

TARTAN PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association

SDCCS 2004/2016
Scholarship Winners
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Welcome!



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Special Awards at the Mid-Canada Open Championship, Selkirk Premiership & open pre-premier competitions

On the second day of the above mentioned events, awards will be presented to MHDA dancers that the 3 Judges assess as the Most Promising Beginner (the John and Mary MacKay Memorial Trophy), the Most Promising Novice (The James Barr Stewart Memorial Trophy), the Most Promising Intermediate (The Inverness Perpetual Trophy) and the Most Promising 13 year old Premier Dancer (The Susan Merry Chudzy Memorial Cup) based on the dancing witnessed over the course of the two days of Competition.

Other special awards to be given out over the course of the two days will recognize both pre-premier and premier dancers for participating in MHDA dance-outs that help to spread the art and sport of highland dance throughout our province. Thank you to all dancers and their families for their participation throughout the year in these wonderful opportunities to share our culture.

At the conclusion of the second day of dancing, the premier dancer who has acquired the most points over the course of the 7 dance events hosted by the MHDA between October through to and including June 11, will be awarded the Mrs. Annie E. MacIntosh Memorial Trophy. In order for points earned in a dance to be included in the calculation of the aggregate total, there will have to have been at least 6 dancers competing in the particular dance. Dance points for all competitions, including those held in October and November, will be based upon the new values: 1st place - 137 points; 2nd - 91 points; 3rd - 71 points; 4th - 53 points; 5th - 37 points; 6th - 23 points.

What we will do on June 10 or 11 if it's raining?

If it is not raining heavily, the competition should be good to go ahead at the Forks. The stage is under cover. Please do stay tuned into your email and watch the MHDA facebook page for any updates and notices if the weather appears uncooperative. Balmoral Hall school has a theatre that has been booked as a back up and the MHDA will try to get the word out to all registrants and their teachers as fast as we can.

If we are able to be at the Forks, just a reminder that it is a very public venue and you ought to keep an eye on your belongings. You must also adhere

to the ScotDance Canada Policy about using the provided changing facilities. Dancers are not to walk around in sports bras or cropped tops. A warm up jacket or shirt are expected if you are not wearing your vest.

SDCCS Premier Scholarship Winner - Celeste Roy

Pictured: Celeste Roy. Photo by Noelle Wood



The 2004 and last year's 2016 Championship Series were major successes due to the hard work of all of you – the Manitoba highland dancing community. Thank you all for your contributions.

The success of these events has allowed us to create and continue 2 annual scholarships – one for pre-premier and one for premier to recognize dancers that display the spirit of the Championship

Series. This would be a dancer that displays not only competitive spirit but also community spirit and sportsmanship, as well as a love for and dedication to Highland Dance.

The selection of our Premier Scholarship recipient was very difficult. There were several excellent applications from many talented dancers.

The winner of this year's scholarship is a dancer who:

- Has been an active competitor;
- Has overcome a great deal to continue to dance and represent Manitoba;
- Says Highland Dancing is extremely important to her;
- Has attended many dance-outs – both for MHDA and her dance school;
- Has traveled and competed in Scotland
- Has danced at Folklorama in both the Pavilion of Scotland and the UK Pavilion;
- Her Mum has been a member of the MHDA executive for several years;
- Her Mum also volunteered for the awards committee at both SDCCS 2016 and again this year;
- This dancer is looking forward to going to PEI for SDCCS 2017!

Here is Celeste's moving application essay:

My name is Celeste and I am a premier dancer. I started dancing when I was 5 years old and highland dance is my life. I have not done any other sports because dance is the only sport I care about.

When I was younger, dance was easy and I didn't get very nervous. I would win a lot of trophies and overall aggregates in my first 2 years as a premier.

In the year of 2015-16, everything changed. In the first fall competition, when I did the Fling, I felt sick at the end of the dance. During the Sword, I felt ok until the bow at the end when I felt nauseous. I ran off the stage and threw up in the bathroom. I was embarrassed and worried because this had never happened before. Since

that competition, throughout the year, I had no control over how I was feeling on stage. I threw up at least once at every competition. I would usually have to leave the stage in the middle of a dance and run off the stage to be sick. I was so upset and disappointed in myself because dance is so important to me. Now I couldn't do what I loved. I felt crushed because I love to dance and felt like that was being taken away from me. Even though I knew I was disqualifying myself by not finishing my dances, I still kept going back to competitions hoping it would get better and I could finish my dances.

From then on, every time I competed, I no longer had corrections to work on like pointing my toes and turnout. My only goal was to complete the dance. I would concentrate on trying to stay calm and control my breathing.

