

TARTAN PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association

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Entries for Mid-Canada Competition Open Now!



Entries for the Mid-Canada Open Championship, Lord Selkirk Premiership & Open Competitions on June 8 and 9, 2019 at the Forks are now open! If you have not registered yet, please visit www.mbhighlanddance.com for all the information and to complete your registration. Entries close on May 29, 2019.

There are two separate open competitions for the pre-premier dancers. So, stamps can be earned each day! New this year is cash awards instead of runner up prizes in each of the championship and premiership classes. Medals will still be awarded for individual dances but the champion/winner and the runners up in each class on each day will receive cash for their overall placing.

Family & Masters Fling at the Forks!

We hope you have been practicing because the Family Fling and Master's Fling at our June event is coming up quickly!

The Family Fling is open to anyone, NO HIGHLAND DANCE EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY! Impress your own friends, family and highland dancers by getting up on our stage and doing the Highland Fling - its a fun event that is not to be missed.

The Masters Fling is open to any dancer who is not competing, adult dancers, adult former dancers and dance teachers - you may be a wee bit rusty on dancing the steps but you know them, see if the muscle memory takes over.

Please give Cathy Laver-Wright (claverwright@gmail.com) a shout if you are interested in participating. It's a great way to show our highland dancers that friends and family support their hard work, courage and effort by getting up on stage and trying it for ourselves. It will be fun, I promise!

Premier dancers competing for chance to represent MB at Canadian Championships

Forty Two premier dancers have registered to compete in the Manitoba Championships and Selection Meet to be held on May 5 at the St James Civic Centre. There are dancers in all 7 age categories vying for the honour of representing Manitoba at the Canadian Championships. Up to 3 dancers in each of the 7 age categories will be selected to represent Manitoba in Moncton on July 5, 2019. For those age categories where there are 6 or more dancers that take the stage on May 5th, a champion and 5 runner ups will be determined. The champion and the 1st and 2nd runners up will be asked to represent Manitoba in that age category in Moncton. For those age categories where there are less than 6 dancers that take the stage, a winner of the age category will be determined along with the other 1 or 2 dancers from that category who will represent Manitoba. The dancers that represent Manitoba are eligible for funding to assist with the travel and expenses. Application forms must be completed and submitted by May 15th to access this funding. Forms will be provided to those chosen to represent Manitoba at the Meet on May 5 and can also be obtained by contacting registration@mbhighlanddance.com

Come to our Canadians' Ceilidh 2019!

Save the date! Friday, May 31st, 2019 from 5:30-8:30pm (all draws will take place at 7:45) at Cowboy's Nightclub in Canad Inns Windsor Park where we will be hosting the 'Canadians' Ceilidh 2019'.

The MHDA will once again run our annual Spring fundraiser for dancers traveling to SDCCS. We are offering a Pizza, Pasta & Bevy this year for the dinner, tickets \$20 each OR you can support dancers by purchasing 'Support Tickets' at \$10 for those not attending the event. This fundraiser will maintain the same format and conditions as last year. This event is open to all dancers traveling to the ScotDance Canada Championship Series in Moncton, New Brunswick, July 3-7, 2019.

In order to participate, please provide proof of registration by email to fundraising@mbhighlanddance.com regardless of dancer classification. Once participation is confirmed, there are 3 ways to earn funds (choose what works for your family):

1) **Sell tickets:** \$10 from each ticket sold goes back to the dancer that sold the ticket (for example, sell 10 tickets, receive \$100) OR \$10 Support Tickets go directly back to the dancer (these tickets are for those not attending the May 31st event but would like to contribute to the dancers' fundraising efforts). Dancers can sell tickets to friends, family, coworkers, etc whether they are personally available to attend or not.

2) **Donate or collect a prize:** Provide a minimum of one prize basket in order to receive funds from the Silent Auction. After the silent auction is completed, all proceeds will be divided equally amongst all the dancers providing a minimum of one basket each. Families with multiple dancers must provide a basket from each dancer in order to receive multiple shares. Dancers need not attend to participate, however, you must make your own arrangements to ensure the basket is delivered in time for the event and clearly marked with the donating dancer's name. Anyone requiring a donation request letter, please advise Jennifer Lange or Cathy Laver-Wright.

