CITY OF TOMBALL

APPLICATION FOR USE OF HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Applications may be mailed or hand delivered to:

Finance Director
City of Tomball
501 James Street
Tomball, TX 77375

Applicant Organization: Houston Repertoire Ballet

Organization Director: Victoria Vittum, Artistic Director and Founder

Project or Event for which funding is requested: 2022 The Nutcracker Performance Series

Date of Event: November 30 - December 4, 2022 (8 performances, 2 dress rehearsals)

Description of project or event for which funding is requested: HRB's *The Nutcracker* is a classic holiday ballet enjoyed by all ages at affordable prices ($15-$25) attracting approximately 4,200 patrons and artists annually to Tomball's easily accessible venue. The performance series features professional guest artists, elaborate costumes and sets, along with exquisite dancing in a professionally staged performance which draws audience members from Houston and neighboring communities. The series also includes 3 free school performances for all Tomball ISD third graders.

Location of project or event: Tomball High School Theatre, Leonard Chambers Fine Arts Wing
330 Quinn Road
Tomball, TX 77375

GRANT AMOUNTS:

Amount Requested for Current Fiscal Year: 2022-2023 $ 19,000
Amount Received for Previous Fiscal Year: 2021-2022 $ 16,500
% increase requested over last year's grant: 15 %

Organization Budget Summary for Previous Fiscal Year 2021-2022

	City Funds	Other Funds	Total
Personnel	$1,500 Tomball Stage Manager/Crew	$12,850 Artistic Staff	$14,350
Contracted Services	$700 Security	$11,000 Guest Artists fees	$11,700
Travel		$1,500 Guest Artist Travel and Meals	$1,500
Rental Expense	$14,297 Tomball HS Rental	$1,381 Transportation Rentals	$15,678
Depreciation/Mortgage	**N/A**	$14,843 Rent, Utilities, etc.	$14,843
Advertising	$650 printed in Tomball	$3,600	$4,900
Insurance		$4,500	$4,500
Other Expenses	$499 Arts & Education Booklets for Tomball ISD 3rd graders, printed in Tomball	$38,811 Costumes/props/sets, Food, Ticket Sales fees, Foyer and Boutique, Scholarships, other production costs, administrative expenses,etc.	$39,310
Volunteer Time	**N/A**		
Donated Goods/Services	**N/A**		
Total	$17,646	$88,485	$106,131

Grants to an organization will not exceed 35% of the organization's adopted budget for the fiscal year shown above.

*Funds spent in Tomball exceeded grant amount.

FUNDS FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN THE CITY OF TOMBALL

Government	Amount of Funds
Local	
County	
State	$2,200
Federal	
Other Investors/Contributors	
Individual	$1000
Corporate	$1000
Foundations	
Fees	
Admissions	$75,692
Applications	
Vendors	
Tuition	
Concessions	$4,126 - Nutcracker boutique and silent auction
Memberships	
Subscriptions	
Other	
Total	$2,990 - fundraising
	$ 86,008 ($20,123 LOSS)

2022 line items not included in 2021 budget:
$30,000 orchestra
$25,480 outreach program to Tomball ISD students

How many people do you expect will visit Tomball from out-of-town as a result of this project or event?

Explain the basis for your answer to the preceding question: In 2021, HRB saw an astounding response to the return of its performance series of *The Nutcracker*, with all 4 Saturday and Sunday shows completely selling out, and the Friday night show at 95% capacity. Based on these numbers and ticket sales data, which indicated 97% of patrons originated from outside of Tomball zip codes, HRB antipicates the 2022 series to attract 4,260 non-Tomball residents as patrons and upwards of 160 performers and volunteers.

Are attendees for this event or users of this project expected to stay overnight in Tomball hotels or motels? If you answer to this question is Yes, state the basis for your answer: Yes. The long days associated with 2 days of dress rehearsals and 8 performances mandate that some of HRB's company members stay in the area throughout the week/weekend (some members live as far as Bryan, College Station, Waller, etc.). Feedback from HRB families following the 2021 Nutcracker indicated that rooms from multiple hotels were rented in Tomball that week. In addition, HRB patrons and members shop and dine in Tomball through the Nutcracker performance series.

Organization Contact Name: Ann Moore

Title: Executive Board Member

Address: 8515 Jackrabbit Road, Ste F
Houston, TX 77095

Phone Number: (832) 746-4000

Contact's Signature:

Date: 07/17/2022

VALIDATION OF APPLICATION

The signatory declares that he/she is an authorized official of the applicant, is authorized to make this application, and certifies that the information in this application is true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge. Signatory further declares that applicant, if previously funded by the City of Tomball, has successfully fulfilled all prior Grant contract obligations.

Signature of Authorizing Official

Date

Michael Stewart

Typed Name

Executive Board President

Title within Organization

(713) 569-7853

Telephone

stewart_mj@yahoo.com

Email address

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Please look at the criteria in the grant guidelines when you answer the following questions. **Be specific and give examples.** Answers to individual questions should be as brief as possible and should in no case exceed one page.

1. Describe the history and purpose of the organization.

2. Describe how any grant funds will be used.

3. List the programs and activities for the grant year.

4. Show evidence of growth in community support prior to the grant year. Include the number of performances, exhibitions, audience sizes, services or enrollment. Be sure to include specific information as to the percent of activities taking place within the City of Tomball.

5. How does your project/event qualify for use of Municipal Hotel Occupancy Tax funds as defined in the Hotel Occupancy Tax Guidelines?

6. How do you publicize your activities? How do you evaluate these efforts and what have you done to increase the effectiveness of your marketing efforts?

7. Explain the public benefits to the City of Tomball that will result from your organization's efforts.

8. What is your organization doing to bring visitors to Tomball, to stay in local hotels and otherwise support the hospitality industry?

OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The following information in required to process the grant application:

1. Articles of Incorporation, if applicable

2. Constitution and/or By-Laws

3. If your organization's budget exceeds $100,000 (exclusive of in-kind) attach a copy of the last independent audit of financial records. If no audit was completed, explain why.

4. Schedule of Board of Directors meetings for the period of October 1 of the current year through September 30 of the following year. Board of Directors meetings must occur at least once per quarter.

5. Resumes of principal staff and artists or relevant job descriptions.

6. Depending on the nature of the project or event for which grant funding is requested, the organization will obtain a Certificate of Insurance for liability coverage as outlined in the attached Exhibit A. The City of Tomball requires each grantee having an event in the City aimed to attract both residents and tourists to have liability insurance to protect the public for acts by the grantee. This mandated coverage does not cover the grantee or any of its members. We encourage the grantee to acquire insurance to cover itself and its members as it deems fit. Please see your insurance agent for the local government endorsement. The cost of the local government endorsement may be included as part of your budget to be considered for a grant.

OPTIONAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

This should be additional material that you wish to attach that further explains the activities of your organization such as:

1. Long Range Plan – 3-5 years
2. One labeled videotape of performance(s), exhibits, workshops, capital project and /or other activities for which City of Tomball grant funds will be utilized.
3. Programs, publicity, articles, reviews, etc.
4. Letters of support from patrons or other organizations in the community.

EXHIBIT A

Organization shall procure and maintain for the duration of the grant agreement, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the services performed or to be performed hereunder by the Organization its agents, representatives, employees, volunteers, officers, directors or sub-contractors.

The organization shall maintain insurance with limits not less than $500,000 per occurrence, $1,000,000 aggregate and will be as broad as ISO Form Number GL 0002 (Ed 1/72) covering Comprehensive General Liability and ISO Form Number GL 0404 covering Broad Form Comprehensive General Liability, or ISO Commercial General Liability coverage ("occurrence for CG 0001). Coverage will include: A) Premises – Operations; B) Broad Form Contractual Liability, C) Broad Form Property Damage and D) Personal Injury.

The policy will be endorsed to contain the following provisions: The City, its officials, employees, volunteers, Boards and Commissions are to be added as "Additional Insured" in respect to liability arising out of any activities performed by or on behalf of the Organization. The policy shall contain no special limitations to the scope of coverage afforded to the City. The Organization's insurance shall be primary and any insurance or self-insurance shall be in excess of the Organization's insurance and shall not contribute with it. Certificate must include a waiver of subrogation as regards to the workers compensation policy. If your organization has no employees, and therefore doe not carry workers compensation insurance, you must provide to the City of Tomball a letter stating that you have no employees and therefore do not carry workers compensation insurance.

Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best rating of no less than A:VI or a Standard & Poor rating of A or better.

The Organization shall furnish the City with a certificate of insurance which shows the coverage provided. The insurance policy will be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be suspended, voided, canceled, non-renewed, reduced in coverage or in limits except after thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to the City.

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. Describe the history and purpose of the organization.

Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) youth ballet company conceptualized in 1994. HRB's was established to meet the need and desire to provide Northwest Harris County communities with the highest quality of dance education and performance experiences. HRB has grown to become the premier pre-professional ballet company in the area, requiring discipline and commitment from its company members. Each season, the company provides two major production series and a choreography production with recital. The company expects 68 members for the 2021-2022, who will train and rehearse 15-20 hours weekly. This reflects a nearly 40% year over year increase in membership, which had been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

HRB's production of *The Nutcracker* in Tomball began in 1998, with a single show featuring only the second act. It has since flourished into a performance series featuring three abbreviated, and five full, shows, with the latter featuring 40 performers from the Cypress Philharmonic Orchestra. All performances are staged at the Tomball High School Theatre. This annual series provides an affordable and accessible yet professionally staged production—with beautiful sets, elaborate costumes, and talented dancers and musicians—to Tomball residents, while simultaneously drawing in non-local patrons, thus supporting the community and enriching the residents.

Due to state, local and TISD COVID-19 health protocols, HRB was unable to offer *The Nutcracker* performance series in 2020. In 2021, in compliance with COVID-19 safety precautions, performances did not include a live orchestra. Despite the lack of orchestra in 2021, all Saturday and Sunday performances completely sold out, with the Friday evening show at 95% capacity. For the 2022 performance series, HRB anticipates a return to full production status, with representative performances and ticket sales.

In addition, HRB has an established Arts and Education (A&E) program whereby free performances of *The Nutcracker* are offered to, and performed for, all third graders in Tomball ISD. Beginning in 2018, the A&E outreach program, called The Nutcracker Experience, offers free dance instruction and an opportunity to perform in the A&E shows to students from three Tomball ISD Title 1 schools: Tomball Elementary, Decker Prairie Elementary, and Rosehill Elementary. Although COVID-19 safety precautions prohibited the fulfillment of this experience in both 2020 and 2021, HRB will resume this program in 2022. HRB also anticipates an expansion of the performance series to include an additional elementary school with respective instruction, contingent upon scheduling and faculty willingness.

The official mission of Houston Repertoire Ballet is as follows:
“HRB is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in the art of classical ballet, providing a program of the highest quality to local dancers through professional instruction, education and performance experience. To ensure quality, acceptance into the company is limited and by invitation only. The company gives talented, dedicated dancers the serious training needed for them to enter the professional world of dance, while providing cultural education and community service to surrounding cities.”

2. Describe how any grant funds will be used.

The funds provided by the City of Tomball's Hotel Occupancy Tax are earmarked for the Tomball community, either by direct spending or via enrichment. The facility rental expenses, which is budgeted at approximately $15,000 for the 2022 series, is paid directly to Tomball ISD. In addition to ticketed performances, HRB provides Tomball ISD's third grade students three (3) free performances, which fulfill the arts component of their curriculum and bring the magic of live theatre directly to the students, a first-time experience for many. High school special needs students and dance students are also invited, contingent on enrollment numbers. The expenses of these two components alone more than returns Tomball's annual investment.

