



## **ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT**

### **BALLET COLLEGE, Conservatory of Music and Ballet Ljubljana**

#### **1.**

The Ballet College operates within the Conservatory of Music and Ballet Ljubljana and is the only institution in Slovenia that offers the possibility of obtaining a higher education diploma for ballet dancers.

Because gaining international experiences is invaluable for a complete progress of a ballet dancer, internationalisation and involvement with international mobility projects represents one of the College's important development strategy priorities. The flow of professional information and involvement in up to date international, cultural and artistic guidelines is essential for an optimal professional and artistic progress of ballet dancers. A rapidly evolving modern society is increasing demands on young people who are embarking on the path of a professional workforce, and this is especially true of art which seeks not mediocrity but excellence.

The strategy of internationalisation is aimed at establishing strong and lasting connections and partnerships with the dance institutions on higher educational level and also with other artistic institutions and enterprises with the aim of exchanging students and staff in academic form and through traineeship.

The main objectives of the College's strategy are:

- to implement and encourage international mobility with the goal of offering a complete academic experience, transfer of knowledge and systems of good practice, in order to raise the quality of learning and teaching in the field of ballet and dance;
- to offer students an education which will fully meet the requirements for knowledge and development of their professional competences, thus increasing the possibilities of employment in the field of ballet and dance;
- to raise the quality of education for professional ballet dancers, and thus create conditions for continuous and sustainable maintenance of European and world ballet cultural heritage;
- to encourage a free flow of ideas and professional knowledge in the field of dance, follow international artistic guidelines and encourage creativity;
- to increase the ability to adapt and critically evaluate one's own and other people's artistic re-creative and pedagogical work;
- to introduce, exchange, and thus enrich dance, ballet, intellectual and practical guidelines in the international environment;
- to strengthen linguistic skills and competences of all parties involved in the educational process;
- to improve collaboration and mobility for participants from all backgrounds, thus contributing to cosmopolitanism and open – mindedness, as well as enriching students' knowledge;



- to modernize and implement digital mobility management, which will increase the benefits for the institution, staff and students;
- to promote environmentally friendly practices throughout the entire mobility;
- to promote civic engagement by promoting Slovene culture and acquainting the incoming students with our culture and dance;
- to ensure transparent implementation of all pedagogical and bureaucratic procedures of the mobility;
- to guarantee equal treatment of students regardless of their gender, race or religious belief.

We place great emphasis on student and staff mobility both from the perspective of individual's professional, personal and social development, as well as from the perspective of improving the quality of European higher artistic education. By using mobility and cooperating with the programme and partner countries, we wish to improve learning, teaching and language skills, as well as the organisation and management of ballet education.

By searching for suitable partner institutions within the programme and partner countries, the Ballet College addresses the needs of students and staff and associates with those institutions which offer a similar curriculum in the field of ballet and dance, and where students can gain relevant academic and traineeship experience. The Ballet College strives to associate mainly with those dance and artistic institutions from partner and programme countries which are geographically close to Slovenia (e.g., Croatia, Hungary, etc.), and those which offer the opportunities for quality education in the fields of classical ballet, choreography and ballet pedagogics.

## 2.

Within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme, and as part of its general strategy, the Ballet College will encourage both international mobility of students and staff exchange.

The Ballet College will provide appropriate promotion of international mobility and offer all necessary support for its implementation. It will ensure that any individual or group will be treated equally and that fair opportunities will be provided to all potential participants. Required support will be available, as well as access to relevant information, pre-signed and approved agreements for student mobility for studies, traineeship and staff, fair selection procedures of candidates, assistance before, during and after mobility (e.g., assistance in finding accommodation, applying for visa, etc.), and ensuring recognition of mobility activities.

By providing quality mobility, the Ballet College will address not only the needs of students and staff, but also its own development strategy.

Furthermore, our objectives are to implement the digitalisation of mobility process and automatic recognition of ECTS credits, participate in innovative projects and ensure the quality of mobility. Our goal is to make the mobility of students and staff between good partners in the dance field (institutions, theatres, companies, etc.) a good practice and a benefit for the quality of the Ballet College.



**3.**

By participating in the Erasmus+ Programme charter, the Ballet College will implement its modernisation by pursuing the following priorities:

1. Raising the quality of the education for professional ballet dancers and thus creating conditions for continuous and sustainable maintenance of European and world ballet cultural heritage, which will consequently increase the level of achievement in the field of ballet and dance.

2. Increasing the capabilities of students and staff for artistic work in the field of ballet and dance will improve the quality and significance of higher education and, in turn, have a positive effect on the quality of artistic production.

3. Promoting the free flow of ideas and professional knowledge in the field of ballet and dance, following international artistic guidelines and encouraging creativity, thus strengthening the quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation, as well as improving the existing and potential links between higher education participants and art institutions, will increase excellence and regional development in the field of art and potentially allow positive developments in enterprise related opportunities.

4. Increasing capabilities for adaptation and critical evaluation of one's own and other people's artistic re-creative and pedagogical work will further link higher education, research (practitioners) and business (art institutions and enterprises) with excellence and regional development.

5. Introducing good practice, achieved mainly through inter-institutional cooperation and individual staff mobility exchanges, will improve the governance and funding of the Ballet College.

International experience is a significant contribution to obtaining a quality professional education, expansion of professional ballet and other dance techniques, choreography, and competences for various types of work in the field of ballet and dance. Acquired content presents a benefit for all parties involved in mobility projects, and contributes to co-creation of common dance and artistic, as well as cultural development of Europe. Internationalisation results in raising and strengthening the study process quality, which is invaluable for a school directed toward raising the quality level in the field of art with a lot of tradition and cultural heritage. Exchanges contribute to critical evaluation and, consequently, modernisation of programme contents, thus addressing the crucial needs of students and art institutions. Promoting the transfers of good practice between institutions broadens the insight into the use of various learning and teaching methods, as well as management and funding. International engagement creates synergies in artistic creation processes, which are invaluable for further development of excellence in the art of dance.

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OE Višja baletna šola