Once upon the time in Germany's Erzgebirge lived a farmer. He was very rich, but also very lonesome because all his riches had made his heart as hard as the nuts of his big nut tree. Because he was such a miser he ate them all alone at Christmastime.

But just because he was much too lazy to crack the nuts by himself, he promised a reward to that person who could find an easy way to crack nuts without any trouble. Many people came to him with rather strange ideas.

There was that old veteran, who advised to shoot the nuts, a carpenter offered his saw, and the veterinarian recommended to put the best hens on the nuts and just to wait for them to hatch.

But that old puppet carver from Switten in the Erzgebirge was carving very diligently for three whole days. After that he had carved a beautiful wooden puppet. It was painted in the colors of the Erzgebirge miners' dress uniform, it had a big mouth, a hard jaw and a strong tongue, just made for cracking nuts.

When the rich farmer saw it, he liked it so much that from that day on he wanted to crack his nuts only with that colorful little guy.

In fact he loved that little wooden man so much, that his heart softened like the wax of a Christmas candle. He gave all of his nuts to the people, and everybody in the village had a very special Christmas that year, with Christollen (a German fruitcake), chocolate with nuts, and gold painted nuts on the Christmas tree.

The old Erzgebirge puppet carver, however, received a brand new workshop and from here the most beautiful nutcrackers went into all the world.

The rich farmer became the best friend of all the children because the wooden nutcracker had also cracked the hard shell around his heart once and for all.

Reprinted from the Volkmann Matthes Nutcracker Factory in Western Germany.
CAST

Clara..................Eleanor Curry
Prince/Buttcracker......Patrick Fuller
Prince..................Chris Agee
Prince............Fritz, Jr..................Barbara Varrella
Mother..................Joe Wesner
Mouse King...............Anthony Polito
Sugar Plum Fairy......Anne Burns
Snow Fairy..............Anne Burns
Snowflake Queen........Rohin Carlson
Snowflake King..........Jake Cochran
Spanish Queen...........Jessica Ahlstrom
Flower Queen............Brooke Parker
Arabian Prince...........Jacob Lomerdal
Forty Guest .............Emily Hitchcock-Grabill
Teddy Bear Princes.....Mara Jacob
Counsel President......Adrian Sweet
Chinese Queen.............Nolly Baro

BIG PARTY GUESTS
Ian Tillman, Andrew Hendrix, Lonnie Gottschalk, Jordan Carnone, Tom Craven, Nathan Christie, Allison Fleau, Elizabeth Carlson, Kristen Fleau, Sarah Woodbury, Elena Hendig, Stephanie Pulli, Margaret Salchert, Tracy Elliott, Betty Verdery
Leader: Matt Filman

LITTLE PARTY GUESTS
Erik Bridge, Sarah Cohen, Megan Agee, Chrisy Vail, Alex Young, Sara Shepard, Kristen Hochberg, Mary Woolward, Elena Molitor, Samantha Pavell, Zachary Kane, Matt Lufaso, Rachel McClusky
Leader: Brad Austin, Brandon Ross

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
Emily Current, Michelle Johnson, Jenna Ward, Nancy Hornbeck, Cassy Chen, Leah Villeneuve, Katherine Garofalo, Melissa Hayes, Megan Harris, Steff Zieman, Cameron жизни, Eilleen Medley
Leader: Nancy Horner

DANCING DOLLS
Claire Cowen, Jenny Smalley, Megan Uphauf, Karen Bolte, Jane Naghibi, Jean Tillman
Leader: Jennifer Carver, Maureen Fishberry, An Smalley

TRENT REARS
Walter Hickerson, Ethan Shaffer, Matthew Davis, Todd Armstrong, Matt Bielski, Stacey Bowen, Sarah Brown, Jennifer Mazzaro, Hilary Sleeter, Abbie Fenton
Leader: Jennifer Carver

SCOTTISH SWORD DANCERS
Scott Settles, Brian Duffey, Jonathan Bourne, Ellis Verneau, Karen McConnell, Jenny Wilson, Casey Sunday, Salina Medrano, Naturi Chastain, Alex Kromer
Leader: Steve Chaff

RUSSIANS
Benjamin Boyden, Kirk Skelton, Janice Curley, Jonson Porter, Jason Pratt, Jeb Gill, Katie Geier, Amy Spencer, Nolan Marie Berle, Marianne Palud, Katelin Maberton, Alex Riley
Leader: Steve Ingwe, Doug Hardie

PENNYWISTLES
Noricke Gottschalk, Erika Fay, Heather Swain, Alexandra Chalupa, Amy Tingey, Maya Borenstein, Ellen VanBricklin, Jenelle TalPaul, Katrina Blazek, Katie Biielzki, Jennifer VanBricklin, Janine Bennett
Leader: Mari El Shamy

