

# Metropolitan Ballet

THEATRE & ACADEMY

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## Metropolitan Ballet Theatre Announces Celebrity Guests to Join Cast of *The Nutcracker* *Local television celebrities and elected leaders will portray "Mother Ginger" to support arts in the community.*

**Gaithersburg, MD, November 12, 2015** – Metropolitan Ballet Theatre (MBT) has announced the involvement of several local leaders and celebrities in its upcoming 27<sup>th</sup> annual production of *The Nutcracker*. These guests will each portray "Mother Ginger" in one or more performances of the traditional ballet. All of the guests are lending their time and talent in support of arts education and the arts in our community.

The guest "Mother Gingers" at each performance are:

- Saturday, Dec 5, 12pm & 4pm – Marilyn Balcombe, President & CEO of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce
- Sunday, Dec 6, 1pm – Fox5 News Anchor and Reporter Melanie Alnwick
- Sunday, Dec 6, 5pm – County Councilmember Craig Rice
- Friday, Dec 11, 7:30pm – Marilyn Balcombe, President & CEO of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce
- Saturday, Dec 12, 12pm – MD State Senator Nancy King
- Saturday, Dec 12, 4pm – CSN Mid-Atlantic Anchor, Reporter and Host Chick Hernandez
- Sunday, Dec 13, 1pm – Rockville Mayor Bridget Newton
- Sunday, Dec 13, 5pm – MD State Senator Cheryl Kagan



*The Nutcracker*, Metropolitan Ballet Theatre, 2013. Mother Ginger and her Polichinelles.

"We are so grateful that these individuals are giving their time and energy to be part of our cast. This is MBT's 27<sup>th</sup> year producing *The Nutcracker*; our guest "Mother Gingers" will add new fun to the production and help us reach further into the community," said Elizabeth Catlett, MBT's Artistic Director. "We have some other surprises in store for our audience, too, with new choreography and costumes, but you'll need to come out to the show to see those!"

Says CSN Mid-Atlantic Anchor, Reporter and Host Chick Hernandez, "I'm ready for my close-up!"

All performances will be held at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, on the campus of Montgomery College in Rockville, MD. The performance includes professional dancers, as well as student dancers from MBT's Academy. For more information about *The Nutcracker* or Metropolitan Ballet Theatre, please visit [www.mbtdance.org](http://www.mbtdance.org) or call 301-762-1757.

*Metropolitan Ballet Theatre, celebrating dance education and community outreach since 1989, is in its 27<sup>th</sup> performance season. MBT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts education organization, dedicated to providing arts opportunities for all through exceptional dance education, community outreach, and inspiring performances. MBT is supported in part by the Montgomery County Government and the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County, and the Maryland State Arts Council. Donations are gratefully accepted and are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

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