



# McKEEVER SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE NEWSLETTER APRIL-MAY 2016

## Meet “Clara”

The E. Claire Raley Studios for the Performing Arts, although a name with much meaning and intention behind it was certainly a mouthful. So the Honey Agency was hired to rebrand our new studios. They combined the name Claire and Raley to become CLARA. The studios also got a gorgeous logo and will have a pop of “Teal” in honor of the Raley-Teel family that were the projects major donors. The revealing of this new name and logo took place on Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup> with guest speakers who included Joyce Raley Teel, Congresswoman Doris Matsui and Council member Steve Hansen. Dancers Juliana G., Brady A., Blake A., Regan A. and Sherry T., all made it into the Sacramento Bee and even a Fox40 News piece. Check our website under NEWS to see and read both of those items.



Juliana Grail, 13, of Sacramento leads the Anderson children – from left, Brady, 8, Blake, 6, and Regan, 3 – in an Irish dance at the McKeever School of Irish Dance after the dedication of Clara Midtown on Wednesday.

# CLARA Studio Wide Open House

Our new home, Clara (The E. Claire Raley Studios for the Performing Arts) had its official public Open House on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>. This exciting event proudly showed off Sacramento's newest gem. The McKeever School dancers performed in the spacious auditorium as did the Sacramento Ballet, The Brazilian Center for Cultural Exchange and the Sacramento Prepratory Music Academy. Our new studio is really starting to come alive and it feels so great to see all the hard work visibly come together. We are lucky to have jumped into this space a year ago, while groups such as the Sacramento Ballet have been active with this project for seven years! We would also like to thank the CLARA Executive Director, Megan Wygant for organizing such a great Open House!



## Dancers Perform at Benefit for a Worthy Cause

On April 3<sup>rd</sup> the McKeever School dancers came together along with the Sacramento Ceili Club to help support an event that raised funds for Father John Healy's ministry to the needy who are suffering from AIDS. The event also supported a non-profit organization called MVP that helps underprivileged children with activities that help build character and steer them away from gangs. Thank you to everyone who took the time to take part of such a wonderful event. It is great to see the Irish American community come together to support such valuable, local charities.



## Sister Sketch!

Dancer Amber Rankin, who is currently completing an MFA in Traditional Animation from the Academy of Art University, posted this amazing drawing of herself and her sister Tara N. practicing for the Clara Open House event. Read more on her blog [www.ambermations.com](http://www.ambermations.com)



# Upcoming Shows and Events in May and June

Is it really already May? How did this Happen!?! This will be a fun month for the McKeever School of Irish Dance. We have three performances in the month of May. Thank you to all the dancers who have already signed up. Performer entry is now closed but we encourage everyone to come support their fellow dancers.

**What:** Whole Earth Festival Davis

**When:** Saturday May 7, 1:30 - 2

**Where:** 1 Shields Ave, Davis, CA 95616

**What:** Dance Showcase Woodland

**When:** Saturday May 14, 3pm

**Where:** 1400 Pioneer Ave, Woodland, California 95776

**What:** SactoMoFo - Fest

**When:** Saturday May 21 12:45pm

**Where:** Discovery Park 1600 Garden Hwy, Sacramento, California 95833

**What:** In Studio Photography Sessions with Brianna McKinley

**When:** Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup> 11:30-5pm or later if needed

**Where:** McKeever Dance Studio

Dancers must sign up for a specific time slot. Check email for sign up sheet and pricing catalog.

## Mark your Calendars for the Following Events in June!

**BALLET TECHNIQUE WORKSHOP - On Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>** we will have dancer Hunter Finnegan from the Sacramento Ballet, who also has a background in competitive Irish Dance, come to the studio for a two hour workshop. To take part please sign up on the Google Doc that will be coming your way via email. Based on demand we will divide things according to age and ability, and if we need to create multiple workshops we will. Hopefully Hunter can analyze our dancers and teach them some helpful ways to increase turnout, flexibility and strengthen their posture and point.

**LUCKY SEVEN'S, SILLICON VALLEY FEIS!!! REGISTER before May 26th**

One of the last local competitions until the Fall will take place in San Jose, **June 11-12<sup>th</sup>**. Please don't miss the registration deadline. For the syllabus and more information go to [Feisinfo.com](http://Feisinfo.com)

# Looking Ahead to Summer!

Since many dancers have more time to train than during the school year I wanted to offer as much as I could with respect to some occasional time off for things like the National Championships in Orlando. Many families take long vacations which is understood, but it is advised not take the entire Summer off if you want to maintain your ability and keep your spot in the class.

The current schedule of classes will remain the same. You are only charged for what is offered each month so if the school has a week off in August no student is charged for that week and the Studio Director Software will calculate that discount.

We have signed up for the CA State Fair again so hopefully we get accepted and a date will be set for that performance soon. Last year we had 30 dancers and it was a lot of fun!!!

We are hoping to have fun extra team building events in the studio, like Movie nights, craft events and special workshops that are open to all dancers.

## June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Classes in Session	2 Classes in Session	3 Classes in Session	4
5	6 Classes in Session	7 Classes in Session	8 Classes covered by Natalie BUT NO TINY TOT CLASS	9 Classes Covered by Natalie	10	11 FEIS
12 No Private Lessons	13 No Classes	14 No Classes	15 No Classes	16 Classes in Session	17	18 Privates Back open starting this date
19 Private Lessons Available	20 Classes resume	21 Classes in Session	22 Classes in Session	23 Classes in Session	24	25 Possible Sac Ballet Dancer Workshop for Improving Irish Dance Technique
26 Private Lessons Available	27 Classes in Session	28 Classes in Session	29 NO TINY TOT CLASS Classes Possibly covered by Natalie (National Championships)	30 Classes covered by Natalie (National Championships)		

# July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 National Championships Orlando	2 National Championships Orlando
3 No Private Lessons National Championships Orlando	4 No Classes National Championships Orlando	5 No Classes National Championships Orlando	6 No Classes	7 No Classes	8 No classes	9
10 Private Lessons Available	11 Classes	12 Classes	13 Classes	14 Classes	15	16
17 No Private Lessons	18 Classes	19 Classes	20 Classes	21 Classes	22	23
24 Private Lessons Available	25 Classes	26 Classes	27 Classes	28 Classes	29	30
31 Private Lessons Available						

# August 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Classes	2 Classes	3 Classes	4 Classes	5	6
7 Private Lessons	8 Classes	9 Classes	10 Classes	11 Classes	12	13
14 Private Lessons	15 Classes	16 Classes	17 Classes	18 Classes	19	20
21 Private Lessons	22 NO Classes	23 NO Classes	24 NO Classes	25 NO Classes	26	27
28 NO LESSONS	29 Classes	30 Classes	31 Classes			