

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Parents Association is to create connectivity, foster relationship, and inspire and educate the Academy community while enhancing the student and family experience. Working closely with the Directors of the Academy, the Parents Association develops initiatives to support continued learning, create volunteer support and provide ambassadorship on behalf of the Otto M. Budig Academy. The Parents Association is an affinity group of Cincinnati Ballet designed to support the Ballet's mission with a focus on building a layer of relationship beyond the regular, educational operation of the Academy.

**OBJECTIVES:**

**Connectivity & Engagement:** The Parents Association creates an added layer of engagement through the creation of Academy-wide activities and initiatives designed to further inspire and connect students and their families to staff and faculty, various aspects of the dance world and the Cincinnati Ballet community. (Ex: open houses, celebrations, master classes, lectures, etc.)

**Volunteerism:** The Parents Association is the primary vehicle through which parents can offer their time and talent to enhance Academy events and activities. (Ex: backstage and lobby support for performances, staffing support for Academy events, chaperones for off-site activities, etc.)

**Ambassadorship:** Through the mobilization of some of Cincinnati Ballet's greatest advocates, Academy parents, the Parents Association creates greater awareness of the Academy not only within the Cincinnati community but beyond. This includes but is not exclusive to key support at community performances and marketing representation at family-focused events.

**MEMBERSHIP:** All parents (and/or guardians) of students automatically become members of the Parents Association upon class registration. Parents have the option to choose their level of engagement within the Association through volunteerism, events and/or committee support.

**GOVERNANCE:** The Parents Association is designed to be supported by its own membership and led by a Leadership Council that works in direct partnership with the Academy Directors. The Leadership Council is made up of individuals who represent the breadth of the Academy student body. The Leadership Council will direct and support the active engagement of members through the creation of initiatives and subcommittees.

**MEETINGS:** The Parents Association holds a minimum of three General Meetings each Academy Year that are open to all members (all parents). Initiative-specific committees meet on timelines respective to their focus.

**Important Note:** *The Parents Association is meant to be a forum of positive engagement in enhancing the Academy experience for all students and families. It is not a forum to address questions or concerns regarding Academy policies, curriculum, casting or student placement. All such questions are always welcomed and should be directed to the Academy Administrative Office at 513.562.1111 or [cbacademy@cballet.org](mailto:cbacademy@cballet.org). The Parents Association operates within the non-profit structure of Cincinnati Ballet and is subject to the Ballet's policies and regulations. The Parents Association is responsible for supporting but not setting or influencing priorities, policies or objectives of the Otto M. Budig Academy.*