



McKEEVER SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE NEWSLETTER JUNE-JULY 2016

Heating up the Competitive Floor This Summer

We started off this month with students attending the Lucky Sevens Silicon Valley Feis hosted by the Greene School as well as Feis Las Vegas hosted by School Rince Ni Riada. Our dancers had the help of Natalie McKeever who diligently attended both days in San Jose, keeping detailed notes on all the dancers so that when Miss Nicole McKeever came back from a wedding in Wales she would know how everyone did. The bottom line, there were many wins and some losses that day but all of you are getting better as dancers and that is what counts. Keep the big picture in mind and remember to have fun, even World Champions have experienced both wins and losses.

Dancer Isa P. in her third competition as a Champion won first!!! This is simply outstanding! We also had dancers Fiona and Alicia travel South to represent the McKeever School. Fiona attended the Feis at the Fair in Long Beach, CA. Fiona solidified her status as a new Preliminary Champion after getting her final first place necessary to move up! Welcome to Champ Fiona! Dancer Alicia has continued to improve placing on the podium at the last two feisanna attended including one in Pheonix Arizona hosted by the Michael Pat Gallagher School.

At the San Jose Feis, Natalie McKeever noticed that all of you showed such great camaraderie and school spirit between all of you. Keep that up!



Camp Rince Ceol

Four of our dancers, Ana, Isa, Emma and Eva were lucky enough to attend the Irish Dance Camp called Camp Rince Ceol where they are able to meet dancers from other states and learn from World Champions such as former Riverdancer Ryan McCarthy. What a great chance opportunity! *The word Rince, pronounced (Rink-ka), means dance in Irish. The word Ceol, pronounced (Key-yole) means music in Irish!*



Incentive for Beginners

We have a lot of beginner dancers working hard this Summer towards earning one or many of these ribbons featured to the right. At the end of August we will hold a special day to test each dancer that wants to participate. If you can dance the specified dance to music in time, with no major mistakes and with no help you will earn a ribbon. This will help determine which dancers may be ready to move up, and will help me group dancers into specific classes as we enter the fall. Not to mention it helps motivate!!



Did you know our school mascot is a cute dog named Tumbleweed? She even knows how to do the Jig. Tumbleweed was a rescue from the SPCA and is a friendly and kind natured creature. Hopefully she will stop by your class!



Ballet Workshop from Sac Ballet Dancer Hunter Finnegan



We were lucky enough to have had access to dancer Hunter Finnegan from the Sacramento Ballet, who also has a background in competitive Irish Dance. He came to the studio for a two hour workshop on Saturday June 25th. Hunter helped analyze our dancers and teach them some helpful ways to increase turnout, flexibility and strengthen their posture and points. It was great to have different classes mix together and share in a fun and informative afternoon.

Thanks to all who participated! We will definitely start planning another workshop soon! Hopefully end of the Summer if there is the interest!



Photography Sessions Capture Moments in Dance



We are lucky enough to have many professional photographer parents in the school, one of which is Bri McKinley. She came to the Studio right at the start of the month to do some great sessions with several of our dancers. Here is a sneak peak of some of her work.

Looking forward to seeing what beautiful imagery has been captured. If you are interested in booking a session with Bri McKi Photography please visit her website <http://www.brimckiphotography.com/>

Important Upcoming Dates

- North American Championships, Orlando Florida June 30th to July 5th. GO MORIAH!
- CA State Fair Performance -July 22nd, 4pm Promenade Stage
- August 13th – Possible Second Saturday Event at the Studio.
- **July 4-8th NO CLASSES**
- **August 22-26th NO CLASSES**



Artist's From South Side Arts Center Visit the Studios

This month we had a special visit from Artists who participate in Southside Arts Center's Program for Disabled Adults. The Artists toured the building meeting the Executive Director, seeing a Zumba Dance class at the Brazil Center, peeking into a music lesson, and touring the McKeever School of Dance Studios while two adorable students Sarah and Ava performed. They took pictures and will transform this imagery into works of Digital and Printed Art to be sold at a gallery in Auburn. The sale of these works helps the Artist to support themselves financially. For more information on this wonderful organization please go to www.SouthSideArtCenter.com

