

Dear Supporter,

The Rockland Youth Dance Ensemble (RYDE) is a non-profit dance and theatre company that has been providing professional quality performing arts opportunities for children of all backgrounds for over 40 years. RYDE's signature performance of *The Nutcracker* is a tradition that has engaged thousands of young performers in the art of a live production, while reaching an audience of more than 125,000 patrons throughout the past four decades. In addition to the annual *Nutcracker*, RYDE brings arts-based programs to the local community, including to underserved audiences in the tri-state region.

Like many organizations, the past two plus years have prompted RYDE to reinvent itself while maintaining its commitment to providing K-12 children in Rockland County and the surrounding areas the opportunity to engage in the performing arts. In 2020, when live theatre was out of the question, our creative staff rose to the challenge. In collaboration with a professional movie director, RYDE created the magical movie "Nutcracker Re-Imagined," a clip of which is available for your viewing here: <https://rocklandyouthdanceensemble.org/>

Last year we returned to the theatre with a reduced cast size, show run, and audience capacity, all while our production expenses remained the same. As we prepare for our third *Nutcracker* season since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are thrilled to take the stage at Rockland Community College and perform for a full-capacity audience December 9-11, 2022, but we cannot do this without the support of generous donors. Please consider supporting RYDE so that we may bring this beautiful production to our community. Your gift will help to underwrite the production costs of the show and continue to bring an enriching environment of arts education and performance to children in the area.

All gifts will be acknowledged in the 2022 Playbill, which will be distributed to audience members during our December performances. There are two opportunities to support RYDE. For businesses that wish to include an ad, information page and template can be found here: <https://rocklandyouthdanceensemble.org/playbill-2022>

Donors who support RYDE through a gift will be recognized at the following levels:

<i>Producers</i>	\$5,000+
<i>Principals</i>	\$1,000-4,999
<i>Soloists</i>	\$500-999
<i>Ensemble</i>	\$250-499
<i>Understudy</i>	\$100-249

Please mail checks to: RYDE, PO Box 924, Bardonia, NY 10954. For additional information, contact Lisa Frenz (Sponsorship Committee) at [lisa.frenz@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.frenz@gmail.com) or 267-240-8841.

Thank you for your support and commitment to the arts!

With appreciation,

Gilbert Giannini  
Chair, RYDE Board of Governors