

# THE ARLINGTON ADVOCATE

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## Dance studio steps into tenth year

Lynn Moniz and Jennifer (Wesley) Corbett have known each other their entire lives — because their mothers were friends, and their grandparents were friends before that. They grew up in the same Arlington neighborhood. They both had been dancing since preschool. Still, they never imagined that they would open a dance studio together when they became adults.

In 1999, after teaching in a local studio for over ten years, Moniz was ready to open her own studio. She wanted to brush up on her ballet technique, so she contacted Corbett, who happened to be home from New York healing after ACL surgery. That connection joined the women and their career paths, and a studio was formed.

It turns out that the two women shared more than a love of dance — they also shared a vision for what they wanted to offer Arlington in a dance studio. “We wanted to create a fun and comfortable atmosphere,” said Moniz. “With classes that provided quality technique and performance opportunities

for every type of dance taught,” continued Corbett. And they wanted to foster a supportive environment in which their students could make lasting friendships.

Ten years later, Lynn & Jen’s continues to be that dance studio. The underlying philosophy of the studio has remained the same, and the owners have added teaching staff and classes as their enrollment has doubled.

“I think that the biggest thing I’ve learned over the past decade is to be more laid back,” said Corbett. “And I’ve learned to always expect the unexpected,” said Moniz. They have realized that the learning is continuous, and that they will always be making adjustments and improvements every year.

Moniz and Corbett agree that the most rewarding part of their job is being a part of their students’ lives — watching them grow as dancers and individuals. And the worst part is saying good-bye when they graduate. Many of their alumni do keep in touch. Three of their former students have become teachers at their studio. Several others have returned to the



**Lynn Moniz and Jennifer (Wesley) Corbett celebrate 10 years of dance.**

area after college and are taking adult classes, and yet others come back to help at or watch the recital.

As they celebrate and reflect upon their 10th anniversary, Moniz and Corbett said they are grateful for all of the support they have received from their family and

friends.

And as they wrap up year ten, Lynn and Jen are already looking ahead to year 11.

For more information on Lynn & Jen’s, visit the Web site at [www.lynnandjens-dancestudio.com](http://www.lynnandjens-dancestudio.com).

— *Written and submitted by Betzi Hanc.*