



Irish Arts Minnesota



41st Year, Issue No. 6

The mission of Irish Arts Minnesota is to support and promote Irish music, dance, and other cultural traditions to ensure their continuation.

Dancers and Musicians to Continue to Shine with IAM Educational Grants

By Jan Casey

Irish Arts Minnesota is delighted to announce five recipients of IAM Educational Grants for 2023! The goal of Irish Arts Minnesota's Educational Grant Program is to make new learning experiences available to devoted students of the traditional arts of Ireland. In each case, the applicant has already made a significant commitment to their field of study. This year, grant recipients include Irish dancers, musicians, and a recipient interested in Irish food through generations!

Sincere thanks to everyone who came to our 2023 St. Patrick's Day Irish Celebration and Day of Irish Dance! Thanks to everyone who purchased an IAM Dancer T-shirt this Spring. Thanks to everyone who came to help us honor uilleann piper Tom Klein last November. All of these activities make the grants possible.

Here's a brief introduction to this year's grant recipients. Look for a more detailed profile of each recipient in the coming months.

Musician Kate Durbin of St. Paul studies concertina with the Center for Irish Music, using a rented instrument. Kate will use her grant to help with the purchase of her own concertina.

Dancer Daisy Haney of Zimmerman dances with the Eilís Academy of Irish Dance in Anoka. Daisy has qualified for the North American Irish Dance Championships in Nashville in the Summer and will use her grant for travel expenses and private lessons to help her prepare for the competition.

Musician Will Johnson of St. Paul plays uilleann pipes and is learning the fine art of reed making for this demanding instrument. Will used his grant for travel expenses for the St. Louis Tionol (gathering of pipers).

Dancer Kinley Kennedy of Delano dances with the Eilís Academy of Irish Dance. Kinley plans to compete in the Mid-America Oireachtas (regional championship competition) in Indianapolis in the Fall and will use her grant for registration and additional classes in preparation for the competition.

Historian and archivist (and musician) Ella Padden of Corcoran is completing her studies for a Master of Arts at University College Dublin. Ella's thesis revolves around food records, archives, and community in Ireland. Ella will use her grant for travel expenses to complete essential interviews with archivists, food historians, and community leaders across Ireland.

As a part of the grant program, each recipient will bring their new skills back to an IAM event at some time in the future. And each will continue to enrich our community in the years to come as they learn and grow.

Best wishes to these dedicated students of the traditional arts of Ireland. And thank you to the teachers and community elders who assisted IAM in evaluating the applications by writing letters of recommendation for the applicants.

Jan serves on the IAM Board and coordinates the IAM Educational Grant Program.



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Irish Dance this Summer

By Jan Casey

Is there a youngster in your world who might like to try Irish dance?
Summer is a great time for something new – this year make it Irish dance!

Introductory Irish Dance Classes:

Ardaigh Suas Academy of Irish Dance (ASA) is offering an Introduction to Irish Dance class for ages 5 and up this Summer. Dancers learn body awareness, six Irish dance fundamentals, and engage in movement activities that will promote strength and energy. They will also learn their very first Light Jig! Upon completion of this class, dancers can enroll in the ongoing Beginner class. Classes are held in Albertville. Details and registration at www.asairishdance.com/

Eilis Academy of Irish Dance offers a new beginner's class for ages 5 and up starting on June 6. Dancers will learn the fundamentals of Irish dance in this 30-minute class. Summer session students are able to perform at Irish Fair of Minnesota in August. Classes are held in Anoka. Details at eilisacademy.com/

Mactir Academy of Irish Dance is offering Summer Dance Camp June 26 – 30 with an opportunity for beginning dancers. Details at www.mactirishdance.com/camps

Rince na Gréine is offering Irish dance for beginners ages 5 and up as well as music, rhythm and counting for the tiniest dancers this summer. Classes are held in downtown Hopkins. Details and registration at www.rincenagreine.com/summer-2023

Rince na Chroi offers Summer Dance Camp July 24-28 for new dancers with no previous experience who are 2nd grade and younger on the Concordia University campus. Along with regular summer camp activities, they will learn the basics of Irish Dance including work on technique, beginner steps, and a group choreography. Details and registration at rincenachroi.herokuapp.com/

Center for Irish Music Students Return After a Successful Midwest Fleadh

By Norah Rendell

Congratulations to the 37 Center for Irish Music students, ages 8 to 75, who competed at the Midwest Fleadh Cheoil in St. Louis on the weekend of May 12-14! The Midwest Fleadh, hosted by St. Louis Irish Arts, brought competitors from across the Midwest to the Hilton at the Ballpark Hotel in St. Louis for two days of competitions (solo, duets, trios, and groups), rollicking late-night sessions, and tons of fun.

