

WHAT TO EXPECT...

The Teelin Irish Dance Company audition is open to any Teelin dancer (entering at least third grade) with hard shoe experience who is ready to make the commitment to a performance company. Also, current members of the Apprentice Troupe must audition for a position on next year's troupe.

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 three evaluators: Maureen Berry, Eileen Narvell and Molly Nilan.
- Smile! You are auditioning for a *performance* company. In addition to evaluating your technique, they 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 will definitely be one of them!).
- 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.

After the audition Maureen will review the evaluations from each of the three instructors present, and then she will determine which invitations to offer for next year's Apprentice Troupe. As the Teelin School of Irish Dance grows and develops, so too will the Teelin Irish Dance Company. The performing company should represent the top talent of our school, and the audition process is the fair way to permit all of the many talented dancers at Teelin an opportunity to participate.

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!

If you are not offered a position on next year's Apprentice Troupe, 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 then come back to auditions next year to try again. This is a dance company, not a club, and sometimes Maureen needs to make some tough choices for the good of ALL people involved.

As the director of the Teelin Irish Dance Company, Maureen does not take her position lightly. She loves developing a group of dedicated dancers 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 have fun!



teelin.com