



Irish Arts Minnesota

May
2024
Bealtaine

42nd Year, Issue No. 5

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

Irish Festival Preview – Stay Tuned!

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

- **Madison Irish Fest, Madison, WI** – May 17 – 19
Diana Ladio with Brendan Forrest & Band, 3 Pints Gone. Details at irishfestmadison.com/
- **Missouri River Irish Fest, St. Charles, MO** – May 24-26
The Elders are featured, plus local bands and dancers. Details at mrifsc.com/
- **Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, Cleveland, OH** – July 19 - 21.
Planning is underway for 2024. Details and updates clevelandirish.org/.
- **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/lowalrishFest. 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.kcirishtfest.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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IAM Recognizes Dedicated Dancers

By Jan Casey

The Decade of Dance Award is Irish Arts Minnesota's way to recognize the very special commitment that some students make to Irish dance. The dancers who receive this award have studied Irish dance for at least 10 years; for most, it represents the major portion of their young lives. The awards were presented on the Main Stage at IAM's St. Patrick's Day and Day of Irish Dance Celebrations at Landmark Center.

Because of the number of dancers qualifying for the award this year, we are including the favorite memories of Irish dance for a selection of dancers. Look for the remainder in the next newsletter.

Ashley Andersen ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*

"I love everything about Irish dance, but specifically St. Patrick's Day performances."

Jenna Berg ~ *Onórach Mulhern Geraghty School (OMG) and Mactír Academy*

"Going to travel feiseanna with friends and going to Oireachtas. Winning a sock monkey by dancing in an inflatable hippo costume with my friend Gretchen."

Izzy Carlson ~ *O'Shea Irish Dance*

"When I recalled for my first Oireachtas and got fourth, I was on top of the world."

Keri Carlston ~ *Ardaigh Suas Academy, O'Neill School, Rince Nua Irish Dance*

"My favorite memory of Irish Dance was performing Swan Women at Provincials and sitting in ballrooms through long competitions with my teammates."

Charlotte Carlyle ~ *Rince na Chroi*

"Irish Fair has always been my favorite part of dance because I have so much fun hanging out with friends and watching the live music after we dance."

Susanna Carlyle ~ *Rince na Chroi*

"My favorite memory from Irish dance is from very early on. I did not want to dance and cried a lot at practice. One of my favorite teachers gave me a bravery ring and helped me become more comfortable with dancing. It clearly worked, because I am still dancing today."

Emme Couillard ~ *Rince na Chroi*

"My favorite memory of Irish dance was Irish Fair 2022. That Irish Fair was particularly special because I had so much fun with my dance friends. It was the first year we didn't have to spend all day with our parents, so we just walked around, ate, and danced wherever we could. It helped me appreciate the true love for dance I have, and it really came out that weekend."

Emaliah Danner ~ *Ardaigh Suas Academy, O'Neill School, Rince Nua Irish Dance*

"I have many favorite dance memories! A memory that stands out is when I competed at my first Nationals in Orlando, FL when I was 9 years old."

Sophia DeMers ~ *Ardaigh Suas Academy, Hudson Irish Dance, Eilís Academy*

"My favorite memory is competing at the Kansas City feis and getting into Open Champs with my coach Ashley Cheek, my mom and dance friends. Getting into OC has always been my biggest goal in dance. My dance friends and family are what makes it so special."

Britta DePhillips ~ *Rince na Chroi*

"My favorite dance memories are definitely performing for others. I love dancing for people at our annual show, 'From the Stage to your Heart,' at St. Patrick's Day shows like the one at Landmark Center, and at Irish Fair! One of my favorite performances this year was with the Wild Colonial Bhoys at Irish Fair."



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Frances Duffy ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*
"The friendships."

Molly Faulken ~ *Rince na Chroi*
"My first Irish Fair in Advanced."

Katie Foley ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*
"Performing at the Landmark Center and qualifying for Nationals."

Jack Frohnauer ~ *Rince na Chroi*
"Dancing with Gaelic Storm."

Piper Fuhr ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*
"St. Patrick's day performances, qualifying for World's, making lasting friendships."

