**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Holiday Classic - A New “The Nutcracker” Comes to the Pensacola Saenger Theatre**

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Ballet Pensacola invites you to experience the magic of “The Nutcracker” at the historic Pensacola Saenger Theatre December 18 and 19 at 7:00pm, 19 at 11am, and December 20 at 1:30pm.

Ballet Pensacola’s production of The Nutcracker, featuring a cast of over 100 dancers, hits the Saenger stage December 18 and 19 at 7:00pm, 18 at 11:00am and December 20 at 1:30pm. Annually selling out, the Ballet Pensacola company brings joy, excitement and consistent surprises to dance audiences across the panhandle and into the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

This year’s production brings new and exciting things to the stage. Nationally recognized and award-winning choreographer, Hannah Holtsclaw is excited and eager to announce that Ballet Pensacola’s 2020 Nutcracker is re-designed and bringing a new Nutcracker to Pensacola. Holtsclaw is excited to have the opportunity to create this new production and stated, “I want this show to bring the peace and joy of the Christmas Season to our entire community, and help ease what has been an extremely challenging year for our country and, of course, Pensacola”.

The classical ballet will enthrall audiences as the music of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky accompanies the story of Clara and her journey through the Land of the Sweets. The captivating scenes of a battle between toy soldiers and mice, a pas de deux of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier and a serene snow scene have made “The Nutcracker” a Pensacola family tradition!

From dancing candy canes to sparkling fairies in the snow, the whimsy of *The Nutcracker* will create wonderful memories for every member of the family! Begin your holiday celebration with Ballet Pensacola’s *The Nutcracker!*

Tickets are available for purchase for $33 - $45, plus applicable facility fees, through the Saenger Theatre Box Office

(22 E. Intendencia St.) or ticketmaster.com.

This show is generously sponsored by Re-Boot, Inc., Cosmich Simmons & Brown LLC, and Metalcraft of Pensacola. Financial support is also provided in part by the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and ACE.

For more information visit www.balletpensacola.org or call 850-432-9546.

**About Ballet Pensacola:**

Ballet Pensacola has become one of the cultural cornerstones of Pensacola, Fla. It is committed to the production of both classic ballet works and innovative originals along with its strong educational program. Located at 400 South Jefferson Street in the historic Pensacola Cultural Plaza, the organization was originally founded in 1978 as Kaleidoscope Dance Theatre. Its current operations include a performing company of 15 professional dancers augmented by talented student dancers from the Ballet Pensacola Academy. The Academy serves more than 300 students each year through its children’s, training and community divisions. For more information visit www.balletpensacola.org or call 850-432-9546.

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