



Karl Drake, ADCRG, TCRG  
Drake School of Irish Dance  
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**Profile:**

Irish Dance instructor and adjudicator, certified with *An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha*, in Dublin Ireland. Director and Owner of the Drake School of Irish Dance in Atlanta, Georgia, with satellite locations in Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, Hawaii, Mexico and China. Dance Master with over 30 years' experience in Irish dance instruction, choreography, and adjudication.

**Experience:**

- NATIONAL CLOGGING CONVENTION, Atlanta, GA, December 2018: Guest Instructor
- Adjudicator: Baltimore Feis, Baltimore, MD, September 2018
- Adjudicator: Orange County Feis, Orange County, CA, June 2018
- Adjudicator: Brady Academy Feis, May 2018
- Adjudicator: Lavin Cassidy Feis, Wisconsin, March 2018
- 2018 Irish Dance World Championships: 2nd Place Drama Dance Team, choreographer
- 2017 Irish Dance World Championships: 1st Place Irish Dance Choreography Team, choreographer
- Kim of Queens: Television Appearance, Lifetime TV, March 4, 2014
- THE JOURNEY HOME, Shanghai, China, March 2013
  - Produced and choreographed "The Journey Home" in Shanghai, China to a sold-out crowd in March 2013 as part of Irish week in Shanghai
- CELTIC CONNECTIONS Concert Beijing: Forbidden City Concert Hall, Beijing, China, March 3, 2012, Choreographer
- AN IRISH EVENING, Dublin, GA, March 2012
  - Directed and produced show to a sold-out audience of 800 people
- RHYTHM DANCE – THE SHOW, Pigeon Forge (Dollywood), Tennessee, April-May 2001 & 2002
  - Lead Dancer/Choreographer
- RHYTHM DANCE – THE SHOW, Branson, Missouri, April-May 1998 & 1999
  - Lead Irish Dancer/Choreographer 2000
  - Performed select pieces from Riverdance with a cast of over 50 dancers and musicians
  - Completed over 80 sold out shows in front of a 1,000+ audience over a five-week period in 1998 and completed 175 sold out shows in 1999/2000
  - Choreographed select pieces from the show
- RHYTHM DANCE – THE SHOW, Austria, November 1998
- COMMON GROUND, Delray Beach, FL, March 1998
  - Lead Irish Dancer/Choreographer

### **Achievements**

- Created the Drake School of Irish Dance in 1990 in the city of Atlanta, Georgia, and the state of Florida. The school has now expanded to also include the states of Alabama, South Carolina, and the countries of Mexico and China
- Trained and coached Anne Reilly, Riverdance performer 2007 and 2008
- Trained and coached Alex Arguelles, Riverdance performer, Mexico Tour in 2006
- Trained and coached 16-hand team, who auditioned and performed for *America's Got Talent*, making it through to the second round in February 2009
- Produced Regional & National Dance Champions who compete at the World Irish Dance Championships
- Received "Exceptional Ability in Performing Arts" immigration status
- Eastern Region Irish Dance Champion
- Placed 5th in the World Irish Dance Championships in Ireland

### **Performances**

- Georgia Renaissance Festival 2014, Atlanta, GA
- "The Chieftains" at Lakewood Amphitheatre, Atlanta, GA
- "The Chieftains" at Carnegie Hall, New York, NY
- Atlantic Celtic Festival
- Festival of Trees at the World Congress Center, Atlanta GA
- Festival of Nations & Cultures, Atlanta GA
- Savannah Irish Festival, Savannah, GA
- Tampa Irish Festival, Tampa, FL
- Capitol City Ballet, guest appearance, Atlanta, GA
- Miami Orange Bowl Parade, Miami, FL
- 1996 Olympic Games, Atlanta, GA
- "American Wake" at Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- "Dancing at Lughnasa" at Pace University, New York, NY

### **Certification:**

- *An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha* – A.D.C.R.G,
  - o Dublin, Ireland 2017
- Irish Dance Teachers Association – T.C.R.G.
  - o Dublin, Ireland, 1990

### **Education:**

- Golden School of Irish Dance, New York, NY
  - o August 1986 – December 1989
- O'Shea School of Irish Dance, Dublin, Ireland
  - o August 1974 – August 1986