

# PUBLIC COMPLIANCE STATEMENT



**PATRON:** MICHAEL D. HIGGINS  
PRESIDENT OF IRELAND

As an organisation with charitable status under the Charities Act 2009, Ballet Ireland (BI) aims to comply with the [Statement of Guiding Principle for Fundraising](#) drawn up to meet the requirements of the Act.

## Donors

Donors are assured that their gifts will be used for the purposes for which they are given. Ballet Ireland will respect the rights of donors to be informed about the purposes for which it is fundraising; to be informed about how their donations are being used; and to have their names deleted from mailing lists or databases if so requested. Please read our [Fundraising Compliance Statement](#)

## Use of donations

In raising funds, Ballet Ireland will accurately describe its activities and needs. Ballet Ireland's policies and practices will ensure that any donations received will be used solely to further Ballet Ireland's objectives. Where donations are made for a specific purpose, the donor's request will be honoured. If BI invites the general public to donate for a specific purpose, then Ballet Ireland will have a plan for handling any shortfall or excess.

## Disclosure

Donors will have the right to be informed of the status and authority of those soliciting donations.

## Organisational independence

Ballet Ireland will record and publish in the Annual Report and the Statement of Annual Accounts details of any individual gifts, including gifts-in-kind; where BI judges that those gifts may be construed to have the potential to influence the independence of the organisation's decision making. While BI is not obliged to accept anonymous donations, where anonymity is requested by a donor, this will be respected. If the donation is accepted, the other details of the gift will be recorded and published (such that anonymity is preserved).

### **Third party and volunteer fundraisers**

At present BI does not use third party or volunteer fundraisers but if it does so it will seek to ensure that any donations sought are solicited and received in full conformity with BI's own standards and practices. This will normally be the subject of written agreement between the parties.

### **Feedback procedure**

Feedback is dealt with promptly on receipt. If the matter is a serious one it is referred to the Director. If the Director considers that a complaint should be brought to the attention of the Board he will inform the Chairman who will place it on the agenda for the next Board meeting. Any action decided by the Board will be implemented by the Director. [Read our full procedure here](#)

### **Financial controls**

Ballet Ireland's internal financial control procedures ensure that all funds are used effectively and minimise the risk of the funds being misused. BI follows the principles of best practice in financial management. An Annual Report and a Statement of Annual Accounts will be freely available to the public from 2016.

### **External Auditor**

The Board of Ballet Ireland has appointed an external auditor.

### **Human Resources**

Ballet Ireland's human resource policies conform fully to the relevant national and international labour regulations.

### **Equality**

BI adheres to equality legislation and does not tolerate discrimination in any form.

### **Fundraising Procedures**

Funds are raised annually, applied for on an annual basis, or are sought by Ballet Ireland's staff. All donations are recorded in the accounting system, receipts are issued and donors are acknowledged in brochures, programmes or on the web site.

BI will indicate its commitment to best practice in fundraising by stating it in relevant public communications (annual reports, website, brochures and programmes). The Board of BI will re-assess its fund raising strategy on a regular basis and will ensure that the activities of BI are focused on achieving the objectives set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association and that those are translated into a vision, policy, strategies and budget.

It will ensure that BI has the means to adequately control the way it functions and to alert it to, and cope with, any risks in good time. BI will indicate clearly the purpose for which the funds raised will be used. In the case of BI being in receipt of funds restricted to certain purposes or projects and where it cannot realistically apply the funds within a reasonable time frame to that purpose or project, BI may allocate those funds for a purpose as close as possible to the original intended purpose. This change should be communicated to donors, and where practical the specific donors should be informed.