3) **Perform:** Dancers that participate in the Dance-out performance that evening will split the proceeds of the 50/50 draw. (Dancers do not need a ticket to attend for performing only, however, they will not receive a meal and no outside food or drinks are permitted).

Contact Jennifer Lange (fundraising@mbhighlanddance.com) or Cathy Laver-Wright (claverwright@gmail.com) for questions, tickets and for a donation request letter. Tickets will be available on May 5th at the Provincial Selection Meet and via phone/email arrangements before or after that.

Winter and Year End Aggregate Awards

At the May competition, the MHDA will present a Winter High Aggregate award to dancers in each of the Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, and Premier categories. Each recipient is determined by tallying the total points the dancer has earned over the 4 'winter' competitions (October, November, January and March). In order for the the points of a particular dance to be included in the calculation for the overall aggregate award, there had to be at least 6 dancers participating in the dance. Points earned in one category do not follow the dancer to the next category if the dancer changes categories over the course of the year. In the determination of the aggregate winners, the points used for all follow the SOBHD point values:

| Placing | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Points | 137 | 91 | 71 | 53 | 37 | 23 |

The recipients of the "SDCCS Scholarships" will also be announced at the May Competition.

At the June Mid-Canada competition, there will be a presentation made to the Premier dancer who has earned the most points over all of the MHDA events in the 2018- 19 dance season. Again, the point values will be used and applied to those dances where there were at least 6 dancers participating. Point totals earned over the 4 winter events together with points earned at the May Competition and both days at the Forks will be tallied to determine the recipient. The Dance Out Awards will also be presented to the Pre-premier and Premier dancers participating in the most MHDA dance outs.

March workshop with Tony Cargill

March was a busy month for our dancers! With all of the competition opportunities and Spring Break one would think it couldn't have gotten any better. But it did. Thanks to our first ever workshop series on March 24th!

We must first thank Sean from Harvester Fish Net Company for not only the very generous \$2000 donation he made to MHDA last winter but the \$1000 donation he made to Boys Mentorship specifically to host a workshop with a World Champion to provide guidance, support and most importantly inspiration for all! We would not have held this event without him. Thank you also to the MHDA for topping up the workshop series funding with a small portion of the funds that had been set aside for this purpose. The day was such a huge success that we are already looking toward the next workshop! Thank you to Tony Cargill, Amy From-Playford (Amata Body Rolling), Dr. Christine Watson (Vision Board Workshop), Jonathan from MDAM and Lori-Ann Mundt (VoxLife) for your individual contributions to our workshop. It was an exciting, enriching day for all! We could not have asked for more from 4-time World Champion, Tony Cargill. Not only did he provide thorough, detailed instruction to all ages and classes of dancers, his enthusiasm, honesty and candid manner was of great benefit to all. Tony was also accommodating of our change of schedule, as we had set our dates prior to the announcement of the Prairie Thistle March competition and had to switch to the Sunday to avoid conflict. I mention this because I don't believe that many of our members understand the amount of work that goes into scheduling and planning and juggling to create the best possible opportunities for all of our members. Thank you to everyone who participated in the workshop and provided feedback!



Boys mentorship program road trip



Boys Mentorship travelled to Minnedosa Saturday, April 13th for a fun-filled day of dance and community outreach. After an action packed lesson at Crystal Scott's studio, parents and boys enjoyed a potluck lunch and visit before heading out to entertain the residents of the Care Home. The boys did a fabulous job of dancing and fiddling (many residents were singing along!) and interacting with the residents who were so very appreciative for the show. It was wonderful to see the progress that the boys have made in

their abilities since last year's trip!

The sun was shining and spirits were high as the group headed out into the community raising both awareness and funds to support Highland Dance in Manitoba. Many raffle tickets were sold and spirits were lifted as the boys went door-to-door, proud of their ability to share their sport and Scottish heritage. The day finished off with ice cream at the fabulous Farmhouse 50 (it is a gem so stop in if you get the chance!) and chatter on the drive back to Winnipeg about how much we enjoyed our day. Thank you to Connor, Munro, Cearan, Rhogan, Daxton, Cullen, Lachlan and Murdoch and all of the parents for another great road trip!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 5, 2019 - The MHDA is hosting its open competition and Provincial Selection Meet championship competition. Good luck to all dancers competing.

May 18 & 19, 2019 - The Saskatchewan Highland Gathering takes place this weekend. Info about the competitions is at www.saskhighland.ca - good luck to any MHDA dancers who will be attending this event!

