

# Weekly Update from O'Shea Irish Dance Administrator

Friday, May 29, 2020

## Important Dates - Mark Your Calendars

- **June 13** - Next IDPA Board Meeting 10 am on Zoom
- **June 27** - Jumpin' June Irish Dance Watch Party 7 pm on Facebook

## A Letter from Natalie and Cormac

To our dear dancers and families, we apologize for our quiet over the weekend and for the late newsletter. Not knowing what each hour would bring over these last four days, publishing this simple newsletter seemed to pale in comparison to managing life hour by hour.

We hope you are all safe, we hope you have found some sleep, we hope that your children (of any age) are able to come to you with their questions and concerns. Like ourselves, we know you may not feel you have all the answers for them - one of our wonderful parent educators shared this excellent collection of simple responses: (thank you, dear Amie!)



As teachers, our primary focus is your children - we are here to create connection, purpose, stability and normalcy. Our classes will continue, uninterrupted, in their regular schedule, over Zoom throughout the summer. So far, students have attended from backyards, decks, cabins and grandparents houses!

We also have three upcoming events for dancers of all levels to focus on, culminating in a "together" and socially-distant event mid-August:

- Jumpin' June "Dance Videos"
- July "Class Feis"
- August "Irish Fair"

We have reviewed government guidelines and forged a concept to resume in small-socially distant groups when all schools are out. That plan is in hiatus until the change unrest around

the Twin Cities ceases. Please watch for a separate notice regarding that announcement.

For an additional safe-at-home activity, we are open to teaching a "Kitchen Ceili" where parents and kids can learn the basics of ceili dancing together (it does not have to be in the kitchen!) I am unsure of the time to offer this class. If you are interested, please contact [Natalie](#) directly. I'll craft it around interested parties.

Aside from supporting your children, please let us know if, as a larger community, we can support you. Anyone in need of an alternate/ safe location, with food insecurity, for emergency child care or for

emotional support, please reach out to Cormac or myself directly or to the leaders of the IDPA. The O'Shea Family has a metro-wide reach of hands ready to help.

Yours, Natalie & Cormac

## Jumpin' June Irish Dance Watch Party featuring YOU!

You are invited to join the OID/IDPA Jumpin' June Irish Dance Watch Party. IDPA and OID hosting a Facebook watch party on June 27 at 7 pm and the featured dancers are YOU! We want to see your steps! Class steps. Competition steps. Show steps. Or your own steps! You create the video, IDPA will edit them together and we'll all hangout online and watch the show. More details attached, but the plan is this: you create a dance video that is **no longer than 60 seconds using any of Cormac's Feistunes music** (so we don't have any copyright issues with Facebook). You can play the tunes from links found [here](#). Email your video to [kristosween@gmail.com](mailto:kristosween@gmail.com) by June 20. Get creative! Wear your solo costume, or any other costume, or your LOVE O'Shea shirt. The choice is yours! See attached for more specifics on how to shoot your video and make it great! Can't wait for the watch party!

## LOVE O'Shea T-Shirt Curbside Pick-up Postponed

Our LOVE O'Shea t-shirt vendor is a Midway business and has had to close temporarily due to the protests and fires near her business. We expect to be able to schedule our curbside pick-up event on June 6 or June 7. Stay tuned for more info on that. Thanks everyone for your patience and support!

## Help Support Our Own Hamline-Midway Neighborhood

As communities are rebuilding and recovering from this time of crisis, please join the Celtic Junction Art Center in supporting our own neighborhood. CJAC is partnering with the Hamline Midway Coalition to collect non-perishables, personal care items, and art supplies at The Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave North, St. Paul 55104, beginning Wednesday, June 3 through Saturday, June 6. Drive-up drop off times are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 2-6 pm, and Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm.

## Latest Guidance on COVID-19

Still no change for us since Governor Walz issued the [Stay Safe MN](#) order. even as Phase II starts on Monday, June 1. We continue to carefully monitor for further guidance on gyms and fitness centers, as they are the most similar businesses to our dance studio. Those guidelines will determine how we open safely, likely starting in June with socially distant class trials in the two larger dance studios. State info can be found [here](#) and the City of Saint Paul's info is [here](#).

## Class Schedule and Zoom Studio Links

We want to keep you dancing! Take any amount of weeks off, double up on classe, or request alternate class times! Links to OID 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](#)
- [Family Guide to Zoom classes](#)

**LOOK FOR YOUR NEXT WEEKLY UPDATE ON FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2020**