The Center for Irish Music sent four groups to compete and we are thrilled to share that they all placed first! The competing groups, made up of members from the Starling Ensemble, Advanced Youth Ensemble, and An Luan adult ensemble were:

- under 15 Frank Pasquerella céili band, directed by Mary Vanorny
- under 18 Nick Coleman céili band, directed by Brian Miller
- under 18 Grúpa Ceoil, directed by Norah Rendell, and
- senior Grúpa Ceoil (An Luan, plus extra members), directed by Brian Miller

Between all of the solo, duet, trio, and group competitors, Center for Irish Music students won 20 first places, 13 second places, and 7 third placements. Competitors who place in the top two of any competition qualify to compete at the All-Ireland Fleadh in Mullingar from August 6-14. So far, many of our students plan on making the trip, and representing the Center for Irish Music in Ireland!



The Center for Irish Music's u18 grúpa ceoil wowed the crowds with a beautifully-played medley of five tunes, arranged by the Center for Irish Music's Executive Artistic Director, Norah Rendell, placing first in their competition.

The Gaelic Corner- By Will Kenny

Word order is a wonderful thing. Without even thinking about it, we use the order of words to add a layer of meaning on top of the meanings of individual words. For instance, we all understand the words, "Paul," "hit," "a," and "ball." But the sentence "Paul hit a ball" means something quite different from the sentence "A ball hit Paul."



Word order plays a similar role in Irish. But there are various ways in which Irish word order differs from English word order, starting with our most basic sentence structure.

We say those English sentences above are S-V-O, that is, Subject-Verb-Object. In other words, the sentence starts with the do-er of the action ("Paul"), followed by the action ("hit"), followed by the thing the action is done to ("a ball").

Irish statements, by contrast, are V-S-O. The first word is the verb, the action, followed by the do-er and the object of the action. Thus we translate "Paul hit a ball" with *Bhuail Pól liathróid*, or, "Hit Paul a ball." And "A ball hit Paul" becomes *Bhuail liathróid Pól* ("Hit a ball Paul."). (If you're wondering why there are four words in the English sentences and only three in the Irish ones, it is because there is no Irish word for the "a," Irish simply does not have an indefinite article.)

There are, naturally, many variations on these basic statement types, instances where word order does more than just indicate who hit what. For instance, a simple change of word order in an English statement can turn the statement into a question: "Mary is tall." becomes "Is Mary tall?"

In Irish, instead of shifting basic word order, we add what is called a "verbal particle" to indicate the question state. So, to turn *Bhuail Pól liathróid* ("Paul hit a ball") into a question, we add a tiny word in front of the verb: *Ar bhuail Pól liathróid?* That *Ar* is not translatable by itself, it just tells us we are asking an affirmative question, "Did Paul hit a ball?" Replace that with *Nár* and you get *Nár bhuail Pól liathróid?*, that is, "Didn't Paul hit a ball?"

Strange to say, this basic Irish word order rarely causes problems for students. On the other hand, as students come to use more than simple three- or four-word sentences, new word order conventions come into play.

For example, in English we say, "My wife and I went to the movies," but the Irish uses *mise agus mo bhean*, meaning "I and my wife." And there's a strong temptation for learners to translate "I will see you tomorrow" with *Feicfidh mé thú amárach*.

But the more natural Irish utterance is, *Feicfidh mé amárach thú*: "I will see tomorrow you."

Irish word order is also crucial to stressing a particular component in an utterance. Suppose the important point in our communication is that Paul hit a ball, rather than, say, a cat or a car or a rock. We might say the key element louder in English, "Paul hit a **ball**."

Now, Irish doesn't use voice stress the way English does. We can't draw attention to the crucial word by saying it louder than other parts of the sentence. The solution is to move the important word up front and add some verbiage. If our English utterance is, "Paul hit a ball (not a cat)," we say, *Is liathróid a bhuail Pól*, or, "It is a ball that Paul hit." You may recognize this phrasing, called "fronting," as a common element that has carried over into Hiberno-English: "Isn't it a grand day that we're having?"

That "fronting" construction takes some getting used to, as does one other weird word order that comes up frequently. If I want to express, "Paul is trying to hit a ball," my Irish sentence will invert the last elements to say, literally, "Paul is trying a ball to hit," *Tá Pól ag iarraidh liathróid a bhualadh*.

In early days, students handle the verb-first order easily, but they have a strong tendency to try to express many of these other Irish utterances with English word order. With practice, practice, practice, the Irish way of doing things becomes more comfortable, and seeing that development is one of the most enjoyable experiences for the teacher.


At Gaeltacht Minnesota, we love that "practice, practice, practice." Check us out at www.gaelminn.org.

