



President's Notes

Céad mile Fáilte!!

A hundred thousand welcomes!

The CMA is delighted to say we are cautiously Open for Business again. We are planning to go forward with one fantastic CMA concert this coming spring. Because of this, we will not be offering season tickets this year. Hopefully we will be able to offer these again next year.

We are delighted to be welcoming back Cherish the Ladies for our first Come-back concert. Joanie Madden and the band always put on a fantastic show.

I for one am excited to attend a live music performance. My husband and I were fortunate to attend the Iowa Irish Fest last Summer and some of the KC Irish fest. Believe me, the artists are more excited than we are for live music.

With Covid-19 we have had to put some new policies in place. This is to protect all involved. This is required by the musicians as well as the CMA board. This information can be found on our Website www.thecma.org or on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/celticmusicassociation>.

Tickets should be available after January 15, 2022 at our usual vendors.

As the travel is opening up and more visas are being granted, we are hoping to bring you even more Celtic music in the coming years.

We look forward to seeing you all again in March!

Slainte, Kevin & Julie Leopold President



Cherish the Ladies to Perform March 11, 2022 at Franklin Jr. High

The year 2022 marks many milestones for Celtic Music in Des Moines. For one, it is the CMA's 30 anniversary! It also happens to be the 35th anniversary of Cherish the Ladies' founding. The last time we hosted them was 5 years ago, so it seems only fitting that Joanie Madden and the CMA should join forces to welcome folks back and bring back live Irish music to Des Moines after our 2-year hiatus due to the pandemic. We will host Cherish the Ladies on March 11, 2022, at the auditorium of Franklin Jr. High (corner of 48th and Franklin, Des Moines) at 8:00 p.m.

"It is simply impossible to imagine an audience that wouldn't enjoy what they do," says The Boston Globe of Cherish The Ladies, Grammy Award nominated Irish-American supergroup that formed in 1985 to celebrate the rise of extraordinary women in what had been a male-dominated Celtic music scene. Celebrating their 35th anniversary, Cherish The Ladies has shared timeless Irish traditions and good cheer with audiences worldwide. They've brought their signature blend of virtuosic instrumental talents, beautiful vocals, and stunning step dancing to the White House, the Olympics, and to PBS with their television special, *An Irish Homecoming*, which recently received an Emmy Award. The Washington Post praises the *"astonishing array of virtuosity"* that Cherish The Ladies bring to the stage on a regular basis. Their new album, *Heart of the Home*, embraces the gift of music passed down from generations. *"It was the greatest gift they could give us,"* says bandleader Joanie Madden. *"We're carrying on the music of our fathers."* As their reputation and admiration from both fans and critics alike continues to grow, Cherish The Ladies blazes forward into another decade of music making.

Cherish the Ladies Tickets

Cherish the Ladies tickets are currently available just in time for Christmas giving through Eventbrite on our website. Just purchase and print off! However, if you prefer good old fashioned paper tix, they will be available at our regular outlets January 15, and on March 11 at the door. All tickets will be \$30.

Joanie Madden Receives Arts Heritage Award

Congratulations to Joanie Madden of Cherish The Ladies – one of this year’s National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellows!

The National Endowment for the Arts’ National Heritage Fellowship is the highest honor that our nation bestows upon its folk and traditional artists. Each year, nine to thirteen individuals, “national living treasures” from across the nation, are chosen to receive this one-time-only Fellowship in recognition of lifetime achievement, artistic excellence and contributions to our nation’s cultural heritage.

Joanie Madden is recognized as one of the most influential women in Irish music worldwide, with an accomplished career as a composer, recording artist, and performer. One of the great flute and whistle players of her generation – and steeped in a generations-long musical tradition that she proudly champions to audiences around the world – she is a leading presence in the advancement of traditional Irish music, from its community grassroots to its modern presentation in the international concert hall.

Just 3% of the awards since its inception have gone to celebrate Celtic musicians and of those, Joanie is the second woman – 27 years after fiddler Liz Carroll.



CMA Goes Paperless

In order to cut costs and put the savings into bringing quality Celtic music to Des Moines we will be making some changes to our “paper trail.” This newsletter will be our last paper mailing. All future newsletters can be viewed on our website: www.thecma.org If you wish to have our newsletter come to your inbox, you can send us your email. CMA will not sell or share that info with anyone.

Our Cherish the Ladies concert will have paperless programs. You can access the program via your phone’s QR reader app at the concert.