May 31, 2019 - The Canadians Ceilidh fundraising event it taking place at Cowboys to help support dancers traveling to SDCCS 2019 in Moncton, NB. More info on page 2.

June 8, 2019 - Manitoba Open Competition and Mid Canada Championship - registration is now open!

June 9, 2019 - Manitoba Open Competition and Lord Selkirk Premiership - registration is now open!

June 19, 2019 - MHDA dancers are invited to perform at the Red River Ex at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Please email danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com to indicate dancer interest and indicate your dancers' level and dances they can perform. We will have parking and entrance passes for dancers and one accompanying adult.

June 22 & 23, 2019 - The Manitoba Highland Gathering is schedule for this weekend in Selkirk, MB. More info at manitobahighlandgathering.org

July 3 to 7, 2019 - The ScotDance Canada Championship Series (SDCCS) takes place in Moncton, NB. Many Manitoba dancers will travel to represent our province at the Canadian Champions, and others will compete in the regular competitions. Entries are now open and you can find more information at www.sdccs.ca.

Sells highland ghillies!

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MHDA Available for Performances!

Do you know of or are you involved with a daycare, preschool, or kids program that would like to have MHDA perform traditional highland dancing?



MHDA dancers pictured above performing at the Transcona Highland Gathering on September 22, 2018.

Contact the MHDA at danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com and we can arrange a danceout free of charge for your daycare, preschool or kids program!

Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you to the companies below for providing sponsorship to the MHDA for the 2018/19 dance season!

MacDon Industries:

MacDon *The Harvesting Specialists.*

Van Houtte Coffee Services:



The Scottish Gentlemen's Club:



Harvester Fish Net Company:



Priority Restoration:



Banville & Jones:



Out of Town Results

Regina Highland Dance Association Competition - March 2, 2019

Novice 8 & 9 years
Kalli Chapman - Fling - 4th, Sword - 2nd, ST - 4th, Lilt - 1st
Payton Young - Flora - 5th



Novice 10 & over
Ainsley Bosak - ST - 5th

Prairie Thistle Highland Dance Competition - Brandon, MB - March 24, 2019

Primary

Karys Douglas: 1st - PDBs, 1st - PDB & HC, 1st - Fling, 1st - Sword
Natasha Roy: 2nd place in two dances, 3rd place in another dance

Beginner

Rachel Gerhard: Overall Beginner 7 Winner, 1st - Special Fling, 1st - Fling, 1st - Sword, 3rd - Lilt, 3rd - Flora
Honora Coutu: 3rd - Flora

Novice

Kalli Chapman: 3rd - Sword, 2nd - Lilt, 2nd - Flora
Ainsley Bosak: 3rd - Special Fling, 5th - Sword, 4th - Lilt, 5th - Flora
Bailey Biswanger: 4th - Special Fling, 3rd - Fling, 4th - Sword
Veronica Daniel: 5th - Special Fling, 5th - Flora
Kaitlyn Coutu: 2nd - Special Fling, 6th - Sword
Allyson Stubbe: 6th - Special Fling, 6th - Flora



Lilt, 1st - Flora

Keira Wiebe: 1st - Fling, 2nd - Sword, 3rd - Lilt, 1st - Flora
Morgan Weiss: Overall Novice Winner, 1st - Special Fling, 2nd - Fling, 1st - Sword, 1st - Lilt, 3rd - Flora

Intermediate

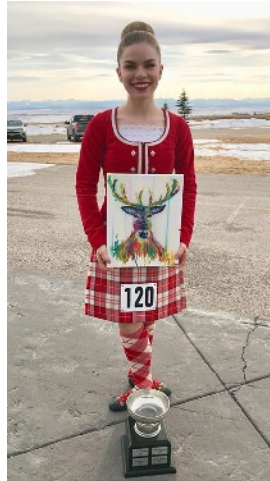
Abby Sigurdson: 3rd - Fling, 3rd - Lilt
Meaghan Munnoch: 3rd - Special Fling, 3rd - Fling, 1st - Sword, 3rd - Lilt, 3rd - Flora
Thea Conley: Overall Intermediate Winner, 1st - Special Fling, 1st - Fling, 1st -