An té a bhualtear sa cheann bíonn eagla air
"One who is hit in the head is afraid," that is,
"A burnt child dreads the fire"

TUNE OF THE MONTH

Big Pat's

reel



John Wynne notes that this tune is associated with Major Moran (Johnny Moran) from Roscommon (fiddle and flute player). The tune has been recorded by Matt Molloy (Heathery Breeze), 2014 Minnesota Irish Music Weekend Artist John Blake (Narrow Edge), as well as by local multiinstrumentalist Laura MacKenzie with CIM Instructor Brian Miller and others on Laura and the Lads.

Respectfully submitted by Rosa Wells on behalf of the Center for Irish Music (CIM), a traditional Irish music school based in St. Paul, located inside the Celtic Junction Arts Center. We publish a tune each month with dots (sheet music), suggested chords and some basic background information including how CIM is connected to the tune. To hear a recording of the tunes or to print sheet music, go to the archive under 'resources' on the Center for Irish Music website: www.centerforirishmusic.org



836 Prior Ave North, St. Paul MN 55104

On Leabhragan (The Bookcase)

The Queen of Dirt Island— Donal Ryan— Viking Penguin 2023



The Alwryd women of Nenagh, County Tipperary have always stuck together. Narrated by daughter Saoirse, who lost her father to a road accident the day she was born, it's always been the three of them: her beautiful, determined mother Eileen and her Nana, sharp-tongued, capable, and nobody's fool. Along with Uncle Paudie, who's in and out of prison on small-time criminal charges and quite probably mixed up in IRA business, and slower-witted Uncle Chris, who lives on the family farm, it's a small family by local custom, but fierce in their protection of each other. When the local nosy do-gooders from the child protection services question whether Saoirse should stay with her mother, who works at the local bookies' office to make ends meet, Eileen and Nana run them off handily by reminding the social worker they know all of *her* family's dirty linen, and wouldn't every in the county like to know about it?

Eileen has been estranged from her brother and her parents since her marriage to a man her family looked down upon. When Eileen's father leaves a strip of land known as Dirt Island to Eileen in his will, brother Richard cajoles, then threatens Eileen to sign it over to him---he needs it to complete a land development project he's planning to make millions on. Nana and Eileen come up with a plan to turn all of the family weasel's plans upside down. Meanwhile, Saoirse grows up into an independent young woman with literary talents. When her self-styled intellectual boyfriend Josh steals her best ideas and turns them into a hackneyed Gothicized novel, she chooses her own talent over so-called love, finds her voice, and becomes a published author in her own right. Storytelling is a gift handed down by her Nana and her mother; the Alwryd women have always had it.

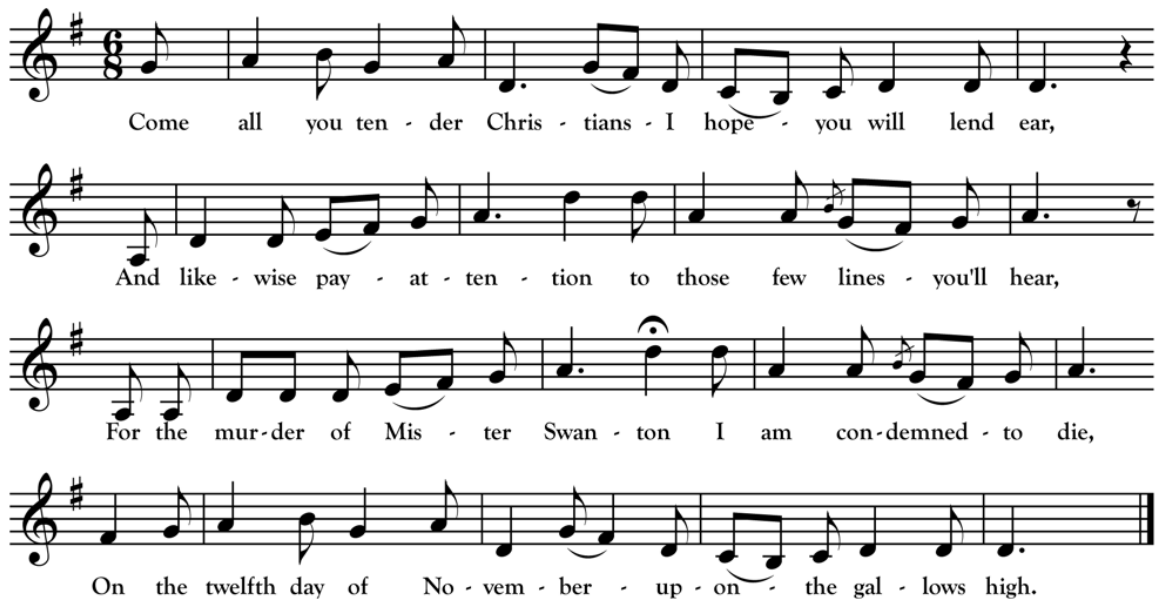
Spanning nearly three decades and note-perfect in its characters, local speech and internecine family battles, *The Queen of Dirt Island* is all at once, funny, tragic, revealing and deeply satisfying to read. I recommend it for front-porch reading, or wherever you like to sit and be drawn into an absorbing Irish tale. Enjoy the slower rhythms of summer!

