

Naples Daily News

Letters:

Joy Davidson, Naples

Naples Ballet

I've seen a gazillion Balanchine performances of "Nutcracker" (I often watched rehearsals of New York City Ballet when I worked at the New York City Opera) and, of course, also performances of Miami City Ballet, which is great.

But applause, kudos and a standing "O" to Naples Ballet, which performed at Gulf Coast High School. I bow to the director Toshiko Tompkins, artistic director Christophe Maraval and ballet mistress Liliam Gomez. Truly I was stunned at the quality: The dancers were marvelous from the "littles" to the "big girls". The spacings, timings, technique and gestures were excellent for the entire corps de ballet and the adult guests at the party, many of whom, I would guess, were parents and teachers. The solos were wonderful! The guest artists, Eric Paz and Rudolpho Tandazo, not only had impressive experience, but presented as superlative partners and soloists.

I couldn't quite believe all the women soloists were from Naples Ballet. Congratulations!

Huge Kudos go to the whole production staff, especially Alex Fuentes Ortiz and Jeff Weiss, set design and lighting, and finally a big applause for the lovely costumes.

Parents and supporters of the delightful dancers deserve shouts of bravi. We know it is a big commitment.

Readers of the Daily News, don't miss Naples Ballet performances in the future.