In May, at the Provincial Selection meet, I threw up on stage twice and for the first time, I was not a Provincial Representative. I was very upset. After that competition, after talking to my mum and dance teacher, I realized that I should be proud of myself because, even though I got sick, I still finished the competition with 2 medals in the dances I completed.

After Provincials, we bought anti-anxiety bracelets that push on the pressure points in my wrists. The first competition that I wore them at was Regina. They felt a little uncomfortable at first, but I got used to the feeling. I made it through 2 days of competition without being sick. I got runner up trophies on both days!

After that weekend, I felt happy and relieved. I finally felt a little bit like my old self while I was on stage. My family and dance family were so happy for me! From then on, it was easier for me to stay calm. I felt like I was starting to control my anxiety.

Since then, I haven't gotten sick at any competitions. I still get nervous, but I know that I'll be ok. Now that I have my anxiety under control, I can think about corrections while I dance and I don't have to worry about being sick on stage. I am confident like I was when I was younger. I am able to dance my best which is all I care about because I love to dance.

This summer, I went to Scotland for 2 weeks and competed in 6 competitions. Even with travelling and competing far away, I didn't feel nervous. I placed in 5 out of 6 competitions and won the overall trophy at 1. Dancing in Scotland made me happy and winning the trophy made me feel like I had overcome my problem. It was a huge accomplishment.

This year, I feel normal again. I have entered every competition and placed at all of them. Dance is so important to me because it's a huge part of my life. It is so important to me and my family that I needed to find a solution for my anxiety because I didn't want to quit. I couldn't let my anxiety stop me from doing something that I loved so much.

I think I should be considered for this scholarship because of everything I have overcome in the past year. I am practicing a lot in preparation for PEI. Now that I have my anxiety under control, I am able to try my very best. Even now, I wear my bracelets at every competition. They sit at my wrists hidden under my jacket. When I wear my Aboyne, I can wear them above my elbows and they still can't be seen, but still help. They remind me to stay calm and make my anxiety better. Sometimes I still get nervous when I dance, but I know that I'll be ok. I know that I can continue to do what I love because I love to dance!

SDCCS Pre-Premier Scholarship Winner - Emilie McLean



Pictured: Emilie McLean. Photo by Noelle Wood

As mentioned on the previous page announcing Celeste Roy as the Premier scholarship winner, we were very pleased to award SDCCS scholarships to two dancers, one Premier and one pre-premier - all thanks to the successes of the 2004 and 2016 SDCCS events held in Winnipeg!

The pre-premier award is also to encourage a promising pre-premier dancer to strive for excellence. This award is intended to assist them to attend the ScotDance Canada Championship Series in order to help give them the wonderful opportunity to experience both the competitive and social events at the Championship Series and to help prepare and encourage them to strive to attend the Championship Series in future years.

We had some very good applications this year and we thank everyone who applied.

The winner of this year's scholarship is a dancer who:

- Says that highland dancing has taught her hard work and setting goals;
- Has been an active competitor;
- Has attended many dance-outs - both for MHDA and her dance school;
- Has danced a lot at Folklorama;
- Her Mum and Grandma volunteer at Folklorama both for the pavilion and MHDA;
- Her Mum is an active volunteer with MHDA as Head Marshaller; and
- This dancer is looking forward to going to PEI for SDCCS 2017!

This year's winner PrePremier scholarship recipient is Emilie McLean! Here is the essay included in Emilie's application:

My mom used to take me to Folklorama to help my grandma in the kitchen and watch my cousin dance. I kept asking her "When is my turn to dance at the castle?" So I started taking dance lessons at the age of 4. That year, I got to dance at the castle, and every year since. I love Highland Dancing.

Highland Dancing has taught me hard work and to set goals for myself.

Since last year, I have moved into the next level and learned 5 new dances. I am very excited to be going to PEI to dance at the Canadians again. I hope one day I can be a rep for Manitoba.

Upcoming Events

Sat June 10 & Sun June 11, 2017

The annual MHDA Mid-Canada Competition (including Championship and Premiership) will take place at the Forks under the canopy. More information about registration is coming soon!

Friday, June 16, 2017

The MHDA is hosting a fundraiser for dancers attending SDCCS 2017 in PEI. Full details available to the left.

Saturday, June 24, 2017

The annual highland dance competition at the Manitoba Highland Gathering in Selkirk, Manitoba will take place on June 24. Other activities also take place on June 25. To register, visit www.manitobahighlandgathering.org.

Sunday, June 25, 2017

The MHDA has been asked to perform at the Red River Ex from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 25. Contact Lauren at danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com if you would like to perform with MHDA at this event! It's fun for the whole family!

