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**COVER LETTER**

**TO:** Amendment Section  
Division of Corporations

**NAME OF CORPORATION:** SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BALLET, INC.

**DOCUMENT NUMBER:** N24000001115

The enclosed *Articles of Amendment* and fee are submitted for filing.

Please return all correspondence concerning this matter to the following:

SERGEY V STEPANOV

(Name of Contact Person)

(Firm/ Company)

2824 YELLOW CREEK LOOP, UNIT 112

(Address)

CAPE CORAL, FL 33909

(City/ State and Zip Code)

SWFLBALLET@GMAIL.COM

E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

For further information concerning this matter, please call:

SERGEY V STEPANOV

305

7998260

at

(Name of Contact Person)

(Area Code)

(Daytime Telephone Number)

Enclosed is a check for the following amount made payable to the Florida Department of State:

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|---|--|---|--|

**Mailing Address**

Amendment Section  
Division of Corporations  
P.O. Box 6327  
Tallahassee, FL 32314

**Street Address**

Amendment Section  
Division of Corporations  
The Centre of Tallahassee  
2415 N. Monroe Street, Suite 810  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

**ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT**  
**TO**  
**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**  
**OF**  
**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BALLET, INC.**

*Document Number: N24000001115*

The undersigned Incorporator, pursuant to the provisions of section 617.1006, Florida Statutes, this Florida Not For Profit Corporation adopts the following amendments to its Articles of Incorporation, originally filed electronically on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and did not include additional Articles, as presented below:

**ARTICLE I**

***NAME***

The name of the Corporation shall be:

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BALLET, INC.**

FILED  
JAN 26 2024  
STATE OF FLORIDA  
JAN 26 9:00 AM

**ARTICLE II**

***PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS***

The place in this State where the principal office of the Corporation is to be located is the City of Fort Myers, Lee County with the address:

13720 JETPORT COMMERCE PKWY, SUITE 3  
FORT MYERS, FL 33913

The mailing address of the Corporation is:

13720 JETPORT COMMERCE PKWY, SUITE 3  
FORT MYERS, FL 33913

**ARTICLE III**

***DURATION***

The duration of the Corporation is perpetual.

**ARTICLE IV**

***NOT FOR PROFIT***

Said Corporation is a Non-Profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code.

No part of the income or assets of the Corporation is distributable to or the benefit of its officers or trustees, except to the extent permissible by law.

**ARTICLE V**

***PURPOSE***

The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for the following purposes:

1. To provide affordable training in classical ballet to the greater community of Southwest Florida;
2. To offer an extensive curriculum in ballet education for students who are pursuing career in dance;
3. To create and promote a professional dance environment in the community, collaborating with other ballet schools in the State and expanding student's artistic exposure and performance experience;
4. To promote and popularize the art of ballet and to culturally enrich the community of Southwest Florida by presenting performances of professional

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- quality and to give students an opportunity to grow artistically;
5. To be able to offer scholarships to the underprivileged students of the community who otherwise are not able to attend ballet training;
  6. To exercise all rights and powers conferred by the laws of the State of Florida upon nonprofit corporations, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to acquire by bequest, devise, gift, purchase, lease any property of any sort or nature without limitation as to its amount of value, and to hold, invest, reinvest, manage, use, apply, employ, sell, expend, disburse, lease, mortgage, convey, option, donate or otherwise dispose of such property and the income, principal and proceeds of such property, for any of the purpose set forth herein, including for such purpose or purposes of the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code;
  7. To perform any other activities or act as are incidental to the purpose of the Corporation or necessary or desirable in order to accomplish them.

**ARTICLE VI**  
***CORPORATE NET EARNINGS; ACTIVITIES***

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to it's members, trustees, officers or any private individual, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article V hereof.

No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or

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distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on:

- (i) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code (or the corresponding provision of any future Federal tax code), or
- (ii) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code (or the corresponding provision of any future Federal tax code).

This Corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this Corporation.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### ***DEDICATION OF ASSETS; DISTRIBUTION ON DISSOLUTION***

The assets of this Corporation are irrevocably dedicated to the purposes set forth in Article V.

Upon the termination, dissolution or final liquidation of the Corporation in any manner and for any reason, the Board of Trustees shall first pay or provide for the payment of all liabilities of the Corporation; all remaining assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Code (or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code), or shall be distributed to the Federal government, or to State or local government, for a public purpose.

Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated

exclusively for such purposes.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

##### ***INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE***

The name and Florida street address of the Initial Registered Agent is:

Sergey V Stepanov

2824 Yellow Creek Loop, Unit 112  
Cape Coral FL 33909

#### **ARTICLE IX**

##### ***INITIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES; MANNER OF ELECTION***

The management of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Trustees. The number of Trustees may be increased or decreased in accordance with the Bylaws, but shall never be less than three (3).

The manner in which Trustees are elected and appointed shall be provided in the Bylaws.

The names and addresses of the persons who are the Initial Board of Trustees are as follows:

- Thomas Burt 6429 Winkler Rd., Fort Myers, FL 33919
- Kimberly Paulus 8987 Mockingbird Dr., Sanibel, FL 33957
- Maria Jose Santiago 1914 Piccadilly Cir., Cape Coral, FL 33991
- Nina Burt 6429 Winkler Rd., Fort Myers, FL 33919
- Arina Schwill 4718 Formosa Dr., Naples, FL 34119

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2017-05-05 AM 9:00  
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STATE OF FLORIDA  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

**ARTICLE X**  
**OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Corporation shall consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary and other elected Officers, as may be provided in the Bylaws in order to fulfill broad array of organizational and operational needs of the Corporation.

Each Officer shall be elected by the Board of Trustees and may be removed by the Board of Trustees as may be prescribed in the Bylaws.

The names and street addresses of the Officers of this Corporation are as follows:

President	Thomas Burt 6429 Winkler Rd., Fort Myers, FL 33919
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Vice President	Kimberly Paulus 8987 Mockingbird Dr., Sanibel, FL 33957
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Treasurer	Maria Jose Santiago 1914 Piccadilly Cir., Cape Coral, FL 33991
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Secretary	Nina Burt 6429 Winkler Rd., Fort Myers, FL 33919
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Officer/Trustee	Arina Schwill 4718 Formosa Dr., Naples, FL 34119
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**ARTICLE XI**  
***INCORPORATOR***

The name and address of the person signing these Articles of Amendment as Sole Incorporator is:

Sergey V Stepanov

2824 Yellow Creek Loop, Unit 112  
Cape Coral, FL 33909

**ARTICLE XII**  
***BYLAWS***

The Bylaws of the Corporation are to be made and adopted by the Board of Trustees, and may be altered, amended or rescinded by the Board of Trustees.

**ARTICLE XIII**  
***AMENDMENT***

The Corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provisions contained in these Articles of Incorporation or any amendment to them, and all rights and privileges conferred upon the Trustees and Officers are subject to this reservation. The Articles of Incorporation may be amended in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Florida, as amended from time to time, unless more specific provisions for amendments are adopted by the Corporation pursuant to law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, has caused these Articles to be adopted by the Initial Board of Trustees and signed this 1<sup>st</sup> of February, 2024.

*Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in*

this capacity.

Sergey V Stepanov

Required Signature of Registered Agent

2/1/2024

Date

*I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true.  
I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the  
Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in  
s.817.155, F.S.*

Sergey V Stepanov

Required Signature of Incorporator

2/1/2024

Date

2024 FEB -5 AM 9:00  
DEPT OF STATE  
TAMPA, FL

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