FAILTE DERRY

Project Update:
Dannsa was established in 1999 and is based in Kingussie. They celebrate the rich traditions of Scottish dance, music and Gaelic language through research, sharing, teaching and performing these traditions. The proposed event weekend would help Dannsa in creating new work as they have had a strong interest in the links and connections of Irish step and Scottish step.

They have developed a strong relationship between the two cultures from Scotland and Ireland and wished to host a weekend with a Friday night social, followed by 2 full days of dancing, teaching, Scottish Step and Sean-nos, for experienced dancers. They would have a sharing of performances between the Derry dancers and Scottish dancers where other members of the community could come together to share in the dancing.

Brief Resume:
The weekend took place from 9-11 September 2016 in Kingussie and as well as classes for experienced dancers they also put on some additional classes for beginners as these had been requested by people keen to participate.

As anticipated the weekend inspired and enthused participants and tutors alike and Joe McGuiggan and Dannsa discussed the future possibility of creating some work together.

Outcome/Aims:
The project allowed young and old to learn, share and enjoy at all levels a variety of dance styles, and music as well as sample some of the indigenous Gaelic arts.

It encouraged the community to meet and share in a culturally valuable activity. It provided an educational, entertaining and sociable weekend bringing people together from Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic.

It has encouraged the exchange of ideas, plans to visit, new projects, and provide new ideas for community dance groups currently dancing and playing music throughout Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic.