

Students from Canada's National Ballet School to Perform in Dresden, Germany

TORONTO, ON (February 14, 2014) – Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) is pleased to announce that four of its senior students will participate in the 4th Dance Education Biennale in Dresden, Germany. The Biennale, taking place from February 15th to 23rd, will include a series of student performances and workshops with world-renowned Choreographers, dance classes taught by international company directors and ballet masters as well as panel discussions.

The first Dance Education Biennale was in April 2008; however this is the first time it has ever included international schools located outside of Germany, such as NBS. This year's Biennale, hosted by the Palucca University of Dance Dresden under its Rector, and NBS alumnus Jason Beechey, is themed "Education – Profession: A Creative Process" and aims to promote collaboration and an exchange of ideas and creativity among participating students.

NBS Post-Secondary Program students Soo Ah Kang, Mackenzie Farquhar, James Nix and Calley Skalnick will represent NBS at the event. They each had the opportunity to select to work with a different world-renowned artist, which will provide them with an enriched dance experience in a collaborative setting. NBS' students participating in the event also will perform excerpts from a new work choreographed by Stuttgart Ballet Resident Choreographer, and NBS alumnus, Demis Volpi. NBS Artistic Director and CEO, Mavis Staines, as well as Artistic Faculty Member, Shaun Amyot, also will attend the Biennale and participate in panel discussions. NBS will be joining students and artistic faculty from twelve other participating schools (eight from Germany and four from other countries), including the Palucca School, Codarts, Vaganova Ballet Academy, and the Houston Ballet Academy.

"NBS is honoured to be included in the 4th Dance Education Biennale, as participating in collaborative, learning conferences is a wonderful opportunity for the School's students to engage and network with peers and artistic staff," said Mavis Staines. "The dance world as a whole will benefit from the Biennale, where sharing is a priority and everyone gives so freely of their expertise and talent. I relish the opportunity to bear witness to the accomplishments of NBS alumni, Demis Volpi and Jason Beechey. Heartfelt congratulations to Jason on expanding this year's Biennale to include an international roster of professional ballet schools."

For more information about the 4th Dance Education Biennale, please visit: <http://www.biennale-tanzausbildung.de>.

About Canada's National Ballet School

Established in 1959, Canada's National Ballet School is a world leader in the training of professional dancers and teachers. Dedicated to moving the world by teaching and celebrating dance, NBS is committed to promoting the art of dance through community engagement in addition to offering recreational and professional programs. NBS graduates can be found as dancers, choreographers, artistic directors, teachers and administrators in over 65 dance companies worldwide, and in even more schools around the globe. For more information, please visit: www.nbs-enb.ca.

- 30 -

For More Information:

Danielle Paroyan
Senior Communications Officer
Canada's National Ballet School
416 964 3780 x 2117
dparoyan@nbs-enb.ca