The stage crew is comprised of Tomball Stage students, director, a lighting director, all of whom are Tomball residents, along with HRB volunteers and an HRB stage manager. The Tomball students are compensated for their work while gaining valuable technical live production experience. In addition, HRB provides two $750 scholarships annually to support graduating Tomball Stage students.

The funds are further distributed to Tomball area vendors for expenses related to security; flowers; production of the Arts & Education booklets distributed to Tomball ISD 3rd grade students at the free school day performances; *Nutcracker* posters and flyers; and refreshments for the dancers, backstage crew and volunteers. In addition, local purchases, including those of meals and snacks, made by production performers, personnel and patrons before and after the shows, benefit Tomball businesses. Food and other items are typically purchased from local Tomball establishments including Chili's, Starbucks, Chick-Fil-A, Pizza Hut, Kroger, Wal-Mart, and Target.

From 2017 to 2019, grant funds were also applied to support the expansion of our Nutcracker Experience, a successful outreach program involving third grade participants from Decker Prairie, Tomball, and Rosehill Elementary schools. Because of safety precautions related to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and insufficient planning time due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 protocols in 2021, HRB was unable to implement our much-loved program in both the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 seasons. HRB will resume the Nutcracker Experience this season, and Tomball grant funds are used to support this endeavor. The total cost of the outreach program, which was not part of the 2021 budget, is anticipated to be $25,480. This estimate includes a percentage of overall studio costs (facility, administrative, contractor fees, etc) and costs unique to the program, such as A&E booklet printing, scholarships, attire for student participants, and the costs associated with the additional theatre rental period, including expenses to support the extended presence of company members and volunteers.

The City of Tomball grant funds are dedicated to the support of the local Tomball economy, while bringing the arts and patrons directly to the Tomball community. Any remaining funds will be directed towards publicity expenses which bring awareness and patrons to the event in Tomball.

3. List the Programs and activities for the grant year.

The Tomball Hotel Occupancy Tax grant funds are fully applied to support the production of *The Nutcracker* in Tomball, enriching its arts community while encouraging the patronage of residents from other areas.

HRB's presence in Tomball will begin at "move-in" at the beginning of the week, followed by dress rehearsals on Tuesday, November 29 and Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

On Thursday, December 1, 2022, HRB will perform one (1) free show for Tomball ISD third grade students. On Friday, December 2, 2022, HRB will perform two (2) additional free shows for Tomball ISD third grade students.

All three performances for Tomball ISD third grade students, which take place during school hours and fulfill the arts component of their curriculum, provide an abbreviated performance that includes an educational talk as well as an informational Arts & Education booklet, a sample of which is provided (2021 edition). The cost of printing the Arts & Education booklets for the 2022 performances will be approximately $700.

The evening of Friday, December 2, 2022, HRB will perform the season's first full performance of *The Nutcracker*. The following Saturday and Sunday, December 3-4, 2022, will include two (2) full length performances per day.

The lobby is set and decorated for the holidays, including a large Christmas tree, the HRB boutique, a silent auction area, and refreshments provided by Tomball High School's Jr ROTC as their own fundraiser.

HRB's season continues with an April performance series, *Celebration of Dance,* with a season finale, *Choreography Project*, in May. These performances are also held at Tomball High School Theatre. The *Celebration of Dance* performance series is offered at a low ticketed price, while the *Choreography Project* is offered free of charge. HRB brings the arts to the city of Tomball to delight area residents with affordable and accessible live performances while bringing in outside visitors and additional revenue to the city of Tomball each year.

Arts & Education abbreviated performances for Tomball ISD third graders
(Times are determined by Tomball ISD)
Admission: FREE
Thursday, December 1, 2022 – 12:15 pm
Friday, December 2, 2022 – 9:45 am, 12:15 pm

Full performances
Admission: $15-25
Friday, December 2, 2022 – 7:00 pm
Saturday, December 3, 2022 – 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm
Sunday, December 5 – 1:00 pm, 4:30 pm

4. Show evidence of growth in community support prior to the grant year. Include the number of performances, exhibitions, audience sizes, services or enrollment. Be sure to include specific information as to the percent of activities taking place within the City of Tomball.

The Nutcracker Experience - In 2017, HRB and Tomball Elementary School launched an outreach program, The Mother Ginger Experience. The program was developed with Tomball ISD's Fine Arts Director, JD Janda, and supported by the school principal, Chad Schmidt. No prior dance experience was required, and after auditions, a group of boys and girls were selected to participate in the program. Rehearsals, costumes, shoes, and tights were provided free for all participants. The students learned simplified choreography which they performed in one of HRB's two free 2017 *The Nutcracker* Arts & Education performances. Due to the success of the program, and with much enthusiasm and encouragement from JD Janda and the elementary school principals, HRB expanded the outreach program, renamed The Nutcracker Experience, to include Decker Prairie Elementary in 2018. The 2018 program involved nearly 40 students, including nine males, and two participants received full tuition scholarships from an HRB patron to continue their dance training in weekly ballet classes at Ballet Center of Houston. The 2018 participants received 12 weeks of free dance instruction from HRB's highly qualified instructors at their respective elementary school campuses, and all tights, leotards, shoes and costumes were provided free of charge. The 2018 participants performed the roles of "little angels," "little soldiers," or "Mother Ginger's polichinelles." In 2019, the program was expanded further to include Rosehill Elementary fourth grade students, and a total of 70 students from Tomball, Decker Prairie, and Rosehill Elementary Schools participated in the Nutcracker Experience. These students auditioned, without prior dance experience required, at each school campus. Rehearsals with simplified choreography were taught free of charge by highly qualified HRB instructors on a weekly basis with costumes, tights, shoes, leotards and other materials included free of charge. Again, the student participants performed the roles of "little angels," "little soldiers," or "Mother Ginger's polichinelles " in the three free HRB Arts & Education productions provided to Tomball ISD third graders on December 6-7, 2019.

Due to COVID-19 safety precautions, HRB was unable to offer this beloved experience during the performance series in December 2020 nor December 2021. This December 2022, HRB will resume the Arts and Education Program of The Nutcracker Experience to Tomball ISD Title 1 elementary schools. We plan to maintain our previous three elementary school offerings and we are in the planning stages of offering the Experience to a fourth elementary school as well.

Ticket Sales - In 2019, 95-100% of seats for the five (5) ticketed performances of *The Nutcracker* were sold. In the 2021 season, tickets were sold out, with many potential customers calling requesting tickets before the shows. The seating capacity at the Tomball High School theatre is approximately 3,600 for the 5 ticketed shows (reserve handicapped seats and blocks for videographer). HRB's *The Nutcracker* continues to exceed patrons' expectation as its continued growth supports the need for high quality arts productions in Northwest Harris County, while attracting patrons to Tomball.

Live Orchestra - In 2013, HRB was joined by a live orchestra, the Cypress Philharmonic, for *The Nutcracker* full performances. This has elevated the production to one that would mirror almost any professional company's *Nutcracker* production, and has additionally increased attendance by drawing in a new audience. HRB's ticketed audience has steadily increased from 85% in 2010 with 3 full performances and one abbreviated show, to near capacity with four full shows and one abbreviated show for 2016-2018. In 2015, HRB added a 5th reduced price ticketed performance to meet demand, an abbreviated Arts & Education performance on Friday evening, which was and continued to be an advanced sell-out success every single year. For 2019, this abbreviated performance included the addition of the Cypress Philharmonic.

For the 2022 *Nutcracker* season, HRB will perform five full shows with live music provided by the Cypress Philharmonic Orchestra, including the Friday night show. We anticipate the orchestra cost to increase to $30,000. However, HRB will maintain 2019 ticket prices, to maintain the accessibility to the arts that is core to its mission.

5. How does your project/event qualify for use of Municipal Hotel Occupancy Tax funds as defined in the Hotel Occupancy Tax Guidelines?

HRB's production of *The Nutcracker* in Tomball directly satisfies "The Guidelines for Expenditures, Requests for Funding, and Reporting" published by the City of Tomball City Council on October 5, 2009, in article #4: "the encouragement, promotion, improvement and application of the arts, including....dance… and other arts related to the presentation, performance, execution and exhibition of these major art forms."

6. How do you publicize your activities? How do you evaluate these efforts and what have you done to increase the effectiveness of your marketing efforts?

HRB's extensive marketing campaign includes poster and flyer distribution, print advertisements and press releases, as well as a strong social media presence, promoting name recognition and awareness of *The Nutcracker* in Tomball. The reputation and quality of HRB's *The Nutcracker* has made it a staple of Tomball's holiday season. In addition, HRB's casting of acclaimed guest artists, such as Houston Ballet principal dancers Jared Matthews (an HRB alumnus) and Yuriko Kajiya, provides additional marketing power.

HRB's extensive flyer and poster campaign is supported by a team of dedicated HRB volunteers. Houston area businesses are historically mapped, targeted and tracked to increase effectiveness.

HRB utilizes a publicity liaison to ensure local media sources, neighborhood newsletters and family event locators are targeted and extend notices via the internet and direct email to previous patrons. For the 2021-2022 season, our publicity liaison coordinated the inclusion of our organization's performances in two Houston Chronicle articles, interviews with our Artistic Director, and a front page cover in the Arts Section of a local publication. We are planning publicity outreach expansion to include radio interviews and on-air mentions.

As every publicity dollar spent is crucial, HRB evaluates its marketing techniques. Online ticket orders are accompanied by an inquiry regarding the manner in which a patron learned about HRB's *The Nutcracker* in Tomball.

Unique to 2017, due to flooding, Houston Ballet cancelled school performances that are frequented by many public, private and home education groups. Feedback from audience members revealed that the situation produced a draw for HRB's Arts & Education performance and in 2018, the Arts & Education performance sold out more than a week before the performance date. Although the circumstances were unique to 2018, feedback has indicated the effects of the additional exposure were not temporary, and continued to influence ticket sales in the following season.

HRB's publicity campaign brings patrons to Tomball, as 88.5% of tickets sold are from outside of Tomball zip codes.

7. Explain the public benefits to the City of Tomball that will result from your organization's efforts.

The City of Tomball will experience increased revenues in areas of shopping, dining, and hotel occupancy directly related to hosting HRB's *The Nutcracker*. The production will also provide cultural enrichment to Tomball residents and the students of Tomball ISD and elevate Tomball's artistic landscape.

With a direct partnership with JD Janda, Tomball ISD's Fine Arts Director, HRB will once again present three free matinee programs in 2021 to all TISD's third grade students, and thus fulfilling the arts component of their curriculum. With educational budget cuts as well as constraints on missing curriculum time, it would be impossible to bring the students to a venue outside of Tomball. HRB provides these performances at no cost to Tomball ISD, as part of HRB's community engagement, serving others while also allowing its dancers valuable performance experience. Furthermore, HRB offers two $750 scholarships to Tomball Stage members to apply to their education after high school graduation, building community relationships and providing another investment in Tomball. At the conclusion of *The Nutcracker*, two 3rd grade dancers from Tomball ISD's Nutcracker Experience will receive 100% scholarships to continue their dance training at Ballet Center of Houston, HRB's affiliate instructional entity.

Tomball High School's JR ROTC also benefits from HRB's *The Nutcracker* as they serve refreshments during the performances as a fundraiser for their own organization.

