

THE 23RD ANNUAL NUTCRACKER BALLET 2020



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Dr. Thomas Etter & Dr. Randy Folker would like to Congratulate and Thank Rocky Mountain Dance Theatre for 23 years of the amazing and professional production of The Nutcracker! Our community is honored and blessed to have such a culturally diverse and talented Leader as Elizabeth Fernandez.



Cody Surgical Associates

**424 Yellowstone Ave, Suite 310 ♦ Cody, WY 82414
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23RD ANNUAL NUTCRACKER

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MISSION STATEMENT

Rocky Mountain Dance Theatre is a non-profit 501(c)3. RMDT's mission is to introduce young people to the performing arts; encourage cultural development through public performance; and to inspire young dancers to learn and strive for excellence in technique, self-discipline, self-confidence, and artistic expression.



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*Congratulations
RMDT Seniors*



**Best wishes to Gabrielle Crum, Alexa Etter,
Lily Whitman, and all the amazing RMDT
dancers on this year's Nutcracker performance**

**Happy Holidays from the team at Cody Veterinary Hospital
Dr. Stephanie White | Dr. Kaycee Stagner | Dr. Sarah Buri**

WELCOME TO THE 2020 NUTCRACKER



For over twenty-five years, Nutcracker has been a part of my life. First, in college, followed by twenty-three years of RMDT's annual performance. As the Artistic Director of RMDT, I have always marveled at the magical spirit of Nutcracker. I've asked myself many times, "What makes Nutcracker magical?" The time of year, the tradition, the music, the costumes, the scenery, the lights, the falling snow outside or on stage, or is it something less tangible? All these things contribute to the formula, but I believe, it's the less tangible that sets Nutcracker apart. Life needs beauty, happiness, continuity, snow, flowers, make-believe, tutus, magic, and a little sugar plum. There is only one place to find all

these gifts wrapped in one, accompanied by music, lighting, and scenery. And this year, unlike any other I can remember, could use a little make-believe! As you venture into the Land of Snow and Sweets, I hope you will enjoy the wonder of stage and its many gifts.

Thank you for weathering the storm of 2020 and choosing to celebrate this wonderful season with us. Your support and generosity is truly magnificent. The dancers look forward to sharing their hard work and dedication with you, and I hope this performance will inspire you to look forward to each and every Nutcracker season as we do at RMDT.

There are so many to thank for the success of this production. To our board of directors for upholding the vision and mission of RMDT. To the RMDT staff, my mother, Charles and Casey, assistant teachers, dancers, parents, volunteers and Ryan, thank you for your continued dedication and selfless work.

To our many benefactors: your kindness and good will inspires us every day! Without you, we would not have the opportunity to experience the gifts the arts bring to all of our lives. Thank you!

This past year has brought so many challenges and uncertainty, and I can't think of a better way to close out 2020 than with Nutcracker season! RMDT cast and crew, patrons, and the community as whole, ready to usher in 2021! Cheers to a new year!! I am so excited to share this season with you and cannot thank you enough for your support.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Fernandez
Executive Director

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SPECIAL THANKS

Big Horn Radio Network, Kayla Collier, Kyla Cossaboon, Gabrielle Crum, Alexa Etter, Anesa Etter, EmRee Johnston, Cynthia Kaelberer, Emily Morris, Gracie Schmeiser, Hunter and Brittany Schneider, Thompson Portrait Studio, Brady Thyng, Lily Whitman.

All the dancers, parents, and volunteers that help make Nutcracker possible. To my returning Alumni: Susan Bales, Meg Burkhardt, Imani Etter, and Jessica McNeil for your continued love of RMDT and willingness to step in wherever needed.

Thank you Amber May, Carolyn Sharp, and Keri Sharp for your countless hours mending, sewing, steaming Nutcracker costumes. Your selfless dedication is inspiring!

