



# McKeever School of Irish Dance Newsletter

February - March 2018

## Two Day Feis in San Francisco!

We had another local two day feis this month held in the beautiful St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco. The McKeever School was represented by over 30 dancers at this competition! Every dancer made their teachers proud. Remember that becoming a better dancer takes time and every competition, whether there are wins or losses, will teach you lessons you need to work hard and achieve your dance goals! Congratulations to dancer Ava S. on competing at her first feis!

Congratulations to Eva S. who earned her Preliminary Champion rank at this feis! Eva is one of our original homegrown McKeever dancers and we couldn't be more proud of the hard work she has put in toward her goal of becoming a Champion!



# LIVE On The Air!!!

McKeever dancers had two occasions to perform on the local news to promote the annual Student Showcase this month. Dancers of all levels showed off their skills in a short reel routine. What a fun opportunity! They appeared on both GoodDay Sacramento and Fox40 dancing live on the air to help promote the student showcase! Thank you for being such professionals on the air!!



## New Gear is Here!

Did you get a chance to grab one of our new Performance or Saint Patrick's Day Shirts? Don't worry there are many left for sale at the Studio! Grab your size before they are gone!



# Second Annual Student Showcase is a Hit!!!



For the second year in a row we hosted a student showcase at the CLARA Auditorium. This year we did things a little differently and had three casts perform three distinct shows. Everyone from beginners to champions, tiny-tots to adults, performed the dances they have been working on throughout the year. Story continued next page.....

# Second Annual Student Showcase a Hit!!



## Workshop Series Continues

Our second set of the “Learn a Dance in a Month” Workshops were another hit! Dancers learned two traditional sets this month, “Jockey to the Fair” and the Jerry Molyneux style “Blackbird”. These sets have recently been recognized by our organization, An Commision, as traditional sets that can be performed at competitions. Jerry Molyneux was a dance master from North Kerry where Irish Dance is traditionally performed in a more loose manner than what we are used to.

This version of the Blackbird set is now acceptable for competition when performed in our style - tighter movement and crossed legs.

## Arts Outreach In SCUSD

As a CLARA tenant Miss McKeever participates in another aspect of CLARA’s education outreach by teaching Irish Dance to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in Hollywood Park public schools. A new ten week session started this month. Miss McKeever, along with other CLARA tenants, will be provide arts education to students in the Sacramento City Unified School District that would otherwise not have this opportunity.

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This Year Some of the unique numbers were the Performative Choreography class’s A-capella, the Parent/Child Dance Battle, dancer Moriah P.’s Riverdance inspired Slip Jig, and the Open Champion set dances performed by Morgan M. and Bridget F. The showcase is a great way for dancers across the classes to see the broad spectrum of what our dancers can do and get inspired! We loved seeing the younger dancers peek under the curtain at the Champions. Congratulations to dancers Lena M., Karuna E., Christie H., Danny T., Jennifer N., Rebekah F., and Heather N. who performed for the first time as McKeever Dancers! We had a beautiful musical interlude from English folk singer Liz Ryder. Liz is the music instructor for our fellow CLARA tenant Southside Unlimited. Her transportive music really added to the night’s atmosphere!

The shows were almost entirely sold out again!

Our beautiful programs printed by Capital Graphics were sponsored by some of our wonderful dance families.

Irish Dancing Magazine donated a 6 month subscription that we raffled off to raise \$172 for dancers traveling to Orlando to compete this Summer at the North American Championships. Lucky Raffle winner was Megan L. Who came all the way from the Bay Area to watch her classmates perform. We wish Megan a recovery from an injury sustained during the San Francisco Feis. We also had some beautiful items for sale all hand made by Alexis Smith. Follow her on Instagram as @lliddyllamacraftymama Liddy Llama’s Crafty Mama!

Thank you to all the dancers who participated and all the audience members who supported the event!

We already can’t wait for next year!

## CLARA Facebook Live

On February 8<sup>th</sup> CLARA intern Sam visited our Intro Beginner Class for a Facebook Live Event. CLARA provides internships to High School students in the Sacramento City Unified School District, giving them opportunities to learn work related skills in the arts and arts administration. Sam is working on a series of Facebook Live videos that share the day-to-day life of CLARA’s tenants. Our Intro Beginners did a great job showing off their reel, and Saoirse Z. was even interviewed! We are so lucky to be a tenant at CLARA!

### NO CLASS MONDAY MARCH 5th

Wed. March 7th - *Rockin Road to Dublin* at the Harris Center

Fri. March 9th - Show at World Heritage Festival 5:30-7:30 El Dorado Hills. More info to come.

March 4, 11, 25th - Riverdance and Treble Reel Workshops “Learn a Dance in a Month”

Sat. March 17th - 1pm Old Sacramento Saint Patrick’s Day Parade, All dancers encouraged to take part!

Sat. March 17th - 3:30pm Performance at Oakmont Senior Living in Carmichael.

Sun. March 18th - Kings Game Performance Rehearsal - Check Emails for More Information

Thursday March 22 - Kings Game Performance - Golden One Center

NO CLASS Thursday March 22. NO CLASS ON EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 2nd

April 8th - 3-5pm Performance at Saint Anthony’s to benefit the Homeless and at risk youth.

April 21-22 - San Francisco Two Day Feis! [www.Feisinfor.com](http://www.Feisinfor.com)

April 28th-29th - Performance at the Woodland Scottish Games - More info to come.