Brenda Gant ~ *Ardaigh Suas Academy, Hudson Academy, Eilís Academy*
"Some of my favorite memories of Irish Dance are meeting all my dance friends and family, and traveling to different places for Feis, Oireachtas and Nationals. Accomplishing my goal to reach the OC level is another favorite memory."

Clare Gramling ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*
"Qualify for 2024 Worlds Championship."

Magdalena Hanson ~ *Onórach Mulhern Geraghty School (OMG), Corda Mor*
"I love that I met my best friend at Irish dance and that we could compete, do shows and travel together to fun places!"

Evelyn Husband ~ *Onórach Mulhern Geraghty School (OMG)*
"Dancing at the world championships in Montreal."

Ginger Husband ~ *Onórach Mulhern Geraghty School (OMG)*
"Dancing at Irish Fair and my first FEIS."

Lucy Husband ~ *Onórach Mulhern Geraghty School (OMG)*
"Dancing at the World Championships in Belfast."

Erin Joyce ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*
"Dancing on my 13th birthday at Nationals in Vancouver!"

Margaret Kenny ~ *Rince na Chroi*
"My favorite memory of Irish dance is our all school rehearsals before our big show in February because of all the fun and laughs we have!"

Kathleen Kiely ~ *Corda Mór Irish Dance*
"Competing at my very first Oireachtas with all my best friends."

Ingrid Kotnik ~ *North Star Irish Dance*
"Performing at Irish Fair."

Allegra Larson ~ *O'Shea Irish Dance*
"Eating out with my dance friends after our last show on Saint Patrick's Day."

Nevellie Larson ~ *O'Shea Irish Dance*
"Dancing in shows with my friends and dressing up for fun in class."

Heartfelt congratulations to these dedicated dancers and to their parents and families who support and encourage them.

Jan Casey serves on the IAM board and coordinates the Decade of Dance Program.

www.irishartsmn.org



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Kate Wade, MA

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The Gaelic Corner- By Will Kenny

Over nearly twenty years, Wes Koster was both a student of and an instructor for Gaeltacht Minnesota. All of us were deeply saddened to learn that Wes had recently passed away.



The thing is, while his passing was quite a blow, it is hard to maintain an appropriately somber mood. The problem is that whenever anyone who knew Wes thinks about him, they quickly find themselves smiling over some amusing remark he made. We've received many comments as the news of his passing has spread and every single one of them makes reference to Wes's sense of humor.

If you wanted to cook up a Wes Koster, you would start with that inexhaustible sense of humor. To that, add a good helping of insatiable curiosity, especially in regard to languages. And top it off with a dash of mischievous creativity.

He first appeared on our radar as a student in Mary Roguski's "Introduction to Irish Gaelic" class in St. Paul Community Education. He progressed very rapidly indeed. After just a couple of years he was teaching Irish, first at our workshops, then leading one of our regular Monday night sections from 2008 to now. We later realized that we had what we like to call a "language junkie" on our hands.

Wes was just plain curious about how languages worked, and he satisfied that curiosity both with formal education (graduate coursework in linguistics) and less formally by dabbling in any language that caught his fancy. He already had a pretty good familiarity with Scots Gaelic when he came to Mary's class. (In fact, he was probably looking for someone to teach him Scots Gaelic, but not finding anyone, he took the Irish route.) But he didn't show off about the head start it gave him with Irish Gaelic, so that it was quite a while before Mary realized, as she said, that she "had a ringer" in her class.

Fellow student (and later fellow instructor) Maureen recalled that when she thought of Wes, she thought of "his intense linguistic nerd-isms," an expression that fits Wes perfectly. I remember how, in one of our conversation groups, we might be puzzling over an odd bit of Irish grammar, or perhaps a peculiar piece of vocabulary, and Wes would pull up some similar item from Japanese or Norwegian or some other language.

His light touch was evident in his teaching. One student commented, "His amusing observations about our quests to acquire a second language kept our class closely engaged and the class work cheerful." Learning with Wes was always fun. If you were to listen at the classroom door for five minutes and not hear any laughter, you probably weren't outside Wes's classroom.

