

**Chair, Department of Ballet
University of Utah**

Position: Chair of the Department of Ballet, University of Utah
Rank: Associate / Full Professor with tenure
Starting Date: July 1, 2011 (11 Month Position)

Qualifications:

The successful candidate must hold a terminal degree or significant equivalent experience that would warrant consideration in lieu of a terminal degree. He/she will have notable and distinguished prior experience as a department chair, director, dean or significant experience as a recognized leader in the profession. He/She will exhibit strong, visionary leadership with excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

Responsibilities

The Chair of the Department of Ballet shall:

1. Provide strong leadership for the Department.
2. Lead strategic planning for the Department.
3. Administer Department resources and facilities effectively in collaboration with the Department of Modern Dance.
4. Teach in the curriculum both at undergraduate and graduate levels. The candidate will also be expected to undertake creative and/or scholarly research.
5. Create professional development initiatives for faculty and staff.
6. Represent the department in its official business with other university authorities, students and the public. In addition, he/she will be an active participant on the Executive Committee of the College in furthering the College of Fine Arts' goals and mission. Collaborate with the faculty and staff in a consistent endeavor to advance the Department of Ballet nationally and internationally.
7. Oversee recruitment, audition activities and the awarding of student scholarships/assistantships.

The Chair reports directly to the Dean of the College of Fine Arts/ Associate Vice President of the Arts.

General Information

The Ballet Department is a one of six units in the College of Fine Arts including, art and art history, film and media arts, modern dance, music, and theatre. The University of Utah is located in the Wasatch foothills, overlooking Salt Lake City, the Great Salt Lake, and the Great Basin's west desert. A commitment to excellence in Ballet education, its teaching, performance and research, is the hallmark of the Department, known worldwide for its versatile and gifted alumni. Graduates of the program go on to teach

and develop successful performing careers with professional ballet companies, contemporary dance companies, and in musical theatre. In addition to highly motivated and talented Utah students, the department draws between 70 and 80 percent of its majors from the rest of the United States and foreign countries such as Canada, Korea, China, Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Costa Rica and Japan.

Since its founding by Willam Christensen in 1951 as one of only two academic programs in America offering a BFA in Ballet, the Department has enriched and vitalized generations of students and the art form itself. Students, faculty and alumni from the program became the founding members of Ballet West, a predominant professional company in the West, with whom a valued association continues. The University of Utah enjoys accreditation by National Association of Schools of Dance, NASD, A balanced and comprehensive curriculum created for the 100-plus professionally-oriented students leads to the BFA in Ballet with emphases in Teaching, Performance, and Character Dance, and an MFA, Ballet, with emphases in Teaching/Choreography, Performance, Character Dance, and Studio-Based Research.

The Department boasts a distinguished faculty whose members teach, coach, stage ballets and present research around the world. Their contributions to teaching and service have been honored by the University and the State. The Dance in Higher Education initiative of the Youth America Grand Prix, YAGP, was conceived and is administered by a faculty member of the Department.

Performance Opportunities: Utah Ballet Company, the Department's resident performing group, performs challenging classical and contemporary repertory in the region and abroad. Ballet Showcase highlights student works of choreography twice yearly and Ballet Ensemble produces faculty and guest choreography. Annually, the graduating seniors stage a year-end performance, and graduate students showcase their choreography in the Marriott Center for Dance Theatre. Character Dance Ensemble performs character and ethnic dances on campus, in the community and internationally in countries such as Spain, China, Greece, Canada, Russia, the UK, and Japan. Students have the opportunity to train with Ballet Faculty and compete in international competitions such as YAGP and the Sibiu International Ballet and Contemporary Competition, where they have distinguished themselves as finalists and Grand Prix recipients. Additional information about the Department of Ballet can be found at <http://www.ballet.utah.edu/>

Facilities: The Department is housed in the Alice Sheets Marriott Center for Dance, designed especially for dance. Opened in 1989, this center features a beautiful 330-seat theatre, seven rehearsal studios, a conditioning clinic, media/computer labs, lounges, dressing rooms, and well-equipped scene and costume shops

APPLICATION:

Please submit electronically:

- Letter of application which is to include your vision of the field of ballet at large

and ballet in academia in particular, plus a statement of your approach to teaching, leadership and management

- Curriculum vitae
- List of five references

Please address all application materials to the Gage Williams, Search Committee Chair, at info@finearts.utah.edu

Screening of applicants will begin on March 7, 2011 and continue until the position is filled. For additional information, please call (801) 581-6448.

EOE Statement

The University of Utah is a research university-extensive public institution. The University of Utah values candidates who have experience working in settings with students from diverse backgrounds, and possess a strong commitment to improving access to higher education for historically underrepresented students.

The University of Utah is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educator. Minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply. Veterans preference. Reasonable accommodations provided. For additional information: <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/humanResources/5-106.html>.