

2010-11 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. All current company members will also be auditioning for a position on one of next year's company troupes.

Peanut Troupe Audition - Friday, May 7th, 5:00-6:30pm

Auditions are open to all current Peanut Troupe dancers and to Teelin students born in 1999 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 9-13.

Black Troupe Audition - Friday, May 7th, 6:30-8:00pm

Auditions are open to all current Wed/Sun Troupe dancers and to Teelin students born in 1998 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 Aug 2-6.

Red Troupe Audition - Friday, May 7th, 8:00-9:00pm

Auditions are open only to current Wed/Sun Troupe dancers who are champion level and born in 1998 or earlier (U12 age group or older). Dancers must be able to commit to the Company Summer Camp held Aug 2-6.

DO I NEED TO REGISTER FOR THE AUDITION?

No, but please send an email to performances@teelin.com expressing your interest so that Maureen knows approximately how many dancers to expect at auditions. (Any current company members should contact Maureen by May 2 if they are not interested in auditioning for a position on next year's company.)

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 TO 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.

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 next year's troupes. 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 **Wed, May 19, 5:45-6:45pm for Peanut Troupe or 6:45-8:00pm for Red & Black Troupes.**

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 on next year's company, 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.

NEW THIS YEAR! There will be a performance class offered during the 2010-11 school year at Teelin, which will include some opportunities to perform. This class is by invitation only to dancers U12 & older, and will be a great chance for those who are not members of company to develop their performance skills.

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!

