

# Ballet

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did at a young age, but traveling to Bangor from Winterport, their town of residence, left Cindy Dudley with multiple trips back and forth every day. Her involvement in costuming began when she asked what she could do to occupy her time if she stayed in town.

In addition to “The Nutcracker,” the ballet companies will feature other several shows as part of their season. Robinson Ballet will perform “Aladdin,” based on the story in “The Thousand and One Nights,” May 21-22. Bangor Ballet will perform “Sleeping Beauty” April 9-10.

From gluing and glittering to sewing and fitting, Marnie Wirta and Cindy Dudley are part of a group that help each show come together. The next thing on their agenda is the costumes for Bangor Ballet’s “Nutcracker in a Nutshell,” an abridged version of “The Nutcracker,” featuring traditional and original choreography and costumes.

“It’s a little shorter, which might work well for families with younger children,” Jane Bragg, co-founder and executive of Bangor Ballet, said.

In Bangor Ballet’s “Nutcracker in a Nutshell,” Sophie Wirta will play a mouse



Haley Williams (right) and Nathan Williams rehearse the party scene of “The Nutcracker” at Robinson Ballet in Bangor. The siblings play the characters Clara and Fritz, who are brother and sister.

ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

and a flower, dance in “Spanish Chocolate” and has a duet called “Mirlitons.” Elise Dudley will be a snowflake, a flower, a demisoloist in “Flowers,” Madame Ginger and an understudy for Dew Drop.

For Robinson Ballet and Bangor Ballet, the Nutcracker performances are their largest productions each year. A fan favorite, families come from far and wide to see the performance.

“We do our ballet to please the crowd,” Stevie McGary, executive director of Robinson Ballet, said. “The storyline is basically the same. That’s what the

audience is looking for.”

In addition to “The Nutcracker,” the ballet companies will feature other several shows as part of their season. Robinson Ballet will perform “Aladdin,” based on the story in “The Thousand and One Nights,” 3 p.m. May 21 and 22 at the Brewer Performing Arts Center. Bangor Ballet will perform “Sleeping Beauty,” April 9 at the Bucksport Performing Arts Center and April 10 at the Gracie Theatre.

Robinson’s Ballet performances of “The Nutcracker” will take place 3 and 7 p.m. Nov. 21 at University of Maine at Machi-

as; 3 p.m. Dec. 5 at Gould Academy; 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 12 and 2 p.m. Dec. 13 at The Grand in Ellsworth; 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 19 and 3 p.m. Dec. 20 at the Collins Center for the Arts with the Bangor Symphony Orchestra.

Bangor Ballet’s performances of “Nutcracker in a Nutshell” will take place 4 p.m. Nov. 15 at Center Theatre in Dover-Foxcroft; 7 p.m. Nov. 21 and 4 p.m. Nov.

22 at the Gracie Theatre in Bangor; and 4 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Bucksport Performing Arts Center.

# Fairies

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scripts,” said Mitchell. “I got the manuscript before I signed the contract, and I loved the words.”

For her part, Walsh is excited about what the illustrations bring to the book.

“Hazel Mitchell is so talented, and she was able to bring to life the scenes,” said Walsh. “They popped. They were just so vibrant and alive. And I was just thrilled.”

And fans of Gardner’s previous fairy-related books might just see something familiar in the pages.

“I actually took some images of the fairy houses she’d built before and used them in the images,” said Mitchell. “It was a lot of world building. I thought about where do the fairies live, and what to they live in and what’s the landscape like.”

Walsh and Mitchell will be signing books on Nov. 14 at Rockport Public Library. They also will be signing books and doing a fairy-related activity on Nov. 28 at The Briar Patch on Central Street in Bangor.

“Where Do Fairies Go When it Snows?” is available at bookstores everywhere.

LET’S TALK [facebook.com/bangordailynews](https://facebook.com/bangordailynews)

# Biennial

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documentary record of what I saw while lying on my back on a nice summer day in Maine and watching the clouds pass by,” he said.

As clouds appear on screen and slowly change, the artist poses the question: “What is the role and function of humor and/or play in art?” and “How does technology shape our interaction with and knowledge of the world?”

See “You Can’t Get There From Here,” open until Jan. 3, to find out.

Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square. Museum admission is \$12. Free on Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. For more information, visit [www.portlandmuseum.org](http://www.portlandmuseum.org) or call 207-775-6148.

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We need to tell you something (and you’re going to love it!):

Your new section is here!

This section of your Bangor Daily News is now Arts & Culture.

Moved to Thursday to help you better plan your weekend, you’ll see all the “can’t-miss” events planned across the state one day sooner!

