

## LINE DANCE SHOWDOWN IN MASSACHUSETTS 2015

Well, another stellar and fun year at The Showdown in Boston. I always look forward to this event, going a day early so we can play tourist on Thursday and then start dancing on Thursday night. It was especially nice this year since the weather was quite cooperative. It was warmer than usual and we went into Boston to visit the MUST GO TO PLACE, Mike's Pastry. Words don't do it justice but you can tell by the photos in the link below that everyone makes it a special trip to go there. Some days the lines are long so be patient.

<https://www.mikespastry.com/>

It's quite easy to get into Boston on the train, which is only minutes away from the hotel and it takes you to all the main places to visit. This year we also ate at the Union Oyster House, the oldest restaurant in Boston, in the general area of Mike's, so it was convenient and the food was yummy.

Speaking of the hotel, this is a very nice one. When you arrive in Boston, there is a very comfy Greyhound-type bus you take to get from Boston to the Event (20-30 minutes depending on traffic). You catch it right outside of the airport where you get your luggage and there are always dancers on the bus to catch up with. It's only about \$11 each way and then the hotel shuttle picks you up at the bottom of the hill where the bus drops you off. You can also share a taxi if you choose. I try to do this when I leave because it isn't too expensive if you share and then you can just take your time when you are going back to the airport. There is free wi-fi in most areas in the hotel and the food in the hotel is EXCELLENT. Their clam chowder is better than anyplace we have eaten. Another place that people like to eat is Legal Seafood that you can get to on the hotel shuttle or a very inexpensive taxi. The shuttle will also take you to a very nice mall and pick you up when you are ready to come back to the hotel so you can get out a little. The rooms are large and comfy and it's just a very nice hotel with plenty of places to sit and visit with

friends or go in the bar for a snack or drink. The restaurant at night. This year they had a Friday special of all-you-can-eat prime rib for like \$19. The food for the banquet was the best I have had in a long time at an event.

Here's a link if you would like to explore the hotel online:

[http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkIdData=Line%20Dance%20Showdown%202015^bosqu%60ineinea%60106.00%60USD%60false%603/25/15%603/30/15%603/4/15&app=resvlink&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkIdData=Line%20Dance%20Showdown%202015^bosqu%60ineinea%60106.00%60USD%60false%603/25/15%603/30/15%603/4/15&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes)

Thursday night starts with previews of Friday's dances and then a dance party until people are partied out.

Friday and Saturday, of course, are filled with lessons (most of the time with three ballrooms going on.) There was a really great lineup of dances and instructors this year, as always.

The Instructors:

Scott Blevins (IN)

Will Craig (NC)

Dancin' Dean (VT)

Rob Fowler (Spain)

Kenny J (NJ)

Rhoda Lai (Canada)

Steve Lescarbeau (MA)

Jamie Marshall (TN)

Rachael McEnaney (UK/FL)

Debbie McLaughlin (UK)

Guyton Mundy (FL)

John Robinson (IN)

Fred Whitehouse (Ireland)

Ed Williams (NY)

and the WINNER of the World Dance Masters Choreography Competition - Helena Jeppsson (Sweden)

Here are the schedules:

Friday: <http://linedanceshowdown.com/images/pdfs/friday.pdf>

Saturday:

<http://linedanceshowdown.com/images/pdfs/saturday.pdf>

Sunday: <http://linedanceshowdown.com/images/pdfs/sunday.pdf>

I did a little informal survey of the favorite dances from the weekend and here are the top ones that got the most votes:

Twisted Sister-Mundy

Shades of Passion-Rob Fowler

Boss-Blevins

Boston Bills (new Rob Fowler dance added Sunday)

Let's Turn It Up-Poulsen (taught by Debbie McLaughlin)

Run by Scott Blevins

Shut Up and Dance

Wakey Wakey, by Scott Blevins and Jo Thompson.

Stacy gathered videos for most dances taught over the weekend and here is her list if you would like to check them out.

[http://worldlinedancenewsletter.com/starring\\_stacyjg.html](http://worldlinedancenewsletter.com/starring_stacyjg.html)

This is one of the events that hosts the USLDCC Choreography Competition.