In 2013, Wes edited a book that was published in Minneapolis, and this slim volume captured many of his signature traits. Titled "Queer & Celtic: On the Irish LGBT Experience" (still available on Amazon), it reflected his eclectic tastes. It was a mix of fiction, poetry, play excerpts, and memoir, all in English but with one story also in Irish, and that one written by one of the most prominent players, as both an author and a publisher, in contemporary Irish literature. I remember how hard Wes worked to get that particular contribution into the book.

In his dedication, Wes wrote, "The editor wishes to thank all the folks at Gaeltacht Minnesota for sharing his interest in Irish culture and language." "Shared" is the perfect word. There was no hierarchy in his classes. Sure, we referred to him as the "Instructor," but all that meant was that he had a little more mileage, so to speak, on his language travels. But learning with Wes was very much a shared experience in which everyone played a role.

As his student (and colleague) Sue put it, "Wes was very careful to keep his classes fun and was very gentle, choosing sparingly when to correct anyone's spoken Irish. He was one of the kindest teachers ever."

And if the many languages Wes dabbled in didn't serve up the word he needed, he wasn't above making up the desired vocabulary! As Mary tells the tale, "At one of our many delightful diner-based chats, I lamented that there was not a term for the meal that falls between lunch and dinner. He looked at me for a long moment, and then said, "chowsers." And chowsers it has been ever since, even coming out of the mouths of friends of mine who never knew Wes.

Slán, a Wes, we'll certainly miss you. But we promise we'll nurture that humor and curiosity and creativity you brought to every gathering of Irish enthusiasts.

Ní maith liom do thrioblóid

"I don't like your trouble,"

A common way of expressing condolences in Irish on the loss of a loved one

www.irishartsmn.org

TUNE OF THE MONTH

The Road To The Isles

barndance



This tune is recorded as a march along with The Pride of Petravore on local accordion player Martin McHugh's album *The Master's Choice*, a fine resource for our local repertoire since Martin has been an invaluable member of our community for many decades now, anchoring the session scene and always encouraging newcomers and young players. Road to the Isles is also popular locally as part of a set in the well-loved 'Kickin' It Irish' show by O'Shea Irish Dance. The name refers to a scenic and historic route in Scotland linking Fort William in the Scottish highlands to the shores near Mallaig, where you can take a ferry to the Small Isles south of Skye. This tune gets called a march or barndance, depending on how it's being played. The Two Tap Trio (Nathan Gourley, Norah Rendell & Brian Miller) recorded it as a barndance on their album *A Night at the Fair*.

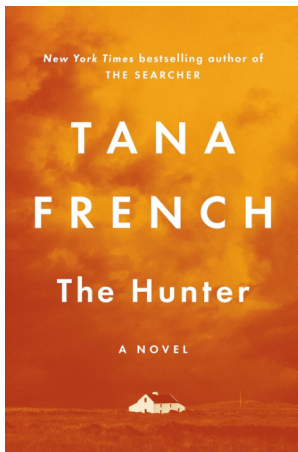
Respectfully submitted by Rosa Wells on behalf of the Center for Irish Music (CIM), a traditional Irish music school based in St. Paul, located inside the Celtic Junction Arts Center. We publish a tune each month with dots (sheet music), suggested chords and some basic background information including 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)

The Hunter — Tana French — Viking Penguin 2024



Best known for her Dublin Murder Squad series, Tana French created a new character, Cal Hooper, two years ago in her novel *The Searcher*. Cal, a Chicago cop tired of the mean streets of urban America, takes early retirement to settle down in the quietest place he can find: Ardnakilty, a small Irish town in the foothills of a mountain. But as Cal soon discovers, you can take the detective out of Chicago, but trouble happens anywhere, and somehow finds him even in the back roads of rural Ireland. Ardnakilty has its own way of closing out strangers and "blow-ins", keeping its secrets and adhering to its own code of laws and justice.