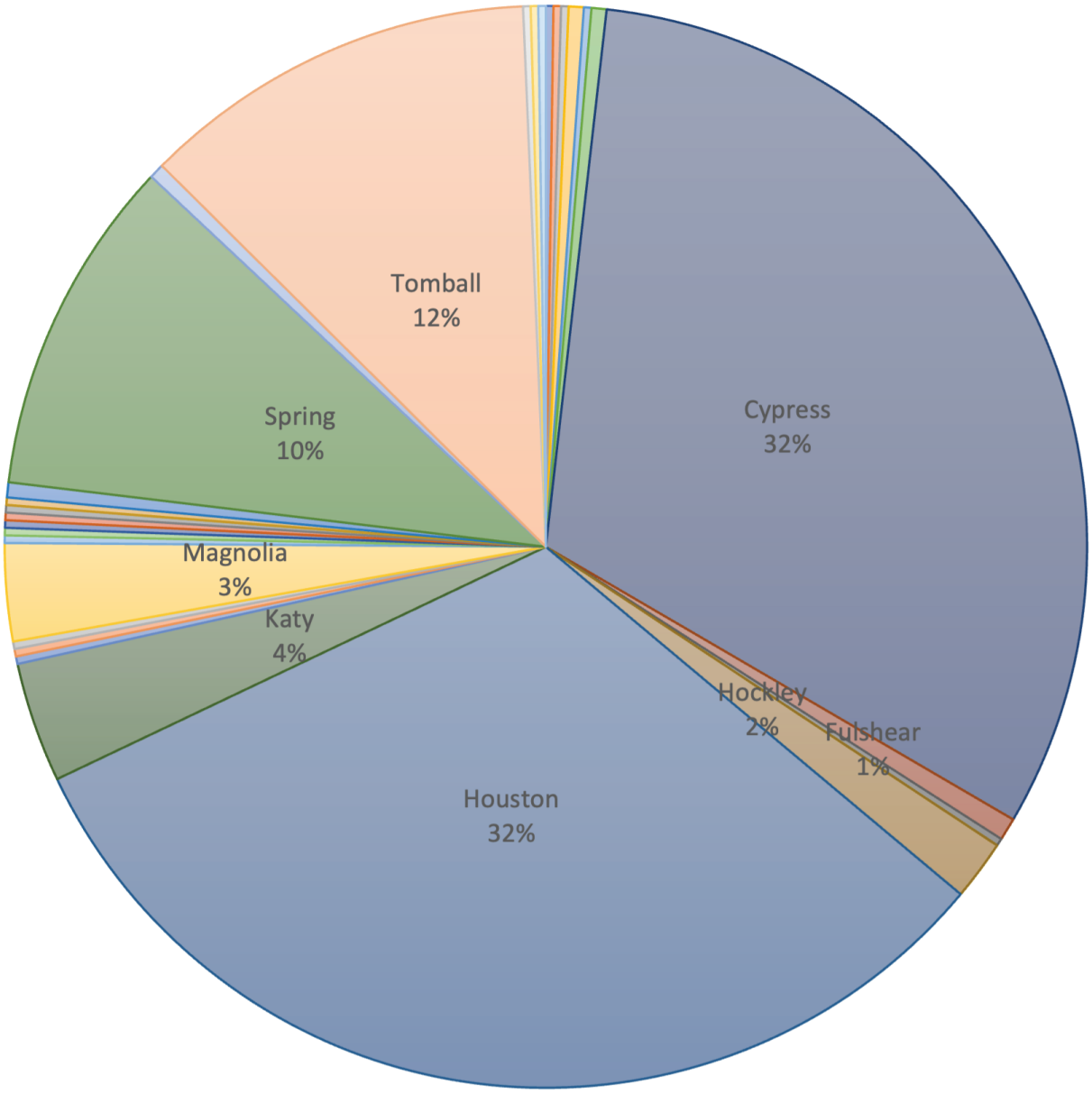
8. What is your organization doing to bring visitors to Tomball, to stay in local hotels and otherwise support the hospitality industry?

Annually, *The Nutcracker* attracts more than 3,500 patrons (3,800 in 2021) and more than 200 artists and volunteers to Tomball during the busy holiday shopping season. Approximately 88.5% of ticketed patrons reside outside the Tomball zip codes. Please see the attached pie chart demonstrating ticket sales for the full length performances based on zip code data. This demonstrates a direct draw of a non-local population into the Tomball vicinity to shop, dine, run errands, and enjoy Tomball. This impact will be felt Wednesday, November 30, 2022 – Sunday, December 4, 2022.

The Nutcracker is a unique event to Northwest Houston as it brings a professionally staged live theatre production complete with professional guest artists and, in prior and hopefully future seasons,, a live orchestra, to Northwest Houston. This event elevates Tomball as a destination for patrons to enjoy this holiday classic close to home at an easily accessible and affordable venue. This performance series compliments the city's other enrichment efforts.

Several HRB dancers who reside in Bryan, College Station, Waller, and other distant areas, often choose to stay in Tomball area hotels. Many of the company dancers who are residents of Houston and surrounding areas also choose to stay in Tomball area hotels to avoid multiple commutes throughout a week/weekend of demanding rehearsals and performances. Since 2016, HRB has coordinated with the General Managers of Tomball area hotels to negotiate a discount for patrons and dancers during *Nutcracker* weekend, encouraging their patronage of Tomball specific businesses. These hotels include Holiday Inn, Hampton Inn and Suites, America's Best Value Inn and Suites, Comfort Inn and Suites, and La Quinta. The information is also shared with patrons who call to inquire about area hotels. Please find an attached copy of the email sent to HRB company members in 2021. HRB plans to coordinate with the General Managers of Tomball area hotels to negotiate a discount rate for patrons and dancers in December 2022.

HRB 2021 *The Nutcracker* Attendee by City



Adkins Alice Anaheim Brenham Brookshire
Conroe Cypress Fulshear Galveston Hockley
Houston Katy Kingwood Las Vegas Livingston
Magnolia McKinney New Waverly Orange Grove Palacios
Pinehurst Plantersville Porter Spring Sugar Land
Tomball Wall Waller Willis

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET

8515 Jackrabbit Road | +1 281 940 4721
Houston, Texas 77095 | HRBdance.org

Dear HRB Family:

As we approach Nutcracker season, you and/or family and friends may find a need for hotel rooms. HRB encourages our friends and family to stay at hotels in the Tomball area, and we have worked with the following local hotels to offer reduced rates exclusively for HRB use. Please use the link or code provided below.

1. Hampton Inn & Suites
   14100 Medical Complex Dr
   Tomball, TX 77377

   http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/A/AMATBHX-HRB-20211203/index.jhtml

2. Residence Inn
   14303 Medical Complex Dr
   Tomball, TX 77377

   https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1566331325699&key=GRP&app=resvlink

3. Holiday Inn
   14055 Park Drive
   Tomball, Texas 77377

   https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/tomball/tmbpw/hoteldetail/local-guide-whats-nearby?fromRedirect=true&qSrt=sBR&qIta=99801505&icdv=99801505&qSlH=TMBPW&qGrpCd=HRB&setPMCookies=true&qSHBrC=EX&qDest=14055%20Park%20Drive,%20Tomball,%20TX,%20US&srb_u=1

4. Comfort Inn & Suites
   13636 Michel Road
   Tomball, TX, 77375, US

   https://www.choicehotels.com/texas/tomball/comfort-suites-

hotels/txa50/rates?ratePlanCode=LHRB2

5. La Quinta Inn & Suites
   14000 Medical Complex Dr. Tomball
   (281) 516-0400
   Call and reference Houston Repertoire Ballet Nutcracker.

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Other Required Documentation
1. Article of Incorporation
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please refer to the attached 501(c)(3) letter
Houston Repertoire Ballet is classified as a "non-profit organization – dance."

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUN 30 2000

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET
8590 HWY 6N
HOUSTON, TX 77095

Employer Identification Number:
76-0479345
DLN:
17053092751010
Contact Person:
JOHN J MCGEE ID# 31169
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Our Letter Dated:
May 1997
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

This modifies our letter of the above date in which we stated that you would be treated as an organization that is not a private foundation until the expiration of your advance ruling period.

Your exempt status under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) is still in effect. Based on the information you submitted, we have determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are an organization of the type described in section 509(a)(2).

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(2) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(2) organization.

You are required to make your annual information return, Form 990 or Form 990-EZ, available for public inspection for three years after the later of the due date of the return or the date the return is filed. You are also required to make available for public inspection your exemption application, any supporting documents, and your exemption letter. Copies of these documents are also required to be provided to any individual upon written or in person request without charge other than reasonable fees for copying and postage. You may fulfill this requirement by placing these documents on the Internet. Penalties may be imposed for failure to comply with these requirements. Additional information is available in Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, or you may call our toll free number shown above.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the addendum enclosed is an integral part of this letter.

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Other Required Documentation
2. Constitution or By-Laws
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please refer to the attached Houston Repertoire Ballet by-laws.

BY-LAWS

of the

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET

Article 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be Houston Repertoire Ballet hereafter referred to as HRB.

Article 2 – Location and Agent

The registered office of HRB shall be at the Studio of Dance located at 16668 Champions Forest Drive, Houston, Texas, 77379. Any current officer of the Board of Directors may act as registered agent for HRB.

Article 3 – Purpose

HRB is a company organized exclusively for providing a program of the highest quality to local dancers in the art of classical ballet. The program provides training, education, and experience for the company dancers while providing cultural education and community service for the surrounding region consistent with HRB's non-profit and educational purposes under the HRB Articles of Incorporation as approved by the State of Texas on May 31, 1995.

Article 4 – Membership

1. The membership of HRB shall consist of the parents who have paid dues for current HRB dancers and the current members of the Board of Directors. Additional members from the community at large may be accepted by an affirmative vote of the Board.
2. Membership period shall be from the date of joining (or rejoining) until three (3) months following the end of that fiscal year of HRB.
3. Each member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the membership. Parents of HRB dancers are jointly entitled to one vote for each of their dancers currently active in HRB.

Article 5 – Meetings

1. In consultation with the Board, the President shall determine the dates, times, locations, agenda, and formats of meetings. Notice shall be given at least two (2) weeks in advance by postings, mail outs, e-mail, or a combination of such means.
2. The membership shall meet at least one time early in each fiscal year. Up to two (2) days in advance, any member may request in writing to the Board additional items or voting issues to be included on the agenda. In order to achieve a desired or required quorum, a physical "meeting" may be held over a defined period of more than one day.

3. A quorum to transact business at membership meetings shall consist of at least twenty (20) members in good standing. An affirmative vote of greater than fifty percent (50%) of those in attendance is required to approve an action or decision.
4. At any duly called meeting, a member may vote by a proxy executed in writing.
5. An annual vote of the members is required to approve the officers of the Board and a broad performance plan for the year.

