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Christmas 2024

Can I ask for a small favour that will make a big impact? This holiday season, the small businesses in our Irish Dancing community need your support more than ever. They've poured their hearts into creating products for the dance world. You can find them all in our Christmas Gift Guide on pages 20-25. Imagine if every reader bought just one item - it would be a true lifeline for these dedicated small business owners. Let's come together to lift up our community this holiday season - they need your support, and we do too!

We're also bringing you plenty of timely and helpful content in this issue. On pages 30-34, you'll find budget hacks, tips for the weeks leading up to a major, and even some healthy snack ideas. Make sure to check it out!

For dancers awaiting their NAIDC trad set results, we have a keepsake on pages 36-40! Plus, there's so much more to enjoy - from the story of the International Rose of Tralee to our inspiring Dancer of the Month, a fun game, a quiz and more!

Finally, once you're done with this issue. could you bring it to your dance studio to share and pass along coupon RENEW24 so your dance friends will receive 10% off when ordering at-home delivery of the magazine?

IDM is the gift that **DELIVERS ALL YEAR!** Your support means the world to us! Until next month,

Denise Denise Keane Publisher



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DANCING WITH THE STARS

Justin Boros reveals details of We Three Kings, The Irish Dance Christmas Sensation, coming to a stage near you in 2026.

PRIZE PAGE

You could win socks, books or mindset training if you enter our competition this month!

BUSINESS NEWS

There's news from Scimitar sportswear, Irish Seams and a worldwide expansion for Jiggy Tots®. DANCER OF THE MONTH

DOTM - read all about her wonderful Worlds here!

CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE 2024

Guide for inspiration to find the perfect Irish Dance presents.





Abby Swearingen is our festive

Check out our Christmas Gift.



Get your friends round and create your own Christmas tree ornaments with our step-by-step guide.





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Part three of our mega NAIDC results. How did you get on?

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Every August a new Rose of Tralee is crowned in County Kerry, Ireland. Let's meet this year's Rose, Keely O'Grady from New Zealand.



Vines in Santa Rosa, California.

GOOD LUCK MESSAGES

The very best of luck to the dancers featured in our spotlight.

47 GAME PAGE

Have a go at our festive Mad Lib game and you could feature on IDM's social media!

BIRTHDAYS

Many happy returns to all these dancers celebrating a birthday this month!

HOROSCOPES

Discover your dazzling dance days and lucky love days!

How festive are you feeling? Take our quiz to find out!



Christmas Craft



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DANCING WITH THE STARS



We Three Kings Coming in 2026!

literally can't think of anything more exciting than combining Irish Dancing with Christmas, And that's exactly what former principal dancer in Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance (LOTD), Justin Boros, has gone and done.

Justin is the real-life Billy Elliot of Irish Dance. A former high school basketball star, the then 15-year-old Justin stumbled across a performance of Michael Flatley in LOTD and was completely mesmerised. He began teaching himself Irish Dancing from the LOTD VHS tape each night until four in the morning in his parents' basement and learned every step from the show. A year and a half later, he achieved the impossible and joined the LOTD cast. Before long, he was a lead dancer in the show.

And now the Irish Dancing prodigy is returning to the stage to star in a show he created and will also produce -We Three Kings, The Irish Dance Christmas Sensation.

Justin's vision was to create an epic

tale inspired by our favourite Christmas traditions with the exciting rhythms of Irish Dance. combined with original cinematic orchestral versions of the holiday classics. He wants it to be a production that will become a Christmas staple for families each holiday season. And following

a 22-month writing process, the show is finally complete, and in Christmas 2026, it'll be touring all over America.

We Three Kings, The Irish Dance Christmas Sensation, takes the audience on an epic adventure inspired by the age-old tradition of the three magi and their legendary vovage to the west. Along their journey, they encounter the evil Sugar Plum Fairy and her dark soldiers threatening to abolish the Christmas spirit and steal the crown from the kingdom once and for all, Featuring 20 of the world's most accomplished Irish Dancers and musicians, the show tells an inspiring tale of hope, love and salvation.

lustin is buzzing to share his new show with the world, and told me, "I discovered my passion and gift at the young age of 15 and it's my duty and responsibility to share this gift with others to inspire and bring more joy into the world. There is no better time of year to do this than the Christmas season, and I could not be more excited or grateful to share We Three Kings with you." The show will include an original holiday score from award-winning composer Joe Sanders, who shared, "We Three Kings has already become one of the highlights of my career, and it hasn't even set sail vet. There's an abundance of fresh ideas from Justin's

direction which have inspired me to take some chances and really try some new spins on these classic songs, When somebody like me gets handed an exciting show plot with great song selection and a fleet of world-class dancers to bring it all to life, the music basically

writes itself. I'm so excited for the Irish Dancing community and everyone who loves holiday cheer to check out the inaugural tour of this production."

Justin worked with the likes of Eric Crone, Sergey Nazarov and Natalia Zakuskina on the show's choreography, and Eric revealed that it's going to be something extra special, "It has been an absolute pleasure to work on this production," he said. "The choreography and the musical arrangements truly set this show on another



level. It sets a new standard for Irish Dancing shows and will not only impress someone who does not know about Irish Dancing. but even the most experienced dancer will find great appreciation in the dancing in this show. It is one you don't want to miss." Shaun Casey, owner of the renowned Celtic Steps, is also working on the show and he is very proud of his student, Eric Crone. Shaun gushed, "I have worked with multiple professional productions, and what excites me about We Three Kings is that it combines

> these originally composed versions of Christmas music with an epic storvline. Eric worked with Justin on the choreography and to see the steps and hear the rhythms to the music first-hand was fantastic to witness, and I think the audiences will be in for a real surprise. In

addition. I'm excited for the opportunities this show will present to the Irish Dance community for upcoming dancers to be able to tour in a professional production." We Three Kings, The Irish Dance Christmas Sensation will embark on its debut national

tour next year. For more info, check out: www.wethreekingsspectacular.com.



Best-selling author and popular radio presenter Alan Murphy has spent the past two decades working in the media. He has experience as a national magazine columnist, has done considerable work for television, and has written for numerous publications. interviewing celebrities from Paris Hilton to Charlize Theron, Alan is passionate about the art of Irish Dance and is a certificated dance teacher and adjudicator. We are proud to have him on our editorial team.





