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Stars return for another 'Nutcracker'

Ventura County Ballet Company (VCB), will deliver sugar plumstar power this year in its 16th annual production of "The Nutcracker."

The community dance staple is known for showcasing national and international professional dancers and choreographers with pre-professional dancers and musicians.

Returning for his fourth season as "The Prince," will be Aaron Smyth, lead dancer of Joffrey Ballet Chicago. Smyth performs as a guest artist with many prominent dance companies around the world, mentoring and teaching up-and-coming stars the art of ballet.

Returning for a second season and starring as "Dream Clara," will be professional

Ventura County Ballet Company

- "The Nutcracker"
- Ventura College Performing Arts Center
- 4700 Loma Vista Road, Ventura
- Sat. at 7 p.m. Sun at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- \$25 for children \$35 for adults \$20 for college students at 5 p.m. Sunday
- www.ventura countyballet .com/nutcracker

dancer Kate Kadow. The production exclusively features live music from Ventura College's 52-piece symphony orchestra.

"We're really thrilled to have Aaron and Kate come back and work with Ventura County Ballet," noted Kathleen Noblin, director of Ventura County Ballet. "We enjoy having them both perform with us, and also serve as a mentors to our young dancers. It's going to be a site to see when they bring 'The Nutcracker' to life, and dance along-side these professional dancers in-the-making."

Performances are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Ventura College Performing Arts Center, 4700 Loma Vista Road, Ventura.

Visit http://www .venturacountyballet .com/Nutcracker.html for more information.



Photo submitted

Aaron Smyth (left) and Kate Kadow during a performance of "The Nutcracker."

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