

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Celebrated holiday dance spectacle available to stream for
The Hanover Theatre audiences**



Features special appearance by hip hop pioneer MC Kurtis Blow

Worcester, Mass. (November 5, 2020) *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*, a contemporary dance spectacle set to Tchaikovsky's timeless music, is available to stream for Worcester audiences on Saturday, December 19. The live capture, filmed as a part of a partnership with PBS, will allow recurring and new patrons to experience this beloved holiday tradition at home, as theaters across the country remain closed.

Directed and choreographed by Olivier-nominated Jennifer Weber, *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* is a unique and joyful event performed by a supercharged cast of a dozen all-star dancers, a DJ, a violinist and MC Kurtis Blow, one of hip hop's founding fathers, who opens the show with a short set. The show is produced by the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) with Executive Producer Eva Price, and co-commissioned by the United Palace of Cultural Arts.

"We're thrilled to be able to bring our show to new audiences as well as to those who have made *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* a holiday tradition," said NJPAC Producer David Rodriguez. "This year, not only will audiences experience the magic of *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*, but do so in their own homes."

“While I’m saddened we can’t take *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* on the road this year, I’m thrilled we’re able to find a way to bring this show to audiences around the country for the seventh consecutive season,” said Executive Producer and Tony® Award winner Eva Price. “This will be a holiday season unlike any other. I’m so glad we’ll have this comforting, inspiring and inclusive tradition to provide much-need and well-earned joy.”

Just like the original, in *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*, Maria-Clara and the Nutcracker Prince go on a dream adventure battling a gang of mice, visiting the land of sweets and learning the lessons of the holiday season. Innovative digital graffiti and visuals transform the landscape of E.T.A. Hoffmann’s beloved story from traditional 19th Century Germany to the vibrant, diverse sights and sounds of contemporary New York City. Through this re-mixed and re-imagined version of the classic, the dynamic performers of *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* take us on a journey celebrating love, community and the magic of the holiday season.

Tickets for *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* are \$20 for general admission and \$50 for VIP packages and are available through Stellar Tickets only. VIP packages include video-on-demand access, an exclusive post-show conversation with the show’s creators and a signed show poster. For more information, visit TheHanoverTheatre.org.

About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts

The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than 2 million patrons with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits (“Jersey Boys,” “Kinky Boots,” “Something Rotten!”), comedians (Dave Chappelle, Jay Leno, Jerry Seinfeld), musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, Tony Bennett) and everything in between (“A Christmas Carol,” Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Alton Brown, Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson). POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the Top Theatres in the World. After 12 seasons, the award-winning, historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class performing arts venue and catalyst for the economic development of downtown Worcester. The Hanover Theatre’s facilities at 551 Main Street house function spaces, offices and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts and, on behalf of the Worcester Cultural Coalition, manages Worcester’s new BrickBox Theater at the Jean McDonough Arts Center. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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