

Trinity Irish Dance

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The Reg Lenna Civic Center is delighted to announce that they are bringing the world-renowned Trinity Irish Dance Company to Jamestown for an exclusive engagement in the Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania region.

The single performance of this troupe, which has redefined Irish step dancing for the world, is March 30, 2000. Tickets go on sale Monday for what is expected to be an early sell-out performance.

Over the last few years Irish step dancing has enjoyed a meteoric rise to international popularity with the blockbuster mega-shows Riverdance and, a bit later, Lord of the Dance. The originators of both of those shows, including the controversial Michael Flatley, received their training and their inspiration from the Chicago-based Trinity Irish Dance Company, founded by Artistic Director Mark Howard.

The Trinity Irish Dance Company is the world's only non-profit professional Irish dance company touring internationally. Trinity was the first to make the leap from competition to performance settings and remains the only company of its kind. Besides inspiring such commercial productions as Riverdance, its choreography is the seminal originator of Irish dance performance. Its artistic excellence and world champion status distinguishes the company from its imitators and elevates its dancers to the realm of internationally-acclaimed artists who define the cutting edge of Irish dance.

The show, which is coming to Jamestown, routinely plays to sold out houses from New York to San Francisco, from Chicago to Rome, from Ottawa to Aspen, from Ireland to Austria.

Founded in 1979, the Trinity phenomenon started as a competitive Irish dance school that quickly went on to win multiple world titles during the 1980s at the World Championships of Irish Dance in Ireland. By 1987, Trinity became



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the first American team to win the title "World Champions of Irish Dance," and held command performances before Ireland's prime minister and the mayor of Galway.

Trinity and its director Howard continued to win numerous medals, championships and accolades internationally, and to garner growing television and media attention including Trinity's ground-breaking appearance on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson in 1989.

More world championships followed, and Howard began crossing cultural boundaries by collaborating with artists and groups including Savitri Glover, the Aloy African Children's

Dance Theatre, the Goodman Theatre, Najwa African Dance Corps and Irish Dance choreographer, Richard Griffen. Howard has deftly and elegantly integrated a number of non-Irish cultural dance styles and idioms into his own choreography, which keeps the company on the cutting edge of dance innovation at the same time that he preserves the specific disciplines and aesthetic beauty of Irish dancing. This — sheer, jubilant, impressively precise — dancing is what sets Trinity Dance Company in a class by itself.

Call the Reg Lenna Civic Center at 716-484-7070 for tickets. Box Office hours are 11:30 a.m. — 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.