Thurs Jun 29 - Mon Jul 3, 2017

SDCCS 2017, including the Canadian Championships, is taking place June 29 to July 3 in PEI this year! Celebrate Canada 150 with many other members of the highland dance community from across the world. More info at www.sdccs.ca!

Week of August 13 to 19 2017

The Pavilion of Scotland takes place this week! More details on how to dance and volunteer coming soon!

Don't rush away after the morning events conclude. Join in at the Forks on June 10 after the awards of the morning's events have been concluded to dance a massed fling on and around the stage. All are invited whether competing or not! Let's show the rest of Canada how the highland dance community in Manitoba celebrates big events.

Celebrate Canada's 150th the Highland Way



Join us for a Massed Fling
All are Welcome to Participate!

When: June 10th @ approx. 11am
Where: At the Forks Under the Canopy

Out of Town Results - Saskatchewan Highland Games

Congratulations to all Manitoba dancers who competed in the Saskatchewan Highland Games in Regina May 20 and 21, 2017. Please see MHDA members' results below!

In addition to the dancers listed here, there were other MHDA members who may have attended the competition. Members who are not included below can submit their results to terryn.shiells@gmail.com to be featured in the next edition of the Tartan Press!

Queen City Open Competition Regina, SK - May 20, 2017

Natasha Roy Primary

16 Pas de Basques - 4th

Queen City Open Championship Regina, SK - May 20, 2017

Mya Pilat

Premier 10 & Under 12 Years

Sword - 4th

Reel - 5th

Overall - 5th Runner Up

Celeste Roy

Premier 10 & Under 12 Years

Seann Trubhias - 4th

Laura Unruh

Premier 12 & Under 14 Years

Fling - 2nd

Sword - 1st

Seann Trubhias - 2nd

Reel - 1st

Overall - Champion

Lauren Horvath

Premier 14 & Under 16 Years

Fling - 5th

Sword - 5th

Jean Thomson

Premier 14 & Under 16 Years

Fling - 4th

Sword - 2nd

Seann Trubhias - 3rd

Reel - 4th

Overall - 2nd Runner Up

Camryn Watson

Premier 14 & Under 16 Years

Fling - 3rd

Sword - 3rd

Seann Trubhias - 4th

Reel - 3rd

Overall - 3rd Runner Up

Alexandra Kaskiw

Premier 16 & Under 18 Years

Fling - 6th

Reel - 6th

Queen City Open Championship (continued)

Allison Unruh

Premier 16 & Under 18 Years

Fling - 3rd

Sword - 1st

Seann Trubhias - 2nd

Reel - 2nd

Overall - 1st Runner Up

Rachel Unruh

Premier 18 & Over

Fling - 5th

Sword - 5th

Seann Trubhias - 4th

Reel - 5th

Overall - 3rd Runner Up

Jennifer Watt

Premier 18 & Over

Fling - 1st

Sword - 2nd

Seann Trubhias - 2nd

Reel - 3rd

Overall - 1st Runner Up

Prairie Valley Open Competition Regina, SK - May 21, 2017

Natasha Roy

Primary

16 Pas de Basques - 5th

Prairie Valley Premiership Regina, SK - May 21, 2017

Mya Pilat

Premier 7 & Under 12 Years

Laddie - 3rd

Village Maid - 4th

Hornpipe - 5th

Overall - 4th Runner Up

Celeste Roy

Premier 7 & Under 12 Years

Village Maid - 5th

Blue Bonnets - 4th

Hornpipe - 6th

Overall - 5th Runner Up

Prairie Valley Premiership (continued)

Laura Unruh

Premier 12 & Under 14 Years

Laddie - 1st

Village Maid - 1st

Blue Bonnets - 1st

Hornpipe - 1st

Overall - Champion

Lauren Horvath

Premier 14 & Under 16 Years

Village Maid - 5th

Blue Bonnets - 6th

Hornpipe - 6th

Overall - 5th Runner Up

Camryn Watson

Premier 14 & Under 16 Years

Laddie - 2nd

Village Maid - 2nd

Blue Bonnets - 2nd

Hornpipe - 2nd

Overall - 1st Runner Up

Alexandra Kaskiw

Premier 16 & Over

Hornpipe - 5th

Allison Unruh

Premier 16 & Over

Village Maid - 4th

Blue Bonnets - 4th

Overall - 4th Runner Up

Rachel Unruh

Premier 16 & Over

Laddie - 4th

Village Maid - 5th

Blue Bonnets - 5th

Hornpipe - 4th

Overall - 3rd Runner Up

Jennifer Watt

Premier 16 & Over

Laddie - 2nd

Village Maid - 2nd

Blue Bonnets - 2nd

Hornpipe - 2nd

Overall - 1st Runner Up

MHDA Practice Socks For Sale!



