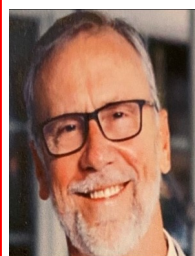


Happy New Year,
Hope y'all have had some chunes over the holidays. I do know that we have chunes in the oven for June! We are busy now with prep for our Registration Opening at 9 a.m. on February 1st. We are adding more details regarding class offerings which will be presented this month. Take advantage of our discounted rate for early registration. This helps you with expense while helping us with our planning efforts. We are also working on a fund-raising céilí to be held here in Houston in March. The event will feature a céilí band with experienced dancers calling and leading the action. Watch the Cruinniú FB page and your email for details. We are always on the lookout for info to share on events involving our instructor alums. This month I want to share an exciting project involving a 2024 student flutist, Dennis Dowd. Dennis is featured in a documentary about the session he runs in Fairhope, Alabama. He joined us this past year for Nuala Kennedy's flute class. He is the co-founder of what is considered the longest running session on the Alabama Gulf Coast. The documentary was made about it this past year. You can find it on Prime. I suspect you will see some faces you make know from other camps. As session musicians, you will relate to this interesting engaging story. Check it out!

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt32751504/>(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt32751504/>)

More to come next month as we close in on our June gathering!



Slán!

*Shawn Cayson,
Director*

On behalf of the The Cruinniú Criú



2025 INSTRUCTORS

BRENDA CASTLES
INT-ADV CONCERTINA

MÁIRTIN DE CÓGÁIN
STORYTELLING AND
CONCERT EMCEE

JOHN DOYLE
INT-ADV GUITAR

COLIN FARRELL
INT-ADV WHISTLE

KATIE GERINGER
FIDDLE FUNDAMENTALS

THERESE HONEY
INT-ADV HARP

DAVID HOWLEY
INT-ADV BANJO/MANDOLIN

PAUL MCCLURE
INT-ADV BODHRAN

MICHAEL MCGOLDRICK
INT-ADV IRISH FLUTE

ROBERT SHADDOX
BODHRAN FUNDAMENTALS

CAITLIN WARBELOW
INT-ADV FIDDLE



**THE GULF COAST
CRUINNIÚ**
Irish Trad on the Third Coast
Join us for our sixth annual gathering

June 5th – June 8th, 2025



Is thankful for the continued
support of the



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

NEED
\$4,000
UPDATE



Thank you to those who donated in December. We have reached \$2,300 of the \$4,000 goal. Two of those were through a business matching donation program for 501 (c) (3) non-profits. Please check if your employer has such a program and consider giving to GCC.

All donations are tax deductible.
There is a DONATE tab on our web page.



We need some volunteers on
the ground during GCC.

For information on this
please contact

info@gulfcoastIrish.org

subject: volunteering at GCC



REGISTRATION

OPENS

FEB 1st 9am

<https://gulfcoastirish.org>



If you cannot get to
a session,

**The McGonigal's Mucky
Duck**

Wednesday night
session is now recorded.
It is available for viewing
and playing along
on YouTube.

**Irish Session/Live from
Norfolk Street**

43rd Annual
**NORTH TEXAS
IRISH FESTIVAL**



February 28 to March 2, 2025
FAIR PARK • DALLAS, TEXAS • NTIF.ORG
PRESENTED BY THE SOUTHWEST CELTIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION

**St Patrick's Day
celebrations /gigs /sessions**

email us at Info@gulfcoastirish.org

the information and we will

promote it in both
February and March
Newsletters.



EDUCATION

University of St. Thomas, Houston,

The Flynn Center for Irish Studies sponsors several Irish-related
events and classes each year.

www.stthom.edu

use **SEARCH** enter **Center for Irish Studies**



Paul McClure

This year, the Cruinniú is pleased to offer two levels for our bodhrán students in 2025. The intermediate/advanced class will be taught by

Paul, he will be coming to us from Galway. Students with greater facility on the bodhrán are encouraged to take this class. Paul is a highly experienced instructor, and this is a great opportunity to study with a nuanced and exceptional player. Paul McClure originally hails from Buncrana, Co. Donegal. Living in Galway for many years, he has become a sought after teacher, composer, arranger, and performer. Paul is a three-time All-Ireland winner on bodhrán and piano accordion. He has worked with many artists and bands and is currently performing with Altan. He has performed on numerous albums spanning genres from Irish traditional, contemporary folk, Scottish traditional, and electronic genres. McClure has taught numerous workshops and master classes throughout Ireland as well as performing both at home and abroad on tours and at festivals across the UK, France, Spain, Italy and Denmark. Paul has recently developed an online Patreon page where he delivers in-depth bodhrán tutorials, catering to all abilities and helping those who may not have access to a teacher to be able to learn and expand their knowledge and expertise in bodhrán playing.



David Howley

The 2025 Cruinniú Intermediate/advanced tenor banjo and mandolin class will be taught by David Howley, and we are so pleased that he will join

us. David Howley was born in Galway and started his musical life at a very early age. From the age of 12, David really began to hone his craft in the local bars in Clare and Galway and joined every session possible. Playing guitar, banjo, and mandolin, David was quickly marked as a hugely talented singer and multi-instrumentalist being described as having “soul beyond his years.” He is a celebrated Irish musician, vocalist, and educator who has performed with Grammy winners like The Chieftains, Mumford & Sons, and Bela Fleck.

As a co-founder and lead songwriter of We Banjo 3, David helped elevate the band to international success, with their seven albums receiving numerous accolades, including a Billboard Chart World #1 and the Songlines Top of the World Award. He is also a three-time All-Ireland champion, a testament to his mastery.