Sherry Ladig is a Saint Paul-based trad musician and a former reviewer for the Hungry Mind Bookstore's newsletter, Fodder. She welcomes suggestions for books of Irish, Irish-American or local interest to review, or---write a review yourself! Sherry may be reached at ladig-dunquin@msn.com. Happy June reading!

Northwoods Songs: Irish Songs from Lumberjacks and Great Lakes Sailors

By *Brian Miller*

Jack Rogers



Come all you ten - der Chris - tians - I hope - you will lend ear,
And like - wise pay - at - ten - tion to those few lines - you'll hear,
For the mur - der of Mis - ter Swan - ton I am con - demned - to die,
On the twelfth day of No - vem - ber - up - on - the gal - lows high.

Come, all you tender Christians, I hope you will lend ear,
And likewise pay attention to those few lines you'll hear,
For the murder of Mr. Swanton I am condemned to die,
On the twelfth day of November upon the gallows high.

My name it is Jack Rogers, a name I'll ne'er deny,
Which leaves my aged parents in sorrow for to cry,
It's little did they ever think, all in my youthful bloom,
That I would come unto New York to meet my awful doom.

My parents reared me tenderly as you can plainly see,
And constant good advice they used to give to me,
They told me to shun night walking and all bad company,
Or state's prison or the gallows would be the doom of me.

But it was in play houses and saloons I used to take delight,
And constantly my comrades they would me there invite,
I oft times was told by them that the use of knives was free,
And I might commit some murder and hanged I ne'er would be.

As Mr. Swanton and his wife were walking down the street,
All in a drunken passion I chanced them for to meet,
I own they did not harm me, the same I'll ne'er deny,
But Satan being so near me, I could not pass them by.

I staggered up against him, 'twas then he turned around,
Demanding half the sidewalk, also his share of ground,
'Twas then I drew that fatal knife and stabbed him to the heart,
Which caused that beloved wife from her husband there to part.

It was then I went to Trenton, thinking to escape,
But the hand of Providence was before me, indeed I was too late,
It was there I was taken prisoner and brought unto the Tombs,
For to die upon the gallows, all in my youthful bloom.

I am thankful to the sheriff, who has been so kind to me,
Likewise my worthy counsellors, who thought to set me free,
And also to the clergyman, who brought me in mind to bear,
For to die a true penitent I solemnly do declare.

The day of my execution it was heartrending to see,
My sister came from Jersey to take farewell of me,
She threw herself into my arms and bitterly did cry,
Saying, "My well beloved brother, this day you have to die."

And now my joys are ended, from this wide world I must part,
For the murder of Mr. Swanton I'm sorry to the heart;
Come, all you young ambitious youths, a warning take from me,
Be guided by your parents and shun bad company.

Sometimes doing the research into an old song's background unlocks emotional weight that is hard to access from the words and melody alone. I found that to be the case with this grim ballad that was sung by Minnesotan Michael Dean, printed in his 1922 songster *The Flying Cloud* and subsequently recorded from Dean's singing by Robert Winslow Gordon in 1924.

When I first came across it, it seemed like a tragedy in the form of a classic Irish come-all-ye like "The Croppy Boy" but without a noble cause behind the punished crime. It turns out that "Jack Rogers" describes a real and widely-publicized New York City murder from October 1857. Though there is no worthy motive here, the song sheds light on the hard and sometimes violent culture of Irish immigrant youths who came to New York in the wake of the Great Hunger.

Newspapers of the time reported that the "respectable old gentleman" John Swanston was returning from a market on a Sunday evening with his wife when they met three young Irish "loungers about the corners" at the corner of 10th Avenue and 21st Street. One of the three, 19-year-old Irish immigrant James Rodgers, allegedly provoked Swanston by letting his elbow stick out and hit him. An altercation ensued in which Swanston was fatally stabbed. Rodgers fled to a sister's home in New Jersey but was apprehended and jailed in The Tombs – the Manhattan House of Detention of that time. After many appeals and much publicity, Rodgers was sentenced and hanged at The Tombs on November 12th, 1858.

Rodgers maintained throughout his captivity that he remembered nothing of the crime. This was generally attributed in the press, and in the subsequent ballad, to his being heavily intoxicated under the encouragement of his two friends. The song's admonition to "shun bad company" sums up the newspapers' take on the crime and the song could well have been written by someone who had access to the November 13th, 1858 *New York Herald* which lays this all out in detail.