This is the first year for the USLDCC (United States Line Dance Choreography Championships). Please visit [www.USLDCC.com](http://www.USLDCC.com) for complete rules and how to qualify for the Championships. The final will be in Tampa this year. Select your song, create your dance with some of your favorite steps, ask friends to join you for the presentation, if you don't want to do it alone, and give it a try! Winners take home some really great prizes INCLUDING an all-expense paid trip to the World Dance Masters along with a teaching spot there. What a great way to get some recognition for new choreographers and the competition is so much fun to watch. This competition also takes place at Jen and Jason's other two events (Tampa Line Dance Classic and Fun in the Sun), along with the Line Dance Marathon in North Carolina, and the Big Bang in North Carolina. If you are interested in more information, you can find

out who to contact and read the rules by going to the site above. It's not too late to qualify for the finals this year!

HERE ARE THE COMPETITORS AND PLACES FOR THE CHOREOGRAPHY COMPETITION FROM THIS EVENT. There were some really good dances and it's nice to see people qualifying for the finals which will be at the Tampa Line Dance Classic this year and then they will rotate to the other events involved from year to year for the finals.

Congratulations to all the competitors at the Line Dance Showdown!

Newcomer / Novice

1st - Lynn Card / My Anthem

2nd - Gloria Stone / The Boy I Love

3rd - Betsy Courant / Demain J' Arrete

4th - Lynn Card / Hey DJ

5th - Jessica Carlson / Like You Mean It

Intermediate / Advanced

1st - Trevor Thornton / Sugar Rush

2nd - Trevor Thornton & James Pruitt / A Sweet Sum Sum

3rd - Gail Dawson / Seems Like Trouble To Me

4th - Kelly Cavallaro / Party Like You

5th - Brandi Gross / Between the Bars

Phrased

1st - Bradley Mather / Play On The Safe Side

2nd - Trevor Thornton / It's Goin' Hamm!

3rd - Betsy Courant / I Can't Make You Love Me

4th - Brandi Gross / GDFR (Goin' Down For Real)

## 5th - Lynn Card / I'm Feelin' Good

THE SHOWDOWN is called THE SHOWDOWN because of the competition on Saturday night voted on by judges and the audience and the winners get MONEY for a prize. Anyone can enter and there are no rules. You can put together a storyline or if you are a super duper performer like Fred Whitehouse who won 1st place from the judges and the audience vote and a GRAND PRIZE OF \$1,000, it certainly makes it worthwhile to get some friends together and enter next year. It can be funny, serious, awesome, interesting, send a message, or whatever you come up with. You can use props and costumes or not and just let your imagination go wild. Start working on your routines and maybe you will win THE SHOWDOWN next year!

### Showdown

1st as decided by the judges and the Audience (\$1,000) Fred Whitehouse

2nd (\$400) Dancin' Grannies (Steve Lescarbeau, Dean LeClaire, Brandon Zahorsky, John Robinson)

3rd (\$300) Guyton Mundy and Will Craig

4th (\$200) Brookly Ed's Line Dance Crew, the Showstoppers

Thanks to Jen and Jason and all the family/volunteers who help every year. Everything was perfect, as always. The DJs did a super job keeping everyone on the floor. If you would like to see a pretty complete playlist, you can go to this link and check out the playlist Stacy compiled and put on the WLDN site (with the help from a few friends).

<http://worldlinedancenewsletter.com/stacyj/2015-lds-vids.pdf>

FOR A GREAT OVERVIEW AND HUNDREDS OF PHOTOS FROM THIS EVENT GO TO:

[www.epicgear-photography.com/showdown15](http://www.epicgear-photography.com/showdown15)

You can also order photos from this site if you would like. He does a great job.

Phone: 347-709-3245 (more info on the site above)

There were also videos taken at the event if you would like to order them. You can write

Kelly Cavallaro at

[se7enarrowfilms@gmail.com](mailto:se7enarrowfilms@gmail.com) for more information.

Book early for next year, for this event (March 31 - April 3, 2016)

In the meantime, I'll see you one of the other two JC Dance Production events:

Fun in the Sun (July 16-19, 2015) Orlando, Florida

Tampa Bay Line Dance Classic (November 5-8, 2015) Tampa, Florida

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