

NSID Committee Applicants:

Chairwoman: Åse Kristine Waglen



I am a 27 years old girl from Oslo, Norway. I have finished my bachelor of Religion and politics, at the University of Oslo and at the moment I'm teaching Irish dancing and working part time in a flower shop her in Oslo. The plan is to start physiotherapy studies next fall. My first meeting with Irish dancing was in a local Theater production where we learnt Irish dancing; it was love at first hop 123. 4 years later I moved to Oslo and I have since then been dancing at Sound Irish Dance Factory with Hilde Juul. I've been teaching children and adults since 2006, and I give workshops around Oslo and perform with Sound Irish Dance Company. I became a member of The Nordic Society of Irish Dancers in 2005 when I attended my first Feis and since then I have competed and done my grades at the Nordic Feis. My further goal is to get my TCRG, some day.

To me NSID and the Nordic Feis is very important to keep the Irish dancing community alive and strong. It is my firm believe that all the dancers and the schools in the Nordic Countries are dependent on each other for survival as I believe that we need to pull together to keep promoting Irish dancing successfully. Irish dancing promotes Irish dancing in it self and so the more the better, and a strong and vivid Irish dancing community gives support and inspiration to everybody involved. This is especially important now that **An Coimisiún** is urging us to get involved and "serious" (read: produce TCRG's) if we want to keep the Feis. I do hope that we will be able to "get serious" in a not so distant future. I think this is crucial for the Feis to keep continuing as an annual Nordic happening, but also fore the benefit of advancing the standard of our own dancing. But I think that to get there we need inspiration and support form each other as it is hard work to get the TCRG and it can get quite lonely being the only teacher in your area. I think the Nordic feis our most important sours of inspiration, fore both old and new, "serious" and "semi serious" dancers. Especially because it includes dancers with out TCRG teachers and it's a good environment for beginners and a way to get kids and theirs parents involved. This is why I think that NSID is such an important organization and I want to give my contribution.

My two previous year as chairwoman I have work to edit the feis handbook. This was to make the feis easier to organize and to give it a higher stander. I wish to continue this work at improving the feis for both dancers and organizers. I also what continue the planning of a workshop program helping aspiring TCRGs and I want to create more and easier ways for the Nordic dancers to meet and communicate. One is to make an annual happening of the NSID workshop the other is to work with Yvonne to continue improving NSID webpage, the facebook group etc. I want the Nordic dancers to communicate and feel that they are part of a bigger community. And I want the dancers to have influence over NSID. NSID should be whatever the Nordic dancers need it and want it to be. Last, but not least, the committee has been talking about finding funds where NSID could apply money maybe on behalf of groups and schools (as it is often easier to get funding as an over national non profit organization) and I wish to continue exploring these possibilities as well.

I have a lot of experience from organizations and theater. I've been manager and chairwoman of the theater board in the Oslo Student Theatre. I have produced and co produced several student theater productions and been chairwoman of several electoral committees at the Norwegian Student Organization. I also have experience as treasurer both in the student theatre and fore the Oslo student festival; STUDIØ, were I am treasurer fore the second time this year. With my two year as chairwoman I have learnt a lot and being more inspired then ever to improve NSID and strengthen the Nordic dance community I know I will do a good job. So I'm hoping to get the chance to continue working with Irish dancers and Irish dance enthusiasts from all the Nordic countries

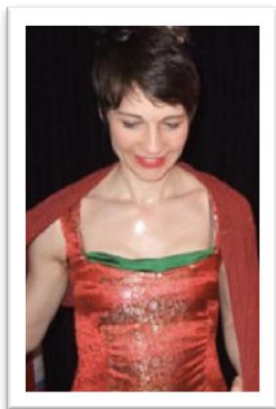
Information Coordinator: Linnea Skoglund



I'm 22 years old and live in Uppsala, Sweden. I discovered irish dance when I was around 10, since loving trad irish folk music, but there was no classes in Sweden then, and I didn't start until the year I was turning 19 (in 2007) at Kulturama in Stockholm. I have been dancing for a little over three years now, and my I.D. interest has been growing rapidly. My first feis was in Finland in 2008, and my second was in Norway in 2009. Now I plan on trying to head for a couple of bigger feisanna in Germany, hopefully early 2011. I feel that the continuation and further development of irish dance in the nordic countries is essential for all us dancers, since it's important to have the opportunity to be the best we can be and to reach our goals without having to travel too far, and to feel that we're apart of a strong I.D. community in general.