In addition to his extensive touring and recording career, David is passionate about teaching and sharing his craft. He regularly instructs at prestigious music programs such as the O’Flaherty Irish Music Retreat and the Milwaukee Irish Fest Summer School. His teaching connects traditional Irish music with students across the globe, fostering a new generation of musicians.

SESSIONS

In YOUR AREA

ALABAMA

Every Sunday
McSharry's Irish Pub
101 N. Bancroft St., Fairhope.

ARLINGTON, TX

Tuesday nights beginning 7pm. at
J. Gilligan's Bar & Grill at 400 East
Abram Street, Arlington

1st Sunday 3-6pm at Hooligans
Pub, 310 E. Abram St., #150,
Arlington

AUSTIN TX

BD Rileys **Thursdays** 7-10pm
Kelly's **Sunday** starts at 7pm
Suds Monkey **Tuesdays** 7-8:45pm

BOULDER, CO

Sunday @ 2pm East Simpson
Coffee House, Louisville,
Sunday @8 pm at the License No. 1.
Pub (in the Boulderado Hotel)

BRYAN, TX

Every **Wednesday** 6:30-9:00pm
Murphys Law, 107 N Main St.,

DENVER, CO

Tuesdays @ 6pm
Wednesdays @ 6pm at
Clancy's in Wheatridge
Sunday @ 4pm, Celtic on Market
Irish Pub
Sunday @ 3pm @ Abbey Tavern

DENTON, TX

Steve's Wine, session meets
2nd & 4th **Saturdays**, 3-5pm. at
111 Industrial St.,

EDMOND, OK

Every **Monday** evening @ 7pm The
Patriarch Craft Beer House &
Lawn , 9 E Edwards St, Edmond

FORT COLLINS, CO

1st Sunday @ 2pm
at Avogadro's Number,
605 Main Street
3rd Sunday @ 4pm at
Equinox Brewing,
133 Remington St.,
Mondays @ 7pm at The Forge
Publick House, 255 Old Firehouse
Alley



GRANBURY, TX

3rd Saturday of each month
6-9:00pm at D'Vine Wine, 107 E.
Bridge St.,

HOUSTON, TX

Monday 7:30-9:30p.m.
Chelsea Wine Bar
4106 E Nasa Pkwy,
El Lago, TX 77586 (upstairs)
Wednesday 7:30-10:00pm
McGonigel's Mucky Duck,
2425 Norfolk St.

LOCKHART, TX

Meets **monthly. January 19th**
Doors open at 4pm. Sessions runs
4:30-8pm.
All ages and levels are welcome.
Lockhart Arts & Craft,
113 North Main Street,

MANSFIELD, TX

3rd Friday session meets at the-
Dirty Job Brewing, 5-7pm,
117 N Main St.,

McKINNEY, TX

Every **Wednesday** evening from 7-
10p.m, Celt Irish Pub, 100 N
Tennessee St.,

OKLAHOMA

4th Saturday of the month
2-4pm at The American Banjo
Museum, 9 E Sheridan Ave.,
Oklahoma City

1st Sunday of each month
2-4pm @ Bishop Quigleys
1810 S Cincinnati Ave
Tulsa, OK 76119

RICHARDSON, TX

First Monday of each mont
7-10pm at Gillespie's Tavern,
3500 Shire Blvd, Suite #112,

SESSIONS

In YOUR AREA

Chicago Area Sessions

CHICAGO AREA SESSIONS

Updated: June 18th, 2024

Venue	Addr	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Chief O'Neill's Pub	3471 N Elston Ave, Chicago 60618			8				5
Clancy's Pizza Pub	4624 W 103rd St, Oak Lawn 60453		7	7		7		
Corrib Irish Pub	5522 N Elston Ave, Chicago 60630				8			4
Gaelic Park Chicago****	6119 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452				7:30			
Galway Arms	2442 N Clark St, Chicago 60614		8	8	8			8
Galway Bay	500 W. Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL		8					
Chicago Street Pub	75 N Chicago St, Joliet, IL	7:30						
Irish American Heritage Center	4626 N Knox Ave, Chicago 60630				7			
Lanigan's Pub *	3119 W 111 th St, Chicago 60655							5
McGonigal's Pub**	105 S. Cook St., Barrington, IL			7				
Mrs Murphy & Sons Irish Bistro	3905 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago 60613			7:30				1
Quigley's Irish Pub***	43 E Jefferson St, Naperville, IL			7:30				
The Celtic Knot	626 Church St., Evanston, IL							4
The Grafton	4530 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago 60625							5
The Harp & Fiddle	110 Main Street, Park Ridge, IL				8			
The Kerryman	661 N. Clark St, Chicago, IL							5
The Wolfhound Bar & Kitchen	3188 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL		7:30					

* Oldest continuous session in Chicago

** Alternate Wednesdays – check with the pub for any given week

*** 3rd Wednesdays

**** 1st & 3rd Thursdays



Tell us about a session in your area
email us at:- info@gulfcoastirish.org

IRISH WORD/ TRADITION

WORD

Eanáir—January
(An-irr)

Grá—Love
(Grr-aw)

February 1st, Lá Fhéile Bríde

St. Brigid's Day is celebrated on February 1st in Ireland. It is a day to celebrate hope, renewal, and the feminine. It is also the first day of spring in Ireland.



St. Brigid's cross, is traditionally made from wild Irish rushes.



A 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization led by volunteers with a passion for Irish traditional music. See DONATE on our web page. All financial donations are tax deductible.

GCC is a project of



Contact *The Cruí*

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Sponsorship: Erica@gulfcoastirish.org

Questions: Info@gulfcoastirish.org