Article 6 – Board of Directors

1. A Board of Directors shall be maintained with sole authority and responsibility for management and business affairs of HRB.
2. The Board shall be comprised of at least six (6) and no more than twelve (12) Directors.
3. Directors shall be elected or removed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the then current Directors at a duly held meeting of the Board. Directors shall serve for a minimum term of two (2) years which may be extended without limit by a majority vote of the other Board members.
4. Any vote for removal of a Director must be preceded by written notice to all Directors of the scheduled vote. Should a Director resign or be removed, the Board may elect a replacement Director to begin a two (2) year term upon election.
5. A coordinating representative for Board approved committees such as the Partners Guild, the Children's Guild, and special events may attend all Board meetings in a non-voting capacity. With the approval of the presiding officer, any other guests may attend the beginning of any Board meeting to address the Board with proposals or questions to bring comments on behalf of a Director who cannot attend. Such guests will then leave the meeting prior to remaining agenda items that may be discussed and debated privately by the Board to ensure candid discussions.
6. Artistic management of HRB shall be vested solely in the Artistic Director(s) who shall serve as members of the Board of Directors. The Artistic Director(s) may be removed only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire HRB membership.
7. Regular Board meetings shall be held on a monthly basis. Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time upon the request of the President, the Artistic Director(s), or any two Directors. Notice of such a meeting must be given to each Director at least 24 hours before the meeting.
8. For any Board meeting, at least fifty percent (50%) of the Directors currently on the Board shall constitute a quorum. Unless otherwise specified here, an affirmative vote of greater than fifty percent (50%) of the Directors in attendance shall be sufficient to approve all actions.
9. For any duly called meeting of the Board, a Director may vote by proxy or direct his/her attendance and vote to another Director in writing.
10. No salary, fee, or compensation shall be paid to any Director or member except by resolution of the Board.

Article 7 – Officers of the Board

1. The officers of the Board of Directors of HRB shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer authorized to conduct business on behalf of HRB. As necessary, officers may designate other HRB members or staff to perform specific duties.

2. Officers of the Board shall be determined by the Board in a manner suitable to the needs of the Board at that time. By the end of July each year, the Board shall determine the slate of officers for the following fiscal year.
3. Should an officer resign or be removed, the President shall be responsible for promptly securing Board approval of a replacement except that a vacancy of the office of President shall be automatically filled by the Vice President.
4. Officers may be removed from office by a vote of the Board at a duly called meeting for which all Directors have been notified.
5. **The President**, or in his/her absence **the Vice President**, shall preside at all meetings of the Board as well as be responsible for maintaining long-term goals and ensuring that Board decisions are implemented. The President shall also establish committees as necessary and steward areas of responsibilities for Board members to ensure the efficient pursuit of activities. Key areas will include Productions, Fund Raising, Publicity, and Volunteers.
6. **The Treasurer** shall have charge of the funds of HRB and ensure the following: detailed records, payment of all fees and bills, preparation monthly reports for the Board, development of an annual budget, filing of tax forms, and audits as directed by the Board.
7. **The Secretary** shall record minutes and maintain files of HRB, give notice to meetings, handle Board correspondence, and keep records of HRB and Board membership.

Article 8 – Special Rules

1. The fiscal year of HRB shall begin on August 1 and end on the following July 31.
2. No Director, officer, or member at large may incur an expense or obligation on behalf of HRB except as authorized by the Board of Directors.
3. Any member is entitled to inspect the books, minutes, or other records of HRB if so requested in writing and if such inspection does not disrupt HRB activities.
4. All officers of the Board and other Directors as well as any other individuals authorized to act on behalf of HRB shall at all times act under the highest standards of personal, business, legal, and ethical conduct when representing HRB. As such, HRB will defend any member from any individual liability from actions taken on behalf of HRB except in any case determined by the Board to be gross negligence or willful misconduct.
5. These by-laws supercede and replace those adopted by HRB on September 20, 1995 and may be amended or replaced by a vote of the Board of Directors.
6. HRB may be dissolved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership or a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. Upon dissolution, any HRB assets remaining after payment of all debts shall be contributed to similar non-profit, artistic organizations as determined by the Board of Directors.

THESE BY-LAWS FOR THE HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET ARE APPROVED BY THE HRB BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2002 BY:

_____ Name	President
_____ Name	Vice President
_____ Name	Treasurer
_____ Name	_____
_____ Name	_____
_____ Name	_____
_____ Name	_____
_____ Name	_____
_____ Name	_____

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Other Required Documentation
3. Financial Records
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Houston Repertoire Ballet's fiscal year mirrors our seasons, which run from August 1 – July 31. Please refer to the attached copy of HRB's most recent 990 (*not sent electronically).

HRB does not conduct and independent audit of financial records. HRB does not receive government funds which would require such an audit. Additionally, HRB does not have bank loans or lines of credit.

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Other Required Documentation
4. Board of Directors and Meeting Schedule
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please refer to the attached:
2022-2023 Board of Directors
Schedule of Board Meetings

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET

8515 Jackrabbit Road | +1 281 940 4721
Houston, Texas 77095 | hrbdance.org

2021-2022 Board of Directors

President
Fundraising/Corporate Giving
Michael Stewart
8519 Star Hollow Ln
Houston, TX 77095
stewart_mj@yahoo.com
713-569-7853

Artistic Director
Victoria Vittum
909 W. 16th St
Houston, TX 77008
713-628-6907
victoria@balletcenterofhouston.com

Secretary
Shanan Burkhart
16711 Highland Country Dr
Cypress, TX 77433
817-229-9207
shanankf@hotmail.com

Production
Jason Althaus
20802 Oak Orchard Ct
Cypress, TX 77433
jalthaus@comcast.net
713-252-3418

Volunteer Coordinator
Andrea Young
7442 Parkcross Place
Cypress, TX 77433
832-331-8261
jdaayoung@sbcglobal.net

Publicity
Ann Moore
13420 Greenwood Manor Dr
Cypress, TX 77429
832-746-4000
ann.n.moore@gmail.com

Vice-President
Jason Althaus
20802 Oak Orchard Ct
Cypress, TX 77433
jalthaus@comcast.net
713-252-3418

Treasurer
Vickie Schmidt
18811 S Bee Cave Springs Cir
Cypress, TX 77433
vickie_buemi@yahoo.com
305-469-1537

Grants
Ann Moore
13420 Greenwood Manor Dr
Cypress, TX 77429
832-746-4000
ann.n.moore@gmail.com
New Director, pending
(please use for future contact)
Denise Rosas
682-201-4732
Denise.rosas10@gmail.com

Children's Guild Liaison
Costume Mistress
Susan Wheelock
10602 Gt. Plains Ln
Houston, TX 77064
281-477-9270
someonenamedsusan@hotmail.com

Member at Large
Laurie Sanders
12910 Northpointe Bend Lane
Tomball, TX 77377
585-421-9642
home.sandersegmail.com

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET

8515 Jackrabbit Road | +1 281 940 4721
Houston, Texas 77095 | hrbdance.org

2022-2023 Board of Directors Meeting Dates

2022-2023 Season

For the 2022-2023 season, HRB meetings will be conducted on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm, with exceptions made for schedule conflicts.

Friday, August 16, 2022
Tuesday, September 13, 2022
Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Tuesday, December 13, 2022
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Tuesday, February 14, 2023
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Tuesday June 13, 2023
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Other Required Documentation
5. Resumes of Principal Staff and Guest Artists
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Victoria Vittum – Founder and Artistic Director

Victoria Vittum is a nationally recognized teacher and choreographer. She was with the Houston Ballet, under the direction of Ben Stevenson from 1997-2003. There she taught open adult classes, in the upper academy and the company. She has served as Resident Choreographer for the Gwinnett Ballet Theater in Atlanta, Georgia and guest teacher at the Washington School of Ballet. She taught for Margo Marshall School of Ballet and served as resident Choreographer and Associate Artistic Director of City Ballet of Houston from 1981-1993. Ms. Vittum not only directs her own school, Ballet Center of Houston, but also serves as Artistic Director of Houston Repertoire Ballet.

Ms. Vittum received her early training from Julio de Bittencourt and also holds a B.A. Degree in Dance Education from Lamar University. She has choreographed for professional and civic companies throughout the country as well as having her work presented at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland.

Ms. Vittum has been the recipient of numerous awards such as: two Monticello Choreography Awards, Illinois State University choreography competition Winner, two nominations for the General Electric American Choreographer Plan. Most recently Ms. Vittum was the recipient of a Choreography Fellowship (1998) awarded by the Cultural Arts Council of Houston and the Texas Commission for the Arts for outstanding Choreographic merit and contribution to the City of Houston.

Barbara LeGault – Ballet Mistress

Barbara LeGault is a graduate of Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Barbara LeGault trained under Margo Marshall and is formerly with City Ballet of Houston. Since that time she danced many lead roles with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater and the Louisville Ballet. She was directed by Alun Jones and Helen Starr. In 1979, Jones paid Ms. LeGault the ultimate compliment by creating his Cinderella especially for her. She Also danced with Tennessee Festival Ballet, directed by David and Anna Marie Holmes, and with the Summer Festival Ballet In Lisbon, Portugal. Her repertoire includes appearances in Don Quixote, Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, and Sleeping Beauty.

Other roles to her credit are appearances in the Houston Grand Opera productions, Mefeistofoles and Aida. Ms. LeGault has been on the teaching staff of American Academy of Dance, NHDT headquarters, since 1987. She is currently a faculty member of Ballet Center of Houston and the Ballet Mistress for Houston Repertoire Ballet.

Kristy Nilsson – Resident Choreographer/Outreach Program Coordinator

An HRB alumna, Kristy Nilsson began her training at Ballet Center of Houston. She was a Dance Honors Student at Houston's High School for the Performing & Visual Arts and University of Oklahoma, before going on to perform with Charleston Ballet Theatre and Atlanta Ballet. Ms. Nilsson has choreographed more than 100 concert works (including 11 full-length/narrative ballets) which have been performed by 29 companies in 12 states in the U.S. & Canada, and has won choreographic recognition from Regional Dance America, the Southeastern Regional Ballet Association and Dance Canvas. Her works for Houston Repertoire Ballet include two narrative ballets: A Midsummer Night's Dream and The Racketty-Packetty House, and two contemporary ballets: Rhapsody in Blue and The Unkindest Year. "Miss Kristy" has been a full-time ballet & modern dance instructor since 2001 and enjoys teaching all ages from Pre-Ballet for preschool-aged children through Pre-Professional dancers and adults. Kristy is happily married to dance photographer Scott Nilsson, a former dancer, and is delighted to be on faculty at Ballet Center of Houston, teaching alongside some of the very instructors who shaped her career and love for dance.

Leah Slavens Haggard, freelance – Guest Artist

Leah Slavens Haggard began her ballet training at the Ballet Center of Houston under the direction of Victoria Vittum and continued at the Pacific Northwest Ballet School as a Professional Division student. Leah went on to dance professionally with The Grand Rapids Ballet, Utah Regional Ballet, and The Suzanne Farrell Ballet where she has performed in Kent Stowell's *Swan Lake*, and George Balanchine's *Walpurgisnacht*, *Stars and Stripes*, *Gounod Symphony*, *Danses Concertantes*, and *Serenade* among many other ballets and original works. Most recently as a freelance performer, she has been able to perform with Ballet Memphis, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Indiana Ballet Theater, and Deos Contemporary Ballet. Leah is also a certified holistic nutrition health coach and human nutrition master's student, who works with dancers and students on dancer nutrition and wellness education.

Mark Krieger, Louisville Ballet – Guest Artist

Mark, a Virginia native, studied dance under Jefferson Baum at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. In 2004, Mark joined Ballet Tucson where he danced for two seasons before joining Columbia City Ballet. He spent the last five years with the Columbia City Ballet as a Principal Dancer. Mark has been a member of Louisville Ballet since 2012.

Joseph Modlin – Guest Artist

In 1993, Joseph Modlin, an Indiana native, began training in classical and modern dance performance at Ball State University and performed with Anderson Young Ballet Theatre, both under the direction of Ms. LouAnn Young. Joe moved to Houston in 1997, and began a performance and teaching career that has spanned 19 years, seven professional companies, and continues extending to flourish in the Houston community and nationally.