Still, in the two years since Cal Hooper moved in, he's made some friends and allies. He mostly minds his own business, stands his round of pints in the pub, and helps his neighbors when they need him. He's starting to fit in, cautiously and around the edges. He befriends a half-feral teen, teaches her carpentry skills and encourages her progress. All is well until her long absent dad Johnny, a small-time conman and full-time jerk, blows into town, accompanied by a rich English man with implausible tales of gold in the mountains. Hooper can smell a scam and steps in to protect his protege, her mam and younger siblings. The locals take sides and several buy into the "gold in the hills" theory; before long, trouble's brewing. Murder follows fraud as certain as night follows day, and Cal puts his skills to work to assist the local Gardai in a town where everyone has a theory but nobody talks to the authorities.

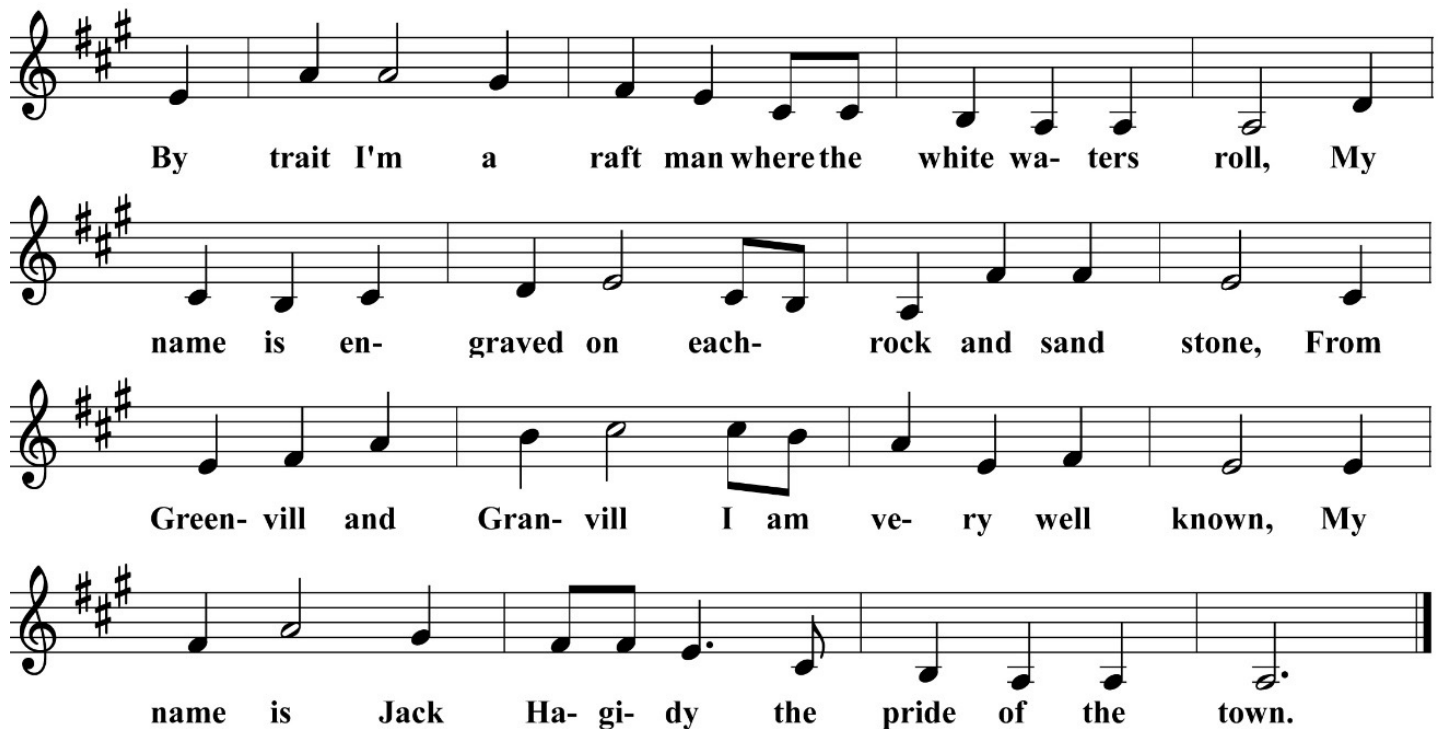
With plenty of suspense, dodgy motives and plot twists, *The Hunter* never disappoints. You can count on the locals to close ranks, administer their own justice and exact retribution where it seems required. But is that retribution for the flim-flam men, or for the Yank? You won't put this down until you know.

