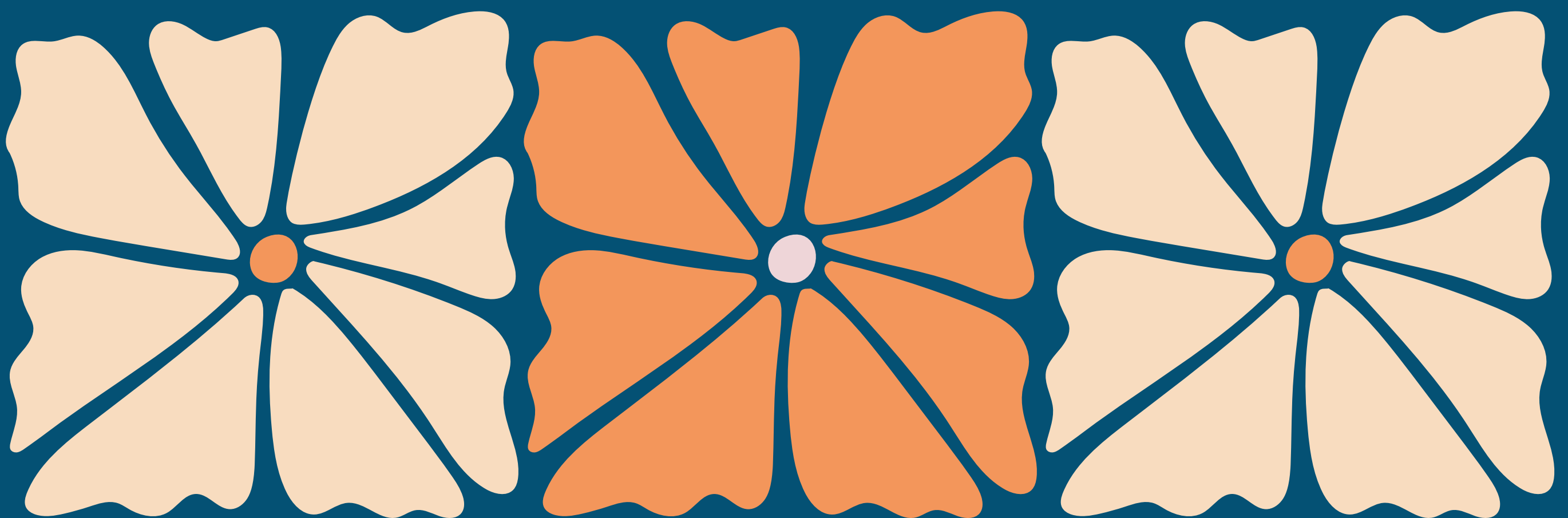


# BALLET 5:8

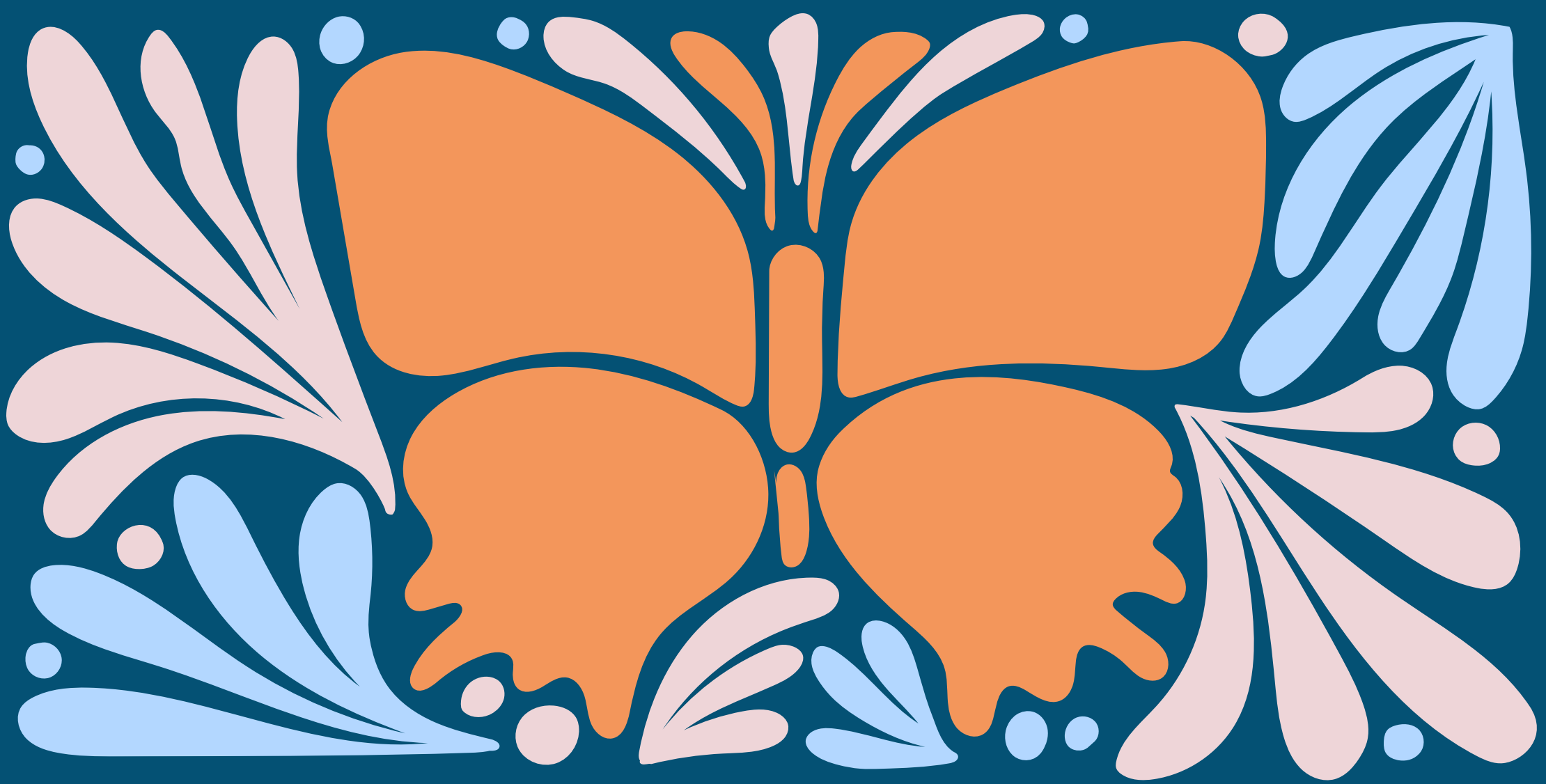
NATALIE WILLING



# ABOUT BALLET 5:8

## MISSION STATEMENT

Ballet 5:8 sparks discussion on life, faith, and human dignity through powerful storytelling and breathtaking dance. Our work challenges assumptions—about who ballet is for, where it belongs, and what it can say.



## OUR VISION

We envision a future where world-class dance grows from faith and welcomes every community.

# OUR VALUES

At Ballet 5:8, our values aren't just aspirational—they're operational. They shape how we train, perform, collaborate, and serve. From the studio to the stage, and from our boardroom to our community programs, we're building a culture defined by integrity, creativity, and care.

## ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

Grounded in honesty, craft, and story. We pursue excellence not as an ego project, but as a reflection of truth and beauty. Our work is rigorous, intentional, and built to invite conversation—rooted in timeless technique and relevant narratives.

## FAITH IN ACTION

Professional standards shaped by faith, compassion, and accountability. Our faith informs not just what we create, but how we operate. We believe that excellence and empathy go hand-in-hand—and that integrity and care must define our leadership, our rehearsals, and our relationships.

# WOMEN-LED AND REPRESENTATIVE

80% women-led. 40% ALAANA representation. We believe leadership should reflect the communities we serve. That's why our team centers women and elevates diverse perspectives—on stage, in leadership, and in the stories we tell.



# COMMUNITY-CENTERED

Serving Chicago's Suburbs and South, West, and North Sides. From Orland Park to Englewood, from the Loop to Lawndale—we bring ballet into neighborhoods often left out of elite arts spaces. Our programs are built to serve and grow with our community.

# MENTORSHIP AND EQUITY

A deep commitment to mentorship, access, and equity in the dance field. We're building the next generation of dancers through hands-on mentorship, paid training opportunities, and a pipeline that values potential over pedigree. We invest in whole dancers—artistically, mentally, and emotionally.

