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For Immediate Release

Kingsport Ballet Company Celebrates 20th Anniversary Season Tickets on Sale for Nutcracker at NPAC

Kingsport, TN – Kingsport Ballet celebrates the opening of its 20th anniversary performance season with another crowd-pleasing production of *The Nutcracker* – based on the traditional Russian version – at NPAC (Niswonger Performing Arts Center) in Greeneville the first weekend in December 2008.

Each year this production features intriguing changes, giving repeat audience members new things to look for. From different lead professionals, new sets and costumes, to added children's roles and variations in Act II, the company promises a charming, holiday family outing – always interesting, always fun.

Artist in residence, Rostislav Dzabraev will be performing several of the lead roles. Audiences not yet familiar with Mr. Dzabraev's impressive jumps will get a varied introduction to his many talents in the art form. Other impressive professionals joining Mr. Dzabraev will be Edward Smirnov, formerly with the Bolshoi Ballet and Alabama Ballet in the US, and Lauren Strongin, and Sergei Mikhaylov, both principals with Sarasota Ballet.

Young ballet-goers will find **Clara's Tea Party** an enchanted event this year. With hand-made props and charming holiday decoration and music, this special treat for children ages 4-11 even provides photos with cast members and souvenir ornaments in addition to the all-new homemade treats. Clara's Tea Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 6th at 5pm. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased through the box office – 423/638-1679. Only 50 tickets will be sold! Educational workbooks will be provided free of charge.

Public performances are scheduled for December 5th and 6th at 7pm and daytime school performance is slated for Thursday, December 4th at 10am.

Tickets may be purchased through the NPAC box office by calling 423/638-1679. For school performance reservations visit: www.kingsportballet.org
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