



Happy International Dance Day (April 29th)

With International Dance Day just past we would like to shine the spotlight onto Risa Kobayashi. Ballet Victoria's long time prima ballerina is bidding farewell to the stage with the performances of *Alice in Wonderland*. Risa has been involved with BV since 2009, as a student first, then a company member in 2011. She eventually became a principal dancer, taught and choreographer for the BV Conservatory, as well as for the company. Risa's stage presence was only equalled by her brilliant technique. She has always been a pleasure to work with thanks to her intelligence, musicality and artistic depth.

She created many roles in BV repertoire inspiring all choreographers and dancers that had the privilege to work with her. One of Risa's greatest contributions was the premiere of BV's *Swan Lake* dancing the role of Odette. She created a unique, sensitive and moving Swan Queen that simply took everyone's



breath away. Although we are sad to see her leave the stage, we are thrilled for the next chapter in her life and her continued involvement with Ballet Victoria.

Don't miss the chance to see Risa in her final shows at The Royal Theatre!



Tour is Starting

This past weekend Ballet Victoria kicked off its enchanting tour of *Alice in Wonderland* in Maple Ridge! Our dancers are glad to get on the road and perform this enchanting production for our beloved audiences!

This is just the beginning—stay tuned as we travel and share highlights, behind-the-scenes moments, and audience reactions from each stop along the way.



To see *Alice in Wonderland* at The Royal Theatre get your tickets today!

<https://www.balletvictoria.ca/alice-in-wonderland-2026/>