



Maureen Gately, BFA, TCRG, (formerly Maureen Berry) is the Director of the Teelin Irish Dance Company and Owner/Director of the Teelin School of Irish Dance. In 2009, Maureen was the top recipient of the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) Individual Artist Award for Dance Choreography.

Maureen grew up in New Jersey within the highly competitive world of Irish Step Dancing, became a champion Irish dancer at a young age, and competed at the World Championships. In addition to Irish Step, her extensive dance training ranges from modern, ballet, tap & jazz to Appalachian clogging. After attending a performing arts high school, Maureen received her BFA degree in Dance Performance from Towson University. In 1997, she joined Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble as a full time performer and toured all over the world.

Also musically inclined, Maureen learned to play the button accordion from her father, Michael Berry, and competed in several All Ireland championships for Irish music. (Maureen is on a mission to make the accordion a "cool" instrument.)

In 2007, Maureen choreographed and performed in a John Paul Jones music video for the music group Uncle Earl. The video has won multiple awards from Country Music Television (CMT).

Maureen was awarded her TCRG teaching certification by An Coimisiun le Rinci Gaelacha (the Irish Dancing Commission, in Dublin, Ireland) in 2001, and has been an active member of the Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America (IDTANA) since that time.

Maureen currently focuses her energy on teaching and directing. The versatility of directing a performance company that is separate, yet associated with an Irish dance school, allows for a wide variety of interesting performance opportunities. Highlights of her career include the highly successful production ***Portraits of Ireland***, which debuted in March 2006, and the subsequent production of ***StepDance*** premiering in February 2012.

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To book a performance by the Teelin Irish Dance Company, send an email to Company Manager Colleen Woodcock at **performances@teelin.com**, or call **443-803-6853**.

To schedule an interview with Maureen Gately, send an email to Teelin Business Manager Kathleen Young at **kathleen@teelin.com**, or call **443-414-4144**.