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For Immediate Release:

Menlowe Ballet's Fall Season Shows How Legends Are Made

Menlo Park, CA – August 1, 2014 – Menlowe Ballet presents *LEGEND*, November 8, 9 & 15 at Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton, CA 94027. The program features contemporary, classical and cultural ballets including the world premiere of Artistic Director Michael Lowe's *Legend of the Seven Suns*, which brings to life a traditional Mongolian folktale. Also included are Dennis Nahat's *In Concert* and Lowe's *Plague*. Performances are **Saturday, November 8th at 2pm & 8pm, Sunday, November 9th at 2pm, and Saturday November 15 at 2pm & 8pm**. Tickets ranging from \$28-\$48 may be purchased at www.menloweballet.org or by calling **800-595-4TIX (4849)**.

Menlowe's Artistic Director, Michael Lowe, traveled to Mongolia to research his new cultural ballet, *Legend of the Seven Suns*. Inspired by a Mongolian folktale, the ballet's characters include gods, mortals, a menagerie of engaging animals, and Mongolia's vast, rugged landscape. **Says Lowe, "Mongolia has a rich heritage of tales related to humans and their relationship to the natural world. These stories gave me the fuel I needed to tell a great fable through dance."**

Choreographer Dennis Nahat's "In Concert" is a pastiche of classical divertissements celebrating French, Russian, Italian and American styles of ballet set to the music of Giuseppe Verdi and Charles Gounod. Nahat, a former principal dancer with American Ballet Theater, co-founded Cleveland Ballet in 1974, founded San Jose Cleveland Ballet in 1985 and Ballet San Jose in 2000 where he served as Artistic Director until 2012. His choreographic credits include over 100 works for ballet, opera, Broadway, television and film. His *Blue Suede Shoes* aired nationwide in an Emmy-nominated broadcast of the PBS television series *Dance in America*. **Says Nahat "The artists at Menlowe Ballet are exciting at each and every rehearsal and performance. They're as good as it gets. Michael Lowe has given his company a special mark, distinguishing it as one unto its own."**

Based in Menlo Park, CA, Menlowe Ballet is a professional ballet company dedicated to bringing dance to audiences in the San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 2011, the company performs works ranging from cultural to contemporary, while honoring the foundation of classical ballet. In addition to its artistic mission, Menlowe Ballet provides performing opportunities to aspiring students from its official school, the Menlo Park Academy of Dance.

MICHAEL LOWE
Artistic Director

SARAH-JANE MEASOR
Associate Artistic Director

LISA SHIVELEY
Executive Director