

BALLET 5:8

Call for Council Members

Are you interested in becoming involved with a successful, growing Christian arts organization in the Chicagoland area? Ballet 5:8 has grown substantially since its beginnings in 2012 and is seeking candidates to fill newly added positions on two support Councils!

What is Ballet 5:8?

Ballet 5:8 was founded in 2012 by Julianna Rubio Slager and Amy Kozol Sanderson as a publicly supported nonprofit organization. Currently celebrating its 8th performance season, Ballet 5:8 has a growing roster of professional dancers and an expanding repertoire of original, innovative works created by Slager and contemporary creatives. The company shares the beauty, power and inspiration of professional dance with thousands of audience members each season across the nation through over 40 performances in settings ranging from professional theaters to school gyms. Ballet 5:8 also works to promote thriving artistic communities and shares its mission with aspiring young artists, professional dancers, and dance educators across the nation through a range of workshops, master classes, summer intensive programs, retreats and conferences.

Ballet 5:8's dance education center, Ballet 5:8 School of the Arts, extends the company's mission to over 250 students each year from its base in Orland Park, IL - serving the greater Chicagoland area. The school includes a nationally-recognized classical ballet training program, a range of recreational dance classes for all ages and levels of ability, and a uniquely nurturing environment where students thrive. Ballet 5:8 is passionate about training and equipping the artists of tomorrow, and about investing in local communities through high-quality dance education that is widely accessible to children, youth and families from all backgrounds and walks of life.

*The **vision** of Ballet 5:8 is to be one of the foremost professional dance companies in the world and to be a place where artists create, thrive, and exchange ideas informed by our Christian faith. The **mission** of Ballet 5:8 is to engage communities in Chicago, the Midwest and across the nation in conversation of life and faith through innovative storytelling and breathtaking dance.*

What is the role of Ballet 5:8's Advisory and Ambassador Councils?

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Ballet 5:8 depends on community support in order to accomplish its mission and remain accessible to its stakeholders. This backbone of community support includes donated funding, pro-bono consulting, and volunteerism. The Board of Directors formed the Advisory and Ambassador Councils, respectively, to assist in meeting Ballet 5:8's growing needs as it serves increasing numbers of individuals in the Chicagoland area and across the nation through its special brand of dance performance and dance education services. Advisory Council members provide advice, perspective, and technical expertise on a range of specialized topics in which they have training and experience. Ambassador Council members

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may also provide consulting, but their focus is more broadly on supporting Ballet 5:8's mission, operations and fundraising needs through volunteerism, advocacy, and networking.

Who Makes a Good Council Member?

Ballet 5:8 may be an arts and cultural organization, but you don't have to have a background in dance or even the arts to qualify as a Council member! Individuals from a wide variety of professions and backgrounds can further Ballet 5:8's positive impact in our local communities and our world by sharing specialized expertise (legal, accounting, human resources management, etc.), advocating for the organization's mission in their spheres of influence and in our local community, connecting new supporters, audience members and students with the organization, and amplifying the efforts of Ballet 5:8's small staff team through volunteerism in a variety of areas. If you're excited about Ballet 5:8's work and mission, could be willing to invest some time in consulting and/or advocacy and volunteering, and are not afraid to involve your contacts in things you're passionate about, keep reading! Experience with nonprofits and/or arts organizations is a plus but not required.

What are the Benefits of Serving on Ballet 5:8's Council?

Ballet 5:8's Advisory and Ambassador Councils plays a vital role in making Ballet 5:8's work possible, and serving on a Council can be a very satisfying and rewarding experience! As part of its mission, Ballet 5:8 -

- Commissions new works of art, created from the basis of our faith, and takes them into the public sphere
- Shares the joy and inspiration of professional dance performance with 10,000+ people in Chicagoland, the Midwest and the nation each season
- Invites audience members into conversation of life and faith through original works that tell meaningful stories and explore relevant topics in our time and culture
- Takes time to discuss the inspiration behind its ballets with audience members through post-performance Q&A events
- Extends its mission to communities of all shapes and sizes through touring performances
- Invests in local communities in South Chicagoland and beyond through accessible, high-quality dance education programs at Ballet 5:8 School of the Arts, in a faith-filled environment where students thrive
- Fosters the development of the artists of tomorrow: whole, healthy, strong and creative men and women who can continue Ballet 5:8's work of taking the beauty of dance and meaningful conversation to the people of Illinois and beyond.

Ballet 5:8 Advisory and Ambassador Council members receive special recognition at events such as the annual Benefit Dinner and are listed on Ballet 5:8's websites and in performance programs.

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How to Apply

Interested? Email an introduction and current resume to president@ballet58.org.