To my seniors: Gab Crum, Alexa Etter, and Lily Whitman. You are each beautiful in your own way, and working with you has been wonderful both as a teacher and director. You will always be a part of the Nutcracker family and my family. Much Love!

Special Congratulations to the Top Candle Fundraisers:
Devyn Kaelberer and Sophia Straw

ARTISTIC PRODUCTION

COMPOSER.....	Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	Elizabeth Fernandez
CHOREOGRAPHER	Elizabeth Fernandez
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Charles Houghton
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Casey Kearns
SOUND DIRECTOR	Brad Thyng
VIDEOGRAPHY	Cactus Productions
COSTUME DIRECTOR	Elizabeth Fernandez
COSTUME DESIGN	Linda Rogers, Elizabeth Fernandez, Joy Williams
SCENERY AND BACKDROP DESIGN	Casey Kearns
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ARTISTIC PRODUCTION

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ



Executive Director, Co-Founder,
Choreographer, & Instructor

Elizabeth graduated with honors from the University of Northern Colorado where she received degrees in Dance Teaching/Movement Analysis and Dance Kinesiology. While at UNC, Elizabeth was a member of the University of Northern Colorado Dance Theatre and Colorado Dance Theatre. With these companies, she performed in many ballets and was ballet mistress for both these companies. While at UNC in 1996 and 1997; Elizabeth received the Department of Dance Award because of her involvement and contribution to the department.

After graduating, she moved back to Cody, Wyoming where she co-founded Rocky Mountain School of the Arts in 1997 and non-profit Rocky Mountain Dance Theatre in 1998 in Cody, Wyoming, with her mother Cynthia Kaelberer.

Under Elizabeth's direction, RMSA and RMDT trains students of all ages in the art of dance and theatre, focusing on building dancers with a strong and diversified foundation, emphasizing technical training and performing. The cornerstone of RMSA is the significance placed on each dancer's individuality, and how each person's distinctive contributions build alliance with others, self-confidence, perspective, and discipline. RMSA dancers have continued their training with the Joffrey School of Ballet, Houston Ballet School, Steps on Broadway, Broadway Dance Center, and Rhapsody James.

Elizabeth is an experienced choreographer who has choreographed and produced several short works in ballet, contemporary, and musical theatre genres. For over twenty-two years she has produced RMDT's annual Nutcracker Ballet, which has become a yearly holiday tradition for the area. In 2008, she choreographed the musical *Once on This Island* for The University of West Florida. In 2016, she brought her own original musical *Wild West Spectacular* to stage, attracting tourists from all over the world. In 2019, she was one of four guest choreographers hired to set a piece for the University of West Florida Theatre Department's end of year UWF Dance Ensemble performance.

Throughout the years, Elizabeth has received dance training from such names as Jeffrey Rockland, Sandra Minton, Robert Barnett, Christina Monroe, Cherie Noble, Katherine Kramer, and David Taylor. Elizabeth attended The Russian American Foundation's Bolshoi's Ballet Teachers Certification program. In the summer of 2018, she graduated from their highest level, and received her teacher certification from the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in New York.

In 2019, Elizabeth was featured as one of the Women in Wyoming: Portraits & Interviews of women who shape the West. This project has become an Exhibition and is featured at Buffalo Bill's Center for the West in Cody, Wyoming until August 2020.

Still performing, Elizabeth continues to take classes in New York at Broadway Dance Center, Steps on Broadway, Alvin Ailey, and master classes throughout the United States.



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Christmas and a happy and
prosperous New Year!

CHARLES HOUGHTON



Lighting Designer

Charles joined the University of West Florida in 2005 and is currently the Department Chair and Professor of Design. Prior to joining the University of West Florida, Charles was the Assistant Dean of the College of Performing and Visual Arts of the University of Northern Colorado. Houghton currently teaches the following courses: Technical Theatre, Drafting, Lighting Design, Scene Design and Stage Management.