Mr. Modlin has performed/worked with Hope Stone, Inc., Houston Repertoire Ballet, Chrysalis Dance Company, Houston Dance Theater, Allegro Ballet, Freneticore, and Woodlands Dance Company. He has been invited to work as a guest artist with independent choreographers and performance artists such as Leslie Scates, Erin Reck, Amy Ell, Karen Stokes, Lindsey McGill, Toni Valle, and Sara Draper.

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Other Required Documentation
6. Certificate of Insurance
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please refer to the attached Certificate of Insurance.

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY): 08/16/2021

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER

Denise Wardwell(1960318)
810 Highway 6 S Ste 230
Houston TX 77079-4027

CONTACT NAME:

PHONE (A/C, NO, EXT): 281-589-1348
FAX (A/C, NO): 281-497-7482
E-MAIL ADDRESS: dwardwell@farmersagent.com

INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #
INSURER A:	Truck Insurance Exchange	21709
INSURER B:	Farmers Insurance Exchange	21652
INSURER C:	Mid Century Insurance Company	21687
INSURER D:		
INSURER E:		
INSURER F:		

INSURED

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET
8515 JACKRABBIT RD STE A
HOUSTON TX 77095

COVERAGES **CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** **REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAME ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDTL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS	
C	[X] COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY [ ] CLAIMS-MADE [X] OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: [X] POLICY [ ] PROJECT [ ] LOC [ ] OTHER:	Y	N	606264688	02/23/2021	02/23/2022	EACH OCCURRENCE DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea Occurrence) MED EXP (Any one person) PERSONAL & ADV INJURY GENERAL AGGREGATE PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG 	$ 1,000,000 $ 75,000 $ 5,000 $ 1,000,000 $ 2,000,000 $ 1,000,000 $
C	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY [ ] ANY AUTO [ ] OWNED AUTOS ONLY [ ] SCHEDULED AUTOS [X] HIRED AUTOS ONLY [ ] NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY		N	606264688	02/23/2021	02/23/2022	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) BODILY INJURY (Per person) BODILY INJURY (Per accident) PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) 	$ 1,000,000 $ $ $ $
	[ ] UMBRELLA LIAB [ ] OCCUR [ ] EXCESS LIAB [ ] CLAIMS-MADE [ ] DED [ ] RETENTION $						EACH OCCURRENCE AGGREGATE 	$ $ $
	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS ' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/ EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? **(Mandatory in NH)** Y/N [ ] If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	N/A					[ ] PER STATUTE [ ] OTHER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	$ $ $ $

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)
8515 JACKRABBIT RD STE F, HOUSTON, TX 77095

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

TOMBALL ISD
1110 BAKER DR
TOMBALL TX 77375

CANCELLATION

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

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The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Optional Supporting Documentation
1. Long Term Plan
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please refer to the attached:
HRB's Long Term Plan
The Nutcracker Experience
    Copy of 2022 Letter to 3rd and 4th grade students and parents
    Copy of 2022 Audition Application
HRB Alumnus
HRB 2021-2022 Accomplishments

Houston Repertoire Ballet
Long Term Plan

Houston Repertoire Ballet will continue its mission of providing high quality dance training for company members and exceptional performance series for northwest Houston communities.

HRB is thankful for the support from, and its reputation in, the Tomball community, as it continues to enrich the artistic element of Tomball and attract residents of other communities to enjoy the arts in Tomball.

HRB adopts a conservative fiscal position and balances investments in costumes, sets and choreography with affordable ticket prices, without sacrificing quality. These goals are made possible through volunteer support and community grants and giving.

In 2017, HRB initiated an outreach program, collaborating with the Tomball Independent School District (TISD) on the Mother Ginger Experience. The program offered Tomball Elementary students, identified by Tomball Fine Arts Director JD Janda, twelve weeks of dance instruction and rehearsals, culminating roles in the two free 2017 *The Nutcracker* Arts & Education performances for TISD 3rd graders. All tights, leotards, shoes and costumes were provided free of charge to all TISD participants. One participant received a full-tuition scholarship, provided by an HRB patron, to continue weekly dance classes at Ballet Center of Houston for the remainder of the school year.

In 2018, the program was renamed The Nutcracker Experience, and was expanded to include students from Tomball and Decker Prairie Elementary schools. The 2018 program involved nearly 40 participants, and two participants received full tuition scholarships from an HRB patron to continue their dance training in weekly ballet classes at Ballet Center of Houston. The 2018 participants received 12 weeks of free dance instruction from HRB's highly qualified instructors at their respective elementary school campuses, and all tights, leotards, shoes and costumes were provided free of charge. The 2018 participants performed the roles of “little angels,” “little soldiers,” or “Mother Ginger's polichinelles.” In 2019, the program was expanded further to include Rosehill Elementary fourth grade students, and a total of 70 students from Tomball, Decker Prairie, and Rosehill Elementary Schools participated in the “Nutcracker Experience.” These students auditioned, without prior dance experience required, at each school campus. Rehearsals with simplified choreography were taught free of charge by highly qualified HRB instructors on a weekly basis with costumes, tights, shoes, leotards and other materials included free of charge. Again, the student participants performed the roles of “little angels,” “little soldiers,” or “Mother Ginger's polichinelles” in the three free HRB Arts & Education productions provided to Tomball ISD third graders on December 6-7, 2019.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions surrounding facility use required the temporary suspension of The Nutcracker Experience during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 seasons. HRB is proud to announce full resumption of this highly popular program for the 2022-.2023 season.

Collaborating once again with JD Janda and taking lessons learned from previous seasons, Victoria Vittum and Kristy Nilsson have produced a curriculum which will teach and entertain third grade participants in this year's The Nutcracker Experience, and allow them to participate as "Mother Ginger's polichinelles" in this year's three free Arts & Education performances. Once again, Tomball, Decker Prairie, and Rosehill Elementary, all Title 1 schools, will participate, and at the time of this writing, a fourth TISD school is being researched as a possibility.

In 2019, HRB expanded the role of the Cypress Philharmonic orchestra, which had previously been restricted to Saturday and Sunday performances of *The Nutcracker*, to include the Friday night abbreviated Arts & Education performance. Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions have rendered the inclusion of a live orchestra infeasible for the 2021 performances, but the Friday evening was converted to a full performance with two full acts. The popularity of this modification has motivated a permanent change, and for the 2022-2023 season, all five ticketed shows will feature full performances with a live orchestra.

During the 2020-2021 season, HRB implemented new funding campaigns, including a House of Pies fundraiser, to supplement its income. Due to the success of the ventures and the enthusiasm of its volunteers, HRB plans to continue these fundraisers and research out additional options. Furthermore, in the current 2021-2022 season, HRB has redesigned its Corporate and Small Business Sponsorship campaign material and benefits, with the goal of expanding its outreach to local business entities. These projects will expand our ability to balance outstanding performance series with affordable ticket prices.

HRB is always poised to respond to changes and new opportunities. However, education and sharing the arts will always remain our core goals, and all choices are based on the best way to further these objectives.

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET

8515 JACKRABBIT ROAD | +1 281 940 4721
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77095 | HRBDANCE.ORG

Dear Third Grade Parents and Students:

Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB) is pleased to announce the resumption of its outreach program with Tomball I SD. THIS IS A FREE PROGRAM TO INTRODUCE CHILDREN TO THE ARTS.

Each year, Houston Repertoire Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* at Tomball High School Theatre. For many years, the productions have included free performances for all Tomball ISD third-grade students during school hours. In 2017, HRB launched an outreach program providing Tomball Elementary students an opportunity to participate alongside HRB company dancers during these performances, to an audience of 1,500 of their peers. During the 2018 and 2019 seasons, HRB extended the program to include Decker Prairie Elementary and Rosehill Elementary, respectively. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the outreach program was suspended for the 2020 and 2021 seasons.

For the 2022 productions, HRB will be searching for up to 36 students to participate as *polichinelles*, also known as Mother Ginger Children, in the school performances. No prior dance training is required—just an eagerness to work hard and try something new. HRB has offered full scholarships to student participants the past two years that show exceptional natural ability and talent to continue ballet education in a formal classroom setting.

Auditions will take place on Saturday, October 1, 2022 at 4:00 pm, at HRB Studios, located at 8515 Jackrabbit Rd. Houston, TX 77095. All rehearsals will also take place at HRB Studios. It is important for rehearsals to occur at HRB studios to give student participants a better education regarding the essence and discipline involved with the true art of dance. In addition, each student will have the opportunity to see the company dancers rehearse, and at some point, will actually rehearse with the HRB artists. You can contact us at mail@hrbdance.org if you have questions

Following auditions, parents will need to provide transportation or carpools for their children to the HRB location on Saturdays from 4:00-5:00 pm. Children must be punctual for each rehearsal—please try to be 15 minutes early—and must be picked up promptly after their dance class and rehearsal. Participants continually arriving late or being picked up late will be expelled from the program.

Students chosen to participate in this program will be notified via email.

Please continue reading on the reverse side for schedule details.

Audition:
Saturday, October 1, 2022, 4:00 pm

Tentative Rehearsal Schedule (subject to change, please check emails for updates):
Every Saturday, October 8 - November 19, 4:00-5:00 pm
Shoe and costume fittings will take place either before or after rehearsal TBA
There will be NO REHEARSAL on Saturday November 25 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Dress Rehearsal:
Tuesday, November 29, 2022, 5:00pm @ Tomball High School theatre.

Performances:
Thursday, December, 12:15pm
Friday December 2, 9:45am and 12:15pm
Dancers will participate in 1 to 3 of these performances.

HRB's Director of Outreach programs, Kristy Nilsson, will be running the rehearsals along with Artistic Director Victoria Vittum, teaching all the children their parts. Ms. Nilsson is the HRB Resident Choreographer and a former professional dancer with the Atlanta Ballet and Charleston Ballet Theatre. She is a member of the faculty at Ballet Center of Houston as well as Houston High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. She has had over 20 years of experience teaching children dance.

We hope to see many of you at the auditions. Shorts, tee-shirt and tennis shoes are acceptable to wear for the audition. Remember, there is no cost to get involved! Come have a blast with Houston Repertoire Ballet. More information will be given at the first rehearsal, dancer and parent meeting. See you at the audition!

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET

8515 Jackrabbit Road
Houston, Texas 77095

+1 281 940 4721
hrbdance.org

2022 *The Nutcracker* Experience Audition Form

Student Name: _____
(please print clearly)

School: _____

Parent(s) name(s): _____

Parent Email(s): _____

Parent Phone Number (s): _____

Permission is granted for the student named above to attend the HRB 2022 Nutcracker Experience audition.

