

# Weekly Update from O'Shea Irish Dance Administrator

Monday, November 30, 2020

## Important Dates - Mark Your Calendars

- ALL classes now on Zoom
- Nov 24 thru Nov 30 - OID is CLOSED for Thanksgiving & Oireachtas
- Dec 1 thru Dec 17 - ALL CLASSES on Zoom
- Dec 15 - Decade of Dance forms due
- Dec 18 thru Dec 31 - OID is CLOSED for Winter Break
- Jan 2 - Holiday Performance Costume Dance Video Watch Party
- Jan 4 - OID Classes resume

## We Are So Thankful

Thanksgiving in the Mid-America Irish Dance region is always tied to the regional Oireachtas. Working around the holiday and enjoying alternative Thanksgiving meals is something we're used to. While this Thanksgiving was different from others, even for families not involved with Oireachtas, our gratitude to all our families this most unusual year remains deep and heartfelt. Thank you all for your flexibility, care, caution, enthusiasm, support, dedication and above all thank you for being part of the O'Shea Irish Dance Family.

With love and appreciation,  
Cormac and Natalie

## Oireachtas Recap and Thanks

Congratulations to all of our Oireachtas competitors this weekend in Indianapolis. It's an accomplishment itself just to be there and each of you left it all on the stage. Props to recallers:

- Thursday: Ayuna (3rd) and Norah (27th).
- Friday: Henry (4th), Austin (6th), and Sophia (39th).
- Saturday: Liam S. (1st), Ava S. (4th), Sophie (5th), and Hannah (7th).
- Sunday: Jordan (1st), Dakota (21st), and Katharine (26th).

Beautiful dancing by Rivers, Maura, Ava M., Anna, Kara, Ellie, and Corrah.

This was the first Irish dance major competition IN THE WORLD since the pandemic began and it really was a model of safety and responsibility. Thanks as always to families for traveling the distance to Indianapolis and following the necessarily strict protocols to make the Mid-America Oireachtas a success. Check out all the pics and video on FB and Instagram!

## 2021 Decade of Dance Awards - Have You Been Dancing for 10 Years?

The Irish Music and Dance Association has announced that, sadly, it cannot plan for an in-person celebration for either St. Patrick's Day or IMDA's Day of Irish Dance in 2021. IMDA is working on a virtual event to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and recognize the dancers who are eligible for IMDA's Decade of Dance Award. In order to qualify, the dancer must meet all of the following criteria:

- Participated in Irish Dance for 10 full years\*. Dancers applying for the award to be presented in March 2021 must have started studying Irish dance in the Fall of 2010 or before.
- Participated for a minimum of one (1) full year\* must be with a Twin Cities Irish dance school or performance group.
- Performed at least once at IMDA's St. Patrick's Day Irish Celebration or IMDA Day of Irish Dance.
- If injured, attended classes during their recovery.
- Be recommended by an Irish Dance Instructor or Director from the Twin Cities.

\* A full year begins in the Fall and ends in the Spring (Summers are optional).

Dancers who would like to receive the Decade of Dance Award in March 2021 must submit an application to be reviewed and approved by IMDA's Decade of Dance Award Committee. The application, attached in Word and PDF formats, is due on Dec 15, 2020. IMDA will confirm your awards by Jan 15, 2021.

## **Class Costume Holiday Dance Video Watch Party! DATE CHANGE!**



Save the date and practice your steps! Because we can't gather in person this year, we're having a virtual holiday party on Saturday, January 2 at 6:30 pm. Prior to that date, dancers will record themselves performing steps **in their class costume**. Record your favorite steps holding the camera in landscape mode (horizontal). Make a video that's **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) on or before Dec 27. We'll edit those videos together and enjoy them at the watch party.

## **Tuition Gift Certificates and New Student Referral Credit**

OID has gift certificates available for purchase to give to someone interested in trying classes for a month. Remember there is a one-time \$35 annual-fee credit for students referred to OID who register on StudioDirector and enroll in a class.

## **Guidance on COVID-19**

The content of Cormac's 11/15 email re: updated COVID protocol and Zoom schedule is attached. We continue to carefully monitor and will provide updates as needed. State info can be found [here](#) and the City of Saint Paul's info is [here](#).

**LOOK FOR YOUR NEXT WEEKLY UPDATE ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020**