Over the course of his career, Charles has lit over 100 performances with such names as: Manon Lescaut The Pirates of Penzance Mystery of Edwin, Drood La Boheme, A Christmas Carol, Psycho Beach Party, Werther Beauty Queen of Leenane Laundry & Bourbon/Lone Star Madama Butterfly, La Cenerentola, Floyd Collins Carmen.

Charles has designed the lighting for the Nutcracker since the first production in 1998. He has been lighting the Spring Production and Spring Ballet for the last 15 years.

CASEY KEARNS



Technical Director, Scenery &
Backdrop Design

Casey has proudly been a part of RMSA's Nutcracker for 17 years serving as the Technical Director, as well as coordinating the scenic and properties designs. He shares his expertise working on RMSA's Masterpieces of Ballet, Spring Dance Productions, and serving as the Technical Director and Scenic Designer for RMSA's Wild West Spectacular!

Currently Casey resides in Houston, TX and is the Production Manager and Head of Undergraduate Design and Production at University of Houston (UH) School of Theatre and Dance. Prior, Casey to UH served as an Associate Professor of Scenic Design and Resident Scenic Designer at the University of Wyoming (UW), the University of Indianapolis, the University of Northern Colorado and the Ohio State University – Lima.

His design credits include well over 100 production. Casey's Scenic Designs include Chicago, Hello Dolly, Beauty and the Beast, Mary Poppins, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Dead Man Walking, Rabbit Hole, Marat Sade, Twelfth Night, Always...Patsy Cline among many others. Costume Designs credits include the Laramie Project, Angels in America, and Grand Hotel. Lighting Design credits include Measure for Measure, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Laundry and Bourbon, 1959 Pink Thunderbird, and others. He has designed for the Candlelight Dinner Playhouse, Post Playhouse, Utah Musical Theatre, Snowy Range Summer Theatre, The Morgan Stock Theatre Company, Rocky Mountain School of the Arts, Little Theatre of the Rockies, The Black Hills Playhouse, and Kansas Summer Theatre.

Casey is actively involved with United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) and currently serves as the National Commissioner for the Scene Design and Technology Commission and is the former Chair of the Rocky Mountain Regional Section of USITT.

He earned his Masters of Fine Arts degree in Scenography (Scenic, Lighting, and Costume Design) from the University of Kansas and holds a BA from Chadron State College in Theatre and Speech Communication.

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LILY WHITMAN

Senior

Joker, Marzipan Lead,
Flower - Demi Soloist, Snow



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GUEST ARTISTS

SASHA VINCETT



Sasha began her training at The Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet with Marcia Dale-Weary. She performed featured roles in *The Nutcracker* and George Balanchine's *Serenade*. In 2003 Sasha received the bronze medal at the USA National Youth Ballet Competition, and was a finalist at the Youth America Grand Prix in 2003 and 2004. Sasha also trained with Magaly Suarez and attended the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre graduate program where she performed in Terrance Orr's *The Nutcracker*, George Balanchine's *Who Cares?*, and in *Paquita* and *Etudes*.

Since joining Ballet Arizona, Sasha has appeared in Balanchine's *Stravinsky Violin Concerto*, *Allegro Brillante*, *Divertimento No. 15*, *Apollo* and *The Four Temperaments*. Sasha has been featured in Ib Andersen's *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, and she originated roles in Andersen's *Diversions* and *Cinderella*.

RANDY PACHECO



Randy Pacheco was born in Camaguey, Cuba. He first began his ballet training at the age of nine at the Vocational School of Art of Camaguey "Luis Casas Romero". He continued his ballet training at "Vincentia de la Torre" National School of the Arts.

After graduation, Randy joined the Ballet of Camaguey as Corps de Ballet. His work as a performer over the next four years ultimately culminated in him being promoted to Soloist in 2012.

In 2013 he joined Ballet of Jalisco in Mexico as Soloist. Randy joined Ballet Arizona in 2015, and is currently still dancing for Ballet Arizona.

