



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: Katie Mundy

604.872.4014 ext. 217

kmundy@gohballet.com

**Young Ballerinas set to Represent Canada in Vienna, Austria
at The Prestigious Wien Welt Wettbewerb**

Goh Ballet's Senior Professional students Chihiro Abe, Letizia Dotto, Cierra Munro and Michelle Khoo will compete at the 7th International Ballet & Contemporary Dance Competition in Vienna this July.

Vancouver, BC – (June 24, 2014) Chan Hon Goh, Director of the Goh Ballet Academy Canada announces that senior professional program students Chihiro Abe (15), Letizia Dotto (15), Cierra Munro (16) and Michelle Khoo (15) will represent Canada at the illustrious 7th International Ballet & Contemporary Dance Competition (Wien Welt Wettbewerb) in Vienna running July 22nd – 27th 2014. Garnering the chance to compete at an international level is a rare opportunity extended only to the highest achieving of students. These four aspiring professionals will be the only dancers representing our nation as they share the stage with hundreds of other students from approximately 20 other countries.

"It is vital for our dancers to be seen on the world's stage," states Goh Ballet Director Chan Hon Goh. "We, the Goh Ballet and Goh Ballet Vancouver Society, place high priority on this amazing learning experience which is an important step on their path to becoming professional dancers"

This marks the first time Goh Ballet will enter participants in Vienna however, Abe, Dotto, Munro and Khoo will be following the footsteps of a long list of Goh students who have travelled around the world to compete and ultimately bring back many accolades and medals for Canada. Previous award recipients from the Academy have gone on to flourishing careers with such companies as the San Francisco Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and the National Ballet of Canada.

To prepare for such a significant event, the young ladies will be training hard at the Goh Ballet's International Summer Intensive to perfect the many variations they will showcase in Vienna. This valuable time spent with the Goh Ballet's award winning faculty will be essential to their studies. Reflecting on the challenges and excitement to come in the next month, Letizia Dotto says: *"The Wien Welt Wettbewerb is an amazing and surely unforgettable opportunity that I'm so excited to be able to experience. This is a chance for me to display my hard work and artistic ability. The mentorship and training I've received from my teachers at the Goh Ballet has allowed me to develop my skills with confidence and follow my dream of competing on the world's stage. I am honoured to represent the Goh Ballet and Canada in Vienna and look forward to meeting competitors from all over the world."*

Participants of the competition may compete in up to four categories and are judged in two rounds by an international jury. The grand finale of the competition will take place on July 27th 2014 at the famous Viennese Volkstheatre granting competitors an additional opportunity to share the stage with international stars. The Goh Ballet is delighted to see their dancers qualify for and compete in this highly esteemed competition.

About Goh Ballet

At the forefront of the dance and arts communities in Vancouver for over 35 years, Goh Ballet believes in fostering local talents and is the training ground for future dance professionals. The Academy offers diversity of programming that empowers youth, building a greater awareness of themselves through expression in the dance vocabulary as well as empathy for others, while sowing the seeds for healthy living through exercise. A multitude of classes are available for children and adults with extensive curriculum and Goh Ballet furthers their dedication to world-class training, with the Goh Ballet Youth Company Canada which provides performance and touring opportunities essential for those striving for a career in dance.

The Goh Ballet is consistently committed to technical excellence showcased through a wide-ranging and ever expanding repertoire of classical and contemporary ballet, jazz, character and Chinese dance. Goh Ballet has trained students that have received medals and first prizes at the world's most prestigious dance competitions. Its influence is also felt internationally where Goh Ballet graduates have gone on to fill the ranks of top notch companies the world over. It is this commendable success that has merited invitations to perform at numerous civic, corporate and charitable events each year locally and internationally.

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Photo & Interview Contact:

Katie Mundy

Communications Associate, Goh Ballet

kmundy@gohballet.com

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