

Somewhere Over The Rainbow

FAQ

1. When are auditions for Somewhere Over the Rainbow (SOTR)?

There is no formal audition! However students may learn different sections throughout the week of December 2nd in Ms. Shay's D2 - D6 and Senior Company ballet classes.

2. Does my child need to attend Ms. Shay's class?

No, BUT it is a fun opportunity for students to learn about the roles, hear the music, and try different choreography. If your dancer is interested in attending please email Ms. Shay!

3. Will my student get cast?

Yes, *as long as they are registered in SOTR by the deadline they will be cast!*

4. When is registration due?

Sunday, December 7th, 2025

5. What is the cost?

Total Cost = \$175

- One-time \$50 production fee per student (students registered in Shrunken Shrek have already paid this).
- \$125 Storybook Ballet fee (rehearsals, costumes, sets etc.) is listed to the right as "Tuition".

6. Does my child need to be in D2 Ballet - Senior Company at 4S Dance Academy?

Yes! Our *SOTR* production is for current 4SDA D2 - D6 Ballet and Senior Company Ballet students only!

7. When are rehearsals?

Rehearsals will always be held on Saturdays between 12:45 - 5:30 PM. Students should expect to rehearse most weekends once we get back from Winter Break. Younger children with less demanding roles typically rehearse for a shorter period of time (approx. an hour), and may not rehearse every weekend until the performance draws near. Older Dancers with more elaborate roles will likely start to rehearse as early as December, on Saturdays for multiple hours and potentially week day rehearsals as they are already taking multiple classes a week. Updated rehearsal schedules will be posted in the studio on the bulletin board and online.

8. My dancer is in another activity (e.g. soccer), is it okay to try to do both?

Participating in the Spring Production requires a commitment from students and their parents. We do not recommend that students try to juggle SOTR and another activity. From years of experience, we've seen the stress that it causes the student, their families, our faculty, and other students who count on them to be present at rehearsals. SOTR is required to be the priority over other activities as missing (2+) rehearsals will result in reduced rolls, losing their roll(s) or being dropped from the production.

9. Are rehearsals mandatory?

Yes! Rehearsals are mandatory! It is incredibly difficult to choreograph and set group pieces with students missing, and it is unfair to all who participate. Rehearsals are mandatory, and students who miss without notice may get dropped from their role.

10. What if my child doesn't like or want the part they are cast in?

The artistic staff carefully considers each dancer and each role, placing them in a role most appropriate to their current ability and age. Other deciding factors include, but are not limited to: level, experience, summer training, attitude, previous roles and attendance. Each role, no matter the size or time on stage, is important to the success of the production. We work with dancers who are disappointed, helping them learn to embrace and often love the role they are cast in, even if it wasn't what they were hoping for.

11. When and Where are the SOTR Dress Rehearsal and Performances?

March 12 - 14, 2026 at California Center for the Arts, 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, CA 92025. There will be (2) performances based on current student enrollment and anticipated participation.

12. Do we pay for costumes?

Unlike the recital where you purchase and keep a costume, SOTR costumes are rented and altered. This cost is included in the Production Fee.

13. Is my dancer required to be in all shows / performances? YES!

Students LOVE performing and we LOVE having them perform as much as possible. Students are required to perform in all Spring Production shows. If you know that your student will miss a show, then please do not sign them up for Nutcracker this year.

14. Are refunds available if our plans change, or our dancer doesn't want to continue?

All Spring Production fees are non-refundable. Please review your schedule through March 15th, 2026 before registering. Talk through the commitment with your dancer, before they audition to help them prepare!

15. Are parents required to volunteer?

A production of this size requires the work of a surprising amount of people. Prior to the performances there are numerous tasks that need to be completed. During the dress rehearsal and performances, the backstage area is a beehive of activity. It truly takes an army and thankfully we have you, our 4SDA Family to help! In order to ensure we have the needed help which in turn keeps the production fees down, it is required that each family volunteer in some way. Volunteering is not for everyone and if you prefer to opt out of volunteering or can't volunteer, you can still be a huge help by paying the **\$100 volunteer opt-out fee**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE REVIEW THE PARENT'S PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE.

YOU CAN ALWAYS CONTACT US. WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP!

www.4sdanceacademy.com, info@4sdanceacademy.com, 858-385-1999