CANADIANS WIN TOP AWARDS AT YOUTH AMERICA GRAND PRIX COMPETITION

DANCE STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM MENTORSHIP THROUGH CANADIAN MASTERCLASS SERIES WITH CHAN HON GOH

MARCH 30, 2022, VANCOUVER, B.C. – The Canadian Masterclass Series led by Prima Ballerina <u>Chan Hon Goh</u> and supported by presenting sponsor RBC recently completed a multi-city tour across Canada. Masterclass alumni wins top award in three categories at the Youth American Grand Prix, an International Ballet Competition held in Toronto.

"The goal throughout my Canadian Masterclass Series was to provide students with the confidence and skills to prepare for performances and I am thrilled to see how that hard work has been recognized for several of my students," said Chan Hon Goh, Goh Ballet Academy Director. My Masterclass Series is an opportunity for students to find their artistic individuality while inspiring their passion for performance as we return to stages around the world. I am honoured to watch their careers progress."

Youth America Grand Prix winners were:

- Maya Dolecki, (11 years), Classical Solo
 1st Place, Pre-Competitive Classical Category for 11 years old
- Jackson Rankin (18 years) and Olivia Jaymes Moore Runquist (19 yrs) –
 Contemporary Duet
 1st place, Small Ensemble Category
- Jackson Rankin (18 years) Classical Solo Variation
 1st place, Senior Age Division, Classical Category

In addition, **Goh Ballet Academy was recognized with the Outstanding School Award** for their facilities in Vancouver and Toronto.

"It is a true honour to partner with the extraordinary Chan Hon Goh to bring her award-winning Masterclass Series to young dancers across Canada," shares **Martin Thibodeau**, **RBC Royal Bank's regional president**, **British Columbia**. "RBC helps provide much-needed funding for students from diverse backgrounds to be mentored by one of Canada's most beloved prima ballerinas. As presenting sponsor, we are delighted to extend our long-standing relationship with the Goh Ballet Academy to inspire emerging artists as they rekindle their dreams of a career in dance."

The Canadian Masterclass Series is also proud to offer a total of \$10,000.00 in forms of the National and Diversity Scholarship Awards to further a student's goal in their dance training.



ABOUT CHAN HON GOH

With an illustrious stage career of over 20 years as Principal Dancer with The National Ballet of Canada, Ms. Goh is one of the most prolific artists of her generation. Her delicate lyricism and emotional depth personify the essence of numerous lead roles. In 2010 upon retiring from her performing career, Ms. Goh accepted the invitation to become the Director of Goh Ballet, to further her passion to inspire dancers of tomorrow and to provide students with opportunities to train with world-renowned teachers. Extending her reach and always advocating for the arts, Ms. Goh serves as a jury member for several international competitions. She guest instructs and sets choreography for some of the most renowned companies in the world and since 2009 has been the Executive Producer of Goh Ballet's critically acclaimed The Nutcracker, a holiday tradition in the City of Vancouver.