Premier 15 & under

Katherine Walc: 4th - Flora
Mya Pilat: 1st - Fling, 2nd - Lilt, 1st - Flora
Connor McIntosh: 3rd - Sword, 5th - Lilt, 5th - Johnny
Juleah Chabih: 3rd - Fling, 1st - Lilt, 5th - Flora, 3rd - Johnny
Tessa Laver-Wright: Participation

Premier 16 & over

Kennedy Molloy: 3rd - Fling, 3rd - Johnny, 3rd - Lilt
Terryn Shiells: 2nd - Fling, 2nd - Sword, 2nd - Johnny, 2nd - Lilt, 2nd - Flora
Jennifer Watt: Overall Premier 16 & over Winner, 1st - Fling, 1st - Sword, 1st - Johnny, 1st - Lilt, 1st - Flora



Calgary Chinook Open Championship - March 16, 2019

Cora Lamb - Premier 7 & under 10
 ST - 4th, Reel - Championship points

Ainsley Lamb - Premier 10 & under 12
 Sword - 4th, ST - 4th, Reel - 6th
Overall - 3rd Runner Up

Jasper Bain - Premier 14 & under 16
 Sword - Championship points

Jennifer Watt - Premier 21 & over

Fling - 3rd, Sword - 3rd, ST - 3rd, Reel - 3rd
Overall - 2nd Runner Up

Energy Capital Premiership (Calgary) - March 17, 2019

Ainsley Lamb - Premier 11

Blue Bonnets - 6th, Hornpipe - 5th

Jennifer Watt - Premier 18 & over

Johnny - 2nd, Lilt - 2nd Blue Bonnets - 2nd, Hornpipe - 2nd
Overall - 1st Runner Up

Northern Canadian Championships - Edmonton, April 13, 2019

Olivia Ross - Premier 7 & under 10

Fling - 3rd, Sword - 6th, ST - 5th, Reel - 5th
Overall - 4th Runner Up

Madelaine Baigrie - Premier 16 & under 18

Fling - 2nd, Sword - 3rd, ST - 4th, Reel - 3rd
Overall - 2nd Runner Up



City of Edmonton Premiership - April 14, 2019

Madelaine Baigrie - Premier 16 & under 18

Johnny - 3rd, Lilt - 3rd, Blue Bonnets - 3rd, Hornpipe - 2nd
Overall - 2nd Runner Up

Two MHDA Dancers Performing at Edinburgh Military Tattoo This Summer!

Rachel UnRuh is extremely excited to say that she has been selected to dance with the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Dance Company Team for the 3rd year in a row!

She will be performing alongside 50 other dancers from Canada, the United States, Scotland, and Australia.

She can't wait to see everyone again and get back out on the esplanade to take part in this year's show, and the 70th anniversary of the tattoo! (submitted by Rachel UnRuh)



Lauren McCombe will be dancing in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland this summer! After four years of starting school at the beginning of August, she finally has a chance to return to Scotland and spend a month doing her favourite sport, Highland Dance. She is looking forward to spending time with friends she made last year in Switzerland, meeting new people and having a Winnipeg friend to travel with this year! (Rachel UnRuh). She is especially excited to perform for over 200 000 people each night. For anyone that loves Highland Dance, she recommends taking part in a Tattoo at some point in their career. It is much different than competing in that a lot of teamwork is required, very different from solo competition. However, the friendships that form over the couple of weeks become very strong, especially with the unique bond of loving Highland Dance. What an amazing way to spend your summer! (submitted by Lauren McCombe)



McGregor Studio of Dance congratulates new professional members

It is with great pride that I announce that Colleen McGregor and Deanne Magnus have successfully passed their SDTA "Fellowship" Professional Exam "with Distinction" along with Audrey Steedman who also passed the SDTA "Associate" Highland Professional Exam "with Distinction". - Gaelyn McGregor

See Colleen McGregor as Cinderella this summer at Rainbow Stage

Come and see Colleen McGregor as Cinderella in Rainbow Stage's Production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" this summer, August 15th - 31st, 2019 (there are a few pre-opening shows as well). If you wish to save a bit on Prime Plus and Prime seating during that time, contact Gaelyn McGregor at ballater@mymts.net for details.



MHDA Represented at local cultural night

On March 22 Emily, Connor and Natasha had the opportunity to perform at l'Université de St. Boniface's Cultural Festival. Many cultures were represented (Eg. French, Nigerian, Filipino, Malaysian, Ghanan...)

