

## **PRESS RELEASE: CHRISTMAS TEA AT HIWAN HOMESTEAD MUSEUM**

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Hiwan Homestead Museum is hosting a Christmas Tea on **Monday, December 8 at 11:30 A.M.** Please join us for a relaxing lunchtime tea to celebrate Christmas, experience the Museum's decorations and enjoy a special presentation by Danielle Heller, owner of Peak Academy of Dance in Conifer.

Hiwan will be presenting their version of the nutcracker "sweet" for this year's decorations in celebration of the storied history of the nutcracker and "The Nutcracker." The entire house will be decorated with nutcrackers and items found in Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's famous ballet.

The Peak Academy of Dance is performing the "Harlem Nutcracker," an adaptation of Tchaikovsky's composition, for this year's holiday season. There have been several adaptations of "The Nutcracker" since its inception; the "Harlem Nutcracker" is a more contemporary, jazz version originally adapted by Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn in the 1950s and added to by David Berger in 1996. Danielle Heller will be giving a presentation about the history of "The Nutcracker" and its adaptations over the years, as well as showing clips of the Academy's performance and detailing how even these performances were changed to meet specific needs.

A suggested donation for the tea is \$15.00 for the general public; \$12.00 for Jefferson County Historical Society Members; and \$12.00 per person for groups of 4 or more. Registration is required; for registration or information call the Museum at 720-497-7650.

Hiwan Homestead Museum is a 17-room log mansion constructed in the Rustic style of architecture. It is located in Evergreen at 4208 S. Timbervale Drive. Hiwan Homestead Museum is a Jefferson County Open Space facility operated in partnership with the Jefferson County Historical Society. The Museum was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.