Repertoire Highlights: *In Creases*, *Coppelia*, *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Flames of Paris*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker*, *Cinderella*, *Carmen*, *Majisimo*, *Fille mal Gardee*, *Scheherezade*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Konservatoriet*, *Symphonie Classique*, *Who Cares*, *Rubies*, *Agon*, *Walpurgisnacht*, *Symphony in Three Movements*, *Firebird*.

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STORY OF *THE NUTCRACKER*

ACT 1

It is Christmas time, and Uncle Drosselmeyer has invited many close friends and relatives, including his favorite niece Clara, to attend his Christmas celebration. He loves to shower the children with gifts and entertain his guests with dancing butterflies, gingerbread, candy canes, and dolls. As Drosselmeyer is on his way through the forest to the party, he meets The Enchanted

Fairy, and her corp. The Enchanted Fairy offers Drosselmeyer a magical nutcracker doll, a gift from the Sugar Plum Fairy. Drosselmeyer doesn't accept the Nutcracker at first, but returns to the forest later, where he learns the Nutcracker is enchanted. Understanding this, he readily accepts the gift. Knowing it will turn any dream into a wonderful journey, he rejoices as he imagines giving the doll to his favorite niece, Clara.

After Clara arrives at the party, Drosselmeyer finds the perfect moment to reveal the nutcracker doll. Clara adores her nutcracker and dances with him gleefully. While most of Clara's guests are excited about her new gift, one is jealous, her cousin Fritz. Because of his jealousy, he causes an accident, breaking the Nutcracker. A tearful Clara is consoled by Drosselmeyer, who magically fixes the doll, and the party continues. As the party ends, the children reluctantly leave for home except Clara, who stays behind to play with her new toy. As she is playing with the doll, she falls asleep.

Clara dreams of her "magical" nutcracker doll and the beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy. Her dream begins with the soldiers battling the nasty Rat King and his pack of rats. Clara's Nutcracker "saves the day" as she uses the toy to battle the Rat King. She is awe-struck when the Sugar Plum Princess arrives. They dance together and soon The Princess invites the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier to dance with Clara. Together they enter the beautiful Land of Snow where snowflakes twirl in the snow-covered forest.

INTERMISSION

ACT 2

Clara enters The Princesses magical land where she meets confections from all over the world. She is once again greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier, who transform Clara into the beautiful Icicle Princess. Clara is delighted to dance the role of the Icicle Princess, and after, she is lead through the Land of Sweets to the elegant Pas de Deux of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier. As the dancing ends, Clara awakens. She dances with her doll one final time before falling fast asleep.



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ACT 1

FOREST SCENE

FAIRIES: Kylee Blankenship, Nyah Johnson, Kintla LaFevers, Camri Lindemann, Erica Mayhugh, Rylee McLauchlan, Reese Merritt, Sophia Radakovich

ENCHANTED FAIRY: *Friday 7pm & Saturday 2pm:* Tyra Morris
Saturday 7pm & Sunday 2pm: Emily Morris

DROSSELMAYER: Andrew Rossi

PARTY SCENE

PARENTS: Willow Fernandez, Campbell Foulger, Christina Maslak

PARTY CHILDREN: Emma Allen, Kaydence Blankenship, Peyton Marsh, Luci Underwood, Annabelle Young

DAMES: Cali Allen, Madison Dallman, Hayden Grant, Daelyn Kaelberer, Natalie Kim, Sienna May, Sara Parker, Abby Yates

FRITZ: Isaac Sims

FRITZ'S FRIENDS: Schuler Bailey, Forrest Deans, William Maslak, John Schneider, James Young

PEPPERMINT LEADS: Alexa Etter, Anesa Etter

CANDY CANES:

Friday 7pm & Saturday 2pm:
Kelby Brown, Colbie Beemer, Isabella Maslak, Scarlett Tatum

Saturday 7pm & Sunday 2pm:
Ellie Dunning, Aliyah Geving, Dylan McLauchlan, Scarlett Tatum