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

Northwoods Songs: Irish Songs from Lumberjacks and Great Lakes Sailors

By Brian Miller

By Trait I'm a Raftman [Jack Haggerty]



By trait I'm a raft man where the white wa- ters roll, My
name is en- graved on each- rock and sand stone, From
Green- vill and Gran- vill I am ve- ry well known, My
name is Jack Ha- gi- dy the pride of the town.

By trait I'm a raftman, where the white waters roll,
My name is engraved on each rock and sand stone,
From Greenville to Grandvill I am very well known,
My name is Jack Hagidy the pride of the town.

My troubles I will tell you without any delay,
Of a dear little damsel my heart stole away,
She was the black's Smith only daughter by the flat River
side,
And I always intended for to make her my bride.

I dressed her in jewels embroiderers and lace,
And the costliest velvet her eyes could embrace,
I took her to dances to parties and Balls,
And Sundays boat riding where the white waters roll.

I worked on the River till I made quite a stake,
I was sturdy and steadfast neither gambled nor drank,
I gave her my wages the same to keep safe,
I begrudged that girl nothing that I had on this earth.

One day in Plat River a letter I received,
Saying defy all good promises, my self I realise,
She was married to another not long delay,
And the next time I saw her she would ne'er be a maid.

Her mother Jane Tucker I lay all the blame,
She has caused her to leave me and blackened my name,
She has cast off the rigens that God soon would tie,
And have left me a rambler until the day that I die.

Not it is here in Plat River for me there's no rest,
I will sholder my Pevie and I will go West,
I will go to mont Sagin [?] toward the red setting sun,
Leave behind me Plat River and the false hearted one.

Now come all ye bold Raftmen with hearts brave and true,
Don't depend on a women for your left if you do,
And when that you see one with chestnut brown curls,
Just think of Jack Hagidy and the Plat River girl.



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Over the last 17 years I have performed Minnesota-sourced folksongs in over a hundred venues spread over 32 counties in Minnesota, primarily with Randy Gosa as The Lost Forty. I love bringing these songs back to the communities they came from and, occasionally, an audience member will share a story of music in their own family with me after the show.

In 2022, Eleanor Hall of Clearbrook, Minnesota found me after a performance in Shevlin to tell me about a *handwritten songbook* kept by her mother Alma Pitsenburg Doten. Alma was born in 1904 in Moose Creek Township, 12 miles west of where I grew up on Grant Lake west of Bemidji! This April, I was able to meet up with Eleanor and make scans of her mother's fascinating book. There are over one hundred songs written in pencil in an old ledger book kept with love and reverence all these years.

I was delighted to find a few lumberjack ballads in Alma's book. "Jack Haggerty" was the first song in Franz Rickaby's 1926 book *Ballads and Songs of the Shanty-Boy*. Rickaby wrote that the song "is native to the Flat River in southern Michigan" and that it "was a great shanty favorite and is still widely met with in the Lake states." Rickaby printed four versions of the song including two collected from Bemidji-based singers. Alma called the song "By Trait I'm a Raftman."

Above, I have transcribed Alma Pitsenburg Doten's text complete with some irregular spellings found in her songbook. I matched it with a rather unique (and nice!) variant of the song's melody recorded by Helen Hartness Flanders from the singing of Jack McNally at Stacyville, Maine in 1942. The McNally recording is available online via archive.org.

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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Laura MacKenzie Music

[SimpleGifts - May Day in Marine](#) Wed, May 1 @ 7:00PM
[Marine on St. Croix Town Hall, 121 Judd Street, Marine on St. Croix, MN](#)

The full ensemble of SimpleGifts, featuring Billy McLaughlin, presents their show "The Young & The Rest", a tribute to the music of Neil Young and other artists of the era. Doors to the historic Town Hall open at 6:30 for general admission ticket holders.