When I'm not dancing I have part time library- and information science studies to worry about, and a part time home help service job. I'm happy to get the chance to be in this committee, since doing irish dance is my big passion!

Feis Coordinator: Hilde Magda Juul



My name is Hilde Magda Juul, I am 40 years old an live in Oslo, Norway. I have been doing Irish dancing since 1998 and currently teach kids and adults in Oslo. I have done 12 grade exams and still compete at the Nordic Feis, but hopefully will do my TCRG within a couple of years.

I think NSID and the Nordic Feis are very important tools to develop Irish dancing in the Nordic countries, as it gives us a forum to meet and exchange ideas, get new impulses and cooperate. I think it is important to exchange information about workshops and events being held around in the Nordic countries to bring the Irish dancing in our region to higher levels and standards.

My philosophy as a dance instructor is that Irish dancing is for everybody regardless of age and ambition - it is never to late to start and for those who want to put some work and effort into it, it is

always possible to reach new goals. I am therefore a big fan of grade exams and strongly encourage everyone to do them.

Sound-Irish Dance Factory /<http://www.irishdance.no/>

Mobile 957 47010

Previous assignments:

Country Representative Norway 2005-2007

Information Coordinator 2009-2010

Treasurer: Katrin Lindberg



I first tried out Irish dancing while living in Dublin. When I later moved to Stockholm I thought I should find a hobby since I didn't know many living here. That's how I found Kulturama and signed up for classes.

In 2004 the group I was dancing in decided to participate at the Feis in Stockholm and we formed [Irish Connection](#). Since then we have been dancing and performing together and we are really enjoying it. To me Irish dancing is more than just a dance, it's about having fun.

I work as an accountant at Nordea and I'm also involved in helping abandoned cats in Stockholm.

Previous assignments:

Treasurer Sweden 2006-2008

Feis Treasurer 2006

NSID Treasurer 2009-2010

Members:

1) Kaisa Aaltonen

My name is Kaisa Aaltonen and I'm a 34 years old Irish dancer from Turku, Finland. I have danced Irish dances almost four years now and it has become a great passion of mine. I dance in a dance group called Dragún Irish Dancers which acts in Turku. I'm pleased that NSID has established strong presence and reputation in the Nordic countries, but I also see many areas where we could do even better, and I would like to be part of the team to make them happen. I want to maintain and further develop Irish dance culture in Nordic countries and keep up and improve the relationships between these countries.



2) Eva Carina Nordby

My name is Eva Carina Nordby and I am 28 years old. Like "everyone" I was fascinated by Irish dancing when I saw the Eurovision in 1994, but I never really thought I could do it myself since dancing's never been my thing. That was until the spring of 2006 when I was introduced to [Sound Irish Dance Factory](#) in Oslo. After some persuasion I decided to try it, and that was it, I was hooked! Since then I've participated in every class and workshop I could. The Feis in Helsinki 2008 was my third Nordic Feis as a participant, and I have taken 5 grade exams.

Daily I work as a librarian in Oslo, and I have previously studied literature and folkore.

Previous assignments:

Committee Member 2009-2010

3) Sami Rantasalo



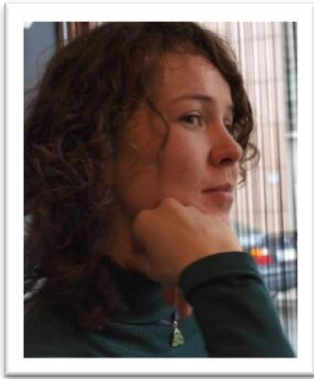
My name is Sami Rantasalo and I'm an adult Irish Dancer from Tampere, Finland. At the ripe age of 34 I've been dancing a few years under the tutelage of Irish Dance School Tampere.

