

# Weekly Update from O'Shea Irish Dance Administrator

Friday, June 12, 2020

## Important Dates - Mark Your Calendars

- **Today and Tomorrow** - LOVE O'Shea Curbside T-Shirt Pick-up
- **June 13** - Next IDPA Board Meeting 10 am on [Zoom - Password: 275664](#)
- **June 27** - Jumpin' June Irish Dance Watch Party 7 pm on Facebook

## Letter from Natalie and Cormac

Dear Families,

We are beginning a careful "hybrid" return to Celtic Junction for dance classes by starting a trial schedule with our small groups of more advanced dancers in Cormac's classes as we continue with ZOOM for his larger group classes. We are establishing protocols for entrances and exits, divided dance spaces, cleaning and for limited personal items. Please watch for those details to be announced.

Natalie and Sarah will be contacting their families shortly about interest in returning with younger students, as they are less independent and will need coaching on the new protocol with the aid of their parents. We will be flexible to the needs of families and will likely maintain both online AND in-person options.

There are some wonderful summer activities ahead, including our June video challenge, a July Virtual Class Feis, and an August (distancing) Festival where we will celebrate our graduating seniors, and OI's 15 year anniversary! We have just released our new summer camps (see below!) We look forward to seeing some of you at the T-shirt pick up this weekend! - Natalie & Cormac

## LOVE O'Shea T-Shirt Curbside Pick-up at CJAC Tonight and Tomorrow!

The O'Shea's and IDPA are hosting a curbside pick-up for families who ordered almost 100 LOVE O'Shea t-shirts. Drive by CJAC between 5 pm and 6 pm on Friday, June 12 and between noon and 1 pm on Saturday, June 13. To help manage the traffic and safe distancing, please plan to come early in either time slot if your last name is in the first half of the alphabet, and later if your name is in the last half of the alphabet. Thanks everyone! See you at the Junction!



## Cruinniú na n-Óg - Join In!

[Cruinniú na n-Óg](#), a national day of free creative activity for young people, will take place online on June 13. We can participate here in the States as well! Highlights include: [Céilí in the Kitchen](#); [Let's Go Fly a Kite](#) a partnership with the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland; [Become a Story Keeper](#), a celebration of young people's writing by Fighting Words, Creative Ireland & the Great Lighthouses of Ireland; and a series of tutorials from Whizzkids.ie on how to [create a Video Game App](#).

## Are you working on your Jumpin' June video?

Reminder, the deadline to send your Irish Dance video is June 20. That's next weekend! We want to see your steps! Class steps. Competition steps. Show steps. Or your own steps! Reminder: 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) on or before June 20. Get creative! Wear your solo costume, or any other costume, or your LOVE O'Shea shirt. The choice is yours! See previous newsletters for more specifics on how to shoot your video and make it great! Can't wait for the watch party!

## **SUMMER CAMPS on ZOOM!**

### **'Li'l Ones' - Parent & Child Class**

Play, sing and move with your little one! Explore authentic Irish song, dance and stories that bring smiles and imagination to life. We use creative movement principles along with Irish cultural content to inspire little bodies to explore music and challenge their coordination. Join experienced teachers and collaborate with the Celtic Junction via Zoom in your own home for this unique dance experience!

- June 22nd- 25th from 9:00-9:45am-Parent & child class (Irish Dance, culture & more) Ages 2-5

### **Fairies, Folktales and Fun**

We will dive into the magical world of fairies and magical animals through music and dance of Ireland. Stories, music and steps are specially chosen to explore rhythms and that spin through Irish culture. Pretend, move and explore the foundation of creative dance with Irish style in your own home (classes held on Zoom)!

- July 27th-30th from 9:00-9:45 am- Fairies, Folktales and Fun, Ages 3-5. Parent presence helpful

### **Beginner-Leap into Irish Dance!**

Rhythm and song to get your feet moving! Learn jig steps and a reel with us as we connect with the Irish culture with stories and songs to help learn dances. Experienced dance teachers tailor classes for the age-level and ability of students. Join us for this unique opportunity to learn Irish dance. Current and new students are welcome (new content)!

-Ages 5-10 for dancers, athletes, and people new to Irish dance learn a reel in 5 days (1 hour)  
RUN June 22nd-26th from 10:00-11:00 am. Classes held on Zoom.

-Ages 10 & up learn a reel for 2-3 days in a row (1 hour and 15 minutes) June 22nd-24th 1-2:15 pm. Classes held on Zoom.

Register on StudioDirector. We'll send a registration link and flyer for you to share with friends and family as well.

## **CENTER FOR IRISH MUSIC - VIRTUAL MIM!**

Celtic Junction Arts Center is sponsoring CIM's Virtual Minnesota Irish Music Weekend - Events begin this weekend through the following Sunday, featuring performances from Master Artists in Ireland and the US -- you might even catch some youth performers too, as dance and music go hand in hand!

Their full event schedule is found on [CIM's MIM Page](#). Workshops and Concerts are below:

### **Programs & Workshops**

- **Irish Trad Immersion Camp** - 9-12 years, beginner to intermediate level
- **Teen Program** - 12-19 years, intermediate-advanced level
- **Adult workshops, lectures and interviews**

## Concerts & Public Events

All concerts in central standard time (CST) and will broadcast from the Center for Irish Music's website. Unless otherwise noted, concerts will run for 60 minutes. Tune in 15 minutes early for pre-concert chat. Concerts are free, but a suggested donation of \$10/concert to help support our artists is appreciated. Remaining concerts:

- **Friday, June 12th - Great Session Experiences**
  - 6:00pm-7:00pm - Junior Session, online via Zoom
  - 7:00-8:00pm - Song session, led by Brian Miller via Zoom
  - 7:30- 8:30pm - TUNES with sets led by visiting artists and local musicians
- **Saturday, June 13th, 3:00pm - Concert: Conal Ó'Gráda**
- **Saturday, June 13th, 7:30-10:00pm - Concert: Seán Gavin, Danny Diamond & Brian Miller, live from the Celtic Junction Arts Center**
- **Sunday, June 14th, 3:00pm - Concert: Matt Cranitch**

### Latest Guidance on COVID-19

Cormac emailed dancers involved in his classes about gathering for class in small distanced groups starting next week. Families involved in this first step toward classes at CJAC are participating according to their comfort level and following careful protocols. More detail to come on those protocols. We are glad to be participating in the careful reopening of MN. We continue to carefully monitor for further guidance to determine how we open safely, likely starting sometime this month 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 19, 2020**