



## DEPARTMENT HEAD FOR A PRE-PROFESSIONAL DANCE PROGRAM

The Baltimore School for the Arts seeks a **Dance Department Head (Teacher-level position)** to begin in August 2022. The title for this position will be **Dance Department Head**.

The Dance Department Head is the artistic director and educational leader of BSA's dance program and has primary responsibility for envisioning and implementing educational and performance programming in the dance department.

The BSA Search committee, made up of members of the BSA Board of Trustees, faculty, alumni, parents, and artists, seeks a department head who will ensure that BSA will provide excellent, relevant dance training to its 100 high school dance students and 300 pre-high school students in our TWIGS program.

### THE POSITION: DANCE DEPARTMENT HEAD (TEACHER-LEVEL POSITION)

BSA's Dance Department Head leads a pre-professional dance training program that serves a diverse student body, largely drawn from Baltimore City. BSA's students are selected through an audition for the dance program, many being new to intensive dance training.

This person will be responsible for the High School dance program and the TWIGS dance program.

The High School program is part of a full school day, with a minimum of 3 hours of dance instruction per day. This training program features frequent visits of professional choreographers and college dance faculty. The Department Head selects and coordinates the work of the guest artists. The Dance Department Head will also teach classes and choreograph works for the dancers in the High School program.

The TWIGS program, free to 2nd through 8th grade Baltimore City residents, is an after-school and Saturday program with class time ranging from 1 hour to 3 hours per week. TWIGS dance students are involved in several large-scale dance productions each year.

The dance program offers a rigorous, physically demanding program modeled on real-world expectations for today's young dancers. The program features intensive technique as well as audition-based performance opportunities. A comprehensive curriculum of classes in traditional ballet and modern technique prepares students for advanced college-level dance programs, as well as for future work with professional dance companies – both modern and ballet – and theatrical, television or film productions.

The Dance Department Head is responsible for organizing the program's curriculum, schedule, and staff. The administrative work required for this position is balanced by creative performance and teaching opportunities. The training ranges from beginning classes for elementary students to upper-level classes and productions that involve professional orchestras and masterworks of the dance repertoire. Many graduates of this dance program will be qualified for the most selective post-secondary dance training programs. Mentoring students as they progress is central to this role.

### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong training and experience as a dance professional
- Knowledge of and connection to the professional dance world
- Strong evidence of successful teaching in a dance program
- Strong evidence of progressive leadership of an art or educational program
- Demonstrated interpersonal and communication skills as well as the ability to bring diverse constituencies together to support a common mission
- Respect for the value of public education and the understanding of the challenges of working in a public school system
- Bachelor's degree in education or related field from an accredited college or university; Master's degree preferred
- Eligibility for Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Standard Professional Certificate, Advanced Professional Certificate or MSDE Conditional Certificate

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### *BSA High School*

- Inspires young people with compelling and effective dance training
- Supervises approximately 100 students (grades 9-12) in the High School Dance program daily
  - Engages in regular communication with students and their parents
- Manages the dance faculty (10 full and part-time) of practicing, professional artists
- Supervises the performance aspects of the dance program by collaborating with colleagues (ex. dance, music, production) across the school
  - In coordination with the school's director, selects accomplished guest artists and choreographers to work with BSA students and create choreography for the school's performance programs
  - Recent guest artists include Barry Hughson, Christopher D'Amboise, Jeffrey Gunshol, Stephanie Martinez, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Amy Hall Garner and Darius Barnes
- Communicates with prospective students and their families about the program in on-campus events and organizes auditions for prospective students

### *BSA-TWIGS*

- Supervises approximately 300 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students that come to BSA for free after-school and Saturday dance training programs
- Manages the education program for these young students

### *Dance Curriculum*

- In collaboration with the dance faculty and school director, develops a progressive curriculum that provides powerful educational opportunities for students and connects them to the professional world of dance

### *Faculty*

- Communicates regularly about operational and artistic matters.
- Identifies and hires dance faculty as necessary.

### *Baltimore City Public Schools*

- Serves as an employee of Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools).
- Provides student attendance and student course grade information as required to City Schools.
- Serves as a conduit of information from City Schools to faculty and students.

## OUR VISION, MISSION and VALUES

### Our Vision

We respect the young creative mind and exist to nurture its passion and potential. We believe that the pursuit of mastery in an artistic field, paired with a strong individual sense of purpose, leads to a wide range of positive outcomes for both the student and the community.

### Our Mission

Baltimore School for the Arts seeks to prepare the next generation of the creative workforce by providing inspiring arts and academic training to high school students as well as opportunities in the arts to younger children and the greater community.

### Our Core Values

We believe these values are critical to the personal development of each student and an important underlying philosophy of the institution.

CURIOSITY

CONFIDENCE

EXPERTISE

COLLABORATION

PURPOSE

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

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### APPLICATION

Cover letters and resumes should be sent to:

Via e-mail to [DanceSearch@bsfa.org](mailto:DanceSearch@bsfa.org)

Or via USPS

Baltimore School for the Arts  
c/o Executive Assistant Dance Department Head Search  
712 Cathedral Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The first selection round will occur immediately after March 18<sup>th</sup> 2022. Baltimore City Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity employer.