

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

Young Musician Looking to Expand His Skills

By Jan Casey



Teddy Brandt, left, with his band Pick, Buttons, and Bow

Musician Edward “Teddy” Brandt, 14, of St. Paul came by his interest in Irish music quite naturally, as his older siblings have been playing for quite some time – they became his primary inspiration in learning to play. Teddy’s first instrument was the bodhran, the Irish drum; he began his studies when he was 6. Soon afterwards, Teddy “discovered” young Ian McKenna playing accordion and was intrigued. He began studying C#/D accordion at the Center for Irish Music (CIM) with Ian as his teacher and continues his study with IAM Honoree John McCormick. Teddy has also begun to study fiddle, also inspired by his sister – he says she’s a “fantastic fiddler.”

Over the years, Teddy has played with several ensembles as part of his involvement at the Center for Irish Music, including duos and trios for competition for

the Midwest and All-Ireland Fleadhs. Currently, Teddy is playing with a group of friends as Pick, Buttons and Bow, performing at community events and at a local coffee shop. Teddy tells us that he has enjoyed playing in ensembles, as he has “met many amazing people and made great friends.” Teddy is also an active volunteer with CIM.

Teddy’s recommender tells us that Teddy is “an eager learner” who brings his “light-heartedness, along with his solid practice and listening skills” to his participation in ensembles, as well as bringing “joy and encouragement to his bandmates,” all while “working hard to play great music.”

Teddy will use his grant for specialty virtual lessons on accordion with Baltimore-based musician Sean McComiskey, with a focus on ornamentation. According to Teddy, “these lessons will make a difference in my study of accordion by increasing the amount of tunes I know, helping with ornamentations, and adding base button techniques.” Teddy got to meet and learn from Sean last year at the Center for Irish Music’s Minnesota Music Weekend – an inspiring experience for him. Teddy will be able to make use of these additional skills as he prepares for the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann (All-Irelands) in Wexford this summer.

Irish Arts Minnesota is delighted to help this dedicated young musician continue to expand his skills and his participation in our community.

Jan Casey serves on the IAM board and coordinates the IAM Educational Grant Program.



Irish Arts Minnesota

August
2024
Lúnasa

42nd Year, Issue No. 8



IRISH FAIR OF MINNESOTA *Irish Or No, You'll Have Fun If You Go!*

Aug. 9 - 11 on Saint Paul's Harriet Island

Saint Paul, Minn. (July 16, 2024) --- The 44th annual Irish Fair of Minnesota, the three-day outdoor celebration of all things Irish, returns to Saint Paul's Harriet Island Friday, Aug. 9 through Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024. This family-friendly event is one of the largest Irish festivals in the nation!

Harriet Island will transform into a mini-Emerald Isle providing an authentic Irish experience for all. Attendees will enjoy entertainment on six stages showcasing Irish music and dance, pub tents featuring tasty refreshments, a variety of food stands, Irish sports demos (hurling, camogie, boxing), Irish comedy, marketplace tents, educational and cultural programming, and activities for the wee ones.

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 9 3 – 11 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 10 10 a.m. – 11 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 11 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

WHERE: Harriet Island, Saint Paul, Minn. - 200 Dr Justus Ohage Blvd

TICKETS:	<u>Daily Pass – one day only</u>		<u>Three-Day Weekend Pass</u>	
	Adult (18 – 54)	\$25	Adult (18 – 54)	\$50
	13 – 17, 55+	\$15	13 – 17, 55+	\$40
	12 and under	FREE	12 and under	FREE

Get your tickets here: <https://www.irishfair.com/p/tickets>

VIP Experience: Anchored in the Pavilion, VIPs receive exclusive main stage access, shelter, seating, and valet parking. Includes snacks, and beverages. 21+ only. Limited availability. VIP ticket price includes general admission. Prices are \$299 for a 3-day pass, \$130 for a single day on Friday and Sunday, and \$155 for Saturday.



The Irish Fair of Minnesota is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to promoting and celebrating Irish culture and art in Minnesota, and the preservation of a rich heritage of traditions for future generations. All proceeds from the festival are reinvested in Minnesota's Irish cultural community or shared with new immigrant groups through the Legacy Fund. For tickets, scheduling, and more details, visit IrishFair.com

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

www.irishartsmn.org

The Gaelic Corner- By Will Kenny

Have you been watching *na Cluichí Oilimpeacha* (the Olympic Games)?