Friends of the CMA

Please consider helping us bring quality Celtic music to the Des Moines area by becoming a friend of the Celtic Music Association. A \$25 membership fee will provide support to the organization. Memberships will include a special beverage cup (bring it back to the concerts). CMA memberships can be mailed to: The Celtic Music Association, P.O. Box 30001, Des Moines, IA 50310 or on-line at www.thecma.org, through Eventbrite.



Please Join Us as a Friend of Celtic Music

You can help us in bringing quality Celtic Music to Des Moines by becoming a Friend of the Celtic Music Association. A \$25 membership fee will provide support to the organization. Please fill out this form and mail your payment to the address below or contact any board member at the concert.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

The Celtic Music Association
PO Box 30001,
Des Moines, IA 50310

COVID Policy

In order to provide concerts during the pandemic in a safe manner, the CMA has adopted a Covid policy for its performances. It is very similar to that of many Des Moines area venues:

“The health and safety of our audiences, artists and staff will always be our top priority. The CMA board has been monitoring recommendations of health experts and industry leaders to guide our policies and ensure your safe return to our venues. With that guidance in mind, the Celtic Music Association (CMA) is implementing new health policies for upcoming performances.

Beginning November 1, 2021 and continuing for the foreseeable future, all guests planning to attend a CMA performance must present proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or the results of a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the performance.

Additionally, all audience members must wear a mask at all times inside a CMA performance, unless enjoying refreshments within the venue’s designated areas.

The CMA will regularly review and update audience policies.

CMA 30th Anniversary!

In 1992, a group of 15 dedicated people headed by Jerry Freeman and Tom Crowley met at Cooney’s Tavern in Beaverville to discuss the idea of bringing Celtic music and culture to Des Moines. That October they brought in the Dublin City Ramblers to play at Holy Trinity Hall, and history was made. For 30 years the board has brought a wide variety of performers, musicians, historians and dancers to our city to share the music and culture. We have survived a pandemic and thin times to our March 2022 concert with Cherish the Ladies. Because we are still in a pandemic, we chose to only have one concert this season.

In the Fall of 2022, we will embark on our 30th anniversary year. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and our electronic newsletters on our website as we unveil what the 30th season will have in store.



Join A Working Board

The CMA board is a working board consisting of members and representatives. All are expected to work the concerts. There is also a lot of “behind the scenes” work that takes place. We design merchandise, work parades, man a booth at DM Farmers Market, sell ads for our programs, write and put together newsletters, social media, posters, programs, tickets and more. If you are interested in helping make Celtic music happen in Des Moines please contact us at cmadm prez@gmail.com for more information.

Need some Christmas gifts? CMA hat or backpack, \$15 each. A variety of shirts available. Call Colleen Bush to purchase 515-279-0310.



Newsletter Now Available Online: www.thecma.org

Many thanks to website designer Dan McCurley, who volunteered to help us with the new updated website. If you prefer to receive your newsletter electronically, please let us know at cmadsmmail@gmail.com. As we add more features, we will keep you posted here and on Facebook. Contact Dan if you like his work at djmccurley@gmail.com and www.djmccurley.com.





P.O. Box 30001
Des Moines, IA 50310

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CMA Officers

President – Kevin and Julie Leopold
Vice President – Virgil Kleinhesslink
Treasurer – Denise Dooley
Secretary – Margaret Stoffregen
Historian – Cathy Dodds
Graphics – Colleen Bush
Copy - Kim Glynn

**Remember to like us on
Facebook to keep up-to-date on
Celtic Music in central Iowa!**



Ticket Outlets:

Celtic Music Association, (515) 771-2215, P. O. Box 30001,
Des Moines, IA 50310, www.thecma.org (check only)

Eventbrite, on CMA website (credit)

Holy Trinity Parish Office, (515) 255-3162, 2926 Beaver Ave.,
Des Moines (cash or check only)

Cooney's Tavern, (515) 255-5566, 3708 Beaver Ave., Des Moines
(cash or check only)

Up Tempo Music, (515) 277-1045, 2714 Beaver Ave., Des Moines,
www.uptempo-music.com (cash or check only)

Cindy's Boutique, (515) 274-0118, 114 5th St., Valley Junction,
W. Des Moines, www.cindysboutiquevj.com (cash or check only)



Email us at: cmadsmmail@gmail.com if you would like to be removed or added to our newsletter email list. We will remind you about upcoming concerts and events.