We have custom embroidered practice socks for sale in 3 sizes! Pick yours up at The Forks on June 10th and 11th. Limited quantities are available!!!

This is a wonderful way to support our dancers in fine style. \$15 each or 3 for \$40 taxes included (cash or cheque).

Any remaining pairs will be available at The Highland Gathering on June 24th.

Questions? Contact Jennifer at: fundraising@mbhighlanddance.com

Remind me how those special premier events work again?

Photo by Noelle Wood



The Stephen Juba Seann Triubhas consists of a dance off of the top placing dancers in the Sean Triubhas event of each "12 and over age" category in the MidCanada Championship. It is not a separately danced event in the sense that every dancer 12 years or older participating in the MidCanada Championship is automatically eligible. Why just the "12 and over age" categories? Dancers under the age of 12 do what is commonly referred to as the 'short steps'. The winner of an under 12 age category would not be able to do short steps in a dance off against the dancers who are 12 or older. So, the winners of each age bracket for dancers 12 or older, re-takes the stage after the 4th dance of the Championship is completed in order to dance the Seann Triubhas once again. The judges then determine which dancer will be the recipient of the award for the Stephen Juba Seann Triubhas for the year. It is possible for the same dancer to win this award more than once.

The McGeown Jig, on the other hand, is a separate event from the Lord Selkirk Premiership. A dancer must pay a separate entry fee to compete in this event. It takes place at the conclusion of the 4 dances for the Premiership. The dancers are organized into new age brackets for the event based upon the number of dancers entering the event. So, there may be different age categories than there were for the Premiership. After the entrants dance the Jig, the top dancer from each age category is selected to dance the Jig a second time in a dance off from which the judges will select a winner. The winner of the McGeown Jig cannot enter the McGeown Jig in any subsequent years thereby assuring a new winner each year.

Results from the May 6 Closed Provincial Championship & Competition



On May 6th, 2017, the Closed Championship and Provincial Selection meet was held. Thirty-nine Premier Dancers competed for the 19 Provincial Representative spots that were up for grabs. Manitoba was fortunate to be able to send 20 representatives in total as Laura Unruh, the reigning Canadian Champion in the 12 and under 14 category, receives a bye into the SDCCS closed Canadian Championship. Here are the other 19 representatives travelling to PEI to compete on July 1st:

Ainsley Lamb, Celeste Roy, Mya Pilat, Presley Webb, Alanna Holens, Alexandra Finnbogason, Deanna Carlyle, Jean Thomson, Madelaine Baigrie, Camryn Watson, Allison Unruh, Meaghan Fennell, Sidney Sinclair, Jennifer Watt, Rachel Unruh, Claire Schon (not pictured, is attending in place of Keelyn McGinn), Lauren McCombe, Kelsey Watchman and Terry Shiells. Good luck and safe travels to all! Reps are pictured above in the photo by Noelle Wood.

Also on May 6th, awards were presented to dancers with the Winter High Aggregate scores based upon the four competitions hosted by the MHDA in October, November, January and March. Congratulations to Brooke Aronson (Beginner High Aggregate - The Manitoba Coalition of Scottish Clans Trophy); Sydney Stibbard (Novice High Aggregate - the Jimmy Baird Memorial Shield); Ainsley Lamb (Intermediate High Aggregate - the Peter Dick Memorial Trophy) and ; Jean Thomson (Premier High Aggregate - the Sons of Scotland Benevolent Association Trophy).



L to R: Brooke Aronson, Sydney Stibbard, Ainsley Lamb, Jean Thomson. All photos by Noelle Wood

Here is a short note that Sydney Stibbard's Grandmother, Diane Laidler, passed along to the MHDA: I wanted to share how thrilled the family was when Sydney won the Jimmy Baird Memorial Trophy at the last competition. Jimmy worked with Sydney's great-grandfather Len Laidler at MTS. That's how the family met Irene Baird, who went on to teach Sydney's great aunt Barb Sokalski (Laidler) as well as Stephanie (Sydney's mother). Sydney's great grandmother, Joyce Laidler has shared the story with all her friends. Thanks to MHDA for maintaining these wonderful traditions.

If you have any stories to share about the history of any awards, please let us know.

