



Media Advisory  
For Immediate Release  
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February 28, 2022

**Join Harling School of Irish Dance for Studio Grand Opening This Friday!**  
***Countryside Mayor McDermott to Speak at Ribbon Cutting; Irish Dance Performances***

Countryside, Illinois: Building upon the Chicago Irish dancing legacy of Pat Roche, and Dennis and Marge Dennehy, the Harling School of Irish Dance will hold a studio grand opening this Friday, March 4, 2022 in Countryside, Illinois.

All media and the public are welcome at the *free* event, which will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony and comments by Countryside Mayor Sean R. McDermott, as well as live Irish music, Irish dancing performances and a kid's craft corner.

**Harling School of Irish Dance Studio Grand Opening**  
**Friday, March 4, 2022**  
**4:30-6:30 p.m.**  
**919 W 55th St, Unit B, Countryside, Illinois**

**Schedule of Events**

4:30 pm: Ribbon cutting ceremony with remarks from Mayor McDermott and owner Alyssa Harling

4:40 - 6:15pm: Live Irish music

4:45pm, 5:00, 5:15pm, and 5:30pm: Irish dance performances

*Note: Kenny's Irish Pub next door to the Harling School of Irish Dance studio will be offering discounted food and drinks after the event.*

The school, owned by Irish dancing Midwest Oireachtas Champion Alyssa Harling, TCRG, began teaching Irish dance to girls and boys ages 5 and up, as well as an Irish dance movement class for tots ages 3-4, in 2019.

"We are beyond thrilled for our grand opening of our new studio for our growing Harling School of Irish Dance," said Alyssa Harling, TCRG, who is the principal of the school and has been teaching for almost 20 years. "We take great pride in our incredible family legacy and are so proud to be continuing the tradition of Irish dance in the Greater Chicago area. We encourage everyone to swing by, as it's the day before the Countryside Saint Patrick's Day Parade and will be a great way to kick off the weekend's festivities."

**-More-**

## **Harling Grand Opening- Add One-**

Alyssa is the grand-niece of Dennis and Marge Dennehy who started the Dennehy School of Irish Dance in the 1960s. The Southside dance school is run today by Kathleen Dennehy, ADCRG and TCRG. In addition, her grand uncle is the renowned dance master Pat Roche, one of the original dance masters that brought Irish dance to Chicago.

“Both of my parents also Irish danced and my Aunt Maureen founded the Harling School in the 1970s,” said Alyssa. I am so proud to be carrying on the family tradition and be introducing the next generation to Irish dance. This new studio will allow us to grow and reach even more students.”

She concluded, “At the Harling School of Irish Dance, we continue to build upon the values of excellence, integrity, and resilience. We believe every dancer has a story to tell and understand it's our directive to empower our dancers and nurture their dreams. It's an exciting time and we encourage dancers to join us this Friday to learn more about Irish dance!”

Visit [www.harlingdancers.com](http://www.harlingdancers.com) for more information on how your child can learn to Irish dance, as well as see where Harling Irish Dancers will be performing this March.

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