# BALLET FOR EVERY BODY

A belief that ballet belongs to every body—and every community. We reject outdated standards that narrow the field. We cast based on character and artistry, not weight or conformity. We costume with dignity. We teach with clarity. We lead with love.



# GOALS

## YEAR 1

In the first year of this organization, we would like to expand our community and increase audience engagement. We will do this by launching various marketing campaigns and increasing the amount of yearly community outreach performances.

## YEAR 2

In the second year of this organization, we would like to continue to expand our partnerships. Our goal is to obtain at least 5 new community partnerships through outreach and performances.

## YEAR 3

In the third year of this organization, we would like to increase our national recognition. Through excellent marketing and local community partnerships, we want Ballet 5:8 to be recognized nationally for our work.

# PLANNING DOCUMENTS

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Reset

FORM **NFP 104.10** (rev. Aug. 2014)  
**APPLICATION FOR RESERVATION OF NAME**  
Under the General Not For Profit Corporation Act

Secretary of State  
Department of Business Services  
501 S. Second St., Rm. 350  
Springfield, IL 62756  
217-782-9520  
217-782-6961  
[www.ilsos.gov](http://www.ilsos.gov)

Payment must be made by check or money  
order payable to Secretary of State.  
(\$25 fee to each name reserved.)

File # \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

----- Type or Print clearly in black ink ----- Do not write above this line -----

Pursuant to the provisions of "The General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986," the undersigned hereby submits the following Application for Reservation of Name.

1. The following name or names shall be reserved for a period of 90 days each:

Ballet 5:8

(May contain the word "corporation", "incorporated", or "limited", or may contain an abbreviation of one such word)

2. A brief summary of the purpose intended to be conducted by the corporation is:

The purpose of this organization is to promote dance as an inclusive and accessible art form. This

corporation aims to engage with its community through education, performance, and outreach. Ballet 5:8

strives for excellence in both dance and business endeavors, offering service to all communities.

3. Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Address of applicant: 11545 183rd Place, Suite 101 Orland Park, IL 60467

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month Day) (Year)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

NOTE: If the applicant is an individual, it is to be signed by the applicant.

If the applicant is a corporation, it is to be signed by the corporation's president or vice-president and verified by him/her and attested to by the secretary or an assistant secretary.

**NOTICE OF TRANSFER  
OF  
RESERVED NAME**

Date
Filing Fee \$25
Approved

The undersigned \_\_\_\_\_ hereby transfers  
(Name of Original Applicant)  
to \_\_\_\_\_ the right to use the  
name \_\_\_\_\_ for corporate purposes  
in Illinois. This name was reserved on \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned affirms, under penalties of perjury, that the facts stated herein are true.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month Day) (Year) (Signature of Original Applicant)

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type or Print Name)  
If a corporation, by its president or vice president

\* As the original applicant, I declare that this document has been examined by me and is to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, correct and complete.

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**JULIANNA RUBIO SLAGER - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

**JEREMY SLAGER - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**CYNTHIA NEWLAND - PRESIDENT**

**CAITLIN WEUTRICH - TREASURER**

**MIA OTTO - SECRETARY**

**KASON HANSON - DIRECTOR**

**ASHLEY HANSON - DIRECTOR**

**AMANDA DAUBENDIEK - DIRECTOR**

**LAWRENCE JACKSON - DIRECTOR**

**SCOTT JONES - DIRECTOR**

# COMMUNITY

Ballet 5:8 is located in Orland Park, Illinois, but serves the greater Chicago community.

## ORLAND PARK

**Population:** 58,703

**Employment:** 58.1%

**Poverty:** 6.6%

**Education:** 45% (Bachelor's Degree or higher)

Self-Identified Race	Orland Park, IL Population
White	83.1%
Hispanic	6.7%
Black	3.3%
Asian	5.5%
Native American	0.0%
Other	1.5%

## DOING OUR PART

Ballet 5:8 enriches our community by embodying values rarely found in other ballet companies. By advocating for inclusivity, representation, and equality, Ballet 5:8 makes ballet more accessible than ever before. Led by women and minority communities, Ballet 5:8 uplifts under-resourced areas and affirms that ballet is for every body.

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