



# McKeever School of Irish Dance Newsletter November-December 2017

## McKeever Students Compete With the Best in The West!





# Western Regional Championships 2017



This November 18-20th the McKeever School sent 17 of its dancers to compete at the Western US Regional Championships in Phoenix, Arizona. This was only our third time sending dancers to this prestigious event. The top dancers from 13 states competed to qualify for the National and World Championships of Irish Dance. All of our dancers did their very best and we are so proud of you. Out of the Champions we had first time competitors Arabelle J, Heather N, Mila R, and Ana P, looking polished and professional! Audrey P, Morgan S, Marcella M, and Isa P did an outstanding job looking even better than last year. Dancer Morgan M, ranked 13<sup>th</sup> one away from a recall! Dancers Natalie M and Maegan B both came out of retirement to powerfully graced the stage again. Bridget F., also out of a 10 year retirement, came in 23<sup>rd</sup> in a stiff Senior Ladies competition and qualified for Nationals this Summer in Orlando. We also had five dancers compete in the traditional set category, four of them getting awards and all of them making us proud. Millie K, Libby P. (22<sup>nd</sup>), Anja R. (9<sup>th</sup>), Jenny B. (26<sup>th</sup>) and Sherry T. (6<sup>th</sup>!). We have our eyes set on Portland 2018 and the training has already begun!!





# Preparing and Lending a Hand

**MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SEEN OUR LATEST IMPORTANT EMAILS**

## STUDENT SHOWCASE

Sign up to take part in our Annual Student Showcase! Deadline to sign up is Dec. 18th!!

## SACRAMENTO COMPETITION

Don't miss out on registering for the Kennelly Feis here in Sacramento! It's a great chance for beginners to dip their toe into the competitive arena!! Email Miss McKeever with questions about registration.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER DEC. 29th

## MANDATORY PRACTICE AT HOME

If you are a competitive dancer from the Novice Level and above it is now mandatory that you practice at home and record this in a practice log and present this to Miss McKeever at the end of every month. This will effect your eligibility to compete. Hopefully this makes students more accountable and helps us avoid injuries!

## NEW SUNDAY CLASSES

Check out our new list of Sunday workshops we are going to offer in 2018. This includes a 2 hour Champion level class. Email to inquire and register.



Pictured above to the left, dancer Audrey P. performs her Set Dance called "Planxty Drury" at the Oireachtas dress rehearsal in CLARA's beautiful Auditorium. Dancers were given the chance to perform for family and the camera before traveling to Phoenix for the big Championships.

Pictured above to the right is the McKeever Gift Basket with \$260 dollars worth of gift cards donated to the Western Region's Raffle. The funds from this raffle went to people in Northern California affected by the devastating fires. Thank you to everyone who donated. Every little bit added up!

## Upcoming Events

**CORNISH CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE - Grass Valley, Friday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm**

**CHRISTMAS BREAK NO CLASSES - December 18<sup>th</sup> - January 3<sup>rd</sup> (First class back January 4<sup>th</sup>)**

**IRISHPALOOZA - HARLOWS - January 13<sup>th</sup>**

**KENNELLY FEIS SACRAMENTO - January 14<sup>th</sup>**

**SCHOOL RECITAL - February 24<sup>th</sup>**



From beginners in January of 2014 (the first dancers to ever compete for the McKeever School) to both earning medals at the Western Regional Championships in 2017. Well done Jenny and Sherry!!!