Nutcracker* performances due to the pandemic. Except for MCB who, against all odds, staged the ballet last season through an innovative blend of technology and live dance outdoors at Downtown Doral Park.

Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez explains, "Most *Nutcrackers* tend to elicit feelings and images of winter holidays as experienced mostly, in the Northeast. Our *Nutcracker* is a bit different and warmer! When we asked Cuban artists Isabel and Ruben Toledo to reimagine the sets and costumes for a Miami-flavored *Nutcracker* they considered how we, in the Southeast experience *Nutcracker* and celebrate the winter holidays. We all kept in mind our communities, culture, heritage and spirit of Miami and the Caribbean. This truly is a *Nutcracker* for our South Florida home. But don't worry, the snow still falls, and the Sugarplum Fairy still glides across the stage... some things are timeless and understood by all!"

[George Balanchine's The Nutcracker® \(Balanchine / Tchaikovsky\)](#)

Broward Center: December 10-12, 2021

Arsht Center: December 16-26, 2021

Kravis Center: December 29-30, 2021

Delight in the must-see holiday spectacular, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®*. For audiences of all ages, guests will journey with Marie and her Prince through MCB's vivid, Caribbean-infused production that The Miami Herald calls "jaw-dropping," "exceptional" and "a riot of colors."

[Health & Safety:](#)

Our partner theaters are committed to the health and safety of the artists, staff, volunteers and you, our audiences. Arsht, Broward and Kravis Centers will each have guidelines and protocols for transitioning safely back to a traditionally seated theater experience.

When Miami City Ballet audiences return to the Arsht, Broward, and Kravis Centers, be assured that the health and safety protocols will be in line with the most recent recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), developed in collaboration with local and state health officials.

ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET

Miami City Ballet has a diverse roster of 54 dancers and a repertoire of more than 130 works. As one of the most renowned ballet companies in the country, Miami City Ballet performs for nearly 125,000 patrons annually during its South Florida home season in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and tours to major cities domestically and internationally, including recent visits to New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, and Paris.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is one of the most respected ballet training academies in America. The School trains students, ages 3-18 year-round, and grants more than \$650,000 in scholarships annually.

Miami City Ballet's Community Engagement programs, serving more than 12,000 people annually in schools and communities; our free programs use the power of dance to uplift, teach and bring joy.

Executive Director Tania Castroverde Moskalenko and Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez lead the company. Lopez was recently awarded the prestigious Dance Magazine Award in 2018 and was named one of "The Most Influential People in Dance Today." She is on the Ford Foundation Board of Trustees, the first artist to ever serve on its Board.

Miami City Ballet was founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin and Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella. It is headquartered in Miami Beach, FL, at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm, Arquitectonica.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has been a generous supporter of Miami City Ballet with over \$11 million in cumulative giving since the company's founding. Knight Foundation is a national foundation with strong local roots. We invest in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. Our goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which we believe are essential for a healthy democracy. For more, visit KF.org.

Major funding is also provided by the Ford Foundation, working with visionaries on the frontlines of social change worldwide.

Miami-Dade County support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

Performances and programming in Miami Beach is provided with the generous support of the City of Miami Beach and the Cultural Arts Council.

**MIAMI
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Support for Miami City Ballet in the Palm Beaches is generously sponsored in part by the Board of County Commissioners, the Tourist Development Council and the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

Broward County funding is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners of Broward County, Florida, as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council.

The Company is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

Performances of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® in Broward County supported by Funding Arts Broward, supporting innovative local visual and performing arts in Broward County.

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