Parent Signature: _____

Audition Number: _____

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET
ALUMNI IN THE DANCE INDUSTRY

2021 // NAIYA BYRNE- Case Western Reserve University Dance Program* **/ ZOE NYGREN -** Texas A&M University Dance Program*

2020 // DIANA BASALDUA - Butler University Dance Program* **/ SAVANNAH GONZALEZ -** Belhaven University Dance Program* **/ JUSTIN PIDGEON -** Kirov Academy, Washington, DC*

2019 // QUINN PRICE - Joffrey Dallas Trainee Progam; BCH faculty* **/ HANNAH PIDGEON -** Louisville Ballet Pre-professional Trainee Program **/ MARISSA ESCALENTE -** Milwaukee Ballet Pre-professional Trainee Program*

2018 // ANDREW MEDINA - United Ballet Theatre, Florida; HRB Artist in Residence* **/ FINN ADAMS -** Houston Ballet Professional Division; Estonian National Ballet* **/ KAITLYN BLAKE -** Belhaven University Dance Program* **/ DAVID VECSERI -** Houston Ballet Professional Division; HRB Artist in Residence **/ REILLY WIGGINS -** Sam Houston State University, Dance Major; Theatre Under the Stars faculty*

2017 // ANDREINA HURTADO - University of Texas Dance Program* **/ KYLA PATTON -** University of Texas Dance Program; United Ballet Theater, Orlando* **/ JULIA GUNDZIK -** Washington Ballet Trainee Program; Cincinnati Ballet Trainee*

2016 // KENDALL JACKSON - Belhaven University, BFA Dance and Graphic Design; Kinetic Etching; Dance Kaliedescope trainee, Indiana*

2015 // EMMA BIONDILLO - Sam Houston State University, Dance Minor, Kinesiology Major; PTA program; BCH Faculty* **/ KAITLYN JONES -** University of Texas, BFA Dance **/ CHELSEA KNIPP -** Tulane University, Ballet & Psychology Major; New Orleans Ballet Association faculty*; New Orleans Ballet Theatre* **/ MALLORY PRUITT -** Brigham Young University, Dance Major **/ REBECCA WEBB -** University of Utah Dance & Choreography Program; Choreographer* **/ SARAH WHITE -** Belhaven University, Dance Major

2014 // ANDREW VECSERI - Houston Ballet, Corps de Ballet*

2013 // JESSICA LOHR - Ballet Mangnificat!; Ballet 5:8 Chicago, Soloist* **/ JULIE HOFFART -** Physical Therapy Assistant* **/ CLAIRE WHITE -** Texas Ballet Theater; Nashville Ballet; Alabama Ballet; BCH faculty; Uptown Dance Company, Houston*

2011 // KRISTEN NEWSOM - Sam Houston State University, BFA; BCH faculty **/ LEAH SLAVENS HAGGARD -** The Suzanne Farrell Ballet; Grand Rapids Ballet; freelance ballerina*

2010 // MELISSA DOOLEY - Pittsburg Ballet Theatre; Alabama Ballet **/ KAITLIN MOUTON -** David Taylor Dance Theater **/ AMARIS SHARRAT -** Nevada Ballet; Ballet Nebraska; American Midwest Ballet, NE* **/ DANIELLE PETROSKI -** Physical Therapist*

2009 // REAGAN HAND - Ballet Mangnificat!; Ballet Brazos Faculty* **/ NICOLE PLUNKETT -** University of Texast, Dance Major **/ KATE SIMPSON SHAW -** Louisville Ballet, Charleston Ballet Theater

2008 // AMY SKIPTON - University of Texas Dance Program, Physical Therapy Major; Physical Therapist*

2007 // MORGAN BUCHANAN - Colorado Ballet, Soloist* **/ EMILY DYSON -** University of Oklahoma, BFA Dance Pedagogy; Dance Kaleidoscope, Indiana* **/ ALLISON WARDWELL -** University of Texas, Dance Major **/ TAYLOR GAYLE -** Ballet Austin faculty* **/ KATIE HOFFART -** Center Stage Dance & Fitness faculty*

2006 // EVELYN MONZALVO - Disney Productions*

2005 // ERIN GOODMAN ELDER - University of Kansas Dance Company

2003 // DAVID ARMENDARIZ - David Taylor Dance Theater, Havanna Nights

2002 // EMILY RUPP - Dallas Contemporary Ballet, Director **/ MICHELLE CONCHA -** Julliard School, NYC

2001 // DOROTHY CARTER - Dayton Ballet **/ KELLY COLEMAN -** Carolina Ballet, Harid Conservatory **/ JARED MATTHEWS -** American Ballet Theatre; Houston Ballet, Principal; Estonian National Ballet, Associate Artistic Director* **/ AMANDA POWELL -** Carnival Cruise Lines*

2000 // CATHERINE BUSCH SILKWOOD - Chara Dance Company; BCH faculty **/ ELIZABETH KELLER -** Miami City Ballet; Ballet Idaho; Idaho Regional Ballet, Artistic Director* **/ PATRICIA MONZALVO -** Universal Studios & Disney Productions **/ ANYSLEY STEPHENSON -** Pointe Park College, BFA Jazz **/ VICTORIA WADSWORTH SIMO -** Texas Ballet Theater; Ballet and Pilates by Victoria, owner*

1999 // JENNIFER WILLIAMS - Disney Productions **/ BERI BROWN -** Disney Character Performer*; BCH faculty **/ KASHA LIGGETT -** Southern Methodist University, Dance & Business Major; Pacific Northwest Ballet School

1998 // DESIREE RAUSCH - Pussy Cat Dolls; Michael Jackson backup dancer; Sandra Organ Dance Company; LD Dance Company*

1997 // KRISTY DAWSON NILSSON - Atlanta Ballet; Charleston Ballet, choreographer & teacher; BCH faculty & HRB Resident Choreographer*

* Denotes current affiliation

HRB COMPANY MEMBER

2022 Accomplishments

AVYNN BARNETT	***Washington Ballet***, Louisville Ballet
PEYTON BARRA	***Houston Ballet Academy***
MALLORY BURKHART	Louisville Ballet *
CALEB EMORY	***Louisville Ballet*** §
JILLIAN ENGLE	***Institute of Contemporary Dance***
LILY HAN	***Washington Ballet***, Louisville Ballet, Chicago Ballet, Ballet 5:8
ELLIE HARBUCK	***Miami City Ballet***, Joffrey Chicago, Orlando Ballet, NSIA
KATELYN HURST	***Joffrey Dallas***, Joffey Colorado, Joffrey San Francisco, Joffrey Miami, Joffrey Italy, Joffrey Mexico
MAKENNA LALONDE	***Washington Ballet***, Louisville Ballet *, Pacific Northwest, NSIA
AUDREY MCCLELLAND	Louisville Ballet
MAI-LINH MOORE	Louisville Ballet, Washington Ballet
DANIKA MCNEES	***Louisville Ballet***, Washington Ballet, NSIA
HANNAH SANDERS	***New York State Ballet Training Academy***, Ballet Chicago, Louisville Ballet, Washington Ballet
EVANGELINE SEEK	***Washington Ballet***, Ballet 5:8, Ballet Austin, Bolshoi Academy New York, Chicago Ballet, Louisville Ballet
CHARLOTTE STEWART	Louisville Ballet, Washington Ballet
ISABELLA SCAVONE	***Ballet Austin***, Louisville Ballet
CAMILLA VAECK	***Texas Ballet Theater***, Colorado Ballet
ALLISON WHEELOCK	***Institute of Contemporary Dance***, Louisville Ballet
SARAH WOMACK	***Louisville Ballet***
ANNA YOUNG	***Louisville Ballet*** *, Ballet 5:8, Ballet Chicago, NSIA

All dancers were accepted by audition. ***Denotes summer program attending.***
§ Full scholarship offered | * Partial scholarship offered

NSIA = National Summer Intensive Audition Tour. These dancers were accepted into multiple summer and/or year round programs, including: Atlanta Ballet, Charlotte Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, BalletMet, Colorado Ballet, Texas Ballet Theater, Kansas City Ballet, Louisville Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Oklahoma City Ballet, Philadelphia Ballet, The Sacramento Ballet, and Sarasota Ballet.

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Optional Supporting Documentation
2. *The Nutcracker* 2019 – Performance Video
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

HRB's 2019 performance of *The Nutcracker* can be accessed at the following link:

https://youtu.be/C47arqSpggg

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Optional Supporting Documentation
3. Publicity and Programs
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please find attached the following:

2021 *The Nutcracker* Calendar Listing
2021 Media Mentions
2021 Poster (resized for application)
2021 flyer (separate attachment)
2021 Program (separate attachment)
2021 Arts & Education Booklet (separate attachment)

♦♦ CALENDAR LISTING ♦♦ CALENDAR LISTING ♦♦

For More Information:
Eileen Ansel Conery
Eileen.conery@att.net
713-856-8780/832-816-8780

HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET RE-OPENS TO THE PUBLIC WITH ITS 22ND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE OF *THE NUTCRACKER*

HRB IS EXCITED TO ONCE AGAIN PUBLICLY SHARE THIS CLASSIC PERFORMANCE

WHO: Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB), Houston's premier pre-professional ballet company, celebrates its 25th season, beginning with its 22nd annual performance series of *The Nutcracker,* featuring professional guest artists Leah Slavens Haggard as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Matthew Rusk as the Cavalier, and Joseph Modlin as Herr Drosselmeyer.

WHAT: *The Nutcracker's* brilliant blend of beautiful costumes, lavish sets, and fresh choreography creates a magical storybook world enjoyed by children and adults alike. With a cast of more than 100 HRB dancers and area children, HRB's masterful production is the highlight of the holidays!

WHEN/WHERE: Friday, December 3 at 7 pm
Saturday, December 4 at 2 pm & 7 pm
Sunday, December 5 at 1 pm & 4:30 pm

Tomball High School Theatre
30330 Quinn Road
Tomball, Texas 77375

TICKETS: Cost is $23 for adults, $18 for students & seniors.
For ticket information, call 281-940-HRB1 (4721) or visit www.hrbdance.org.

OUTREACH: Due to health restrictions, outreach for the 2021 performance is limited to three free HRB Nutcracker Arts & Education school performances for all Tomball ISD third graders, which is an audience of more than 1,500. An expanded outreach program will return as soon as health guidelines allow, hopefully in time for the 2022-2023 season.

HRB dancers are committed to sharing the arts with the community. Past community engagement events included costumed appearances at various nursing homes, group events, and at Arts & Education performances. HRB brings three matinee performances to Tomball ISD third grade students, fulfilling the arts component of their curriculum. To request a future outreach event for your organization, call 281-940-HRB1 (4721).

WHAT ELSE: Lower ticket prices reflect the elimination of a live orchestra performance for 2021, due to health restrictions. HRB hopes to be able to offer live music once again for the 2022 Nutcracker performance.

- more -

GUEST BIOS: ***Leah Slavens Haggard – freelance***

Leah Slavens Haggard began her ballet training at the Ballet Center of Houston under the direction of Victoria Vittum and continued at the Pacific Northwest Ballet School as a Professional Division student. Leah went on to dance professionally with The Grand Rapids Ballet, Utah Regional Ballet, and The Suzanne Farrell Ballet where she has performed in Kent Stowell's *Swan Lake*, and George Balanchine's *Walpurgisnacht*, *Stars and Stripes*, *Gounod Symphony*, *Danses Concertantes*, and *Serenade* among many other ballets and original works. Most recently as a freelance performer, she has been able to perform with Ballet Memphis, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Indiana Ballet Theater, and Deos Contemporary Ballet. Leah is also a certified holistic nutrition health coach and human nutrition master's student, who works with dancers and students on dancer nutrition and wellness education.

Matthew Rusk – St. Louis Ballet

Born in Tucson, Arizona, Matthew Rusk received his formative training at Houston Ballet and the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, where he graduated with honors in dance. He also spent summers at School of American Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and the Royal Ballet School. He is an alumnus of Indiana University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Ballet with an Outside Field in Psychology. While at IU, he was the recipient of the Premier Young Artist Award and the Ken C. Whitener Fund for Ballet Excellence, and performed principal roles in George Balanchine's *Emeralds*, *Four Temperaments*, *Divertimento No. 15*, and *Swan Lake*, and Marius Petipa's *La Bayadere* (*Kingdom of the Shades*). Professionally he joined Cincinnati Ballet in 2015 before transferring to Saint Louis Ballet in 2016, where he is currently in his sixth season. His repertory at SLB includes Romeo (*Romeo and Juliet*), Cavalier, Snow King (*The Nutcracker*), Bluebird (*Sleeping Beauty*), and principal roles in Balanchine's *Who Cares?*, Twyla Tharp's *Nine Sinatra Songs*, and Gerald Arpino's *Reflections*. He has also guest performed with Nevada Ballet Theatre, appearing in Christopher Wheeldon's *Carousel* and Septime Webre's *Alice in Wonderland*.

