

*The mission of International Ballet is to represent classical and contemporary ballet in Greenville, while showcasing artists from near and far. Through professional-quality productions, targeted outreach programs, and a commitment to fostering local talent, International Ballet exists to both educate and inspire the Upstate through the art of dance.*

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The Honorable Nikki Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
June 7, 2016

**Dear Governor Haley:**

We are pleased to report that International Ballet has been the recipient of a grant in the amount of \$7,201 from the South Carolina Arts Commission. On behalf of the constituents in your state, particularly the Upstate and Greenville County, thank you for your continued support of the arts in South Carolina.

The S.C. Arts Commission grant, which must be matched with local dollars, has helped us leverage over \$46,000 from foundations like The Barbara Stone Foundation and The GE Foundation, corporations like Chevron and State Farm, as well as the generous gifts of many private individuals in Greenville and the surrounding area. As Greenville continues to thrive on the arts in its community, International Ballet has become an organization that supports this type of growth and development as we grow. In fact, for the past two years, International Ballet has not only participated as a performing company in Artisphere, Greenville's International Arts Festival, but as an Arts Partner Organization, providing over 300 volunteer hours for the successful implementation of this top-ranking festival.

We hope that you will consider attending an International Ballet event in our upcoming season to experience firsthand how state funding for arts is making an impact in our community. Because of the opportunities created by this grant, International Ballet was able to present a successful 2015-2016 season with 3 main-stage productions, including a sold-out production of *The Nutcracker* at the Peace Center for the Performing Arts with the Greenville Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, International Ballet partners with our local Senior Action center and the Greenville County Library for community presentations and programs. We'll be sure to send invitations to your office for our future performances and hope you'll make International Ballet a part of your time in Greenville. Thank you again for your continued support of the arts.

Sincerely,



Lena Forster  
Executive Director  
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