

# INSPIRATION



A lively dance class at Elevate Dance Center, with couples moving in sync. PROVIDED BY SALSERO ROC PHOTOGRAPHY

## Rochester dance studio wants to connect people

**Justice Marbury**

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Elevate Dance Center, a dance and community hub in southeast Rochester, is celebrating its first anniversary.

Since opening in early 2024, the center at 80 Rockwood Place has striven to do more than teach dance – it aims to build bridges.

“Our community unites students from 18 to 80, from all walks of life, backgrounds and experience levels,” co-founder Elyse Jurutka said. “Here, people who might never have crossed paths find connection, friendship and even family through the shared language of movement.” She added. “No other studio in the

area offers such an inclusive, affordable and diverse dance experience for all ages and experience levels.”

Since opening in February 2024, the center has quickly become a cornerstone of Rochester’s dance community. The woman- and minority-owned dance center has expanded its offerings to include more than 15 weekly classes in diverse dance styles, private instruction and social events.

“One year ago, Elevate Dance Center opened its doors as a dream realized – bringing together passion, hard work and community to create a space where movement, creativity and connection thrive,” co-founder Darin Price said. “Here’s to many more years of inspiring and growing together.”



A close-up moment of connection during a partner dance session. PROVIDED BY SALSERO ROC PHOTOGRAPHY



Elyse Jurutka and Darin Price, co-founders of Elevate Dance Center. PROVIDED BY MAMBOBEAT PHOTOGRAPHY