Articles also talk about how exceptionally young, gentle and handsome Rodgers was and that he was always restrained and, if anything, sad when interviewed. He was well-loved by his family and the newspaper descriptions of their heartbroken hysteria at his execution are painful to read 115 years later. It is easy to see how the story inspired public sympathy. A prominent author of the time, Caroline Kirkland, even lobbied New York's governor in hopes of staying the execution. In the end, Rodgers' fate was held up as a warning to other potentially violent young men on New York's streets.

The Library of Congress has two broadside ballad sheets of James Rodgers songs and one is clearly a match for the version sung by Michael Dean. Dean's version (where the names have changed somewhat) is one of only a couple found in circulation among US singers. Another version was collected in Newfoundland and, interestingly, two versions turned up in Ireland. Sam Henry's unpublished collection has one from the north and a snippet of a version from Kerry can be heard via the Muckcross House Research Library site online.

Northwoods Songs features a new song each month pulled from my research into old songs collected in the pine woods region that stretches from New Brunswick west through northern Minnesota. In the 1800s, a vibrant culture of singing and song-making developed in lumber camp bunkhouses and on Great Lakes ships. The repertoire and singing style were greatly influenced by Irish folk repertoire and singing styles. Many singers in the region had Irish background themselves.

Each installment of Northwoods Songs is also published online at www.evergreentrad.com. My hope is that others will learn some of these songs and make them their own as I have. -Brian Miller





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Meitheamh

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Smidiríní*

(*Irish for 'Bits and Pieces')
by Copper Shannon

Well done to the folks at **Jameson's Irish Pub** in West St. Paul, now featuring live Irish music regularly. Check out the schedule on the [IAM Community Calendar](#) and on Jameson's Facebook Page www.facebook.com/pages/Jamesons-Irish-Pub/

Fáilte ar ais! (Welcome Back!) to **Geri Connelly and Tom Scanlon**, your indubitable hosts at the Dubliner Pub. Winter was way too long!

Fáilte ar ais! (Welcome Back!) to **Adrienne O'Shea**, returning from her Master's studies in Ireland just in time to introduce her beautiful new CD "Threads of Gold" at the Celtic Junction on June 17.

Go raibh biseach ar Peter Erickson (*May Peter improve*), who has been dealing with health challenges. Peter (and his wife Karen) are long-time regulars at ceilis and devoted volunteers for Irish Arts Minnesota and Irish Fair. Best wishes for his continued improvement.

Go raibh biseach ar Danny Schwarze (*May Danny improve*) of *the Northerly Gales* who is at home and recuperating from recent surgery to help with some pretty serious challenges to moving around – and to making music. We're hoping you're soon back to the stage!

Go raibh biseach ar Dave Drager. (*May Dave improve*) of *the Hounds of Finn* and *Bodhrán Tippers* by **David J. Draeger**. Best wishes for a speedy recovery from surgery. We hope he is soon on the mend.

Go raibh biseach ar Mary Sue McFarland Brooks (*May Mary Sue improve*) of the *Irish Gazette* on her continued hard work in recovering from a stroke. Mary Sue is planning to join the fun for *Irish Network Minnesota IN-MN's Bloomsday* celebration on June 15.

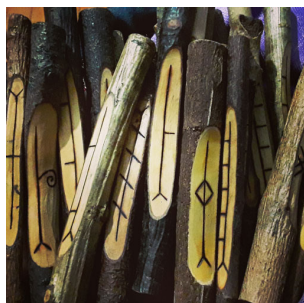
The Center for Irish Music – Come check us out at
The Celtic Junction Arts Center
836 Prior Avenue, St Paul MN

Please check the website for information on our full range of instruction in traditional Irish music, language, culture and fun.

For class schedule and other information call or email
651-815-0083 admin@centerforirishmusic.org

Or visit our website
www.centerforirishmusic.org

Celtic Junction Classes



[Ogham as a Reflective Tool](#), 4 Zoom sessions with Jeanine Malec. Thursdays. 8:00 – 9:15 pm. June 1 – 22. \$100

In addition to introducing the Ogham, experiential prompts will be given to help illustrate how the Ogham can be used as a reflective tool for meditation.

Celtic Junction Arts Center has rolling admissions! Browse Irish language, history and literature, and creative arts classes at celticjunction.org/classes/

Celtic Junction Events



[Noctambule in Concert](#), June 2 @ 7:30 - 9:30 pm, \$20/\$25. Youth 18 and under receive free admission.