Admittedly, Ireland has not been one of the great powers in the Summer Olympics over the years. Add our TV coverage focusing on our American team, you probably haven't seen too many Irish contestants. So you will be surprised to learn that Ireland has 132 athletes in Paris this year!



Gaeltacht
Minnesota

This year is a special one for the Irish Olympic Team (*Foireann Éireannach Oilimpeach*). One hundred years ago, in 1924, the Olympics were in Paris just as they are this year. And in those 1924 Olympics, the Irish Olympic Team participated for the first time as an independent country! In those 100 years Irish Olympians have won 38 medals at the Summer Games (*Cluichí Oilimpeacha an tSamhraidh*).

Not being a particularly wintry country, Ireland has never won a medal at the Winter Games. As you might guess, Ireland does not send a very large team to the Winter Games (*Cluichí Oilimpeacha an Gheimhridh*). Generally there are four to six athletes competing in events like Alpine skiing (*sciáil Alpach*), bobsleigh (*bobshleamhnán*), cross-country skiing (*sciáil trastíre*), freestyle skiing (*sciáil saorstíle*), luge (*lúis*), skeleton (*bolgshleamhnánú*), and snowboarding (*clársciáil*).

Ireland did not win a single Gold medal (*Bonn Óir*) in 1924. Besides Ireland being a small country, it also has the disadvantage that many of its athletes grow up putting their efforts into Gaelic football (*peil*) and hurling (*iománáíocht*).

They did win a Silver medal (*Bonn Airgid*) and a Bronze medal (*Bonn Cré-umha*), but I don't think you could guess, in a million years, the events in which they were captured. From that first ever Irish Olympic team, Oliver St. John Gogarty took the Bronze in *litríocht* (literature) for his poem, "Ode to the Tailteann Games". And Jack Butler Yeats won the Silver medal for *peinteáil* (painting), with his piece, "The Liffey Swim". For decades, there was an art competition as well as the athletic competition at the Olympics.

The first Gold medal ever for the Irish team was won by Pat O'Callaghan at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam. O'Callaghan – who paid his own fare to get to Amsterdam – won the hammer throw (*caitheamh an oird*).

Probably the best sport for Ireland has been boxing (*dornálaíocht*), accounting for almost half of those 38

medals. Several female boxers, notably Katie Taylor and Kellie Harrington, have been quite successful in recent Olympics.

Of course, the Irish have competed in a variety of sports, including swimming (*snámh*), cycling (*rothaíocht*), equestrian (*eachaíocht*), field hockey (*haca*), rowing (*rámhaíocht*) and "athletics" (*lúthchleasaíocht*), the catch-all category for track and field events like running (*rith*), shot put (*caitheamh meáchain*), long jump (*léim fhada*), hurdles (*cliathrás*), and race walking (*rásaíocht síúil*). Swimming in particular, has had its own special success. The most Gold medals Ireland has ever captured in the Olympics was in the 1996 Games at Atlanta. Ireland took home three Golds, all of them won by swimmer Michelle Smith. She also got a Bronze medal to boot.

And when you are done watching the Olympic Games, stick around for the Paralympics (*na Cluichí Parailimpeacha*) a couple of weeks later. The athletes who compete in the Paralympics are nothing short of amazing, and don't think for a minute that there's anything "watered down" about this competition.

The Paralympics started in 1960, and it was a good start for Ireland. Both of the Gold Medals Ireland won that year came through the efforts of Joan Horan. Incredibly, the medals were for two different sports, one in archery (*boghdóireacht*) and the other in swimming. Since that first year, Irish athletes have won 178 Summer Paralympic medals.

Pretty much the same sports are contested in the Paralympics as in the Summer Games. Some are quite similar, some adapted to some degree, and some unique. And all of them are definitely worth watching.

Whatever version of the games you watch, you will get to see modern day warriors (*laochra*) take on the challenge of being the best.

Oh, and by the way, athletes born in Northern Ireland have a choice. They can compete on either the Irish or British teams.

