

Pittsburgh Connections in PBT's *The Nutcracker*

When PBT created its own Nutcracker in 2002, Artistic Director Terrence S. Orr wanted to create a sense of place in the ballet that was unique to Pittsburgh. Can you spot the Pittsburgh references?



The Nutcracker Clock at the top of the proscenium (the arch between the stage and the audience) was inspired by the famous Kaufmann's Clock on the corner of Kaufmann's Department Store in downtown Pittsburgh. Meeting under

Kaufmann's clock was a Pittsburgh tradition for many years. Though the building now houses a Target store, among other uses, the clock is still there! The Kaufmann family were business, civic and cultural leaders in Pittsburgh for more than a century.



The Stahlbaum home is modeled on the 19th century McKee mansion (of the prosperous McKee and Brothers Glass Company) that used to stand on Fifth Avenue in Shadyside. It was torn down in the mid-1900s to make way for apartments. The fence is a replica of the fence that still stands around the historic Henry Clay Frick Mansion in Pittsburgh.



Kaufmann's Christmas Stories for Boys and Girls was published in 1904 as a gift from Kaufmann's department store to its customers. It's an important element in the first act: Marie reads the book on the floor in her room at the beginning of the ballet; it's under the tree in the party scene; and it grows (along with everything else!) to a giant size in the battle scene. Characters come out of this book to help Marie and the Nutcracker in the battle; the Snow King and Queen also emerge from the book to bring the Nutcracker back to life and to unite the Nutcracker / Nephew and Marie. (Artist: William Moore)

The H. J. Heinz Co. logo on Drosselmeyer's wagon honors the Heinz family and their world-renowned Pittsburgh-based business.



The Pirate Doll that comes to life is a nod to our Pittsburgh Pirates baseball team! (Artist: Cooper Verona)



The Kaufmann party guests are named for the Kaufmann family; **Grandview party guests** are named for the street on Mt. Washington with the beautiful view of the rivers and the city; **Heinz party guests** are named for the famous Heinz family and business.

McTavish, his kilt and his dance represent the famous Scottish Pittsburgher, Andrew Carnegie. The plaid in the kilt is the official Carnegie family plaid—PBT received special permission to use it in our costume for McTavish. (Artist: Lucius Kirst)



The Snow Scene is set on Mt. Washington (ca. 1906), with a view of one of the most beautiful vistas in Western Pennsylvania, looking down on the Point, rivers and bridges. (Artists: Alejandro Diaz and Julia Erickson)

The Penguin character carries a hockey stick and honors the Pittsburgh's professional hockey team! He comes out of the Kaufmann story book to help Marie and the Nutcracker.



The Land of Enchantment honors Kennywood and the many amusement parks that used to be in the Pittsburgh region at the beginning of the 20th century! The scene has a carousel canopy, carousel figures, and lights on the backdrop that trace the outline of a roller coaster. (Artists: Alexandre Silva, Alejandro Diaz, Alexandra Kochis)



Terrible Towels! If you happen to be with us on a Steelers' game day, watch the Rats wave these in the battle scene!