MARLA FIBISH and BRUCE VICTOR are NOCTAMBULE. They play traditional and original music in a variety of forms. Their music is rendered with lush beauty, sensitivity, and a generous ration of humor on an array of strings – various guitars in varied tunings, mandola, mandolin, cittern, tenor guitar – and their blended voices. *This concert could be outdoors or indoors depending on the weather.*

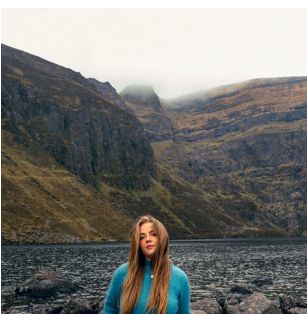
[Minnesota Irish Music Weekend \(MIM\)](#), June 8-11.

Presented by the Center for Irish Music and sponsored by the Celtic Junction Arts Center, MIM is a unique festival that pairs world-class traditional Irish musicians and teachers with learners of all ages for a weekend of workshops, lectures, sessions, and concerts. Public MIM events at the Celtic Junction include the [Great Session Experience](#) on June 9 and the [Master Artists Concert](#) on June 10.



[Adrienne O'Shea "Threads of Gold" CD Release](#), June 17 @ 8-10 pm, \$20/\$25. Youth 18 and under receive free admission.

Adrienne O'Shea celebrates the launch of her debut CD, "Threads of Gold." Adrienne's soulful voice and mastery of the Irish flute will immerse you in a thriving musical tradition that is safe in Adrienne's hands. Accompanied by the remarkable talents of Brian Miller, Norah Rendell, Danny Diamond, Dáithí Sproule, and Cormac O Sé, you'll be captivated by the beauty of these timeless songs in both Irish and English. *This concert could be outdoors or indoors depending on the weather.*



The Center for Irish Music Presents



KICKOFF CELEBRATION

• Thursday 7 p.m. •

GREAT SESSION EXPERIENCE

• Friday 7 p.m. •

MASTER ARTISTS CONCERT

• Saturday 7:30 p.m. •

WORKSHOPS & LECTURES

• Friday - Sunday •

CHILDREN • TEENS • ADULTS

www.centerforirishmusic.org/mim



836 Prior Avenue North, Ste. 400, St. Paul, MN 55104



This activity is made possible by the voters of MN through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



June 8-11, 2023

Featuring world-class traditional musicians

The Kane Sisters
fiddle



Gráinne Hambly
harp, concertina



Seán Gavin
flute, uilleann pipes



Máirín ní Chéide
song



Sean McComiskey
accordion



Marla Fibish
mandolin



Gavin Strappe
banjo, mandolin



Brian Miller
guitar, bouzouki



Fundraiser for Mary Sue McFarland Brooks

**Sunday, June 25 from 1 to 4 pm,
Dubliner Pub, 2162 University Ave W, St. Paul**

**\$10 Cover includes a pint of Summit
Music by Tom Dahill and Ginny Johnson
and Jim McGowan**

Plus prizes and a silent auction



**Mary Sue is continuing her recovery from a brain
bleed / stroke 6 months ago.
Cognitively, Mary Sue is fully present and her rich
Irish sense of humor is evident.
Physically, she still has challenges - she is not yet
able to walk and cannot yet move her left hand.
Mary Sue has made remarkable progress and now
could use some help from our community. Come on
out and lend your support!**

Grand Old Day is June 4!

The kickoff to Summer outdoor event is back after a 3-year break. The fun starts in the early morning with a Fun-Run at 8:30 am. The parade begins at 9:30 am with the route running from Fairview east to Dale. The rest of the festivities begin at 11:00 am until 6:00 pm with music, an arts corridor, family fun zone, food and merchandise vendors.

Irish music will be featured on the Kenton House Stage aka the Emmet's Public House Stage including **the Langer's Ball** (2:15 to 4:00) and **Gus the Bardic Troubadour** and the **Rince Na Chroi Irish Dancers**. And look for music from the Center for Irish Music on the Patio at Irish on Grand.



JUNE 4TH **GRAND OLD DAY** **11 AM - 6 PM**
KICK-OFF TO SUMMER
- EST 1975 -

**GRAND OLD DAY LIVE
MUSIC STAGE PRESENTS**

**THE JAYHAWKS • BAD BAD HATS
SOPHIA ERIS • DJ SHANNON BLOWTORCH
TIM SIGLER • THE LANGER'S BALL
BRENDAN BONIN • ROSS BELL • BUFFALO ALICE
WHITE IRON BAND • LOREWEAVERS • MIKKO BLAZE
ADAM AZRA'EL AND THE SAND CASTLE ORCHESTRA
GUS THE BARD • IRISH DANCERS RINCE NA CHROI
SCHOOL OF ROCK ST. PAUL HOUSE BAND • SCHOOL OF ROCK ST. PAUL YOUTH ROAD CREW
YOUTH DRUMS • WILD RUMPUS • & MANY MORE!**

WRISTBANDS AT GRANDAVE.COM

THANK YOU TO OUR STAGE SPONSORS
KENTON HOUSE ON GRAND • THE CURRENT
RED RABBIT • BILLY'S ON GRAND • IRON RANGER • SCHOOL OF ROCK



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Irish Fair Tickets Available Now!