Joseph Modlin

In 1993, Joseph Modlin, an Indiana native, began training in classical and modern dance performance at Ball State University and performed with Anderson Young Ballet Theatre, both under the direction of Ms. LouAnn Young. Joe moved to Houston in 1997, and began a performance and teaching career that has spanned 20 years, seven professional companies, and continues extending to flourish in the Houston community, as well as nationally. Joe has performed/worked with Hope Stone, Inc., Houston Repertoire Ballet, Chrysalis Dance Company, Houston Dance Theater, Allegro Ballet, Freneticore, and Woodlands Dance Company. He has been invited to work as a guest artist with independent choreographers and performance artists, such as Leslie Scates, Erin Reck, Amy Ell, Karen Stokes, Lindsey McGill, Toni Valle, and Sara Draper.

ABOUT HRB: The Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB) is a non-profit 501(c)(3), founded by Victoria Vittum and Gilbert Rome, both nationally acclaimed teachers and choreographers who served as its co-artistic directors. Today, Ms. Vittum oversees training and programming with an equal eye to serving the needs of the community. Since 1995, HRB has contributed to the cultural fabric of Harris and Montgomery Counties by providing excellent dance training to the area's young ballet stars and dance educators of tomorrow, while also presenting high-quality productions at affordable prices. *The Nutcracker* in December, and the *Celebration of Dance* in April introduce area children and their families to the world

of classical and contemporary ballet. HRB closes its season in May with the *Choreography Project*, a free-admission program initiated to discover, mentor, and give artistic voice to our choreographers of tomorrow. Today, HRB is considered the premier pre-professional ballet company in the Houston region, and is recognized for sharing its gifts with the community and beyond. Many of HRB's dancers advance to professional ballet companies throughout the country. HRB graduates have danced with New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Houston Ballet, and other prestigious companies.

MISSION: HRB's mission is dedicated to providing the finest classical ballet instruction, education, and performance experience to local gifted students, and preparing them for a professional career in the world of dance. HRB is committed to serving the suburban Houston region with high-quality theatre productions that educate, engage, and entertain residents of all ages and perpetuate their appreciation of dance as an art form.

Major funding provided by the City of Tomball and Texas Commission on the Arts.
Sponsored by Air Innovations LLC, David Metcalfe Photography,
Dentist at Rock Creek, Kluge Tennis Center, and Lakewood Montessori.

# # #

HRB The Nutcracker

2021 Media Coverage as of 12/8/21

Online:

CultureMap
https://houston.culturemap.com/eventdetail/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-nutcracker-2022/

Yelp.com – Friday at 7 pm
https://www.yelp.com/events/tomball-houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker

Yelp.com – Saturday at 2 pm
https://www.yelp.com/events/tomball-houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-2

Yelp.com – Saturday at 7 pm
https://www.yelp.com/events/tomball-houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-3

Yelp.com – Sunday at 1 pm
https://www.yelp.com/events/tomball-houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-4

Yelp.com – Sunday at 4:30 pm
https://www.yelp.com/events/tomball-houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-5

Impact News Sugar Land – Missouri City
https://communityimpact.com/houston/tomball-magnolia/arts-entertainment/2021/10/27/houston-repertoire-ballets-the-nutcracker-to-return-dec-3-5/

Impact News Tomball – Magnolia
https://communityimpact.com/houston/tomball-magnolia/arts-entertainment/2021/10/27/houston-repertoire-ballets-the-nutcracker-to-return-dec-3-5/

Impact News Cy-Fair
https://communityimpact.com/houston/cy-fair/arts-entertainment/2018/11/27/houston-repertoire-ballet-prepares-for-upcoming-performances-of-the-nutcracker/

Houston Press
https://www.houstonpress.com/event/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-12210199

Stay Happening
https://stayhappening.com/e/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-E10IHIW43L7

All Events
https://allevents.in/tomball/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker/80005990120917

Parkbench
https://parkbench.com/event/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker

The Dance Source
https://dancesourcehouston.org/the-dance-card/

Click2Houston
https://www.click2houston.com/community-calendar/#/details/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-Presents-The-Nutcracker/9587071/2021-12-03T19

KTRK Events – Friday, December 3
https://abc13.com/community/calendar/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D156391785

KTRK Events – Saturday, December 4
https://abc13.com/community/calendar/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D156391804

KTRK Events – Sunday, December 5
https://abc13.com/community/calendar/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D156391787

KRIV Events – Friday, December 3 at 7 pm
https://cw39.com/community-calendar/#!/details/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-Presents-The-Nutcracker/9587071/2021-12-03T19

KRIV Events – Saturday, December 4 at 2 pm
https://cw39.com/community-calendar/#!/details/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-Presents-The-Nutcracker/9587071/2021-12-04T14

KRIV Events – Saturday, December 4 at 7 pm
https://cw39.com/community-calendar/#!/details/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-Presents-The-Nutcracker/9587071/2021-12-04T19

KRIV Events – Sunday, December 5 at 1 pm
https://cw39.com/community-calendar/#!/details/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-Presents-The-Nutcracker/9587071/2021-12-05T13

KRIV Events – Sunday, December 5 at 4:30 pm
https://cw39.com/community-calendar/#!/details/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-Presents-The-Nutcracker/9587071/2021-12-04T19

Houston Arts Alliance
https://calendar.haatx.com/#!#eventArea

Tomball Chamber – Friday, December 3
https://business.tomballchamber.org/events/details/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-35050?calendarMonth=2021-12-01

Tomball Chamber – Saturday, December 4
https://business.tomballchamber.org/events/details/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-35050?calendarMonth=2021-12-01

Tomball Chamber – Sunday, December 5
https://business.tomballchamber.org/events/details/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-35050?calendarMonth=2021-12-01

Kids Out and About
https://houston.kidsoutandabout.com/content/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-nutcracker

Happening Next
https://happeningnext.com/event/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-eid1ar8ci3glj

Newsbreak
https://www.newsbreak.com/channels/brookshire-tx-entertainment?sort=comment

Mommypoppins
https://mommypoppins.com/houston-kids/event/events/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker

VisitHoustonTexas
https://www.visithoustontexas.com/event/houston-repertoire-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker/90736/

DailyAdvent
https://www.dailyadvent.com/news/cbca5658e2bd191e88e1ff9042a2877f-The-Nutcracker-returns-as-Houston-Repertoire-Ballets-first-major-production-since-2019

FlipBoard
https://flipboard.com/@houstonchron/trending-houston-headlines-h1uol3vnz/the-nutcracker-returns-as-houston-repertoire-ballet-s-first-major-production-si/a-PkuYGLVJQpSmxwMEecmiWA%3Aa%3A2858497449-2a43476c05%2Fhoustonchronicle.com

Houston Chronicle Tomball-Magnolia
https://www.houstonchronicle.com/neighborhood/tomball-magnolia/article/Houston-Repertoire-Ballet-brings-back-The-16648354.php

The Cougar Claw
https://thscougarclaw.com/news/2021/11/29/the-nutcracker-performance-returns-to-ths/

CFISD
https://www.cfisd.net/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=41&ModuleInstanceID=10867&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=18333&PageID=69

Our Community Now
https://ourcommunitynow.com/things-to-do/a-man-charged-with-assaulting-police-officers-during-the-capitol-riot-is-running-for-a-texas-house-seat

Peel Inc - Fairfield
https://peelinc.com/index.php/fairfield/

Krenek – Cypress North
https://krenekprinting.com/Cypress-North

Krenek – Cypress Point
https://krenekprinting.com/Cypress-Point

Krenek – Sydney Harbour
https://krenekprinting.com/Sydney-Harbour

Krenek – VCL Lakeside
https://krenekprinting.com/VCL-Lakeside

Krenek – Villages of Cypress Lakes
https://krenekprinting.com/Villages-of-Cypress-Lakes

Krenek – Cinco Ranch 1
https://krenekprinting.com/Cinco-Ranch-1

Krenek – Cinco Ranch 2
https://krenekprinting.com/Cinco-Ranch-2

Krenek – Cross Creek Ranch
https://krenekprinting.com/Cross-Creek-Ranch

Krenek – Fulshear
https://krenekprinting.com/Fulshear

Krenek – Grand Lakes
https://krenekprinting.com/Grand-Lakes

Krenek – Grayson Lakes
https://krenekprinting.com/Grayson-Lakes

Krenek – Green Trails 2
https://krenekprinting.com/Green-Trails-2

Krenek – Green Trails Estates
https://krenekprinting.com/Green-Trails-Estates

Krenek – Katy Communicator
https://krenekprinting.com/Katy-Communicator

Krenek – Lakemont
https://krenekprinting.com/Lakemont

Krenek – Lost Creek
https://krenekprinting.com/Lost-Creek

Krenek – Memorial Parkway
https://krenekprinting.com/Memorial-Parkway

Krenek – Nottingham
https://krenekprinting.com/Nottingham

Krenek – Parkway Lakes
https://krenekprinting.com/Parkway-Lakes

Krenek – The 1463
https://krenekprinting.com/The-1463

Krenek – Westheimer Lakes
https://krenekprinting.com/Westheimer-Lakes

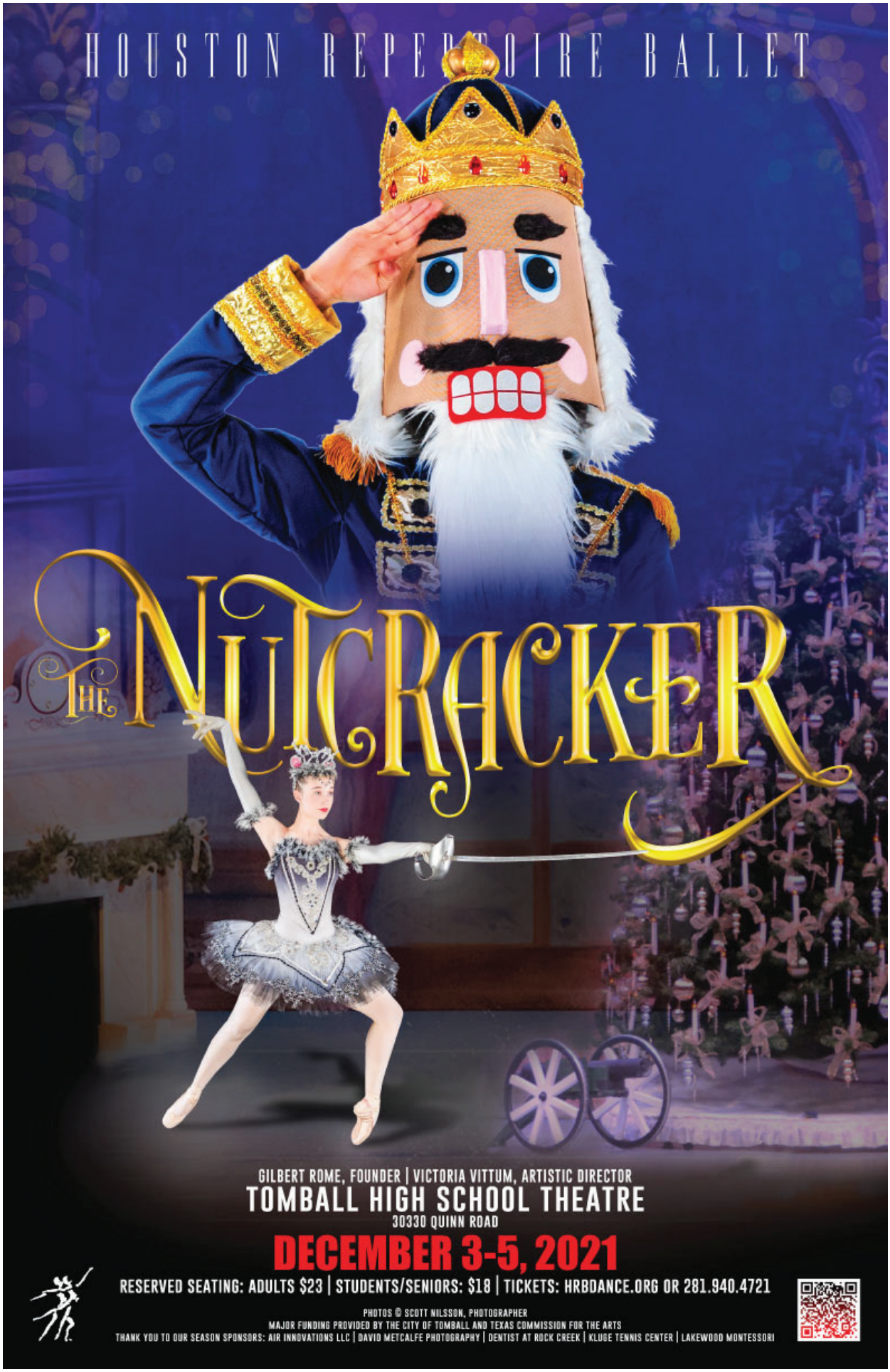
Krenek – Woodcreek
https://krenekprinting.com/Woodcreek