GINGERBREAD: Akira Dawe, Sophia Straw, Aspyr Williams

CLARA: Gabrielle Crum

SMALL TOY DOLLS: Antabella Harwood, Jordyn Williams

BUTTERFLIES: Tristyn Baker, Giovanna Barringer, Devyn Kaelberer, Mackenzie Marsh, Kateri Maslak, Amelia Sims

COLUMBINE DOLLS: Kyla Cossaboon, Jessica McNeil, Gracie Schmeiser

PIRATE LEAD: Gabriel Sanchez

PIRATES: Anneliese Croft, Keira Jackson, Kinsley Merritt, Isabel Taylor

JOKER: Lily Whitman

HORSEMEN: Schuler Bailey, William Maslak, Isaac Sims, James Young

BATTLE SCENE

QUEEN RAT: Emily Morris

NUTCRACKER: Gabriel Sanchez

RATS: Schuler Bailey, William Maslak, Isaac Sims

GIRL SOLDIERS: Kylee Blankenship, Willow Fernandez, Campbell Foulger, Nyah Johnson, Kintla LaFevers, Camri Lindemann, Christina Maslak, Erica Mayhugh, Rylee McLauchlan, Reese Merritt, Sophia Radakovich

BOY SOLDIERS: Forrest Deans, John Schneider, James Young

FLOWER PETALS: Tristyn Baker, Giovanna Barringer, Devyn Kaelberer, Mackenzie Marsh, Kateri Maslak, Amelia Sims, Sophia Straw

SNOW SCENE

SNOW: Susan Bales, Gabrielle Crum, Kayla Collier, Kyla Cossaboon, Alexa Etter, Anesa Etter, EmRee Johnston, Jessica McNeil, Emily Morris, Tyra Morris, Gracie Schmeiser, Lily Whitman

Become a part of Cody's Nutcracker Dream



RMDT is continually upgrading and changing the Nutcracker production and last year, took a BIG leap of faith! For 21 years,

Rocky Mountain
DANCE THEATRE

RMDT rented all 5 backdrops but it has been a dream of Executive Director, Elizabeth Fernandez, for Cody's Nutcracker to have their own unique backdrops and scenery. Last year RMDT took the first step in moving toward this goal with the unveiling part of this new design by Casey Kearns. This continues to be an ongoing project in hopes of the final design being fully realized by the 25th Anniversary Nutcracker Production in 2022.

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names given will be added on the back of the backdrop & to the printed display

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Charles Houghton, Catherine Houghton, Bo Johnson,
Keely Bell & Kristy Gambill, Tyra Morris, Tim O'Leary.

Names currently listed on Land of Sweets backdrop squares



WWW.ROCKYMOUNTAINDANCETHEATRE.ORG/SETTINGTHESTAGE

ACT 2

LAND OF SWEETS

ICICLE PRINCESS: Gabrielle Crum

ICICLES: Kylee Blankenship, Willow Fernandez, Campbell Foulger, Nyah Johnson, Kintla LaFevers, Camri Lindemann, Christina Maslak, Erica Mayhugh, Rylee McLauchlan, Reese Merritt, Sophia Radakovich

ANGELS: Akira Dawe, Nylah Marks, Aspyn Williams

SUGAR PLUM PRINCESS: Jessica McNeil

MINTS: Cali Allen, Madison Dallman, Hayden Grant, Daelyn Kaelberer, Natalie Kim, Sienna May, Sara Parker, Abby Yates

GREETERS: Emma Allen, Colbie Beemer, Kaydence Blankenship, Kelby Brown, Ellie Dunning, Aliyah Geving, Antabella Harwood, Dylan McLauchlan, Peyton Marsh, Isabella Maslak, Scarlett Tatum, Luci Underwood, Jordyn Williams, Annabelle Young

SPANISH LEADS: *Friday 7pm & Saturday 2pm:* Anesa Etter
Saturday 7pm & Sunday 2pm: Alexa Etter