Join us for all or some of 3 Days - August 11-13, 2023. All are welcome to join in this celebration of all things Irish with music, dance, sports and more! Irish Fair of Minnesota's annual festival is recognized as one of the most family-friendly events in the Twin Cities.

**HEADLINERS & MORE
FOOD, SPORTS, DANCE & CRAIC
BUY TICKETS NOW**

SATURDAY

socks in jigjam
the wild
doolin' frying pan colonial
pan bhoys
clare cunningham

SUNDAY

jigjam socks in
doolin' the
frying
pan
clare cunningham
screaming
orphans

FRIDAY

clare cunningham
doolin' jigjam wild
gaelic storm colonial
bhoys

real irish
comedy tour -
Fri & Sat

AUGUST 11, 12, 13 2023

**Harriet Island
St Paul, MN**

IRISHFAIR.COM

Follow us on Facebook/Instagram (IrishFairMN) for updates and details. www.irishfair.com.

General admission & VIP tickets available. Discount for 55+ new this year and kids under 12 are free. Show your support and buy your tickets today at <https://tickets.irishfair.com/p/tickets>.
Then tell your friends to come, too.



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Join Irish Network MN as we celebrate the genius of James Joyce and Bloomsday!

IRISH NETWORK-MINNESOTA

5TH ANNUAL
Bloomsday Festival

CELEBRATE JAMES JOYCE'S *ULYSSES* IN ITS 100TH YEAR
THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH, 2023 • 5:00-8:00 PM
SUMMIT MANOR, 275 SUMMIT AVE., ST. PAUL, MN • TICKETS: \$20.00
APPETIZERS AND BEVERAGES INCLUDED • PERIOD DRESS ENCOURAGED

2023 IN-MN BLOOMSDAY LITERARY AWARD
WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED

ULYSSES
BY JAMES JOYCE

Bloomsday: A celebration that takes place both in Dublin and around the world honoring June 16, 1904, the day depicted in James Joyce's novel *Ulysses*. The day is named after Leopold Bloom, the central character in *Ulysses*.

Join Irish Network MN 6th Annual Bloomsday celebrating James Joyce's novel, *Ulysses*! • Readings from *Ulysses* by local Irish celebrities • Musical Guests • 3rd Annual Bloomsday Literary Award announcement • Ceili dance called by Mike Whalen • Celebrity Bartenders • Best Period dress contest • James Joyce videos • Other shenanigans

Celebrate James Joyce's *Ulysses* the novel that started it all.
For more information visit www.irishnetworkmn.org

Thursday, June 15, 2023
5 to 8 PM

Summit Manor
275 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

\$20 at the door includes: Appetizers, beer, wine, music, céili dance, dramatic readings, best period dress contest, and presentation of our annual IN MN Bloomsday Literary Award.

Period dress encouraged.

Tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bloomsday-festival-tickets-605922509537?aff=erelexpmlt>

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Irish Arts Minnesota



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Laura MacKenzie June Events

[The Outlander Series & Traditional Scottish Music](#)

Saturday June 10th @2:30 PM

Braham Event Center, Braham, MN

A day long event at the Braham Event Center, sponsored by the East Central Minnesota Regional Library System. Laura presents her popular program on traditional Scottish music from the Outlander novels and the TV series. Free and open to all.

[Laura MacKenzie with Michael Bissonette and Gary Rue](#)

Sunday, June 11th @ 7:00PM

829 Lincoln Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

The "Live from Lincoln Center of the Block" summer outdoor frontyard series has been very popular for several years, with many great local names from a wide spectrum of music genres performing. Laura was invited this year - and will be joined by Michael Bissonette and Gary Rue - formerly, "Laura & The Lads". Remember to bring your own chair!

[Scanian Folk Flute Study](#)

June 13th - June 26th

Sweden

Laura MacKenzie and Amy Shaw received a fellowship from the American-Scandinavian Foundation to study Swedish wooden flute in southern Sweden back in 2020. This year, they can finally realize this fellowship activity. Watch for their performances based on this study, to be scheduled in the Twin Cities in September.

Remembering Ann Wiberg



The Irish community gathered recently to celebrate the life of Ann Wiberg with stories, music and dancing – and a few tears. Ann was an important contributor to the Irish music and dance community here in the Twin Cities as a ceili dance teacher, dance caller and director of the performance group Clan na Cairde. Ann’s partner, Paul Garding, is a familiar face in Irish music. Paul plays with a number of bands, including Barra and the Eddies and regularly hosted the Celtic Music Showcase at the Underground Music Café/the Eggroll Queen Café.

