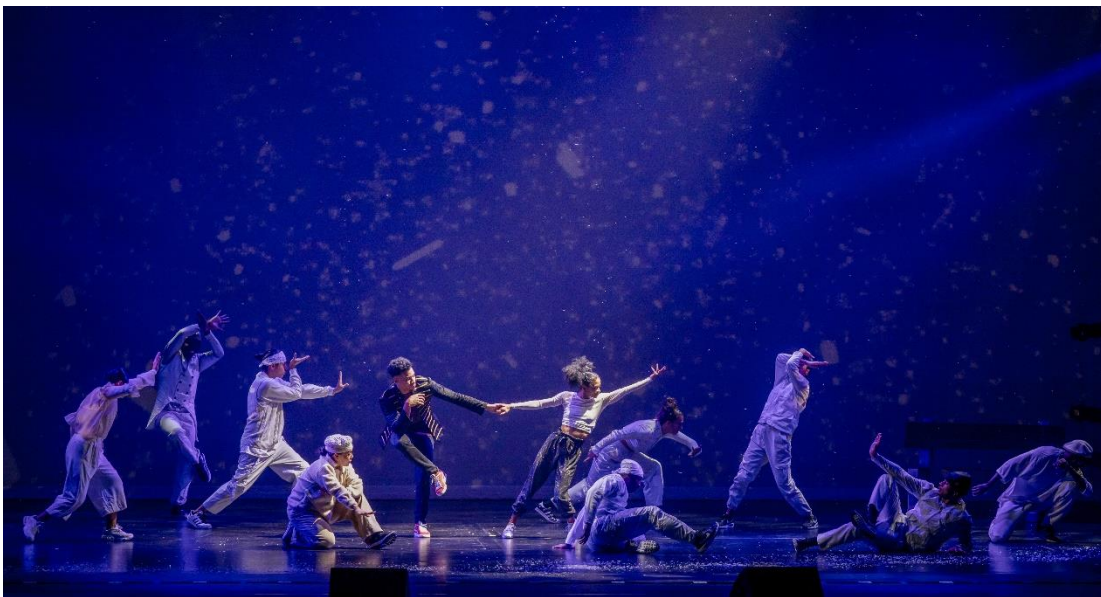


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***The Hip Hop Nutcracker dances into The Hanover Theatre this holiday season***



**Worcester, Mass. (July 29, 2022)**

Everything old is new again. Tchaikovsky's 130-year-old ballet is reimagined as a holiday dance spectacle in [\*The Hip Hop Nutcracker\*](#). *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* plays The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts on December 29, 2022 at 7:30 pm. The production -- now in its triumphant return for a seventh season -- features hip hop pioneer **Kurtis "The Breaks" Blow**, the first rapper to be signed by a major label in 1979. Forty-two years and a heart transplant later, hip hop's founding father is still performing as MC of *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*.

**Tickets for *Hip Hop Nutcracker* go on sale August 25!** Ticket prices are \$39.50, \$49.50 and \$59.50 depending on seat location. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. Please contact the box office at 877.571.SHOW (7469) or visit [TheHanoverTheatre.org](http://TheHanoverTheatre.org) for more information.

Upon seeing *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*, which is now celebrating its 10th season, ballet legend Mikhail Baryshnikov said, "Athleticism is one thing and artistry is another, but Jennifer Weber's Hip Hop Nutcracker puts the two together like I've never seen. It's deeply moving, ingeniously modern and pure magic."

Weber is the Olivier and Emmy Award-nominated choreographer for the powerhouse cast of one dozen all-star dancers, an on-stage DJ, and an electric violinist who turn the beloved Tchaikovsky score on its head, while celebrating hip hop dance culture, love, and community.

Blow has paved the way for generations of hip-hop artists after scoring the first certified gold record rap song in 1980, "The Breaks." Blow is also responsible for "Christmas Rappin'" the perennial first rap holiday song. His recent heart transplant has given him new perspective on life, his fans and touring.

"It's incredible for me to meet fans, and their kids, and their kids' kids who love hip hop music," says Blow. "It reminds me of how The Nutcracker brings people of all ages together too. I hope everyone makes holiday memories for a lifetime when they come to our show."

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 a colorful and contemporary New York City. *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* is an authentic expression of hip-hop dance and culture that celebrates the magic of the entire holiday season on the most inclusive holiday of them all - New Year's Eve, a time for new beginnings.

For more information about where to purchase tickets to *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*, visit [www.hiphopnutcracker.com](http://www.hiphopnutcracker.com). For the latest news and updates follow *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) (@hiphopnutcracker), and [YouTube](#); #HipHopNutcracker.

### **About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts**

Since opening in 2008, The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than two million guests with Broadway musicals, comedy headliners, music, dance and more. POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the top theatres in the world. The award-winning historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class center for the performing arts, a venue for local cultural and civic organizations and a catalyst for the revitalization of downtown

Worcester. The Hanover Theatre's facilities at 551 Main Street house function spaces, offices and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory.

The Hanover Theatre Conservatory provides performance opportunities, classes, and individual instruction in theatre, dance and technical theatre and design to more than 500 young people and adults from across central Massachusetts each year. Established in 2016, the conservatory cultivates individual attention, ignites creativity and inspires confidence through arts education led by outstanding teaching artists. The state-of-the-art facility includes classrooms, rehearsal and teaching studios, and tech and costume labs for advanced education in stage craft and design. Students receive access to master classes with national touring artists and gain professional experience from performance opportunities with THT Rep and on The Hanover Theatre's world-class stage. THTC believes in access to arts education for all and provides financial aid for those in need. Many conservatory students have continued their pursuit of the arts at institutions such as Emerson College, Boston University, NYU, Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Berklee College of Music, Hofstra, Hartt School at the University of Hartford, Marymount Manhattan College, Syracuse University and more.

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. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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