

Christmas Dream Comes True for Local Dancer

EDMOND, Oklahoma, December 1, 2011 – Kara Troester, age 13, has stars in her eyes as she talks about her love of classical ballet. Beginning this weekend, Kara will be the star as she dances the lead role of *Clara* in *The Nutcracker* presented by Oklahoma Festival Ballet (OFB), the resident ballet company at the University of Oklahoma under the direction of Mary Margaret Holt.

Troester is eager to perform on stage with the OFB dancers. “The rehearsal process has been a lot of work but very fun,” she said. “I’m looking forward to being on stage in front of all my family and friends. I think every little girl dreams of dancing this role.”

Set to Tchaikovsky’s famous score with choreography originally by Marius Petipa, OFB dancers and sixty children from across Oklahoma will share the story of young Clara’s adventures through captivating dream landscapes. The performances will take place in the Rupel J. Jones Theatre on the University of Oklahoma campus at 8:00 p.m. December 2-4 and 8-10, as well as at 3:00 p.m. December 3, 4, 10 and 11. The OU Symphony Orchestra will be accompanying the dancers during the evening performances on December 2 and 3, along with the 3:00 p.m. performance on December 4.

Troester was selected by audition to perform the role of *Clara*. She has studied classical ballet with Lisa Webb at Academy of Ballet and Theatre Arts in Edmond since the age of 4. Kara is the daughter of Bob and Julie Troester of Edmond and attends Oklahoma Christian School.

Tickets prices are \$14 for students, \$22 for adults and \$18 for seniors and faculty. They can be purchased at the Fine Arts Box Office in Catlett Music Center or by calling 405-325-4101. The box office is open Monday-Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

