



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** the International Ballet Theatre and Academy (IBT) was founded 25 years ago with a vision to bring world-class dance education, performance and cultural enrichment to the Eastside; and
- Whereas:** over those 25 years, IBT has grown into a cornerstone of Bellevue's arts community, nurturing thousands of young dancers and providing high-quality training that inspires discipline, creativity and confidence; and
- Whereas:** through its annual productions - including beloved classics such as *The Nutcracker* and *Dracula* - IBT has introduced generations of Bellevue residents to the beauty and power of ballet, enriching the cultural life of our city; and
- Whereas:** IBT's commitment to artistic excellence has attracted professional dancers, choreographers and instructors from around the world, contributing to Bellevue's reputation as a vibrant center for the performing arts; and
- Whereas:** the Academy fosters a welcoming and inclusive environment where students of all backgrounds can explore the art of dance, develop their talents and build lifelong skills; and
- Whereas:** International Ballet Theatre and Academy has helped cultivate Bellevue's vibrant arts scene by providing opportunities for students and audiences to experience dance through education, performance and community engagement.

Now, therefore, I, Mo Malakoutian, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim 2026 as the

25th Anniversary Year of the International Ballet Theatre and Academy

in Bellevue and encourage all residents to join in celebrating their remarkable contributions to the arts, to our youth and to the cultural vitality of our community.

Mo Malakoutian, Mayor
City of Bellevue