

Observer-Tribune

Mendham area students to dance in NJDTE's 'Nutcracker'



Corrine Chowansky



Abigail Frasco

MENDHAM – Four area students will join world-renowned dancers when they appear in soloist roles in this year's full-length production of New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble's "The Nutcracker."

Featured local students include Corinne Chowansky, 17, of Califon; Brynne Harper, 16, of Long Valley; and Alessandra De Paolantonio, 16, and Abigail Frasco, 16, both of Mendham.



Brynne Harper



Alessandra De Paolantonio

Three performances are planned at the Wilkins Theatre at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union, at 2 and 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14 and at 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15.

Chowansky, a junior at Gil St. Bernards High School, will appear as Mouse Queen and Lead Marzipan. Harper, a junior at West Morris Central High School, will dance the roles of Harlequin and Arabian. De

Photos by Shawna Oberst

Paolantonio, a junior, and Frasco, a sophomore, both attend West Morris Mendham High School. De Paolantonio will dance the roles of Mouse Queen and Arabian, and Frasco will appear as Dew Drop, Columbine, Lead Marzipan and Arch Angel.

Frasco, daughter of Sherry and Joe Frasco of Mendham, and Harper, daughter of Holly and Freddie Harper of Long Valley, have both previously starred as Clara in the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble's "The Nutcracker." Chowansky is the daughter of Lisa and Harry Chowansky of Califon, and has performed various roles in the production since 2008. De Paolantonio, who is performing in "The Nutcracker" for a second year, is the daughter of Nancy and Ernest De Paolantonio of Mendham.

Tickets are \$30; or \$20 for students, seniors and children. For tickets, call (908) 737-7469 or visit www.keanstage.com.