General Admission: \$35 general advance / \$45 door \$30 senior advance (65+) & student advance (18 & under) / \$35 door

[International Respect for Chickens Day at CRR](#) Sat, May 4
[Chicken Run Rescue, Minnesota](#)

Laura MacKenzie will be providing music on International Respect for Chickens Day, at Chicken Run Rescue (south of the Metro). The day's activities will be run in partnership with Compassionate Action for Animals. The day will include activities with the rescue residents of the CRR sanctuary, presentations, music and a vegan potluck. Details available soon!

[Breizh Fest](#) Fri, May 17 @ 4:00PM - 11:00PM
[Minneapolis Cider Company, 701 SE 9th St., Minneapolis, MN](#)

Music, dance, food, and family activities celebrating the culture and traditions of Brittany, France. Sponsored by the Alliance Francaise of Minneapolis. The BreTones (Bob Walswer, Tom Klein, and Laura MacKenzie) will be providing music along with other musicians, local and from afar.

Tickets: \$10

[Willow Brae](#) Sun, May 26 @ 4:00PM

210 Gallery and Art Center, 210 Commercial Street N, Sandstone, MN

Willow Brae, the duo of Andrea Stern (Celtic harp) and Laura MacKenzie (traditional wind instruments and voice) present an afternoon concert in the Gallery.

Tickets: Free and open to all

[Brass Lassie Plays Crooners](#) Thu, May 30 @ 8:00PM - 9:30PM

Brass Lassie returns to the Belvedere stage for a smashing 90 minute set! We love this stage (there is room for us!), and the outdoor Belvedere tent is a deluxe venue for an early summer's evening, completely protected from the elements, with the breezeways opened if it is a warm night, and a view of the lake. As always, we will have a surprise or two for you, from the stage!

Tickets: \$30 (\$40 VIP)



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MACTIR IRISH DANCE PRESENTS

Bealtaine

A FIERY SHOWCASE OF IRISH MUSIC & DANCE

MAY 4 - DOORS 1PM - SHOW 2PM
MAY 4 - DOORS 5PM - SHOW 6PM
MAY 5 - DOORS NOON - SHOW 1PM

The Hook and Ladder
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A night of lively Irish dance and music brought to you by the Mactir Academy of Irish Dance, marking the start of Summer and bidding farewell to the gloomy months. Join us for a vibrant May festival bursting with Irish tunes, culture, and fancy footwork!

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May 4 & 5, 2024 | All Ages | [Tickets \\$30](#)
Advance - \$35 Door

- May 4, 2024 | Doors 1:00PM | Show 2:00PM
- May 4, 2024 | Doors 5:00PM | Show 6:00PM
- May 5, 2024 | Doors 12:00PM | Show 1:00PM

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- Music from special guests - Average Gatsby, Two Tap Trio, and the Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band
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JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE JAMES JOYCE'S ULYSSES
THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2024 • 5:00-8:00 PM
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The Center for Irish Music Presents the 16th Minnesota Irish Music Weekend

June 6-9, 2024



Presented by the Center for Irish Music, Minnesota Irish Music Weekend 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.

Each of our visiting artists is recognized for their musical mastery and will offer insights and techniques to help learners tap into the deep roots of traditional Irish music. This year's featured artists include musicians Joey Abarta - Uilleann pipes, whistle; Angelina Carberry - banjo; Aidan Connolly - fiddle; Conor Connolly - accordion; Josh Dukes - flute, guitar; Rose Flanagan - fiddle; Nuala Kennedy - flute, song; Eamon O'Leary - guitar, bouzouki, mandolin, song; and more!

tuning up the next generation since 2007

The 2024 weekend includes a rousing **Kick-Off Celebration** at a local brewery. **The Great Session Experience** is free and open to all! Featuring all visiting artists, the much anticipated **Master Artists Concert** is a must-see event that will also be broadcast live. We'll finish off the weekend on Sunday afternoon with a **solo concert** by piper Joey Abarta.