At Gaeltacht Minnesota we do our best to put forth a Gold medal effort...tempered with patience. Learning Irish is definitely a marathon rather than a sprint.

www.gaelminn.org

Ní lia tír ná gnás

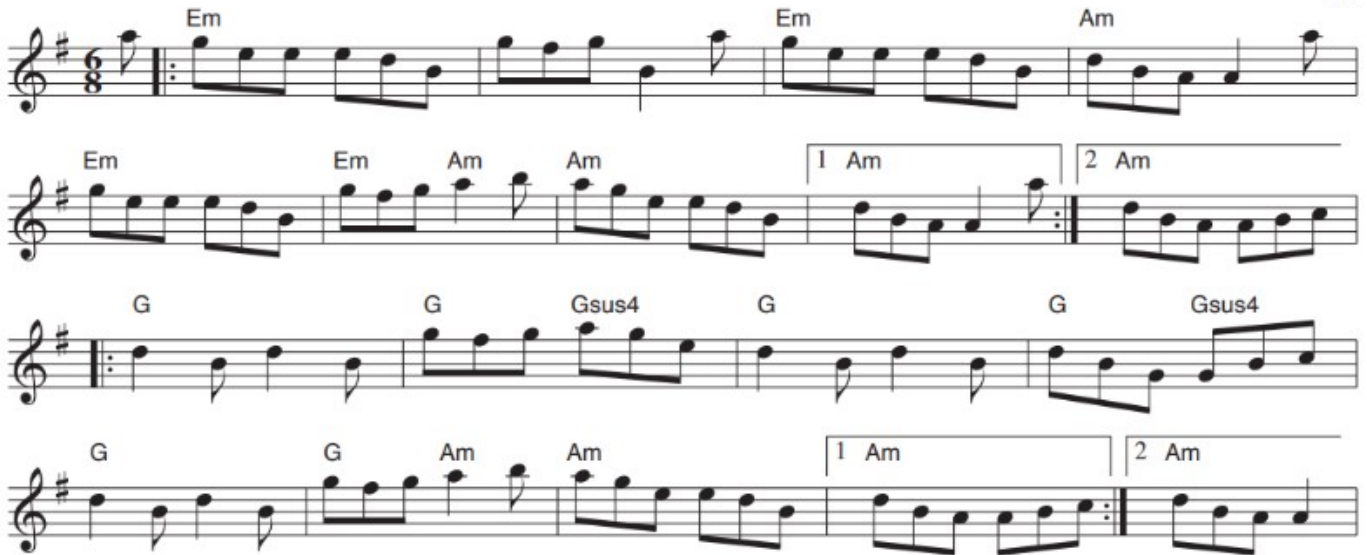
"There are not more countries than there are customs"

www.irishartsmn.org

TUNE OF THE MONTH

Bundle and Go

jig



This Donegal jig was taught at the 2019 Minnesota Irish Music Weekend (MIM) by Glasgowborn fiddler Clare Friel. Clare, along with her two sisters Anna and Sheila (also visiting artists at MIM) spent time discussing, performing and demonstrating to students about the strong musical connections between Glasgow (Scotland) and Donegal (Ireland) during their four days here. There is also a great recording of the Bundle and Go on CIM Instructor Danny Diamond and Conor Caldwell's CD: North.

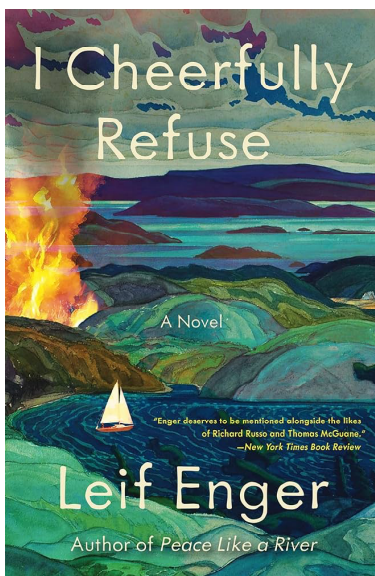
Respectfully submitted by Rosa Wells on behalf of the Center for Irish Music (CIM), a traditional Irish music school based in St. Paul, located inside the Celtic Junction Arts Center. We publish a tune each month with dots (sheet music), suggested chords and some basic background information including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



836 Prior Ave North, St. Paul MN 55104

On Leabhragan (The Bookcase)

Cheerfully Refuse — Leif Enger — 2024 Grove Press



I'm playing the local author card this month. Heads-up: this is not an Irish novel, but it IS one of the best books I've read in a while, so you should know about it. The author scored a big hit with his earlier novel, *Virgil Wander*, which I also highly recommend. This novel continues Mr. Enger's excellent storytelling with the saga of an ordinary middle-aged guy finding meaning in his life after his wife dies in tragic circumstances. Set in the very near future, circumstances in America have changed, government is in shambles and that the infrastructure has somehow broken down; not completely, but to the point where things don't work a great deal of the time. Ordinary people are making do all the same. There isn't any backstory about what happened, only that rural folks are helping their neighbors, using the barter system, and practicing mutual reliance on each other and their shared resources. They seem to be managing, more or less, better than most urban communities are. There's no overt political message in Leif Enger's, books, or not much, anyway; just enough backstory that this is the way life is now, and this is how people cope with it, or don't.