SPANISH CORP: Meg Burkhart, Imani Etter

ARABIAN LEADS: Kayla Collier, Gabriel Sanchez, Gracie Schmeiser

ARABIAN CORP: Giovanna Barringer, Devyn Kaelberer, Nylah Marks, Mackenzie Marsh, Kateri Maslak, Amelia Sims, Sophia Straw

CHINESE: *Friday 7pm & Saturday 2pm:* Kyla Cossaboon
Saturday 7pm & Sunday 2pm: Anesa Etter

DRAGON: Anneliese Croft, Keira Jackson, Erica Mayhugh, Kinsley Merritt, Isabel Taylor

RUSSIAN LEADS: Kayla Collier, EmRee Johnston, Gabe Sanchez

KISSES: Natalie Bales, Claire Blankenship, Anastasia Byer, Rebekah Dallman, Clare Maslak, Joel Young

MARZIPAN LEAD: Lily Whitman

MARZIPAN CORP: *Friday 7pm & Saturday 2pm:* Anneliese Croft, Emily Morris, Tyra Morris, Isabel Taylor
Saturday 7pm & Sunday 2pm: Keira Jackson, Kinsley Merritt, Emily Morris, Tyra Morris

CLOWNS: Kylee Blankenship, Willow Fernandez, Campbell Foulger, Nyah Johnson, Kintla LaFevers, Camri Lindemann, Christina Maslak, Erica Mayhugh, Rylee McLauchlan, Reese Merritt, Sophia Radakovich

DEW DROP: *Friday 7pm & Saturday 2pm:* Alexa Etter
Saturday 7pm & Sunday 2pm: Kyla Cossaboon

FLOWER - DEMI SOLOISTS: Gabrielle Crum, Lily Whitman

FLOWERS: Kayla Collier, Kyla Cossaboon, Anneliese Croft, Alexa Etter, Anesa Etter, Keira Jackson, EmRee Johnston, Jessica McNeil, Kinsley Merritt, Emily Morris, Tyra Morris, Gracie Schmeiser, Isabel Taylor

SUGAR PLUM FAIRY: Sasha Vincett

CAVALIER: Randy Pacheco

FINALE: Entire Cast



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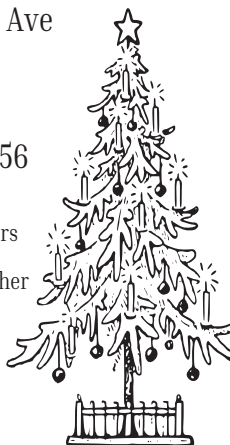
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Happy Holidays &
thank you for
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The Thistle would like to celebrate graduating
senior Lily Whitman, featured as Marzipan!

~

Congratulations to all of the Nutcracker cast
and crew!!



1243 Rumsey Ave
Cody, WY 82414
307-587-6635





EVENTS & DATES TO REMEMBER



APRIL 2021



MAY 2021

Masterpieces
of Ballet

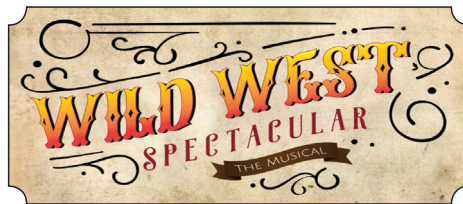


FRIDAY MAY 14, 7:00 P.M.

**Wednesday May 12,
7:00 P.M.**

SATURDAY MAY 15, 7:00 P.M.

SUMMER 2021



For tickets to performances visit:
rockymountaindancetheatre.fix.com

Follow us on FB and Instagram for the most up to date information
on all performances and events, or visit:
www.rockymountaindancetheatre.org



Wishing you a joyous

Holiday Season



CONGRATULATIONS

to Rocky Mountain Dance
Theatre on another successful
production of The Nutcracker.




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Nutcracker!"***



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Kristin Myers DVM
Mandy LaFevers DVM

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Cody, WY 82414
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