Programs include:

- **Irish Trad Immersion Camp** for 9-12 year-olds
- **Intermediate-Advanced Teen Program**
- **Adult Workshops, Lectures & Classes** for intermediate to advanced-level students

Workshops are offered in accordion, banjo, bouzouki, fiddle, flute, uilleann pipes, whistle, and song, along with fascinating in-depth talks and lectures with visiting artists on the Irish musical tradition.

Lecture, workshop, and concert prices range from \$10 to \$250 for a weekend package. Find more information at <http://www.centerforirishmusic.org/mim/>.

The Center for Irish Music, 836 Prior Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104. Telephone: +1 (651) 815-0083.
www.centerforirishmusic.org

Charlie's Restaurant and Irish Pub

at the Historic Water Street Inn

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

May 3rd & 4th - Bedlam



Bedlam is a band born out of the talent pool of the MN Renaissance Festival. Over the years, the band has had a diverse sound and many different members. Its recent incarnation is a folk band with a hippie attitude. Many familiar songs with a different slant along with some original material as well. As the name implies a stage with this group on it is not a very stable one and you never know who may show up and sit in on a set

May 10th & 11th - Inland Seas

Formed in 2017, The Inland Seas brings together several experienced Minneapolis-based musicians to create a new Celtic/Americana ensemble. Combining lush vocals with fiddle, whistle, guitar, mandolin, and percussion, the group plays a varied mix of tunes from rousing pub songs to mournful ballads. Come sing, dance, and drink along with many moods of The Inland Seas!



May 17th & 18th - 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!



For an extra weekend of bonding May 24th & 25th -

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!



May 31st & June 1st - Northernly Gales

Hailing from the Twin Cities, the Northernly Gales is a rollicking acoustic folk group whose music draws from the Irish, Scottish, Canadian and American folk traditions. Though primarily consisting of fiddle, guitar, pipes, bass and voice, the Gales love to mix it up with harmonica, whistle, mandolin, bouzouki, bodhran and whatever else they can get their hands on.



June 7th & 8th - Bedlam

Bedlam is a band born out of the talent pool of the MN Renaissance Festival. Over the years, the band has had a diverse sound and many different members. Its recent incarnation is a folk band with a hippie attitude. Many familiar songs with a different slant along with some original material as well. As the name implies a stage with this group on it is not a very stable one and you never know who may show up and sit in on a set



June 14th & 15th - Mac & Cheese (Pete McCauley & Tim Cheesebrow)



Perfect for Carousing Fun music with lots of energy. Melodies that almost beg to be sung with a glass of stout

June 21st & 22nd - 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!



Smidiríní*

(*Irish for 'Bits and Pieces')

by Copper Shannon

Our deepest sympathy to **Maureen and Christian Woeltge** of *Tipper Road* and their family on the death of their infant son **Marlow McConnon Woeltge**. *Tá sibhse inár gcróithe* (You are in our hearts.)

Go mbíodh biseach ort gan mhoill! - (may there be improvement on you without delay) to **Cillian** who is a very sick little boy. Cillian's parents are **Ciara Reynolds** of *Mactir Irish Dance Academy* and **Conor Luby**. Please keep Cillian in your thoughts and support the GoFundMe project if you're able - <https://gofund.me/80954b39>.

Comhghairdeas leo (Congratulations to) the many Irish dancers and Irish musicians who are graduating from high school this Spring. Best wishes on your next chapter!

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

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2024
Bealtaine

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IAM Members

Members are reminded that IAM membership is renewable annually. If you haven't renewed for 2024, please do that today!

Irish Arts Minnesota thanks these new and renewing members for their financial support:

Kate Daly
Maureen and David Engelhardt

And this new business member:

Charlie's Irish Pub at the Water Street Inn

Irish Arts Minnesota thanks **Hudson Irish Dance Academy** for donating their fee for our St. Patrick's Day Irish Celebration.

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

President	Amber Ladany
Vice President	Jan Casey
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Questions? Comments? Contact Us!

Info@irishartsmn.org

www.irishartsmn.org



Irish Arts Minnesota



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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)

Interests (circle all that apply)
 Music Dance Theatre Language Volunteer

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.