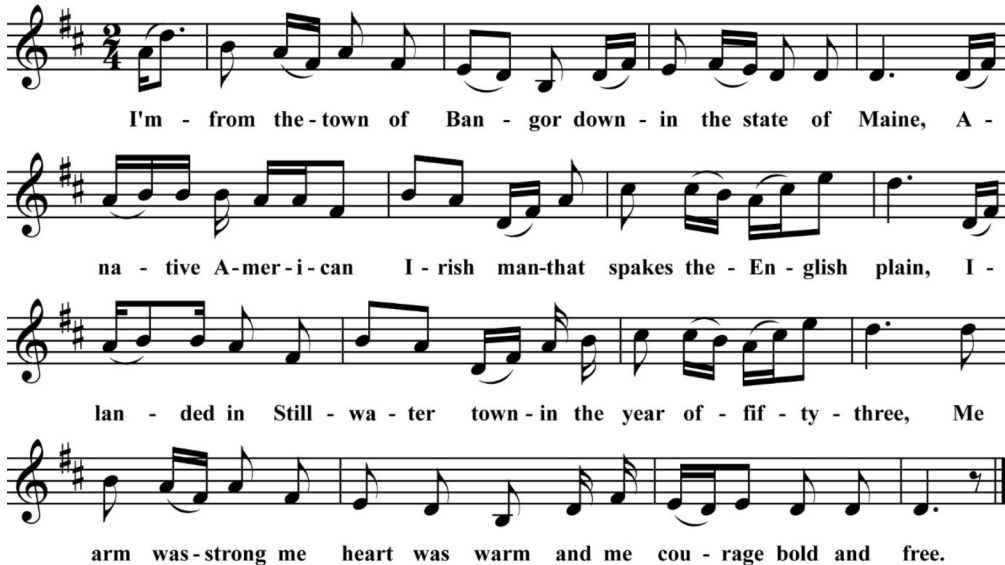
Handyman Rainy and his wife Lark, an independent bookstore owner, live on Lake Superior in a port town they've been part of all their lives. They and their neighbors cope with an increasingly dystopian society with practicality, goodness (for the most part) and resignation (when necessary.) At one point a young refugee comes to their door, obviously part of some minor-infraction drug-running scheme or other illegal activity, and Lark and Rainy decide to take him in as a lodger, as a short-term act of mercy. In a series of escalating confrontations with the authorities, Lark is killed in a raid the authorities stage to capture their fugitive boarder; she's collateral damage in a maneuver gone wrong. In his grief and to make sense of his loss Rainy takes to the inland sea, Lake Superior, in his small sailboat, *Flower*. In search of consolation, peace, and possibly communication with his beloved, Rainy sails the inlets and coves and back channels, mindful of old native legends about meetings with spirits and places that are a time out of time. In the best spirit of Huck Finn, he takes on a castaway nine-year-old girl, evades captures, thumbs his nose at authorities, and meets an unlikely cast of characters. His adventures take him on a journey worthy of Odysseus and Mark Twain all rolled together. The title, *I Cheerfully Refuse*, comes from a favorite book his wife was reading; a rare, small book about civil disobedience and possibly existential magic, which becomes his journey's guide and the leitmotiv of the novel. Out of the chaos of a fractured society and personal tragedy comes a new purpose and meaning in Rainy's life. If you read one new book this season, I'd go for this one. Every note rings true.

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

Northwoods Songs: Irish Songs from Lumberjacks and Great Lakes Sailors

By Brian Miller

Mickey Free



I'm - from the - town of Ban - gor down - in the state of Maine, A -
na - tive A-mer-i-can I - rish man-that spakes the - En - glish plain, I -
lan - ded in Still - wa - ter town - in the year of - fif - ty - three, Me
arm was - strong me heart was warm and me cou - rage bold and free.

I'm from the town of Bangor
Down in the state of Maine,
A native American Irishman,
That spakes the English plain;
I landed in Stillwater town
In the year of fifty-three,
Me arm was strong, me heart was warm,
And me courage bold and free.

It's on the Boom I sarved me time—
Wid corporation fare,
Plenty to eat sich as it was,
And something I had to wear;
And I've worked the Namekagon
In ould Schulenburg's employ,
And on the Clam and Yellow rivers
For the valiant Bob Malloy.

