



Contact: Katie Day  
Telephone: (603) 357-2100 x208  
Email: [kday@moco.org](mailto:kday@moco.org)

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## MoCo Arts Dancers Bring a Doll to Life in 'Coppélia' at the RAC



**(Keene, NH)** – MoCo Arts dancers delight audiences of all ages in *Coppélia*, the story of a life-size dancing doll. Performances are on Saturday, June 2 at 2:00 & 7:00pm and Sunday, June 3 at 2:00pm at the Redfern Arts Center at Keene State College.

Dr. Coppélius has made a doll so lifelike that village youth Franz becomes infatuated with her, ignoring his true love, Swanhilda. Franz is in danger when the Doctor tries to sacrifice him in order to bring the doll to life. Swanhilda attempts to save Franz and pretends to be the life size doll, tricking the Doctor into thinking he has succeeded.

*Coppélia* is an expressive, riveting, and engaging performance by MoCo Arts dancers 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, and modern dance take part in telling the story with original choreography by MoCo Arts highly regarded teachers.

“The audience will love the variety of dance within this show as well as the story,” says Sam Induni, a junior at Keene High School dancing the role of Franz. “I use arm gestures and facial expressions to show character development instead of dialogue. We have to react to each other throughout the show which helps tell the story as we dance.”

The MoCo Arts School of Dance offers a variety of classes for children grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, with many levels of each discipline available. Kids younger than 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are invited to join MoCo’s Creative Dance program, a fun introduction to different styles of dance. Dance classes focus on the technical development of each student, learning the fundamentals of each discipline. MoCo welcomes all students where they are in their movement and creative arts journey – beginners through advanced. This summer students are invited to participate in dance classes for all ages and abilities or take part in one of MoCo’s multi-arts summer camps. In the fall, classes begin in September in MoCo’s new arts education facility on Roxbury Street where dance programming will expand to include dance conditioning and more weekday and weekend dance classes. *Stay tuned!*

Tickets to *Coppélia* are \$14/ Youth & Senior, \$20/ General and are on sale now. To purchase tickets please visit the Redfern Arts Center Box Office Monday – Friday, 12:00pm – 5:00pm, or call (603) 358-2168. For more information about *Coppélia* or to purchase your tickets online, visit [www.moco.org](http://www.moco.org). *Coppélia* is sponsored in part by True North Networks.



*Transforming Lives Through Movement and Creative Expression*

MoCo Arts is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, multi-arts educational organization located in downtown Keene offering dance and theatre classes and multi-arts vacation and summer camps for children ages 18 months to 18+ years. As part of the educational process, MoCo Arts provides professional quality performance experience for students and family-friendly performances for audiences of all ages throughout the year. Funding for MoCo Arts is provided in part by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information please visit MoCo Arts, 76 Railroad Street, Keene, NH 03431 or [www.moco.org](http://www.moco.org)

Photo caption 'MoCo\_Coppelia1': "Meeghan Somerset dances as The Dutchess."

Photo caption 'MoCo\_Coppelia12': "Will Huntley uses facial expressions and movement instead of words to tell a story as Dr. Coppélius."

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