

## World Ballet Conference (2025)

**Date:** June 26, 2025, 15:00–18:00 EDT

**Location:** M-CR-12, United Nations Headquarters, New York

### Background:

As an integral part of humanity's cultural heritage, ballet art, with its unique artistic charm and cross-cultural influence, facilitates global cultural exchange and mutual understanding. On the occasion of the United Nations Charter Day and the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, United Nations Institute for Training and Research New York Office (UNITAR-NYO), International Academy for Arts and Cultural Studies (IAA), the Global Ballet Center (GBC) and the Alliance International Ballet (AIB) jointly organize the United Nations World Ballet Conferences (2025). This event aims to promote international dialogue, cultural exchange, and the achievement of sustainable development goals through the art of ballet.

### Objectives:

- Explore the preservation, innovation, and future development of ballet art worldwide.
- Facilitate experience-sharing and collaboration among ballet artists, educators, and institutional managers from different countries.
- Advocate for the promotion of peace, inclusive social development, and sustainable development goals through art and culture.
- Strengthen partnerships between the United Nations system and cultural institutions to advance artistic diplomacy.

### Conference organizations:

United Nations Institute for Training and Research New York Office (UNITAR-NYO)

International Academy for Arts and Cultural Studies (IAA)

Global Ballet Center (GBC)

Alliance International Ballet (AIB)

## Supported by:

Global Allied International Ballet Arts Development Initiative

Institution for Global Industry, Tsinghua University (IGI)

Institute for World Literatures and Cultures, Tsinghua University (IWLC)

UK-China Humanities Alliance (UKCHA)

**Attendees:** Representatives of diplomatic missions to the United Nations, internationally renowned ballet artists, heads of cultural and artistic institutions, art education experts, and special guests.

## Opening Remarks

15:00 - 15:05 **Host of Opening Ceremony: Ms. Jiajing Zhang**

Secretary-General of the Alliance International Ballet

15:06 - 15:11 **Ambassador Marco A. Suazo**

Ambassador, Head of the UNITAR New York Office, President of International Academy for Arts and Cultural Studies

15:12 - 15:17 **TBD**

Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

15:18 - 15:23 **Dr. Zhirui Zou**

Co-Chair of the World Ballet Conference, Specialist for Artistic Affairs of IAA.  
President of the Alliance International Ballet

## Keynote Speeches

15:24 - 15:27 **Host of Keynote Speeches: Mr. Thomas W. Burrill**

Deputy Director of the International Academy for Arts and Cultural Studies (IAA)

- 15:28 - 15:37 **Dr. Naima Prevots**  
Co-Chair of the World Ballet Conference, Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from American Dance Education Organization, Professor of Performing Arts, and Founding Director & Dance Director at American University.
- 15:38 - 15:47 **Mr. Amine Mechaal**  
Director of Global Engagement at Teachers College, Columbia University
- 15:48 - 15:57 **Mr. Sébastien Thierry**  
Inspector of Artistic Creation - Dance College - Ministry of Culture, France
- 15:58 - 16:07 **Ms. Nancy Euverink**  
Former Artistic Director of NDT2, the Netherlands
- 16:08 - 16:17 **Ms. Georgina Riera Rigola**  
Director and Producer of Barcelona Dance Center, Spain
- 16:18 - 16:27 **Ms. Peggy Dursort**  
Former Ballerina of the Paris Opera Ballet, France
- 16:28 - 16:37 **Mr. Peter Bo Bendixen**  
Artistic Director of Tivoli Ballet Theatre, Denmark
- 16:38 - 16:47 **Ms. Sindy Folgra Llumipanta**  
Project Director of Misty Copeland Foundation, USA
- 16:48 - 16:57 **Ms. Mariane Joly**  
Assistant Director, Pedagogical Coordinator Dance at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional (CRR) of Boulogne-Billancourt, France
- 16:58 - 17:07 **Ms. Nanako Donati**  
Head of Business Strategy Office, K-BALLET (K Ballet Company)

## Theme activities

- 17:08 - 17:09 **Host: Ms. Jiajing Zhang**  
Secretary-General of the Alliance International Ballet
- 17:10 - 17:15 Play the short film produced to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations by the Alliance International Ballet.

- 17:16-17:20 Secretary-General of the Alliance International Ballet reads *Ballet Sustainable Development Initiative*
- 17:26 - 17:30 The Alliance International Ballet presents gifts to the attending guests
- 17:31 - 17:40 **Summary Speech: Dr. Naima Prevots**  
Co-Chair of the World Ballet Conference, Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from American Dance Education Organization, Professor of Performing Arts, and Founding Director & Dance Director at American University.
- 17:41 - 17:50 **Summary of the Conference: Ambassador Marco A. Suazo**  
Ambassador, Head of the UNITAR New York Office, President of International Academy for Arts and Cultural Studies
- 17:50 - 18:00 Attendees take group photos, exchange ideas, and the conference concludes