And I've camped among the wigwams,
On Totogatic's shore,
Where I held me own with Whalen,
Jim Crotty and George Moore;
And I worked wid Pease and Jackman
In the year of seventy-four,
And when ould Dan, he shelled the Pease,
I heard the cannons roar.

And on the Namekagon drive
With Tom Mackey I have been,
Where I fought the great Tom Haggerty—
While Bill Hanson stood between;
And I fought with big John Mealey—

And might have won the day,
If bould Jake Resser had been there
And seen I had fair play.

And I've been at stoppin' places,
When travellin' on my way,
Where gray backs big as June bugs
Were thick as flowers in May;
And I've been with ould man Greeley
Upon the St. Croix drive;
Where misketeys big as hummin' birds—
Used to ate the min alive.

And I might have been a partner
With Ike Staples in the mill,
Or at least a boss for Louie
Or ould New Brunswick Bill;
But I'm always weak with wimmin—
Let them be wives or maids,
They may be fair and pretty
Or black as the ace of spades.

And they've broke me heart entirely—
Nary a cint's forninst me name,
I may work for Dunn or Crotty
It's always just the same,
But I'm thinkin' to turn farmer
And forget me early days,
Take "homestead" up in Bashaw
Where I'm sure to mend me ways.

This song tells the story of St. Croix Valley timber cruiser Ed Hart (~1830-1900). Born in Windsor, Nova Scotia, Hart moved to Bangor, Maine as a young man before continuing to Stillwater, Minnesota where he became a cruiser (someone who surveyed timberlands for lumber companies). The song was written by William Young, a US government agent sent to the St. Croix in the 1870s to investigate illegal logging. Young befriended Hart, who took him along on his timber cruising trips where they traveled 30 miles a day on snowshoes and slept out under the stars in the middle of winter. Young was so impressed by his rugged friend that he composed this ballad based on Hart's life.

The text above is taken word-for-word from James Taylor Dunn's book *The St. Croix: Midwest Border River* complete with its many "Irish-American dialect" words (ould, misketeys, etc.) It is unclear what Dunn's source was for the song though he says it "made its first known appearance at Taylors Falls early in 1878 and was widely repeated up and down the valley." I also found proof of the song entering the oral tradition in the St. Croix. In an interview at the Minnesota Historical Society, Maggie Orr-O'Neill, whose father owned camps on the Wisconsin side of the Valley, remembered hearing local "red shirts" (river drivers) sing the verse about "mosquitoes big as hummingbirds."

I sang a version of this song for my *Minnesota Lumberjack Songs* album where I skipped verse four and changed the end of verse six. (I sing: "The fair ones and the cruel ones with hearts as black as spades.") The crass racial undertones at the end of verse six as printed by Dunn could have stemmed from songwriter Young's discomfort with Ed Hart's Ojibwe wife Me-dwe-a-shi-kwe. Hart and Me-dwe-a-shi-kwe married in 1871 and, as the last verse says, homesteaded in Bashaw, Wisconsin where they raised a family.

The Namekagan, Clam, Yellow and Totogatic are all rivers and streams in northwestern Wisconsin. Schulenburg, Bob Malloy, old man Greeley (Elam Greeley), Ike Staples (Isaac Staples), Louie (Louis Torinus) and New Brunswick Bill (William Chalmers) were a sort of who's who of the mid-1800s logging industry in the St. Croix. "Dan he shelled the Pease" is a pun on a violent dispute between Dan E. Smith and the Pease and Jackman logging company in 1874. *Graybacks* are bedbugs.

I have been unable to find the original melody for this song and I have tried a few different options over the years. Above, I have married the text to a melody used by Newfoundland singer Mike Molloy for a popular north woods song called "My Good-Looking Man."

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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The Weir by Conor McPherson Coming Soon!

If you can't get to Ireland this summer.....join Out of the Mist Celtic Theatre for a real Irish pub experience!

We are producing Conor McPherson's master work *The Weir* at two local pubs: The Local in Minneapolis, and Sweeney's Tavern in St. Paul. This tale of the supernatural takes place in a bar in rural Ireland. Local men swap spooky stories in an attempt to impress a young woman from Dublin who recently moved into a nearby 'haunted' house.

As diners at The Local or Sweeney's Saloon, you will be immersed in this play, having a pint with the actors, and enjoying their stories. Maybe you will even want to dance to live music during intermission.