Along with a dance performance, we also sampled cultural foods and everyone was a big fan of our shortbread and imperial biscuits!



The MHDA is excited to report that in addition to the SDCCS 2004/2016 Scholarships, its dancer members are eligible to apply for the Lynn Stephen Memorial Highland Dance Scholarship newly established by the Scottish Gentleman's Club Inc.

SDCCS 2004/2016 Scholarships - Following the success of hosting the SDCCS in 2004, excess funds were set aside to award two \$500 scholarships annually, one to a pre-premier dancer and one to a premier dancer. This fund that was supplemented after successfully hosting the SDCCS in 2016.

Pre-premier Eligibility: 1) An applicant (parent/guardian) must hold current membership of Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association in good standing for the year of application; 2) An applicant must be a Manitoba resident; 3) An applicant may only win the award once as a Pre-Premier, but may reapply each year until selected, if they have not previously won and may apply again once reaching Premier. 4) An applicant should be intending/attempting to attend SDCCS in the year of application. 5) Dancer must be dancing in Pre-premier classes at SDCCS in the year of the application.
Pre-premier purpose: To encourage a promising pre-premier dancer to strive for excellence. This award is 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.

Premier Eligibility: 1) An applicant (parent/guardian) must hold current membership of Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association in good standing for the year of application; 2) An applicant must be a Manitoba resident; 3) An applicant may only win the award once as a Premier, but may reapply each year until selected; 4) An applicant should be intending/attempting to attend SDCCS in the year of application.

Premier purpose: To recognize a Premier dancer that displays the spirit of the 2004 & 2016 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. This award is intended to assist them in attending the ScotDance Canada Championship Series

and to experience both the competitive and social events at the Championship Series.

Applications due by **April 15** and Scholarships are awarded at May Competition. (Applications for this year have now closed)

Lynn Stephen Memorial Scholarship - The Lynn Stephen Memorial Highland Dance Scholarship has been established to commemorate the contributions made by the late Lynn Stephen to the Manitoba Scottish Community and specifically to highland dance. For over 40 years she shared her talent and passion for highland dance by teaching many children and mentoring them to adulthood. Lynn viewed dance as an opportunity to learn life lessons, build character, develop caring relationships and develop good citizenship. The Scottish Gentlemen's Club Inc. is proud to be able to support the legacy of the late Lynn Stephen through the funding of The Lynn Stephen Memorial Highland Dance Scholarship. All funds from this scholarship are to be used by dancers to assist them in advancing their highland dance skills and their love of highland dance. Up to \$1000 in the aggregate is to be awarded to a MHDA member dancer or dancers (eg. One award of \$1000, or two awards of \$500, or 4 awards of \$250, or one award of \$750 and one of \$250)

Eligibility/Rules and Expectations: 1) An applicant (parent/guardian) must hold current membership of Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association in good standing for the year of application; 2) A recipient is to use any funds awarded to pay for travel, tuition, registration fees or other costs related to the goals and purposes described in the submitted application; 3) A recipient can apply and receive funds in more than one year but will not be eligible to receive more than \$1000 in the aggregate over a period of 5 years; 4) A recipient's intended use of the award must occur within a year of the application; 5) A Recipient who should be participate, if possible, with the other dancers from The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association Inc. at the annual dinner of The Scottish Gentlemen's Club Inc. held each November; 6) a brief profile of each recipient, including a photograph and reason for selection, is to appear in one of the newsletters published by The Scottish Gentlemen's Club Inc. Applications, from any level of dancer, are due by **May 15** and Scholarship(s) are awarded at the June Competition. (Application form on the website - or contact registration@mbhighlanddance.com)

MHDA Dancers Win Hockey Championship

Thea Conley from Kids in Kilts School of Highland Dance, and Abby Sigurdson, from Court School of Highland Dance, may compete against each other on the stage but they proved they are also awesome teammates on the ice. This dancing duo and their incredible team, St.Vital Chill, were crowned the Hockey Winnipeg Atom A3 City Champions this month. They went into the play-offs with a 15-1-2 record and played solid games through the play-offs earning them the coveted banner. Their approach to dance and hockey is the exactly the same; work hard, believe you can, build friendships and have fun. Congratulations Thea and Abby on this achievement!