Print:

Houston Chronicle Tomball-Magnolia
November 24, 2021

Peel Inc – Fairfield
December 2021

Krenek – December 2021
Cypress North, Cypress Point, Sydney Harbour, VCL Lakeside, Villages of Cypress Lakes, Cinco Ranch 1, Cinco Ranch 2, Cross Creek Ranch, Fulshear, Grand Lakes, Grayson Lakes, Green Trails 2, Green Trails Estates, Katy Communicator, Lakemont, Lost Creek, Memorial Parkway, Nottingham, Parkway Lakes, The 1463, Westheimer Lakes, and Woodcreek.


HOUSTON REPERTOIRE BALLET
THE NUTCRACKER
GILBERT ROME, FOUNDER | VICTORIA VITTUM, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
TOMBALL HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE
30330 QUINN ROAD
DECEMBER 3-5, 2021
RESERVED SEATING: ADULTS $23 | STUDENTS/SENIORS: $18 | TICKETS: HRBDANCE.ORG OR 281.940.4721
PHOTOS © SCOTT NILSSON, PHOTOGRAPHER
MAJOR FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF TOMBALL AND TEXAS COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS
THANK YOU TO OUR SEASON SPONSORS: AIR INNOVATIONS LLC | DAVID METCALFE PHOTOGRAPHY | DENTIST AT ROCK CREEK | KLUGE TENNIS CENTER | LAKEWOOD MONTESSORI

The City of Tomball
Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Application

Optional Supporting Documentation
4. Letters of Support
Houston Repertoire Ballet – *The Nutcracker 2022*

Please find attached letters of support from:

1. JD Janda, Director of Fine Arts Tomball ISD
2. Chad Schmidt, Principal Tomball Elementary
3. Lauren Anderson, Houston Ballet Program Manager of Education and Community Engagement and dancer with Houston Ballet from 1983 – 2006
4. Gilbert Rome, cofounder and former co-director of Houston Repertoire Ballet

Please find attached a testimonial from:

Jared Matthews, Assistant Director of the Estonian National Ballet, Former Houston Ballet Principal Dancer and Houston Repertoire Ballet alumnus, 2001.
Jared wrote this testimonial performed as the Cavalier in HRB's *The Nutcracker*, 2017-2019.

TOMBALL ISD FINE ARTS

INSPIRING LIFELONG ARTISTRY AND CREATIVITY

JD JANDA, DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS
281-357-3100 EXT. 2047
JOHNJANDA@TOMBALLISD.NET

June 25, 2018

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is JD Janda and I am the Director of Fine Arts for the Tomball Independent School District. I am proud to oversee the Art, Dance, Music, and Theater Departments in our school district. I am writing to endorse the **Houston Repertoire Ballet** and its Artistic Director Victoria Vittum in the effort to secure grant funding.

The Houston Repertoire Ballet is a wonderful partner for our school district! The extremely talented dancers from HRB are not only outstanding artists, they are great people with a huge heart for the students of our district. At no cost to us, the HRB performs scenes from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* for all Tomball ISD third graders every December. Students that have little or no opportunity for exposure to the magic of music and dance in a professional setting are presented with this amazing experience. Being an audience member at a professional production is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many of our students from economically challenged households. That exposure to the ballet art form teaches our students about beauty, movement and imagination like no other academic course could ever do. In 2017, over 1500 third grade students were able to enjoy the holiday masterpiece in two performances in the Tomball High School Auditorium. As Tomball ISD continues to grow, the 2018 event will expand to three performances spread over two days. Having seen many performances of *The Nutcracker* by several talented ballet companies, I can say with confidence that the Houston Repertoire Ballet performs at the highest artistic level with an air of professionalism that is remarkable. Again, these performances are completely free of charge for our always tight Tomball ISD budget.

Additionally, Artistic Director Victoria Vittum has created artistic opportunities for dozens of students at some of our Title 1 campuses. A professional dance teacher provided ballet lessons to students at Tomball Elementary School in the fall of 2017. The program was held at the school, once a week for twelve weeks and culminated in performances in *The Nutcracker*. Further, a talented and deserving student is now receiving a full scholarship to studio dance lessons based on the relationship created at TES. This pilot project was such a success at the one campus, that it will be expanded to three campuses for the coming school year. Joining Tomball Elementary will be students from Decker Prairie Elementary and Tomball Intermediate School. HRB will provide another performance opportunity for our students at its Spring Dance Recital. There is no way that these Tomball ISD students would have ever been able to have this experience if it were not for the incredible generosity and support of the Houston Repertoire Ballet.

The collaboration and partnership we have created in Tomball is something of immeasurable value to our community. HRB is absolutely deserving of your strong consideration for a grant and students in Tomball ISD will continue to be artistically enriched by these talented and dedicated performers.

Respectfully -

JD Janda, Director of Fine Arts
Tomball ISD

TOMBALL
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

CHAD SCHMIDT
Principal
(281) 357-3280 x 3206

tomballisd.net

June 20, 2018

To Whom IT May Concern:

Tomball Elementary partnered with the Houston Repertoire Ballet in 2017 to provide an incredible opportunity to be a part of the Nutcracker presentation provided to all third grade students in Tomball ISD.

The experience was outstanding as we had 12 third grade students participate and are truly excited about the chance to continue and increase the participation.

The work with the staff was incredible and students were provided excellent instruction and practice. The learning positively impacted the self-esteem of the students and provided a chance to perform.

We cannot express the value of the experience and are truly looking forward to a long-term partnership to continue this amazing work. There is incredible power in providing as many experiences as possible in the arts with students at elementary ages as they learn to express their creativity and discover their talents.

Thank you for your support.

Chad Schmidt
Principal

HoustonBallet

June 7, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Lauren Anderson. I was a dancer with the Houston Ballet from 1983 - 2006. I am currently Associate Director of the Education and Community Engagement department of the Houston Ballet. I met Victoria Vittum when she came to teach ballet at Houston Ballet in 1998 and have known her for many, many years.

I have been a guest artist with Houston Repertoire Ballet, for which she is the Artistic Director. I know the quality of her work as she has produced many dancers that have attended Houston Ballet summer programs or have become members of the company and other ballet companies across the nation.

As a person that leads the Community Engagement program at the Houston Ballet, I know firsthand the importance this experience brings to so many underserved children, particularly in the Title 1 schools. I highly support Ms. Vittum and Houston Repertoire Ballet in their efforts to expand the outreach program for the Tomball ISO.

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Lauren Anderson
Associate Director,
Education and Community Engagement
landerson@houstonballet.org
713-535-3286

City of Tomball
501 James Street
Tomball, TX 77375

Gilbert Rome
424 West Solidelle
Chalmette, LA 70043

Dear Members:

I have had the opportunity and pleasure of working with Victoria Vittum for forty years. During this time, I recognized her ability as an instructor, choreographor and her ability to stage classical and modern ballets. Over this period, the Inner City Program was formed under the direction of Margo Marshall (City Ballet of Houston). Vicky auditioned hundreds of inner city children rehearsing them, as well as the company dancers.

During our tenure with City Ballet of Houston, Vicky and I developed a friendship and a respect for each other's work. In 1994, we decided it was time for us to join forces and form Houston Repertoire Ballet. In 1996, we received our non-profit designation and the mission of the organization was established. After a career spanning fifty years, I retired in 2005 but have continued to act in an advisory capacity. It gives me great pleasure to have played a part in creating HRB and in knowing that since my retirement, the company has continued to grow artistically as well as in size and in its mission.

The company has become an asset in its community of Tomball and North Houston. HRB's annual Nutcracker has joined with the Cypress Philharmonic for its Nutcracker season. Its performances to sold out houses in Tomball have allowed HRB to develop its spring concert season and an outreach program.

Many Houston Repertoire Ballet dancers have subsequently joined New York City Ballet, Houston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Colorado Ballet, and many others.

Houston Repertoire Ballet's having your support would be instrumentally significant in growing its mission. Thank you for your time in making this consideration.

Yours very truly,

Gilbert Rome
cofounder and former co-director of Houston Repertoire Ballet
former member of National Ballet of Canada, Opera House Frankfurt Germany, Opera House Cologne, Germany, Houston Ballet, HSPVA, co-director of City Ballet of Houston

P.S.: To name a few produced by HRB -
Mr. Jared Matthews, Principal Dancer with Houston Ballet
Elizabeth Keller, Miami City Ballet
Trey MacIntyre, Dance Project and principal with Idaho Ballet
Morgan Buchanan, soloist with Colorado Ballet' Amaris Sharratt, Nebraska Ballet
Janie Taylor, New York City Ballet
Davida Haas, Houston Ballet and Joffrey Ballet

I have danced with American Ballet Theatre in New York for thirteen years achieving the rank of Soloist. I am currently in my third year as a Principal Dancer with Houston Ballet. Throughout my career I have traveled the world performing in many famous opera houses and theaters. I would not be where I am today without Victoria Vittum and Houston Repertoire Ballet.

Victoria creates an environment where hard work and discipline is the foundation for success. Her eye for detail and solid classical ballet background provide students the opportunity to truly learn and understand the art form. I spent all of my pre professional training with Victoria and HRB. They gave me everything I needed to prepare for a professional career in dance. Under Victoria's guidance I was slowly and methodically challenged year after year in order to further my development. Step by step she taught me classical ballet. Performing with HRB gave me the experience of being on stage in front of an audience and showing all that we had worked on in the studio. These experiences were crucial to me as a young dancer.

Victoria and HRB continue their mission of training young classical dancers. I am proud to call myself an alumnus, and I am forever grateful for all they have given me.

Jared Matthews
Principal Dancer
Houston Ballet