

Weekly Update from O'Shea Irish Dance Administrator

May 3, 2021

Important Dates - Mark Your Calendars

- May 6, 13, 20 - Class Costume Fitting times
- May 15 - Wild Colonial Bhoys - CJAC Outdoor Stage
- May 22 - OID Spring Recital - On-Stage Outside!
- May 22 - 24 - MidAmerica Spring Online Feis

OID Spring Recital - On-Stage OUTSIDE!

Our annual Spring Recital for preschool, beginner, and primary level dancers will take place on May 22 from 1 pm to 3:30 pm on-stage outside in the south parking lot under the mural. Holding the event outside will allow us to accommodate more people for each group of dancers. The recital will be broken into two parts:

- 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm - Preschool, Beginner
- 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm - Primary 1 & 2



We can't wait to see you on the outdoor stage! *In the event of rain, the recital will be May 23.*

Class Costume Fittings

Dancers who need to be fitted for a class costume before the Spring Recital, and anyone else without a class costume or with one that's too small, please sign up for an upcoming fitting session. Donna and Kristo will be at CJ from 5 pm to 7 pm on Thursday, May 6, 13, and 20. All accessories orders must be in by May 10. Please use [this sign-up form](#) to pick a time to stop by.



Give MN Spring Forward Fundraiser through May 11

The Celtic Junction Arts Center is just under \$20k to go to meet their \$100k matching gift. They launched their final push to bring in the rest of the funding this weekend with a livestream of great videos about the CJAC's four pillars: Education, Library, Outreach and Concerts. Please share with friends and family.

<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Celtic-Junction-Arts-Center>

MidAmerica Spring Online Feis

The MidAmerica Spring Online Feis will be held May 22 through May 24. Registration opens on May 7 and runs until May 20. Videos may be uploaded no sooner than May 22. All videos must be uploaded no later than 8 pm on May 24. Register on [QuickFeis](#). More info in the [Feis Syllabus](#).



Multi-School Solo Dress/Vest Exchange

On Friday, May 21 from 5 pm to 9 pm we're organizing a solo dress/vest exchange with other local CLRG* schools. Families bringing a dress to sell will be admitted free of charge. Families not bringing a dress to sell will be asked to make a \$10 contribution. Admission proceeds will be donated to IDPA. To organize the evening we are breaking it down into four separate periods:

- 5 pm to 6 pm - Dancers up to 10 years old
- 6 pm to 7 pm - Dancers aged 11 to 14
- 7 pm to 8 pm - Dancers aged 15 and up
- 8 pm to 9 pm - All ages

Families bringing a dress/vest to sell will be admitted first so we can get organized in each hour. Then others will be admitted as capacity allows until everyone is through. Dresses need to be clearly marked with contact name, price and phone number clearly printed or written on a 8.5x11 sized sheet of paper, preferably in a plastic sleeve attached to the dress, bag or hanger.

A note about solo vs class costumes in competitions (feiseanna): Irish dancers that are dancing at the competition level of Novice and above need to have solo costumes. Dancers at the beginner competition level can dance in class costumes. Please check with your instructor if you have any questions.

* CLRG (An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha) is the world irish dance governing body that our school operates under.

CJAC Outdoor Stage Opening with Wild Colonial Bhoys on May 15

After a successful "soft opening" with this past weekend's ceili, the CJAC outdoor stage will officially open with a concert by Wild Colonial Bhoys on May 15. Mask up, maintain social distancing, bring your own chair, and experience great live music in-person again!



Wild Colonial Bhoys is an Irish-American band from right here in Minnesota. Their sound is a blend of old Irish traditions with the modern American rock that inspired their music making from the time they were just wee lads. Tickets and more info at <https://celticjunction.org/event/wild-colonial-bhoys/>.

It's time to update those Black OID Jackets!

I know a lot of you have outgrown your jacket and/or are behind on sleeve dates. IDPA will be collecting jackets during the month of May to have the sleeves updated. Be sure to fill out the attached form completely so we know what you need on the sleeves. If you're in need of a new jacket, please order from [THIS WEBSITE](#) now through June 1st.

Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be allowing dancers to try on jackets for sizing so please see the size chart in the above order link or talk to your friends or other parents about what sizes have worked for them.

A new jacket (back piece, name on front, all sleeve work) will continue to cost \$85.00. This year, IDPA will NOT be covering the cost of the sleeve updates. Sleeve updates are \$10 per event. You must fill

out the form that's attached indicating what years you want added under which event (Nationals, Oireachtas, Worlds). All jackets will be available for pick up at the Celtic Junction by the end of June.

Print the attached form and pin it to the jacket, there will also be forms available near the bins inside Studio 1. Please contact Galena with ANY questions: galena.stcroix@gmail.com. Thank you!

Guidance on COVID-19

For safety and contact tracing, only parents of our preschool and beginner dancers have been allowed to wait inside the building during classes. Considering the CDC lift on some indoor restrictions, we are making some adjustments:

- PreSchool and Beginner family members may wait in the Lower Lobby (Attending parent/caregivers still restricted to one person per dancer)
- Primary students/caregivers may arrive/wait on the LEFT side of the Main Lobby (Elevator)
- If arriving early, Intermediate through Champ dancers may arrive/wait on the RIGHT side of the Lobby (Fireplace). We still ask that you not return to that part of the building, and plan to exit through the Studio 1 doors. If being picked up late, please wait in the vestibule.

Masks and social distancing are absolutely still required - if the area seems momentarily congested, please be aware and adjust appropriately. Thanks everyone for remaining vigilant in adhering to these protocols. We continue to monitor local, state, and federal guidance 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 MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021