

TIGERLILY EVENTS, LLC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dance Musical On The Rise!

A HARD NUT TO CRACK
A Child's Dream: The Adventures of Clara and The Hard Nut

(Saint Louis, MO)- Tigerlily Events is pleased to present the electrifying, ravishing and comical dance musical, *A HARD NUT TO CRACK, A CHILD'S DREAM: THE ADVENTURES OF CLARA AND THE HARD NUT*, written and produced by St. Louis native, Rose Lane Davis. *A Hard Nut To Crack*, as the play is often called, 2009 season premiere wooed the audiences and left sold out performances! Don't miss this new phenomenon in holiday treats as it transforms the stage again, for its second season, Thursday, August 5 through Sunday, August 8, 2010 at the Fantastic Missouri History Museum Theater in Forest Park. Tickets are available now and can be purchased online at eventsbytigerlily.com or call 314.956.6735.

A Hard Nut To Crack, is an adaptation of the world-renowned fairytale ballet, *The Nutcracker*. This production is unique within its own, as it is a creative blend of two classical fairy tales by E.T.A Hoffman's, *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* and Alexandre Dumas' *The Nutcracker of Nuremberg* that is then blossomed and kissed with the whimsical nuances of theatrical dance. *A Hard Nut To Crack* explores a new modern twist to the traditional ballet with pun-spelled characters, an explosive musical score and highlights the diverse and stylistic beauty of dance. It is sure to entertain and grab the attention of all.

Rose Lane Davis creates magic as she allows the story to send the audience into a magical faraway place; into the dream of a girl named Clara meeting her new friend, The Hard Nut and their adventurous story as they travel to the Kingdom of Sweets! The two friends' journey through the mysterious lands brings to light the themes of hope, adventure, defeat and triumph, but most of all courage.

In addition to a creative plot, the production is a melting pot of musical and choreographic ingenious. *A Hard Nut To Crack's* soundtrack is a fusion of Peter Tchaikovsky's classical, *The Nutcracker Suite*, Duke Ellington's jazz rendition, *Nutcracker Suite*, and other original compositions created by one of St. Louis's own Disc Jockey's, Doc Love.

The choreography is a colorful blend of traditional and non-traditional techniques of dance, from Neo-Classical and Contemporary Modern to West African and Capoeira. There is no limit to the styles that will be seen throughout the production. The dynamic trio Lamar Baylor, Chloe Davis and Jay Staten are east coast up and raising choreographers credited for their contemporary urban styles and signature intricate and explosive movements. They skillfully fused the exquisiteness for technical lines, charismatic stream for gusty nature, and playfulness for comic relief. The dancing is brilliant and includes present and former professional dancers from The Philadanco Dance Company of Philadelphia, Alvin Ailey II of New York, Creative Outlet Dance of New York and Lula Washington Dance Company of Los Angeles. There are also many local dancer represented in the production from MaTiff Hip Hop Dance, Best Talent Center, Pinx Academy of Dance St. Louis, COCA Dance and St. Louis Visual and Performing Arts High School Musicians & Artists.

A Hard Nut To Crack may be Rose Lane Davis' first play production but she is no stranger to writing. Davis, a retired professor from Forest Park Community College and the St. Louis Public School District has a great passion for

children's compositions and is currently working on a new children's book. Nonetheless, after the 2009 season premiere of *A Hard Nut To Crack*, she may have found her golden nugget.

Davis worked on *A Hard Nut To Crack* for more than 14 years before she finally decided to present the play in 2009 without any type of grant or private funding. Her brave attempt resulted in a great success and now *A Hard Nut To Crack*, is on many people's lists to see this 2010 summer! Nonetheless, the question lingers in some minds why Davis would present a play that is centered during the Christmas holiday season in the hot months of summer. Davis usually smiles at the question and states, "I simply love the Christmas feeling and if I can create it every day, I would. But more importantly, I wanted to present the play in the summer to celebrate Christmas in July. In places like in Brazil, South America (which is part of Davis' ancestry), Christmas in July is a traditional holiday that is celebrated with social parties and is the official halfway marker for Christmas," Davis continues, "*The Nutcracker Ballet* is a signature December holiday piece and I hope that *A Hard Nut To Crack* will soon become a signature summer holiday treat."

The production of *A Hard Nut To Crack* runs Friday, August 6, 2010 at 7:30pm, Saturday, August 7 at 2:30pm and 7:30pm and Sunday, August 8 at 2:30pm. Adult tickets are \$35, Children tickets (12& under) are \$20 and Seniors tickets are \$25.

There will be a special showing Thursday, August 5, 2010 at 7:30 for all service organizations (i.e. Special Needs, Elderly Homes, Children's Homes, Camps, and Alternative Schools). Tickets are only \$10 and there will be a post-performance talk with the full cast. Also, there will be a free master dance class for all dance levels, Friday, August 6, 2010 at 11am. The class will be taught by Principal Philadanco Dancer, Chloe Davis.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC OR WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW, PLEASE CONTACT CHLOE DAVIS AT 314.956.6735 OR EVENTSBYTIGERLILY.COM.