

Weekly Update from O'Shea Irish Dance Administrator

Friday, April 24, 2020

Important Dates - Mark Your Calendars

- **From their living rooms to yours. Special virtual concerts!**
 - **April 25 - [An Acoustic Evening with Pete McCauley](#)**
 - Not necessarily trad! Pete is a local talent on vocals and guitar, part of the group known as Mac and Cheese (with his friend Tim Cheesborough). Not only can you enjoy a lovely Saturday of music, but you have the opportunity to help Celtic Junction support our neighborhood Food Shelf!
 - **May 2 - [Harpist and Singer Hannah Flowers](#)**
 - Grab a cup of tea, or something stronger, your quarantine pal or furry friend, and settle in for a relaxing evening. Join her (virtually) on the CJAC FB Page live at 7:30pm and leave thoughts of pandemics and toilet paper shortages behind for an hour and be transported by songs telling tales of love and loss and uplifted by her favorite traditional melodies and tunes.
 - **Ongoing: [OID with Ireland's Own Daniel O'Donnell](#) at Celtic Junction!**
 - Not sure what this is? It is worth 20 minutes of your time to watch O'Shea Irish Dance together with Hooley & Kickin' It Irish favourite musician Todd Menton welcome one of Ireland's superstar singers to YOUR Minnesota dance studio. Watch out - he may jump in and join us in a broom dance!
- ***May 9 - OID Spring Recitals ONLINE 2-6pm, by age/class!***
 - VIRTUAL Recitals - by class. ALL loved ones are welcome!
 - We are going to show off our fabulous dancers in our PreSchool, Beginner and Primary level classes in a VIRTUAL recital this year. Watch for the upcoming schedule and details on sharing the experience with Grandmas, Grandpas, Aunties, Uncles and friends to see you DANCE!

Special Messages from your teachers...

Right. MORE VIDEOS! Keeping a regular schedule, seeing dance friends, and joining in our exercise programs are just part of the program. Here is some more support for you in this stay-at-home stretch:

1. STEPS - Easy Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig, Easy Slip Jig, Easy Hornpipes and St. Patrick's Day written out in words [HERE!](#)
2. VIDEOS
 - ALL dancers and Families - [Stretch together!](#)
 - Beginner Dancers :
 - i. Light Jig lead with Miss Sarah
 - ii. Light Jig 2nd Step with Miss Sarah
 - Primary dancers (Beginner dancers too, if they wish!):
 - i. Light Jig with Miss Natalie
 1. FULL Light Jig with Words
 2. Light Jig Lead Around
 3. Light Jig "Ending"
 4. Light Jig 2nd Step Pt. 1 Drills
 5. Light Jig 2nd Step Pt. 2 Drills
 - ii. [Easy Treble Jig](#)
 - Intermediate Dancers - [Warm-up](#)
 - Advanced, Adult & Champ Dancers - [Warm-up](#)

IDPA Zoom Meeting Saturday

The our Irish Dance Parents Association (IDPA) board is meeting Saturday, April 25 at 10 am. IDPA Board Meetings are open to all OID families. Please join if you're interested in learning more about IDPA and what our plans are. [Here's the Zoom link](#). Meeting ID: 831 9453 4009. Password: 023747.

Eoin McKiernan Library Story Time!

If you haven't seen them already, children of all ages (three to 103!) should check out the [Celtic Junction Arts Center Facebook page](#) for Natalie's daily readings of children's stories from the Eoin McKiernan Library collection.

Links to Online Classes and Info

Links to class specific info and the weekly schedule of Zoom classes can be found on the following pages on the Damhsa site:

- [Class Levels](#)
- [Schedule of Online Classes](#)

Pointers for Online Classes

Thanks to dancers and families for working to make our online classes work. We recognize that this temporary solution is new, and perhaps some extra work, but the results have been great. Please note the following:

- Please try to position your dance space as near to your wifi source as possible. It really helps to have clear video for dancers and for your teachers so they can see your feet moving in time with your rhythm.
- Finally, please work to be warmed up and ready for class before the Zoom session starts.

For other details, please see our "[Family Guide to Zoom classes](#)" which contains most of the details we had thought of before classes started online (i.e. make sure they have water bottles near their screen, so we can take water breaks together).

Latest Guidance on COVID-19

Governor Walz and the MDH announced Wednesday plans to test 20,000 Minnesotans per day in an effort to better serve vulnerable communities and identify and help those who have or are at risk of falling ill with COVID-19. This is a significant step toward reopening MN after the stay-home order is lifted. The order currently remains scheduled to end on May 4 at which point we anticipate a gradual reopening that will still include social distancing recommendations and protocols. We continue to monitor information from the state, the City of Saint Paul and the CDC. State info can be found [here](#) and the City of Saint Paul's info is [here](#).

LOOK FOR YOUR NEXT WEEKLY UPDATE ON FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2020