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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ocean City Center for the Arts hosts the Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre for a free performance of Nutcracker Story Time on Saturday, Nov. 23

OCEAN CITY, MD — Nov. 14, 2019 — The Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre will present a free outreach performance of excerpts from the classical ballet *The Nutcracker* at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., on Saturday, Nov. 23. Adults and children of all ages are welcome to attend. Doors open at 10 a.m. with the one-hour performance at 10:30 a.m.

A reading of the traditional Nutcracker holiday story will be mixed with live performances by 20 ballet dancers in full costume and make-up. The ballet will take place in the main Thaler Gallery of the Arts Center. Following the performance, children will be invited to meet and take pictures with the characters.

The Nutcracker is a classical ballet based on an 1816 fairy tale with music by <u>Tchaikovsky</u>. It tells the story of a little girl who goes to the Land of Sweets on Christmas Eve. The Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre will open its 29th season with five performances of *The Nutcracker* at the Wicomico High School Auditorium from December 6th through 8th.

"The goal of bringing our performers to Ocean City is to reach out to young audiences," Fawn Mete, ESBT board member, said. "The Ocean City Center for the Arts is a beautiful setting to introduce children to this holiday classic, giving them an opportunity to learn the Nutcracker story before they go to see the full ballet."

Admission is always free to the Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street, home of the Art League of Ocean City, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects.

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

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EDITORS: Photo attached of 2018 performance by Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.

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