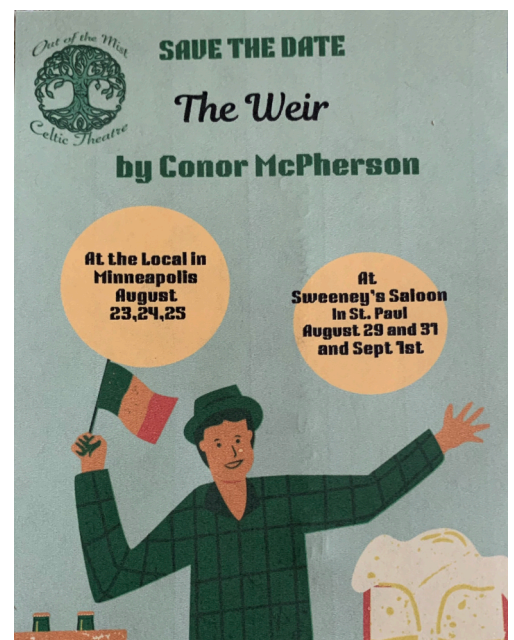
Both venues will open for those who want to order dinner at 6:00 and the show will start at 7:30. Drinks will be served throughout the evening. Tickets are \$20.

Join us at The Local on August 23, 24, 25 or at Sweeney's Saloon on August 29, 31, and September 1st.

Tickets available on our website: www.outofthemistceltictheater.com



The cast of *The Weir* by Conor McPherson from left to right: Jon Stentz; Lois Estell; Ian Hardy; Carney Gray; Bruce Abas.





Lúnasa Céilí Dance

**Celtic Junction
Arts Center**

836 Prior Ave N, St. Paul

**Music provided by
Twin Cities Ceili Band**

August 2nd, 2024

**Lesson @ 6:30pm
Dance 7-9pm**

**Admission
Adults: \$10
18 & Under: Free**



Sample Irish Music Classes at Center for Irish Music Open House August 25th, 2:00-4:30 pm

The **Center for Irish Music (CIM)** invites you to our newly renovated education and performance space to learn more about our lineup of classes and lessons starting in September. The event will begin with a performance by students from our award-winning youth ensembles, followed by a traditional Irish jam session and several instrument and class demos. CIM staff and instructors will be available to answer questions about traditional Irish music, instrument rental, private lessons, classes, our ensemble program, and more.

The Center for Irish Music offers year-round private lessons on 16 traditional instruments, including fiddle, harp, whistle, concertina, flute, guitar, uilleann pipes, and song.

The Center for Irish Music also offers a wide range of group classes for all ages, including:

- **Celtic Cuties**, an introductory course for children ages 0-4 featuring rhymes, finger plays, and songs specially designed for early childhood development.
- **Irish Pub Songs**, a rousing exploration of Irish ballads and drinking songs.
- **Introduction to Tin Whistle for Adults**, an opportunity for adults to learn this beautiful (and affordable) little instrument that is a gateway to the great tradition of Irish dance music.

Fall Term runs from September 3rd through January 26th. Registration for classes and lessons will open soon at www.centerforirishmusic.org/register, or by contacting admin@centerforirishmusic.org.

Visit <https://www.centerforirishmusic.org/calendar/open-house-2024> for additional information on the Open House, including the complete schedule and list of class demos (coming soon!).





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Irish Festival Preview

Here in the Twin Cities, we have our own **Irish Fair of Minnesota** at Harriet Island in St. Paul from Aug. 9 - 11. The lineup already announced includes **Skerryvore, JigJam, The Jeremiahs, Reverie Road, and the Byrne Brothers.**

Buy tickets and keep up to date with the plans at www.irishfair.com.

Here's a peek at the plans for some of the other Irish and Celtic festivals in the Midwest

