

New Ballet School Opens In Victory Village Shopping Center

By Brandy Centolanza November 4, 2022



Photo by Louis Centolanza.

YORK—Alexia Redick Bartlett, owner of the new Conservatory Ballet dance school in Greater Williamsburg, comes from a family of professional dancers.

Both Bartlett’s grandmother and mother as well as her two brothers are all dancers. Her mother is the founder of the original Conservatory Ballet school in Reston, VA.

Bartlett, a life-long ballerina, was an instructor at her mother’s establishment before she and her family relocated to the Hampton Roads area. She started teaching ballet to kids in her garage during the pandemic.

“The kids just flocked to me,” she said. “I thought I needed to find a permanent place to teach.”

So, Bartlett decided to open a second location of Conservatory Ballet in the Victory Village Shopping Center on Mooretown Rd. The ballet school is located at 6610 Mooretown Rd. Unit K in the former space of Williamsburg Dojo, which move to a larger space within the same complex.

Bartlett has spent the last few months renovating the unit, installing specialty flooring for dancers as well as the ballet barre. The dance school, which has three teachers, began

accepting its first students in August and has 30 enrolled in its programs so far.

The ballet school is designed for individuals from aged two to adult. The preschool program and beginner ballet classes are the most popular.

Bartlett, who is planning a grand opening in the near future, is looking forward to growing her new business. Eventually, the school will become audition only, but, for now, Conservatory Ballet is offering two-week free trials for students to gauge interest.

“We are so excited,” Bartlett said. “Ballet is like a country with its own language, rules, and culture. I love teaching ballet. I think ballet is one of those things that if you have a good teacher, someone who inspires you, then it can be something that you will love forever and could do forever.”

For more information on Conservatory Ballet, visit its [Facebook page](#).