



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***The Nutcracker Comes to Life at the Orpheum Theater Dec. 9 – 11***  
*Omaha Performing Arts Presents Aspen Santa Fe Ballet The Nutcracker This Holiday Season*

**Omaha, Neb. – November 8, 2010** – Omaha Performing Arts presents [Aspen Santa Fe Ballet \*The Nutcracker\*](#) at the Orpheum Theater on Friday, December 9; Saturday, December 10 and Sunday, December 11, 2011. This production from internationally recognized and critically acclaimed [Aspen Santa Fe Ballet](#) features nearly 100 young local dancers along with dancers from the professional company.

Tickets start at \$25 and are available to purchase online at [TicketOmaha.com](http://TicketOmaha.com), by calling 402.345.0606 or at the Ticket Omaha office inside the Holland Performing Arts Center, 13<sup>th</sup> & Douglas streets. For group sales call 402.661.8516 or toll-free at 866.434.8587.

With visions of sugarplum fairies, handsome princes and courageous soldiers, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet *The Nutcracker* is full of childlike wonder. Featuring choreography that combines traditional and contemporary elements, including cirque-style aerialists, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet brings energy and versatility to this timeless holiday favorite. Children of all ages will marvel at the magic of this production with its dazzling sets and an extraordinary cast of dancers, actors and circus artists. Year after year, families enjoy seeing this cherished holiday classic come to life. Aspen Santa Fe Ballet previously performed *The Nutcracker* at the Orpheum Theater last year.

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker and Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty held local auditions in October for 60 children's roles and selected nearly 100 Omaha-area youth to participate in this beautiful production, as some roles are double-cast. Ballet Nebraska, the local professional dance company, is managing rehearsals and helping to prepare the local participants for the production. In addition to the three public performances, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet will also perform three student matinee performances of *The Nutcracker* at the Orpheum Theater for metro-area students. Omaha Performing Arts, with Ballet Nebraska's help, is also reaching out to area schools to provide educational programming to more than 20 schools prior to their attending the student matinee performances.

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is one of the largest dance-only performing troupes in the country. The company's signature style has encompassed a far-reaching aesthetic vision, incorporating a wide range of dance elements, including cirque-style feats, executed with pristine technique and incomparable flair. For over a decade, Mossbrucker and Malaty have led the company in landmark appearances at the famed Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, the Kennedy Center, and the Joyce Theater in New York City.

Heading into a second decade of activity, the success of the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is cause for celebration. ASFB is a uniquely structured and multi-faceted organization, founded in 1990 by longtime

Aspenite Bebe Schwappe. It not only is a nationally recognized dance company, a leader in the dance world in terms of repertoire, acquiring and commissioning work from top choreographers; but it is also one of the largest dance presenters in the country, welcoming the best in dance in both Aspen, Colo. and Santa Fe, N.M. Education is a priority for the organization with schools in each of the cities. Cultural community activity is also included under the ASFB umbrella, with the popular award-winning Mexican folklore youth program, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklórico, offered in both locations.

To see a video clip of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet performing selections from *The Nutcracker*, visit [TicketOmaha.com](http://TicketOmaha.com).

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### **About Omaha Performing Arts**

Omaha Performing Arts is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing world-class performances to the Omaha metropolitan area. Omaha Performing Arts' commitment to the arts extends into its own series, Omaha Performing Arts *Presents*, as well as education and community involvement programs that help ensure the arts have a far-reaching impact. In partnership with Broadway Across America, Omaha Performing Arts also brings the finest in touring Broadway productions to Omaha,

Core to its mission, Omaha Performing Arts manages two landmark venues, the Holland Performing Arts Center and the Orpheum Theater – the former, which includes the acoustically acclaimed Kiewit Concert Hall and Scott Recital Hall and the latter, which includes Slosburg Hall, a proscenium theater. Omaha Performing Arts also provides comprehensive ticketing services for cultural and performing arts within the region through Ticket Omaha ([www.TicketOmaha.com](http://www.TicketOmaha.com)).

Omaha Performing Arts' performances are supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, the Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Omaha and the Douglas County Visitor Improvement Fund. For more information on Omaha Performing Arts visit [www.OmahaPerformingArts.org](http://www.OmahaPerformingArts.org).