

Published November 8th, 2023

Orinda Ballet Academy kicks off holiday season with 'A Sweet Dream Nutcracker'

By Sora O'Doherty



From left: Maya Elkind, Amy Li, Chloe Sabo-Nichols, Renee Silberschmidt, Ella Pierce, Sadie Elkind, Phoebe Higgins, Bailey Brothers, Emily Charo, Mia Jeric, Gianna Galando, Zoey Ying and Frances Giquinto Photo provided

The Orinda Library Auditorium will once again ring with the sounds of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite as the Orinda Ballet Academy presents "A Sweet Dream Nutcracker" the second weekend in December this year. Under the direction of owner and Artistic Director

Patricia Tomlinson, the students of the Academy will be joined by professional guest artists Kendall Sparks, Fiona Hutchens and Michael Wells.

Tomlinson, a former professional ballerina, formed the Orinda Ballet Academy in 2009. Her earlier career included performing as a principal dancer with a number of ballet companies. She represented the United States in the "Masaka Ohya Japan?World Ballet Competition" in Osaka, Japan, placing fourth among a group?of competitors from 32 countries.?She has guest performed, taught and set ballets throughout the?United States. Tomlinson has been teaching, ballet mistressing, and choreographing in the East Bay for over 25 years.

Show dates this year are Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m., Dec. 9 at 1 and 5 p.m., and Dec. 10 at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Tickets cost between \$23 for children and \$25 for adults. Tickets may also be available at the door. Payment at the door by cash, check or Venmo only.

Tickets are available on the Orinda Ballet Academy website: www.orindaballetacademy.com

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[back](#)

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