ARAULIAS
Katrina Carlson, April Hemeny, June Haney, Laura Fay, Nicole Nenles, Laura Hubbard, Megan Mcginn, Bebe Arnett, Sarah McGinn, Danielle Weller, Kerry Leek
Leader: Anne Feldmeier, Lisa Wiser

FLOWER DANCERS
Sonya Taylor, Serena Black, Kim Thompson, Mariah Byrne, Kasey Sills, Rebecca Webb, Allison Carnum, Jenny Sancoy, Tiffany Reid, Araielle Martin, Devon Keen Miller, Tova Fleming
Leader: Jennifer Bourne, Valerie Reid

COURDORES
Michael Pease, Kevin Felter, David Pullar, Jacob Settleberry, Nicky Garofalo, Stephen Grover, Leah Bauer, Jennifer McNaulong, Laurel Pettersen, Susan Testaforte, Patricia Talesse, Emily Modell
Leader: Joelynn English

CLOWNS
Patrick Philan, Jeremy Fuller, Kristo Pfeiffer, Shelly Castle, Jenna Elliott, Adam Schmid, Sally Sleeter, Idea Lomondro, Megan Rodriguez, Karyn Erickson, Jason Glattston, Anir Lutzenhiser, Emily Curran, Morgan Gecceo, Whitney Ross, Jenny Crinklaw
Leader: Red Sykes, Paul Sykes, Laura Marie Manning

DANCING CATS
Christine Hanusman, Juliana Jones, Jenin Lear, Ashley McClane, Chloe Meier, Melissa Swain, Katie Hendrix, Chelsea Kinney, Lindsay McHenry, Sara Kalbou, Ray Beveridge, Sarah Storey
Leader: Erika Yoyo, Katie Austin

SOLDIERS
Leader: Martin Ardonksy, Jason Burns

COWGIRLS
Bryan Turner, Mike Bielecki, Josiah Keane, Isaac Day, Debbie Miller, Ryan McLain, Jamie Day, Sean Puller, Jasen Roosevelt, Sarah Sherwood, Ryan Cookham, Heather Vason, Thomas Kollmann, Lindsay Crillick, Jessica Kane
Leader: Jennie Holland, Krista Inchauchi

SHOULDERLINES
Jennifer Fitzgerald, Amanda Burke, Sara Sweet, Stacy Stocker, Nicole Nenles, Ada Otter, Joanna Brown, Stephanie Harris, Jane Kennedy, Michele Varnado, Katy Boyden, Kate Holman, Lindsay Uptarn, Susan Day, Sarah Colen, Callie Colburn, Tereen Lazzeroni, Erin Fisher
Leader: Vicki Sequiera, Marie Cummings

SUGAR PLUM PAGEANT
Kristin Blihik, Liz Moore, Jennifer Foo, Anna Heinrich, Damien Turner, Lauren Stewart, Caroline Clune, Brandon Stocker, Lisa Bennett, Alaina Woodward, Alyson Nielsen, Rebecca Gonzales
Leader: Marlie Jacobs, Aisate Hayes

SPANISH DANCERS
Marina Torrecilla, Laura Higgins, Margaret Lutzenhiser, Reather Sleeter, Tom Bridge, Miguel Piedrafita, Elliot Anderson, Michael Pro, Patrick Curley, Jennifer Klinek
Leader: Laurel Reddy

CHINESE DANCERS
Shannon Miller, Michelle Alardt, Michelle Hubbard, Jaise Glattston, Zak Kline, Justin Carnum, Jenie Pratt, Richard Byrne, Evan Nodell, Daniel Cano, Collin Wallace, Jason Self, Cameron Buey, Melody Browne, Al Aldrete, Brett Hemeny
Leader: Chris Hardie

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Production Manager............Jim Lee
Stage Manager.................................Jim Lee
Assistant Stage Manager....................Cindy Gentry
Production Manager..........................Kathy Collins
Production Assistant.......................Bryan Wick
Light Designer...............................Chris Wondek
Building Superintendent.................Jerri Sykes
Technical Crew Manager......................Greg Werhing
Construction (Stage Crew)...............Miha Cermesky
Sound by James Lui
Kris Day
Phil Sequiera
Chris Wondek
Jerri Sykes
Shep Duffey
Jon Lui
Paul Ragland
Greg Werhing
Paul Sykes
Jerri Sykes
Don Mattison

Lighting Crew.................................Jeff Bullard
Costume Dedication..........................Kim Cartwright
Sound Technicians............................Tammie May

Music Dedication............................Christina Panchish

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