Following is an excerpt from her obituary:

“Ann L Wiberg passed away April 12th 2023 at the age of 70. She died at home after a hard fought yearlong battle against a rare aggressive colon cancer that had spread to her liver. She was the youngest and only girl in a family of five kids. She is survived by her four older brothers, Dick (Karen), Jim (Judy), Jack (Kathy) and Tom (Barb) along with 13 nieces and nephews, and some cousins. She is also survived by her partner of 37 years, Paul Garding.

.....

In her late twenties Ann also developed a special passion for Irish dancing, eventually becoming one of the Twin Cities premiere Irish Ceili dance teachers and callers. She taught Ceili dancing for free once a week to anyone interested for about 10 years. She was known for her calm, patient style of teaching that made everyone feel welcome, no matter what age. She would lead a Ceili every year on St. Patrick’s Day at the CSPA Hall In St. Paul, sometimes leading as many as 150 people at a time. She also called dances for many private events over the years and formed a dance troupe, Clan na Cairde, that performed throughout the Twin Cities.

Ann developed many lifelong friends from these groups of dancers she had taught during her weekly teaching sessions. She also developed many other friendships from a coffee group that met several times a week at Swede Hollow Cafe in St. Paul. She loved getting together with her friends and family, even doing things that were new and sometimes scary for her such as hiking, biking, skiing, canoeing rivers and lakes and even horseback riding in the mountains of Colorado. She enjoyed road trips and traveling to Ireland and Great Britain. She always had a hearty laugh and a good sense of humor that made her wonderful to be around.

Finally, Ann loved and was loved by her family and also formed very strong bonds with the family of her partner, Paul Garding. She was sincerely loved by Paul’s mother and his 12 siblings. She will be sorely missed by all and live on in all of our accumulated memories of her. She was a firm believer in reincarnation, so who knows, we may meet again- if we’re lucky!”



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IAM Members and Donors

Members are reminded that IAM membership is renewable annually. If you haven't renewed for 2023, please do that today!

Irish Arts Minnesota wishes to thank these new members for their support:

Kate Durbin Family
Phil Platt
Andrew, Tricia and Katya Roberts Family
Cynthia Sharpe

New and renewing supporting members will receive the following:

- A one-year (January to December 2023) subscription to the IAM's monthly email.
- Priority detailed listing for bands, organizations, pubs and businesses in our popular on-line Community Resources Directory, used by people who are seeking local Irish musicians, bands, dancers and entertainers for performances, ethnic festivals, and other events.
- Public recognition in a section of future IAM newsletters and in related posts to the IAM web site and Facebook page.

Looking for the IAM Community Calendar?

The IAM Community Calendar is your go-to place to find out what's happening in Irish music, dance, literature and cultural events in the Twin Cities and beyond.

Find it at <https://irishartsmn.org/events/>.

The calendar on our website is updated often – and is “searchable” for your favorite artist, venue or type of event. Check it out – and return often!

Questions? Comments? Contact Us!

Info@irishartsmn.org
www.irishartsmn.org



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A Special Thank You to our Sponsors for 2023!

if you are looking for something unique, come visit St. Paul's only Irish owned & operated store at 1124 Grand Avenue. We are in a charming converted 1920 home, just five houses west of Lexington Avenue, on the south side of the street.
 Parking in the back.
 Irish on Grand sells a huge collection of Celtic and Irish jewelry, Belleek China, Irish Crystal, Mullingar Pewter, Music, Clothing, Groceries and many more gift items.



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Newsletter Submissions

We welcome our readers to submit articles of interest, news, and notices of events to be published in the newsletter. The deadline is the 18th of the preceding month.

Send to: Editor@irishartsmn.org

IAM Board

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Questions? Comments? Contact Us!

Info@irishartsmn.org

Ceili CORNER By Bhloscaidh O'Keane
Check www.lomamor.org for all up-to-date Irish folk dancing information.



IAM Membership

Demonstrate your support of live Irish music, dance and cultural activities by becoming a member of Irish Arts Minnesota. Become a supporting member by making a financial contribution. Member bands, businesses and organizations receive priority listing in the IAM Community Resources List.

All IAM members receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Name:	Date:
Address:	How did you hear about us?
Membership Type (circle one) Individual \$20 _____ Family \$25 _____ Band/Organization/Business \$25 _____ Name _____ (Name of Band/Organization/Business)	
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E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____ Your monthly newsletter is delivered electronically via e-mail. Please advise us at Info@irishartsmn.org if your e-mail address changes.	
Tear out the above form and send it with a check made out to "IAM" to: The IAM Membership Coordinator c/o Jan Casey 400 Macalester St. St. Paul, MN 55105 Or visit the IAM website (www.irishartsmn.org) to pay electronically.	