When I turned 20 I started frequenting a local Irish pub that had live music every weekend, favouring acts with celtic flavour. This kindled my interest in Irish music. Unfortunately it took over a decade before I had the guts and opportunity to attend an Irish Dancing class.

I have been member of NSID only for a while, but share the vision of making Irish culture, especially music and dance, more familiar to the public. With events like Nordic Feis of Irish Dancing and coups such as ID flasmobs, I think we are on the right track. I would like to make my part of making ID more available and visible in Nordic countries. I believe NSID and country-wise collaboration have a large role in it.

Previous positions of trust include working as an event organizer and public relations correspondent for Guild of Textile- and Clothing Engineers' and as the chairman for Tampere Student Housing Foundation (TOAS) residents' committee. I am finishing my MSc studies at Tampere University of Technology, working as a personal assistant in the meantime.

4) Cecilie Stensrud

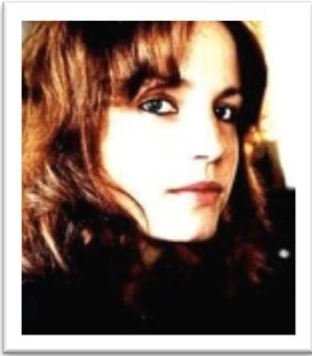


My name is Cecilie Stensrud, I'm 27 years old and I've been doing Irish dance for some three and a half years. My oldest sister started dancing before me. It was watching her and the other dancers from Sound Irish Dance Factory that made me think: "I've just got to do that!" Since then, I've been hooked. What's more, today my other sister is also hooked, making us three Irish dancing-sisters!

I've participated in two Nordic feisanna and I'm looking forward to many more. That's why NSID is important to me, and why I want to bring something back to the Society. Apart from that I've passed nine grade exams, and I'm contemplating doing my TCRG within reasonable time. I'm currently taking classes in Sound Irish Dance Factory and performing with the Sound Irish Dance Company, as well as doing flamenco. When I'm not dancing I'm being a temporary teacher in a primary school.

Election Committee:

1) Catherine Zweidorf Aarkvisla



My name is Catherine Zweidorff Aarkvisla. I started Irish dancing in 2002, after years of jumping around in my bedroom listening to Riverdance (pretending to know the steps). I decided to be an Irish dancer at the age of 7 after seeing Riverdance at the Eurovision, but since I lived outside of Oslo I had to wait until I got older. I joined the NSID before I started dancing, after searching the web for information about Irish dancing for an essay I wrote.

Since then I've been a member, and I've participated at all the feisianna and NSID workshops that has been held (though most times as injured "audience", helping out). I helped organize the Nordic feis in Oslo in 2009. I lived in Galway for two years teaching and attending classes with the Hession school of Irish dancing and the McDonagh Byrne school. While I was there, I also helped organize and worked on several feiseannas. I've been performing with [Taranis](#) and Sound-Irish Dance Company since 2002, and I now teach and dance with [Sound-Irish Dance Factory](#).

When I'm not dancing I train to be a nurse, and work in a nursing home where I skip around doing the trebles when nobody's watching.

2) Elina Kortetmaa



My name is Elina Kortetmaa and I'm a 28-year-old dancer from Finland. I've been doing Irish Dance for almost eight years now, and it makes me wonder how quickly time has flown since the day I started. Irish dance has become a passion for me and when I moved abroad in 2008 to become an exchange student I chose the Queen's University of Belfast, so I could continue dancing. I've also met wonderful friends (including my best friend) through Irish Dance.

I joined NSID in 2004 to be able to participate the feis workshop in Helsinki, but I didn't have the courage to compete just then. In 2006, however, I travelled to Stockholm with my dance friends to attend my very first feis - and there has been no turning back since then. One of my dreams came true in 2009, when I was accepted to the dance group JigIt. Last year I took part in the Irish Dance show *Áineas*, which was a great success and a wonderful experience.

I've been studying geology on-and-off since 2004 in the University of Helsinki, but now I'm working in the Car Department of Pohjola Insurance Company. Occasionally I also teach at Helsingin Kansainvälinen Tanssikoulu (Helsinki International Dance School). When I'm not dancing or working, I usually read or plan holiday trips.