

SALT CREEK BALLET

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

We Bring Literature to Life through Music and Dance!

Our programs are designed to be very interactive experiences for the children involved! The presenter from the Salt Creek Ballet (SCB) will lead the children through a fun and informative movement experience and demonstration based on a selected story or theme.

General Format For SCB's Standard Program Presentations:

The SCB Facilitator will:

- 1) Dress in costume (when appropriate)
- 2) Read the story (if story-centered)
- 3) Provide a brief background about ballet
- 4) Lead the children through a basic ballet warm-up
- 5) Teach the children dance movements based on characters from the selected theme and lead them in a dance that they will perform for their parents.

Age range: 3-10 years (Will be tailored toward selected age group depending on theme)

Time: 45 minutes to 1 hour

The experience could focus on any of the following themes:

A. *Alice in Wonderland!* Curious and curiouser.....join Salt Creek Ballet for a magical and memorable trip down the rabbit hole. Participants will experience basic ballet steps as well as create and perform their own dance movements for characters such as the White Rabbit, the wily Cheshire cat, and the overbearing Queen of Hearts. We'll end our "trip" with a demonstration by an SCB company member (if available). **Ages: EC through Elementary**

B. A Selected Fairy or Folktale. Currently, we have presentations for the following stories: *The Lonely Lioness* (Africa); *Little Red Riding Hood: a new fangled prairie tale* (European); *The Firebird* (Russia); *Puss 'n' Boots*; *The Tortoise and the Hare*; *The Ugly Duckling*. **Ages: EC-Elementary** (depending on book and/or theme)

C. *Dance to Win!* How is ballet similar to sports? How is it different? Explore the basics of ballet with the Salt Creek Ballet and get a chance to learn what it takes to be a dancer! Kids will get an opportunity to both view and experience some basic ballet training and create a sport-themed dance! (Possible option to have SCB Company male dancers perform depending on time of year). **Ages: Elementary-Middle School**

D. *Nutcracker Unwrapped!* A behind-the-scenes preview of SCB's upcoming performances of *The Nutcracker!* We will bring several of the characters to the event and have them perform short segments from the actual performance. We will also

explain and decode some of the more mystifying aspects of the *Nutcracker* Story and its music. Audience participation will be a key part of the experience.

Ages: EC through Elementary

E. Custom Design Your own Program: Create a Program That Fits Your Programming Needs!

Other Options:

Option 2: Add a SCB dancer to do a short performance in character.

Option 3: Do a 15 minute performance with more dancers and provide for some audience interaction.

Option 4: Custom fit a program according to your needs!

The SCB is very committed to bringing literature to life by engaging children through music and dance! I look forward to working with you!

References: We have created programs for Skokie Public Library, Westmont Public Library, Niles Public Library, La Grange Park Public Library, Oak Park Public Library, Hinsdale Public Library, and more!

For more information about library and other programs, contact:

Kelly Stokes, Community Engagement Coordinator
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