

# HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY

## **Award-Winning Music Director and Conductor, Jonathan McPhee, to Lead *The Nutcracker* at The Hanover Theatre**

*Running from November 28 to 30, the 18th annual production will feature professionals from Dance Theatre of Harlem, Boston Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, New Chamber Ballet, and Sacramento Ballet, as well as a performance by the Worcester Children's Chorus.*

**WORCESTER, Mass.,** Oct. 21, 2025 - [The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts](#) today announced that [Jonathan McPhee](#), Conductor Emeritus of the Boston Ballet and Music Director at the Lexington Symphony, will lead this year's production of *The Nutcracker*. McPhee's acclaimed recording of *The Nutcracker* with the Boston Ballet Orchestra has achieved "classical gold" status, and he has served as the conductor for some of the world's most distinguished dance companies, such as The Royal Ballet, the New York City Ballet, and the Martha Graham Dance Company.

"Having Jonathan McPhee at the podium connects our dancers and our audiences directly to a standard of excellence that defines the professional ballet world," said Jennifer Agbay, Director of Dance at The Hanover Theatre. "His artistry and expertise elevate the entire experience and allow our dancers to learn from and be inspired by the talent of his caliber. Bringing world-class talent like Jonathan to Worcester enables the young people in our region to see what is possible at the very highest level of the art form."

This year's production features professional dancers, including Dance Theatre of Harlem performers Delaney Washington (Snow Queen) and Micah Bullard (Snow King), and Boston natives Noah Parets (Cavalier) of the Boston Ballet School and the National Ballet of Canada, and Mia Steedle (Sugar Plum Fairy) of the Sacramento Ballet.

*The Nutcracker* will also feature performances by [Worcester Children's Chorus](#), which provides professional-level instruction and unites diverse youth in an inclusive community, and the Youth Ballet Company of Worcester, which gives young dancers pre-professional experience.

The Hanover Theatre's production continues to blend world-class guest artists with a strong cohort of Conservatory students and alumni, including:

- Former The Hanover Theatre Conservatory staff member and faculty at New England Dance Academy and American Ballet Academy, Mark Harootian (Drosselmeyer/Mother Ginger)
- Downtown Dance student at The Hanover Theatre Conservatory, Sophia Shliapa (Clara)
- The Hanover Theatre Conservatory student Jackson Gardner (Fritz)
- The Hanover Theatre Conservatory alumni, including Rachele Perla (Dew Drop Fairy) of New Chamber Ballet, Grace Armour (Arabian Coffee), Ava Tselios (Spanish Hot Chocolate) of Boston Ballet School, and Teddy Grillo (Nutcracker Prince) of the University of Hartford's The Hartt School

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*The Nutcracker* runs November 28 through November 30, 2025, at The Hanover Theatre main stage. Tickets are on sale now at The Hanover Theatre Box Office, online at <https://thehanovertheatre.org/event/the-nutcracker25/>, or by calling 877.571.7469.

## **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, Mass. The Hanover Theatre's facilities at 551 Main Street house function spaces, offices, The Hanover Theatre Conservatory, and produce free programming at the Francis R. Carroll Plaza and the Bank of America stage in downtown Worcester.

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