

DEAR AUDIENCE,

Sensory Friendly Dance welcomes you to our seventh annual performance. This year we are thrilled to present a world premiere, *Tanabata: The Story of Orihime & Hikoboshi*.

Today, traditional theater rules are relaxed and you are welcome to talk, sing, dance, or play during today's performance. The lights will be dimmed and we have lowered the sound levels for your comfort. If at any point you would like to exit the theater during the performance, you can visit our Calming Corner just outside the auditorium where you can play with toys, color, or just sit & relax. After the show, you can add your wish to our wishing tree and take a photo with the dancers. Thank you for joining us!

A NOTE OF THANKS

Today's performance would not have been possible without:
DBA Arts Inc, *Fiscal Sponsor*

Anonymous Donor, *Performance Sponsor*

The Sofia, *Performance Venue*

Kaori Higashiyama, *Choreographer*

Karen Hunt, *Music Coordinator*

Deanna Clark, *Music Copyist*

Jaime Orrego, *Head of Wardrobe*

Michael Vester, *Production Manager*

Natalie Manning & Ryan Wooten, *Film Makers*

Deane Dance Center, *Rehearsal Studio Space*

Styrsky Insurance Agency, *Insurance Sponsor*

Carinne Binda Cunningham, *Marley Floor*

Maruyama Bonsai Nursery, *Lobby Wishing Tree*

Sacramento365, *Media Sponsorship*

Maya Evans, *Behavioral Therapist Consultant*

Margala Woods, *FEAT Sponsored Tickets*

Jennifer Bloom, *Alta Regional Sponsored Tickets*

Show of Hands, *ASL Interpreter*

And a special thank you to the dancers, B Street Stagehands and Staff, and to all our wonderful volunteers in the lobby!

SENSORY FRIENDLY DANCE

Founder & Director: *Alexandra Cunningham*

TANABATA THE STORY OF ORIHIME & HIKOBOSHI

Choreographer: *Kaori Higashiyama*

Composer and Pianist: *Karen Hunt*

Flutist: *Andrew Hunt*

Soprano: *Faith Schwinger*

Costume Design & Construction: *Jaime Orrego & Kaori Higashiyama*

Set Design: *Emi Mizuno*

CAST

Orihime: *Lauryn Winterhalder*

Father: *Jaime Orrego*

Hikoboshi: *Dylan Keane*

Cow: *Mesa Burdick*

Milky Way River and Magpies:

Ava Chattersson, Julia Feldman,

Ana Schloemann, and

Wyatt McConville-McCoy

Narrators: *Alexandra Cunningham*

and Christopher Nachtrab

MEET THE ARTISTS



THE STORY

This centuries-old tale, tells the story of star crossed lovers Orihime and Hikoboshi, who are represented as the stars Vega and Altair. When they fall so in love that they forget their responsibilities, they are separated by the Milky Way and must find their way back to each other once a year on the seventh day of the seventh month. In Japan, this story is celebrated on July 7th at the annual Star Festival, Tanabata, where people gather to wish for clear skies so the lovers can meet again, and write their own dreams to hang from a wishing tree. We hope you add your own wish to our tree in the lobby today!