- **Dublin Irish Festival, Dublin, OH** – Aug. 2 - 4.
Gaelic Storm, the High Kings, Skerryvore, Téada, Socks in the Frying Pan, JigJam, Talisk, Goitse, Gadan with Enda Scahill of We Banjo 3, O'Jizo (from Japan). Details at dublinirishfestival.org.
- **Iowa Irish Fest, Downtown Waterloo, IA** – Aug. 2 - 4. *Iowa's Biggest Irish Celebration.* The Screaming Orphans, the Dublin City Ramblers, Enda Reilly, Seo Linn and the Byrne Brothers lead off the list of entertainment. Details at www.facebook.com/lowairishFest. Tickets at www.iowairishfest.com.
- **Milwaukee Irish Fest, Milwaukee, WI** – Aug. 15 - 18. *Over 100 Acts Across 16 Stages!!*
The 'granddaddy' festival is a 4-day event. Entertainment includes Athas, Doolin', Goitse, Gadan with Enda Scahill, Joey Abarta and Jackie O'Riley, Lúnasa, and goes on and on! Details, tickets and updates at www.irishfest.com
- **Chicago Gaelic Park Irish Fest, Oak Forest, IL** – Aug. 23 -25.
Save the date announcement – details to come at chicagogaelicpark.com/
- **Irish Hooley Music Festival of Dubuque, Dubuque, IA** – Aug. 24.
The High Kings, Ballyheigue, the Lads of Dubuque, Ian Gould, Rory Makem and Michael Darcy & the Atlantic Tramps.
- **Kansas City Irish Fest, Kansas City, MO** – Aug. 30 – Sept. 1.
Held in the Crown Center, the festival offers 7 stages with the Elders, Gaelic Storm, Doolin', the Screaming Orphans and more. Plus children's activities, art in the park, and a cultural area. Details at www.kcirishfest.com/
- **Michigan Irish Music Festival, Muskegon, MI** – Sept. 12 - 15.
The 4-day festival brings great Irish music to Muskegon – just across Lake Michigan from Door County. Gaelic Storm, Talisk, Aoife Scott, JigJam, the Friel Sisters, Shane Hennessy and more. Keep in the loop at www.michiganirish.org.
- **Irish Fest of the Fox Cities, Appleton, WI** – Sept. 15 & 16.
Skerryvore, Eileen Ivers, Colm Keegan, and JigJam have been announced. Updates at www.facebook.com/IrishFestofFoxCities/.



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Music in the Park- Summer Outdoor Music Events

Time to head to an outdoor venue to hear a favorite or a new one!

Friday, August 2 – **RavensFire** at Peace Plaza, Rochester, MN. Music from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Wednesday, August 7 – **St. Dominic's Trio** at Bloomington Civic Plaza, East Lot, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington, MN. Music begins at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 11 – **The New Pearl Buttons / Dunquin** at the LeDuc House Orchard Concert, Historic LeDuc Estate, 1629 Vermillion Street, Hastings, MN. Music at 6 p.m.

Sunday, August 18 – **Legacy** at Birchwood Music in the Park, Tighe-Schmitz Park, 410 Lake Ave., White Bear Lake, MN. Music from 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20 – **RavensFire** at the Eyota Farmers Market, Eyota, MN. Music from 5 – 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 21 – **Sweet Colleens** at Eagan Market Fest, Eagan Rotary Bandshell, 1501 Central Parkway, Eagan, MN. Music from 6 – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, August 28 – **RavensFire** at Peace Plaza, Rochester, MN. Music from 4 – 6 p.m.

Music in the Vineyards- More Outdoor Summer Music

Come enjoy the music – and be sure to sample the offerings!

Thursday, August 15 – **Locklin Road** at Rustic Roots Winery, Scandia, MN at 4 p.m.

Sunday, September 1 – **Locklin Road** at Dancing Dragonfly Winery, Dresser, WI at 1 p.m.

Friday, September 6 – **Belfast Cowboys** – Concert in the Vines at Parley Lake Winery, Waconia, MN. Ticketed event. Music from 6:30 – 9 p.m.

Sunday, September 22 – **Locklin Road** at Forestville Vines, River Falls, WI at 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 13 – **Locklin Road** at Rustic Roots Winery, Scandia, MN at 3 p.m.

Details for these and many more events at irishartsmn.org/events/



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Live music for Charlie's Irish Pub in the Historic Water Street Inn located in downtown Stillwater. Charlie's Pub features live Irish music every Friday and Saturday night from 7:00pm to 11:00pm



August 9th & 10th - Paul & Lorraine

Paul and Lorraine started with a rouge folk band (Folk Underground), then split off to form their own duo. They bring a wide variety to the table, including: lots of drinking, lots of losing your love, plenty of death, doom, and destruction, along with happy little nights in the Pub. They take requests and will play almost anything (if they know about half of it!)

August 16th & 17th – Prank Williams and the Broken Spoke

A high-energy Irish/folk band based in Saint Paul, MN highlighting the sweet stringed sounds of the fiddle, stand-up bass, guitar, and mandolin. Traditional Irish Music and Irish Rock with a twist! Broken Spoke never fail to deliver an outstanding performance that will have you up on your feet before you know it!



