



Tea for Tutu 101

In front of 649 Courtney street, 4 special buses are parked. I'm excited to see this afternoon's performance! Volunteers welcome each guest and show them to their reserved seat, walkers are stored, and wheelchairs are carefully positioned to view the whole stage. Very young children and their parents climb the few steps to their seats with great excitement.

When the lights go out, all fidgeting stops. As the music and ballet of The Nutcracker becomes alive on stage, emotions grow tangible. No one moves, spellbound, totally focused on the magic of the ballet.



Like a Nutcracker faerie, M.Larsen has advised, supported and rewarded the dancers from Ballet Victoria



15 years ago K.McGinnis, with the volunteers launched the Tea for Tutu program.

After the applause and bows, the volunteers serve tea and cookies. The audience meets the dancers. Vivid impressions and highlights of the show are exchanged. All around, photos are taken.

Now 101, a former dancer and ballet teacher shares her experience with a young ballerina who achieved the incredible challenge of becoming a professional dancer.

A young girl, 4, and her 3-year-old brother munch on cookies while admiring "the prince and the fairy".

A woman in her eighties explains, "It is the first time in my life I am able to see a ballet. I want to see them all from now on". Her hesitant hand touches the arm of her caregiver who is already reserving on her phone, seats for the other Tea for Tutus of this season.

After the audience has left, the volunteers are still active with washing dishes and tidying up. It is joyful. This exceptional event seems natural and normal to all!

This is the end of the 'Nutcracker' Tea for Tutu event. Yes, these performances are free, but they are also free of barriers. Free to wholeheartedly enjoy the beauty and wonder of ballet to all who attended.



Thank you

Buy Your Tickets Now

<https://www.balletvictoria.ca/the-gift-of-the-nutcracker-2024/>

The Gift of the Nutcracker

The Royal Theatre

Dec. 28th - 7:30pm

Dec. 29th & 30th - 2:00pm