





As we head into fall and back to school, we reflect on the joyful moments that filled our studio this summer. Our students were presented with many opportunities and new experiences during our summer session, and everyone certainly rose to the challenge! Our studio engaged in team building projects, both inside the studio, as well as through several fruitful collaborations within the community.

We were so grateful to be able to bring in outstanding guest instructors from leading ballet companies around the country for our Summer Intensive 2016. Ms. Rie Ichikawa (Soloist, Boston Ballet) brought an elegance to our studio with her refined classical interpretation and generosity. Mr. Calvin Kitten (Director, Ballet West II) lit up our studio with his joyful enthusiasm and passion for the art form. Both worked with our dancers on muscle activation, alignment, musicality, and emphasis on port de bras and torso carriage - all so vital in the development and coordination of classically trained ballet dancers. Significant student advancements were apparent over the course of the summer.



As part of the summer intensive, we invited Dr. Jennifer King, specialist in Sports Medicine to our studio to talk about dancer nutrition and health. Olivia Yanagi, PT worked weekly with our dancers on core strength, proprioception exercises, proper stretching techniques, and Pilates classes for optimal conditioning and injury prevention.



We were also fortunate to be invited by Oceanic Time Warner Cable (OTWC) to collaborate on a project that resulted in a beautiful TV commercial, radio spot and printed pieces that were distributed throughout many different media outlets. Working alongside OTWC's exceptional team on this project was truly an inspiring experience for us. We were honored to be able to collaborate and give back to the Hawai'i community. Mahalo nui loa to OTWC for their generosity and gracious teamwork!

ROMI BEPPU
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
HONOLULU CLASSICAL BALLET

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As the new school year begins, we look forward to several exciting projects on the horizon. In December, we will present our Winter Performance of 2016 at the Mamiya Theatre entitled, *Winter Divertissements*. This holiday performance will feature newly choreographed selections from the *Nutcracker Suite*, along with classical variation presentations from our exemplary Pre Professional students. A perfect way to celebrate the holiday season!

We are also pleased to announce that four students from our Pre Professional level will be competing in the Youth America Grand Prix 2017 competition in February. Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) is the world's largest international student dance competition. YAGP continues to support and develop world-class dancers, ages 9-19, of all economic, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds. \$300,000 in scholarships are awarded each year to dance schools within the United States and around the world. YAGP fulfills its mission of dance education through scholarship auditions, master classes, alumni services, educational and outreach activities, performances, and films. It also serves as a preeminent global network of dance, connecting students, teachers, schools, dance companies, dancers, and audiences.

Growth and change continue to be on our minds as we move into the fall season. This year has brought an abundance of student progress and increased enrollment to our studio. Given our continued progress, we decided it was the right time to add two new class levels to our studio. This fall we are introducing to our year-round class schedule - *Preparatory to Ballet Technique I* and *Ballet Technique III*. Please visit our website at www.hcballet.com for more information on these classes, as well as our Fall Session 2016 schedule.

A fond thank you to all our friends and families who support us daily and continue to help us create this very special place for our children to learn and grow as students and as people. We are certainly blessed. Cheers to another wonderful season ahead!

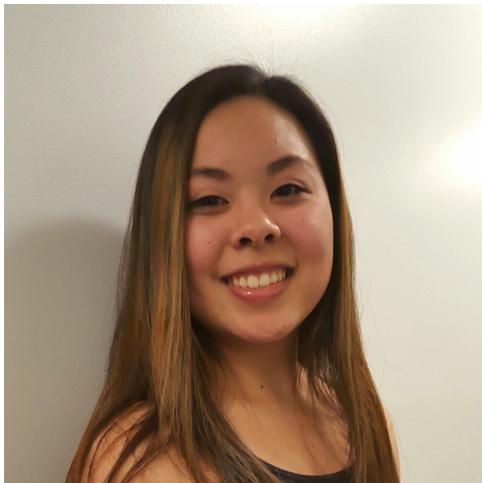
Sincerely,

Romi Beppu, Artistic Director and Jen Loh, Director of Operations



We are pleased to announce that Pre Professional student Gabrielle Legaspi will be attending the University of Utah in the Fall to pursue her two passions; a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ballet and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. Gabi received two scholarships, the Freshman Academic Achievement Award and the Alice Walton Call Scholarship for ballet. She is looking forward to training at the University of Utah with faculty members such as Maggie Tesch and Michael Bearden, both former principal dancers at Ballet West and faculty at the Ballet West Academy.

While we will certainly miss Gabi's lovely presence in our studio, and her captivating stage performances, we are thrilled to see her soar as she moves forward in this next chapter of her life. Congratulations, Gabi!



Lauren Thompson graduated in the summer of 2015 from HC Ballet and went on to attend the Professional Training Division at the Ballet West Academy in Salt Lake City, UT. At the end of this school year abroad, Lauren was presented with an invitation into the selective Ballet West Trainee program for the upcoming fall. This past summer, she studied at Boca Ballet Theatre's Performance Workshop. She was cast as Zoya (one of two demi-soloist roles) in the full length production of Giselle. Before going to Boca, she performed in Balanchine's Concerto Barocco in both Ballet West Academy's Spring Performance and the Utah Arts Festival.

Lauren's advice to young aspiring dancers, "be a quick learner, and try to be as active and engaged in classes and rehearsals. You never know when an opportunity may be presented to you where you may be asked to fill in last minute during a performance." We are very proud of Lauren and wish her continued success.