August 23rd & 24th -Purgatory Creek

Purgatory Creek is a band that tracks from Nashville to Belfast featuring the music of Dee Brust, David Perry, Adam Stemple, and Ann Viviano. This group has decades of performance between them, and offers up folk rockin' Irish Americana to take you the river, the mine, the mystic, the mountain, the shady grove, and the devil's backbone

August 30th & 31st – Bonnie Drunken Lad

"Bonnie Drunken Lad. A group of 4 lads and 1 lass (all with questionable Celtic heritage) with an interest in traditional and modern Irish drinking songs, war anthems, historical oddities, sea shanties, and anything Luke Kelly sings. They practice in a shack in Apple Valley, MN. Five miscreants, one Bonnie Drunken Lad."



Smidiríní*

(*Irish for 'Bits and Pieces')

by Copper Shannon

Comhghairdeas le (Congratulations to) and best wishes all the dedicated musicians who are traveling to Ireland for the *Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2024* in Wexford Town, Ireland (lovingly known as the All Irelands). Among the many Minnesotans making their way to the world's largest annual celebration of Irish music, language, song and dance are a number of *IAM Educational Grant* recipients, many of whom will attend *Scoil Éigse*, the Summer School where emerging talent are encouraged and guided by the cream of Irish traditional artists. We know that everyone will enjoy the opportunities to learn, make music, make new friends and savor the time together.

Maith sibh! (Good on you!) to **all the Irish dancers** who danced their very best at the *North American Irish Dance Championships* in Grapevine, Texas in July and at the *CRN World Open Championships* in Killarney, Ireland in June. Good on ye!

Comhghairdeas le (Congratulations to) the several local Irish dancers who competed in the *North American Irish Dance Championships* and placed well enough to qualify for the upcoming *World Irish Dance Championships* in Dublin next Spring!

Comhghairdeas le (Congratulations to) **Jordan Grubidge**, who placed 3rd in his age group at the *North American Irish Dance Championships*. Jordan dances with *O'Shea Irish Dance*. Jordan is also an *Irish Arts Minnesota Educational Grant* recipient – he received his grant in 2019. What a delight to see Jordan continue to grow as a dancer! Congratulations to his teacher, **Cormac O'Se**, TCRG.

Comhghairdeas le (Congratulations) and Best Wishes! to **Julia Ross**, who placed 6rd in the U20 age group at the *CRN World Open Irish Dancing Championships* in Killarney, Ireland in June. Julia dances and teaches with *Rince na Greine Irish Dance*. Julia is also an *Irish Arts Minnesota Educational Grant* recipient, receiving her grant in 2022. How wonderful to see Julia's continued growth as a dancer! Congratulations to her teacher, **Lauren Adams-Plehal**, ODCRN - herself an *Irish Arts Minnesota Educational Grant* Recipient in 2013.

Nice work! Well done to the volunteer crew who helped **Cormac O'Se** complete a new roof for the outdoor stage at the **Celtic Junction Arts Center!** What a great addition to make a special venue even nicer!

Did you know? World Irish Dance Champion **Megan Stuart** is also a cancer survivor. (Megan dances with *Corda Mór*.) Megan and her family are especially grateful for the care that Megan received as a young child at Children's Minnesota. Megan and her family recently organized a fundraiser for Children's Minnesota. The fundraiser is still open – read about Megan's story and lend your support at [megan-stuarts-story---cancer-survivor-to-world-champion](https://www.childrensmn.org/megan-stuarts-story---cancer-survivor-to-world-champion)

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



Irish Arts Minnesota

August
2024
Lúnasa

42nd Year, Issue No. 8

IAM Members

Members are reminded that Irish Arts Minnesota membership is renewable annually in January. Renew today for 2024!

New and renewing supporting members receive the following:

- A one-year (January to December 2024) subscription to the IAM's monthly newsletter
- "Priority 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 "New or Renewed Members" section of future IAM newsletters and in related posts to the IAM web site and Facebook page.

*Note: The Community Resources List at irishartsmn.org/resources/ is a great community connection. It's very easy to use – just click on the business or organization name to be connected to their website or Facebook Page.

**Note: The Community Resources List on the Irish Arts Minnesota website has been refreshed. Check it out at irishartsmn.org/resources/. It's very easy to use – just click on the band or dance school name to be connected to their website or Facebook Page.*



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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](mailto:Editor@irishartsmn.org)

IAM Board

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www.irishartsmn.org

Ceílí 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)	
Interests (circle all that apply) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> Music Dance Theatre Language Volunteer </div>	
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.	