

# Moscow Ballet returning; auditions set tonight

SPARTA — Tickets for Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker 2008 performance at McNiece Auditorium on Dec. 29 are on sale now online at Ticketmaster, in person at Sparta Books (973) 729-6200 and at [www.nutcracker.com](http://www.nutcracker.com).

For the second straight year, this year's performance will incorporate local youth dancers. Tonight at 6 at Linda's Dance Dynamics, 104 Main St., Sparta, the Moscow Ballet will hold auditions for the Great Russian Nutcracker. Children ages 7 through mid-teen are encouraged to audition. Candidates should have a minimum of one year of ballet.

On Saturday at 10 a.m., a rehearsal with the Russian soloist will be held for the selected cast. Following in mid-September through December will be an additional eight rehearsals (minimum) to be held at Linda's Dance Dynamics. Linda Salmeri, owner/director of Linda's Dance Dynamics, is now the local coordinator for the Moscow Ballet.

She must learn, teach and rehearse the choreography to all the children as they will be integrated with the Moscow Ballet. She

studied ballet at the School of American Ballet (NYC), the American Ballet Theater and Harkness Ballet and returns for the second year as Moscow Ballet's local dance coordinator.

Anna Tyutyunnik, who has flown over 10,000 miles from Odessa to be part of this tour, will facilitate auditions. She began dancing at the age of four and has worked with multiple ballet companies in Moscow, such as Crown of Russian Ballet and New Imperial ballet. In the "Nutcracker," Tyutyunnik has been cast as Clara, danced the Chinese and French variations, portrayed the Dove of Peace, and has also played Party Guest and Snowflake.

For more information, visit [www.nutcracker.com](http://www.nutcracker.com) or call Salmeri at (973) 726-3737.

Moscow Ballet continues its commitment to "Celebrating Children ... The Arts Can Make a Difference." Local children in each market will audition to appear with the 132 Russian dancers on the tours. Last year, more than 6,000 U.S. children performed the Great Russian Nutcracker with Moscow Ballet's dancers, as part of its educational outreach campaign.

Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker

2008 tour will perform in more than 70 cities in North America in November and December. Co-artistic directors Anatoly Emelianov, Vladimir Troshchenko and Andre Litvinov lead three simultaneous tours across the U.S. and Canada.

Featuring spectacular sets and beautifully costumed Russian dancers, Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker is an annual treat for the whole family. Whimsical and imaginative storytelling blends with the richness of Russian classical dance to make the Great Russian Nutcracker a unique performance not to be missed!

Choreographer Emelianov has been praised by critics for its unique setting of Act II in the "Land of Peace and Harmony." To convey his message of peace, Emelianov incorporates an ethereal dove that escorts Masha and the Prince to a land where there is no war or suffering.

New for 2008 is a whimsical, giant, six-handed grandfather clock, who signals the transition to the "Land of Peace and Harmony."

Set against Valentin Fedorov's spectacular scenic design, with larger-than-life puppets and the backdrop of unicorns, exotic birds and

animals, the Great Russian Nutcracker is a visual delight.

The sets were inspired by the art of French Post-Impressionist painter Henri Rousseau, who worked in the Naïve, Primitive style. Federov is a graduate of the world-renowned, Moscow-based Stanislavski Institute, where the method-acting system used by many Hollywood actors was developed.

Moscow Ballet touring company features top graduates of Perm, Vaganova, Moscow State Academic Choreographic and Kiev schools. Chief Choreographer Anatoly Emelianov returns with Vladimir Troshchenko as co-artistic directors, and are joined by Andre Litvinov.

Moscow Ballet is best known for its annual Great Russian Nutcracker holiday productions. The company evolved out of the all-star Russian cast "Glasnost Festival Tour" (1986-92), created by award-winning Juilliard alumnus, composer/conductor and theatrical producer, Akiva Talmi. Moscow Ballet made its debut in 1993, with an all-star Russian cast presenting the Great Russian Nutcracker, directed and choreographed by Stanislav Vlasov (soloist, Bolshoi Theatre).

# John 'Bo Duke' Schneider appears in Sussex

SUSSEX — This weekend, actor and singer John Schneider will be appearing at New Jersey's Hazzard County Fair '08. The event takes place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Franklin Sussex Automall, 315 Route 23.

In addition to an autograph signing session with Schneider, the fair will feature a Daisy Duke Look-A-Like Contest. The winner gets a 47-inch HDTV.

In a business as ephemeral as the entertainment industry, it is noteworthy that Schneider has worked consistently since his debut on "The Dukes of Hazard" television show nearly 30 years ago. Schneider

played Bo Duke in the popular show that also starred Tom Wopat and Catherine Bach. The show ran from 1979 to 1985.

For nearly three decades John Schneider has been perceived as the All-American good guy. That perception is about to change very quickly. This fall he co-stars in a six-episode arc on F/X's hit drama "Nip/Tuck" as a pornography producer who comes back into Kimber's life. His first episode will debut on Nov. 27.

Schneider also co-stars in the upcoming HBO drama series "12 Miles of Bad Road" starring Lily Tomlin. He will portray Reverend

Ronnie, a corrupt man of the church inspired by Jim Bakker. The series will premiere in March.

He also co-stars in the Hallmark Channel mini-series "Shark Swarm" opposite Daryl Hannah, F. Murray Abraham and Armand Assante. The eco drama about a small town being taken advantage of by a greedy corporation aired in May.

A true Renaissance man, Schneider is a filmmaker (he wrote, directed and starred in the "Collier and Company," which was just released on DVD), fixes and restores old cars, plays the guitar and sings (he has performed in numerous Broadway shows such as "Grand Hotel" and released 11 albums), co-founded the Children's Miracle Network (a non-profit international organization that helps children by raising funds and awareness for 170 children's hospitals)



JOHN SCHNEIDER

and is the consummate family man to boot.

For more information about Hazzard County Fair '08, call (877) 386-6661 or visit [www.FSAutoMall.com](http://www.FSAutoMall.com).

## Children's author to sign books at Netcong store

NETCONG — Diana Tuorto of Stanhope will be holding a book-signing party for her newly released middle-grade children's novels, "Janie's New Legs" and "Luck of the Draw" at Botanical Bay Bookstore (6A Ledgewood Ave.) in Netcong on Aug. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. The event will feature free door prizes, raffles, readings from the novels, and art/coloring stations for children. There is no admission fee.

"Janie's New Legs" is the story of Silver, a shy pony, rescued from abuse and neglect, and Janie, a fragile young girl, paralyzed from a car accident. Janie meets Silver at a handicapped riding facility and an extraordinary friendship soon develops, allowing the two gradually begin the road to healing and recovery together.

Proceeds from books sold during these events will benefit Somerset Hills Handicapped Riding Center in Oldwick.

"Luck of the Draw" is the story of Lucky, an unsuccessful racehorse searching for his life's purpose.

Proceeds from this book benefit ReRun, Inc., a horse rescue for thoroughbred ex-racehorses.

To learn more about Tuorto's books, visit [cayuse.8k.com](http://cayuse.8k.com) or e-mail [Tuorto@lunar\\_aradia@yahoo.com](mailto:Tuorto@lunar_aradia@yahoo.com). For directions, call Botanical Bay Bookstore at (973) 527-7350.

BLACK CYAN YELLOW MAGENTA

## Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

# SUDOKU

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