



school of irish dance

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## **STEYsha School of Irish Dance**

Mara CERNAT - CLRG certified Irish Dance teacher

### **STEYsha School of Irish Dance Teacher Wins Global Excellence in Teaching Award**

*Irish Dancing Magazine Announces 2021 Recipients*

Irish Dancing Magazine, a global print magazine covering the interesting world of Irish Dancing, recently announced the award-winning recipients of the 2021 Irish Dancing Teacher Awards. The international award recognizes excellence in teaching, by honouring extraordinary dance teachers.



“We are thrilled that your local Irish dance teacher, Mara Cernat, of STEYsha School of Irish Dance, is one of 23 teachers in the world receiving the 2021 Excellence in Teaching Award. Mara is beloved by her students and parents alike and is an engaging, caring, and inspirational dance teacher,” shared Denise Keane, Publisher of Irish Dancing Magazine.

After an extensive review of hundreds of nominations, Irish Dancing Magazine narrowed the field to an impressive list, which includes 17 individuals and three two-person teaching teams. The award-winning teachers are from Australia, Canada, Ireland, Romania, the UK and the United States.

“I absolutely adore my dancers and I love working with them, regardless of age. I have students as young as 3.5 years old and as old as 50+ years-old and each and every single one of them leaves a mark

on me and I hope I will succeed in leaving even the smallest positive mark on them during their time with STEYsha. I offer them not just the opportunity of learning Irish dance, but also of showcasing it through various international Irish dance competitions, examinations and, of course, performances, which they absolutely adore doing.



Being their only local source of Irish-ness, I try to bring to the table more than just dance, so they can get in touch with this wonderful cultural heritage that we are connected to, even if not by DNA. To me, Irish dancing is more than just what happens on the dance floor and I want it to be the same for my dancers.”

Navigating the ever-changing pandemic, people are searching for activities that will help themselves or their children build lifelong skills, along with making new friends outside of their normal community. Irish Dancing fits these criteria, it provides numerous benefits and it is also a mainly solo dance, which makes it COVID-safe for those participating in it.



“There are noticeable benefits of Irish dance, which is a fun source of exercise, but beyond that, we have seen many involved in Irish Dancing grow to be confident, smart, young adults, who carry the lessons learned and friendships made through dancing with them throughout their lives,” explained Keane. According to the non-profit organization Advancing Dance Education in the Arts, dance helps children mature physically, emotionally, socially and cognitively.

During the pandemic, Irish Dance exploded on social platforms with hundreds of millions of views of Irish Dancing videos. “All this attention has created huge demand for classes,” explains Keane, who created the Global Excellence in Teaching Award to recognize the extraordinary efforts of a select group of international teachers.

Founded in 2011, STEYsha School of Irish Dance is the only Irish dancing school in Romania and teaches children ages 3 through adult. The school is certified under An Coimisiun Le Rinci Gaelacha and The Regional Council of Continental Europe and Asia. STEYsha School's studio is located at 39 Strada Cameliei in București and is now taking enrolling students for autumn 2021 classes. Mara and her school are also actively seeking potential partners to help spread Irish dance to other parts of the country.

**For class registrations, visit:** [www.steysha-dansirlandez.ro/cursuri](http://www.steysha-dansirlandez.ro/cursuri)

**For partnership in other parts of Romania, visit:** [www.steysha-dansirlandez.ro/contact](http://www.steysha-dansirlandez.ro/contact)

“We are committed to providing step-by-step access to Irish culture through Irish dancing classes, as well as workshops and public performances. You don't have to be Irish to take on Irish dancing classes. I am of 100% Romanian descent, no Irish blood in my veins and no Irish dancing connection through any of my family, so I could say that I am just now building-up this heritage for those who will come after me.”

“Learn the joy of dance with your local recipient of the 2021 Excellence in Teaching Award. As we say at Irish Dancing Magazine, ‘If you try it, you'll probably love it,’ said Keane.



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**For more information on the dance studio:**

**Website:** [www.steysha-dansirlandez.ro](http://www.steysha-dansirlandez.ro)

**Facebook:** [STEYshaID](https://www.facebook.com/STEYshaID)

**Instagram:** @steyshaschool

**Youtube:** [STEYshaID](https://www.youtube.com/STEYshaID)

**TikTok:** @steyshaschool

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