Festival Ballet holding auditions for a dog to star in ‘The Nutcracker’

By Journal Staff

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Festival Ballet is looking for a good dog to perform in its annual holiday production of “The Nutcracker.”

After 19 years and more than 125 performances, the ballet’s longtime “Nutcracker” dog Archie is retiring, according to a news release.

The ballet will hold auditions from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at its studio on 825 Hope St., Providence. The auditions are open to all dogs, and judging will be done by professional company dancers, along with artistic director Misha Djuric and his staff.

According to the news release, the judging will be based on the following criteria: “Does your pup have an elegant prance? A regal coat of fur? A charming smile? Have you always wanted a peek behind-the-scenes at the life of a professional ballet dancer? Can he or she handle the paparazzi?”

Preregistration is not required, and all participants will receive a discount code for “Nutcracker” tickets.