

Driven by a deep belief in the significance of community gathering spaces and the unifying power of the performing arts, Elizabeth Halajian has held a variety of roles throughout the non-profit sector.

She currently serves as the Vice President of Resource Development for Navy Pier, one of the most visited cultural destinations in the Midwest. As a senior leader with the organization, she is the chief architect and ambassador for all fundraising activities that support the sustainability of the Pier's accessible, public spaces and mission-driven, year-round cultural programming.

Previously, Elizabeth was the Vice President of Development for the Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park. During her nine seasons with the Harris, she led growth in every area of the Theater's contributed revenue through a data-informed, relationship-driven approach. Key metrics included increasing the organization's donor base by 123%, directing special events grossing more than \$3 million, and formalizing the Theater's sponsorship program to make possible such monumental projects as Sir John Eliot Gardiner's *Beethoven 250* festival and the U.S. premiere of English National Ballet in Akram Khan's *Giselle*.

Elizabeth began her career as a professional ballet dancer and educator. Since transitioning into non-profit administration, her expertise has spanned major gift and annual fundraising, board relations, grant writing, event management, marketing and sales, and organizational culture leadership.

Elizabeth holds a B.F.A. in Dance Performance from Butler University and is a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy. In addition to serving as an Advisory Committee member to South Chicago Dance Theatre, Elizabeth is a board member and chair of the Philanthropy Committee for the Association of Fundraising Professionals Chicago chapter and a board member and External Affairs chair for Chicago Dancers United, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of professionals in the dance community.