

THE DAILY COURIER

Ballet star to teach class in Kelowna

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Goh Ballet launches its first Canadian master class series with Chan Hon Goh, former prima ballerina of the National Ballet of Canada. The inaugural tour includes a Kelowna stop on April 8 at the Canadian School of Ballet. The classes provide an opportunity for aspiring dancers ages 12 and up to have a dance experience with one of this generation's most gifted dancers.

Participants will be given professional training and coaching that focuses on emotional artistic expression and repertoire. "Our aim is to inspire and mentor aspiring dancers across Canada to reach their goals and achieve their dreams," said Goh, who is director of Goh Ballet. "We will explore uninhibited artistic and emotional elements that elevate a performance to become more than the sum of its parts. I hope to encourage respect for the art form, foster confidence and provoke thought among students."

To register for a class, visit gohballet.com/CanadianMasterClassSeries/. The participation fee is \$25, which includes class and discussions with the artist.

Goh was born in Beijing and immigrated with her family to Vancouver, where she studied in the professional program at the Goh Ballet Academy.

Upon graduation in 1988, she joined The National Ballet of Canada. In her 20 year stage career, Goh has employed her delicate lyricism and emotional depth to personify the essence of lead roles in ballets such as Romeo and Juliet, Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty, Onegin and the title roles in Giselle, Madame Butterfly and La Sylphide. Goh is a sought-after international guest artist and has appeared with numerous companies throughout Europe, Asia, Australia, and North America. She is often invited to produce evenings of dance around the world. In addition, she was the first Canadian to receive the Silver Medal at the GenÈve International Ballet Competition in London, England and was a prize recipient at the Prix de Lausanne. In 2005, Goh received the New Pioneers Arts Award for her contributions to dance in Canada. Her autobiography *Beyond the Dance, A Ballerina's Life*, was a finalist nominee for the 2003 Norma Fleck Award and the 2005 Rocky Mountain Book Award.



Chan Hon Goh will teach Kelowna ballet dancers aged 12 and up when she comes to the city April 8.