



Welcome to the O'Grady Quinlan Academy!

Thank you all so very much for your interest in joining our school. We are so excited to have your child be a part of the O'Grady Quinlan Family.

The fall session for beginners will begin the week of October 1st, 2007. This way it gives your child a chance to settle into the new school year and gives us a chance to finish our biggest event of the year – Celtic Fest! August was an extremely busy month for our school and we were unable to add any additional summer session new beginner classes. Anyone that still needs to make up a class from the summer session is welcomed to make it up in the fall.

Our Pre-Beginner Classes are 30 minutes long. During the class, students will learn and perfect the basic Irish Dancing Movements like the hops and the sevens and then put those movements together into steps. Older Beginners, who know two steps in the reel and light jig will be in the 60 minute class. Students who are interested in the 60 minute class, must have the approval of either Maureen or Colleen.

Students who take the Fall Session may be ready to dance in a performance by either mid- December or definitely by the St. Patrick's Day Season. The nice part about our school though, is that it will be your choice if you want your child to participate in community events – or to compete in competitions - everything is voluntary! When the classes start in October, we will provide you with a handbook that will answer many of the questions that come up. We want your child – to love Irish Dancing – and we will do everything in our power to foster a love of dance in structured, yet positive environment.

Registration Fee: Beginner families in the school are required to pay a \$45 registration fee. This fee is used to defray the cost of insurance, internet/database costs, steps DVD and steps packet and handbook. Parents will also need to inform us of any medical conditions and sign a photo release form.

Cost: Depending on which class you attend, tuition will be different. Please email Maureen at ogradytcrg@mac.com for rates.

Class Attire: Black or Red OQA Tee Shirt (everyone should have received a free black tee shirt – if you haven't they will be available to you on the first day of class) and shorts. Students will not be allowed to take class if they are wearing inappropriate clothing – like a pair of jeans.

Shoes: We have proper shoes available for purchase at the studio but we don't want you to purchase the shoes until you are sure that your child loves this style of dance. Sneakers or ballet shoes are acceptable at class until your child is ready to do his or her first performance.

Performance Attire: All younger beginner girls will wear a jumper with an OQA embroidered shawl, white blouse, poodle socks and a bun wig. Older beginner girls will wear a skirt, blouse, shawl, poodle socks and a bun wig. Boys – black pants, black shirt, red tie. We strive to keep costs low and many of the items are available for purchase at our trading post. Performance attire will not be needed for a while...and we will guide you through the process when necessary.

Age/Level: If Colleen or I see that a class is not appropriate for a child, we will work with you to find a class that meets the needs of the child. All children progress at different rates. Please keep in mind that some may advance quicker than others. Students are not ready for the full hour class until they are able to do two reel steps and two light jig steps in time with music. Therefore, wee ones may need to take two years at the prebeginner level. It is beneficial to get the technique and steps down before moving to the next level.

Contacts: Please feel free to contact us with any questions, comments or concerns.
Katie Reagan - parent volunteer and beginner organizer
irishdancer96@aol.com

Maureen O'Grady, TCRG - Instructor - ogradytcrg@mac.com

Colleen Schroeder, TCRG - Instructor - quinlanacademy@rcn.com

Please complete the following registration form and send along with payment to
O'GradyQuinlan Academy - Beginner Class
631 East Broad Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015

We look forward to seeing you shortly!

Sincerely,

Maureen O'Grady, TCRG and Colleen Schroeder, TCRG