

Thank you for joining us for this wonderful presentation of "The Magical Journey of Hope". A heartfelt story about an orphan and a broken toy....the cast has been working hard, the crew is in place, the lights are warmed up, and the music is waiting to sing through the theatre. If you are not familiar with the story we are about to present to you, or how it came to be, let me fill you in...

Just one year and 4 or so months ago I sat with some of my closest friends and presented an idea to them. A tale, a vision...from that an elaborate story was written, a score produced, costumes designed, sets built and props created. A new Holiday tradition that warms my heart and gives me goose bumps every time I think that it was created...from scratch! With many late nights spent in this very theatre; we filled the hours with laughter, music, and signing, along with some glittery messes and lots of love. December 2008 brought to the stage the first "Magical Journey of Hope"...with it came standing ovations and a beautiful new tradition. Listening to our talented dancers talk about "who" they wanted to be next year brought joy to my ears. My niece told me she was going to be The Orphan! (She was only 4 at the time!) Snow Babies wanted to be Teddy Bears and Reindeer wanted to be Cat Burglars!

And so...here we are again...only 1 year later and I am so proud of our growth! New choreography stemming from new ideas that excite, a little more glitter here and there, a few more hours in the theatre. I am so lucky! I know you will enjoy the performance ~ don't hold back ~ let the cast know just how much!

The Story:

Christmas was finally here! Beautiful girls in fancy dresses dance around the warm room. What a wonderful time everyone was having! No one wanted the evening to end.

As the orphans lay sleeping Elli wanders the icy room in the orphanage. She is sure that there is no Santa, there is no Christmastime. It was all a dream, nobody loves the orphans, and Elli drifts back to sleep. As Elli lays restless the Spirits of Christmas visit her and whisper an idea in her ear...What if she could find this Santa? What if he is real and has just forgotten about them in this dark and chilly place? Maybe if she found him then there would be a Christmas for her and her friends. Maybe someone out there really will want them. Maybe Elli should start searching! As she sneaks quietly away from the gloomy house she begins her magical journey of hope. Her travels take her into the dark night, through the streets and on to the roof tops.

There! Could it be true?

She sees a sleigh, a magical bag of toys, and reindeer. This is her chance! Stowing away in the sleigh Elli is whisked off into the night and soon comes to rest in a mysteriously delightful land. She is greeted by a snow storm filled with the most beautiful enchanting snowflakes. Elli has no doubt that this is the place where she will find Santa.

Meanwhile at Santa's workshop Hope senses a stranger among them and pops out to see just who the visitor is...A little girl. She is most definitely a trespasser. She is incorrigible! Hope has strict rules to follow but also a heart filled with love to share. Unable to bare the sadness and tears that the little girl sheds; Hope succumbs to her pleading and promises to share a moment in Santa's wonderful world with this sad little orphan. Elli can't believe her eyes. It is all so wonderful! The elves are so much fun! This warm place is filled with love and friendship. Elli is overwhelmed by the magic. Dancing teddy bears and rag dolls. There are so many toys that jump and spin and smile at you. Everybody belongs here and now Elli believes she belongs too. As Elli is swept up in the joyful antics of the playful toys she quickly forgets what it is like to be alone.

Neglecting her new friend she believes she is now a beautiful ballerina doll and poor Hope is reminded of a time long ago...a time when a little baby Jack in the Box was all set to be delivered on Christmas Eve and something went terribly wrong.

Hope remembers the despair. No child wants a broken toy. No child could possibly love a broken toy...



While you're waiting to gaze at our dancing stars I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to those who help bring our amazing show to life...On **lights** ~ Frazer thank you "always" On **Sound** ~ Tom Great Job!

Crew ~ you are awesome, awesome and awesome! Thanks guys! **My go to guy** ~ Larry ~ again and again it's such a pleasure thanks!

Stage Manager ~ Mary Jane ~ you know you do so much more than just make me beautiful glittery bows! Thank you so much! 😊

Theatre Manager ~ Erica (and your beautiful sidekick) it's always fun to have you helping us, thank you so much! **Bo** ~ nothing would be possible without you... Thank you to my **ELITE staff** for all your hard work ~ I look forward to creating many more magical journey's with you!

To our **ELITE Parents** thank you for your patronage; your children bring so much life to the studio. Watching them grow and seeing them explore the world of dance and performance art is such a thrill! Working with them to achieve such brilliance is a privilege and a joy. Thank you to the **TEAM parents** for your hours and assistance at the many wonderful performances, we couldn't do it without you. Congratulations to our **Cast** on such a superb and breathtaking production ~ your dedication to our enchanting characters is fantastic. Creating and inventing with you has been enjoyable from start to finish. Dancing away in the studio, guiding you and sweating with you is what I love to do...**You truly are all stars!**

Thank you, thank you and thank you again to all of you!

Our Precious Kelley,

When you were a small little ballerina, you would put one of the older girl's pointe shoes on, trying to stand tall in them, doing pirouettes in them, dancing on your toes. You would float around the house, dreaming of the day you would be wearing those on stage in a beautiful tutu.



Well, that day has arrived and you will be the most beautiful Snow Fairy Prima Ballerina we could ever imagine. Mom, Dad and Baba are so very proud of you and the hard work and dedication you put into this wonderful art of dance, and the realization of another goal that you've accomplished.



As has been said by another: *"Great dancers aren't great because of their technique; they are great because of their passion."*

We are experiencing your passion for dance and we feel so fortunate to be here to enjoy this incredible journey with you.

Kelley, we love you very much!

And Merry Christmas to the Elite staff, all the dancers and their families!



The Dance Store

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To our little stars Marlon and Jibreen Saville. We are so proud of you and we love you so much. You both are an inspiration to watch in training and we are so happy to see your hard work pay off. Keep making us proud and may all your dreams come true.

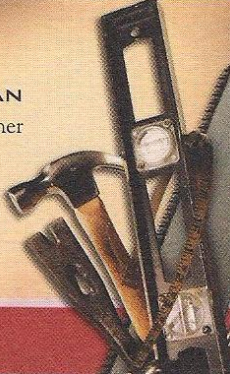
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 Mom and Dad**

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**Dearest Sierra & Tara
Hofman**

**We are very proud of you
both. Keep up with all your
great dancing. We love you
both very much.**

**Loves N Sugars
Daddy, Mama, & baby Zoe**

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