

2011-12 TEELIN IRISH DANCE COMPANY AUDITIONS FAQ's...

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO AUDITION FOR TEELIN IRISH DANCE COMPANY?

Auditions are open to upper level Teelin students who have strong treble reel skills, a good work ethic, and are ready to make the commitment to a performance company. This year, all current 2010-11 Company Dancers and Peanut Troupe A Group dancers will be invited to participate in the 2011-2012 Teelin Irish Dance Company. Letters will be mailed to each dancer the week of April 4th, and replies accepting or declining this invitation must be received by April 25. All Peanut Troupe B Group dancers, Performance Class students and any other eligible Teelin students are asked to audition for a position on one of next year's company troupes.

PEANUT TROUPE AUDITION – Friday, May 6th, 5:00-6:00pm

Auditions are open to all current Peanut Troupe dancers and to Teelin students born in 2000 or later (U11 age group or younger) with hard shoe experience and strong treble reel skills. Dancers must be able to commit to the Peanut Summer Camp held August 15-19, 2011.

COMPANY DANCER AUDITION – Friday, May 6th, 7:00-8:00pm

Auditions are open to all current Performance Class dancers and to Teelin students born in 1999 or earlier (U12 age group or older) who are advanced level dancers with strong treble reel skills. Dancers must be able to commit to the Company Summer Camp held August 1-5, 2011.

There is not a separate audition for a position in the 2011-12 Performance Class. Invitations to the Performance Class will be decided from the results of the Company Dancer Audition. If a dancer is unable to commit to the Company Summer Camp dates but would still like to audition, please send an email to performances@teelin.com indicating that that he/she will be auditioning for an opportunity to participate in the Performance Class only.

MAKE-UP AUDITION DATE – Wednesday, May 11th, 6:30-7:30pm

Ideally, all dancers will be available to attend the scheduled auditions on Friday, May 6th. However, if a dancer has a completely unavoidable conflict, please send an email to performances@teelin.com reporting the nature of the conflict and requesting registration for the make-up audition.

DO I NEED TO REGISTER FOR THE AUDITION?

Yes, please use the online registration system. This will allow Maureen to conveniently review all dancer information prior to the auditions, such as each dancer's age and current class enrollment. There is no fee to register for the audition. <https://www.thestudiodirector.com/teelin/register.jsp>

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF DANCERS AT AUDITIONS?

Here are a few tips for a successful experience at the audition:

- Take a deep breath. It is important to remember that the evaluators WANT you to succeed! Yes, you may be nervous, but don't be so nervous that you are incapable of dancing your best.
- There will be multiple evaluators, each taking notes in much the same way that adjudicators do at a feis.
- Smile! You are auditioning for a **performance** company. In addition to evaluating your technique, Maureen will be evaluating your stage presence. Make it look fun!
- Auditions will involve several dancers performing together (you will be told during the audition what to do), and then each dancer performing individually for certain skills. Treble reel skills will definitely be one of them, so be prepared to demonstrate a treble reel individually. Peanuts, be sure to also review your Light Jigs before the audition.

- Support your fellow dancers with smiles and encouraging comments. The Teelin Irish Dance Company is a **team**, not just a group of individually talented dancers.
- Remember that positive attitude and responsibility are big factors in the company's success.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR AND HOW SHOULD I LOOK FOR THE AUDITION?

Wear nice practice clothes, no specific costume is required. Do not wear long pants; your legs must be visible. Bring soft shoes and hard shoes, and remember to double knot your laces. Appearance does matter when you are performing. Think of this as a performance. Remember to look neat and well groomed with your hair pulled back out of your face.

WHEN WILL WE FIND OUT THE RESULTS OF THE AUDITIONS?

After the audition Maureen will review the comments from each of the evaluators, and then she will determine which invitations to offer for each of next year's troupes and Performance Class. As the Teelin School of Irish Dance grows and develops, so too will the Teelin Irish Dance Company. The performance company should represent the top talent of our school, and the audition process is a fair way to permit all of the many talented dancers at Teelin an opportunity to participate. Not all will be invited.

Invitations will be sent by mail, and then all invited dancers and their parents will be asked to attend an orientation on **Wednesday, May 18, 6:30-7:15pm for Peanut Troupe or 7:15-8:00pm for Company.**

Accepting an invitation to the company is a big commitment. Maureen is grateful to each and every one of her dancers (and their supportive families) for this dedication! Be sure to review the Dancer Contract carefully before accepting, and ask any questions if needed.

IF I'M NOT INVITED, WHAT'S NEXT?

If you are not offered a position, please don't lose heart. Continue to work on your technique throughout the year, develop more confidence with a wide variety of dance steps, and consider competing at feiseanna to increase your opportunities for advancing your skills.

The Performance Class is a weekly class and will include several opportunities to perform. It is a great chance for those who are not members of company to develop their performance skills. Invitations for this class will be offered to audition dancers who are age U12 & older. A Peanut Performance Class for younger dancers may also be offered as a mini session during the 2011-12 school year, if studio space and teacher availability permit.

As the director of the Teelin Irish Dance Company, Maureen does not take her position lightly, and sometimes tough decisions are necessary. With a dedicated group of advanced level dancers, Maureen loves developing a group of passionate individuals into a team of talented performers! Choreographing, performing and teaching are her passions, as well as her profession.

As always, if you have specific questions or concerns, please call Maureen (443-629-7808) to arrange a convenient time to talk.

Thank you for auditioning for the Teelin Irish Dance Company. Dance well, and enjoy!



www.teelin.com