Pictures taken by MHDA member dancer Noelle Wood of the events on May 6th can be found here <https://www.flickr.com/photos/135668928@N02/albums/72157680582268533/page3/>

Parent's Fling Competition - June 11

The MHDA is repeating the ever popular Parent Fling event on Sunday June 11 towards the end of the morning's events. Although it is called the Parent Fling, it is not confined to parents of dancers. Siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents and whoever else comes out to support the competitors can sign up on the morning and take the stage in their bid for best male or best female fling.

Manitoba Highland Gathering
Ceud Mille Failte - (100,000 welcomes)

24 & 25 June 2017!!!
Legacy Park, East Selkirk
HWY 59 + PR 212 (Kittson Rd)

BACK TO THE LEGENDARY LAND

Attractions - Gates open at 8:30 (Scottish Foods + Pub at 11:00)
-ANAVET Pancake Breakfast from 9:00-11:00

- HIGHLAND DANCE COMPETITION
- PIPING AND DRUMMING
- HEAVY GAMES
- 26TH ANNUAL MANITOBA CANOE & KAYAK MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS
- RED LION SCOTTISH FOOD BOOTH
- RICKLYN PETTING FARM
- SHEEP SHEARING AND STOCK DOG DEMOS
- ALL BRITISH CAR SHOW AND SHINE

- MB LIVING HISTORY (1812)
- SONS OF LUGH VIKING LIVING HISTORY (A.D. 600-900)
- BARONY OF CASTLE ROUGE (MEDIEVAL)
- WEE FOLK FACE PAINTING AND HEAVY GAMES
- RED RIVER NORTH REGIONAL HERITAGE GROUP DISPLAYS
- SCOTTISH MARKET
- WEE WILLIE'S PUB
- LIVE MULTICULTURAL ENTERTAINMENT
- AND MUCH MORE!!!

Free Shuttle Compliments of Selkirk Chrysler

Rain or Shine, bring a chair!

Prices are set at:
- 1 Day (Family)...\$27
- 2 Day (Family)...\$37
- 1 Day (Adults)...\$12
- 2 Day (Adults)...\$17
- 1 Day (Seniors)...\$10
- 2 Day (Seniors)...\$15
- 1 Day (Children)...\$8
- 2 Day (Children)...\$12

Early Bird (1 Day):
- Families...\$24
- Adults...\$10
- Seniors...\$8
- Children...\$6

EARLY BIRD TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

One Insurance - Selkirk
Rennie's Full Service - East Selkirk
Lockport Grocery - Lockport
Shops of St. Andrews
ANAVET

Beach Handimart - Winnipeg Beach
Clandeboye Store - Clandeboye
Jacobs Trading "Ye Old Rock Shop"
Beausejour
Gaynor Family Regional Library
Gordon Howard Centre
Or call Joyce at 204-794-6587

ManitobaHighlandGathering.org

Fundraiser for Dancers Heading to PEI - Friday, June 16!

Dream it. Believe it. Experience it.
Prince Edward Island

June 29th to July 3rd, 2017

ScottDance Canada Championship Series



Come out and support all of the dancers travelling to PEI by enjoying a BBQ Bird and Bevvie. For \$20, you will be fed a yummy meal and be entertained by a number of our dancers heading off to PEI for the SDCCS from June 29 to July 3rd. There will also be wonderful silent auction items for you to try to win and a 50/50 draw. Come one, Come all! Contact Lisa Omand if you need tickets. lomand@mts.net

New Local Highland Dance Shoe Supplier



Unique Ireland, a local store that has just re-opened in a new location at 2579 Pembina Hwy in Winnipeg is now carrying highland dance shoes!

Currently, they have assorted sizes and styles in stock. If they don't have your size, they can order in any size from kids to adults. All dancers also receive 10% off! Check them out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Uniquelreland!>



Boys Mentorship Program Getting Rave Reviews

Our Boys Mentorship Program is getting rave reviews. A number of people across Canada and The States have expressed an interest in having similar programming. It even got commented on as "BRILLIANT" by the wonderful Douglas McFarland who knows all about the ups and downs of being a male dancer. Such an amazing role model.

We are looking forward to another great session on Saturday June 17. Please contact Jennifer Lange at: fundraising@mbhighlanddance.com for more details.

This program will continue for the 2017/18 season and we will adapt as our numbers grow. We have 12 dancers plus our older male dancers already registered for this second session!



MANITOBA HIGHLAND DANCERS' ASSOCIATION



Due to overwhelming success, MHDA is proud to
host the 2nd session of the

BOYS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Inspire young male dancers to continue
participation in highland dance

Introduce potential male dancers to
highland dance

June 17, 2017

Participation is Free

Boys aged 3+ are welcome!



For more information and to register contact:
fundraising@mbhighlanddance.com