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Texas Ballerina is a Winner at Prix de Lausanne *15-Year-Old Ava Arbuckle takes 2nd place in this prestigious global competition*

FRISCO, Texas, February 10, 2020 – Ava Arbuckle of Frisco Texas has been awarded 2nd Place at 48th Prix de Lausanne in Switzerland. She is the only American and youngest of the 8 winners.

Created in 1973, the Prix de Lausanne is an international dance competition held annually in Lausanne, Switzerland. The competition is for young dancers 15-18 years old, seeking to pursue a professional career in classical ballet. Many former prize winners of the competition are now leading stars with major ballet companies around the world.

More than 70 of the world's most prestigious dance schools and companies, such as the Royal Ballet in London, the Paris Opera Ballet School, the Hamburg Ballet School (John Neumeier), the Princess Grace Academy in Monaco, the Vaganova Ballet Academy in St. Petersburg, the Ballet Nacional Sodre in Montevideo, the Hong Kong Ballet, the San Francisco Ballet School and the Australian Ballet, are associated with the Prix de Lausanne and support its activities.

This year 77 candidates from 27 countries competed in the 48th Prix de Lausanne with 10 candidates accepted from the United States. The candidates rehearsed with esteemed dance professionals such as Elisabeth Platel, former Etoile of the Paris Opera Ballet and currently the Director of the Paris Opera Ballet School. 9 jury members observed the candidates during classes as well as during solo performances in front of a live audience and live streamed with over 1 Million views.

A group of 21 finalists from 10 countries were selected from this process with Ava Arbuckle chosen as one of three Americans and the youngest finalist in this group. The finalist presented a Classical and Contemporary variation on the stage at the Auditorium Stravinski, in Montreux. 8 Winners were selected from the finalists with Ava Arbuckle receiving the 2nd Place *Bourse Jeunes Espoir* (Young Hope Scholarship) as well as the "Best Young Talent and Artistry" award presented by the Rudolf Nureyev Foundation. In addition, Ava has received numerous full scholarships to many of the leading dance schools around the world.

Ava currently trains at Elite Classical Coaching in Frisco Texas under the guidance of Director, Catherine Livengood Lewellen.

About Prix de Lausanne - Press Contact Stéphanie Cavallero Tel. +41 (0)77 513 37 64
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About Elite Classical Coaching – Located in Frisco Texas, Elite Classical Coaching provides training, mentoring and coaching for the serious pre-professional ballet dancer.

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