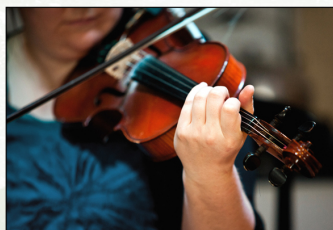




Celtic Music Interpretive Centre
Ionad-Mìneachaidh a' Chiùil Cheiltich

Education



Traditional Music Performance / Educational Workshops / Gaelic Programs / Youth & Seniors Activities / Archives / Exhibits

Information for Teachers & Educators 2015-2016



The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre (CMIC)

Nova Scotia's Official Celtic Music Centre

Celtic music in Cape Breton requires an intertwining of music, dance, Gaelic language and story telling to remain a living and active culture. The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre is a non-profit society with a mandate to collect, preserve and promote the traditional Music of Cape Breton Island through education, research and performance. We strive to provide local and visiting youth, seniors and everyone in between with opportunities to interact through music, Gaelic language, performance and education year round.

The Celtic Music Centre has become an important employer in the local area. We regularly hire students to work as wait staff, in-house musicians and Music Interpreters. The Centre currently employs approximately 20 local people on an annual basis. We aim to promote youth learning opportunities and performance through our bursaries, workshops, and performance.

Our core programs are:

EDUCATION

Interactive Exhibit Room

Take a self-guided tour with interactive and informative displays of traditional music and dance, covering the history of Cape Breton's music traditions. The Exhibit room features vintage instruments, antiques, murals by local artist Peter Rankin, information on significant musicians, dancers and composers and a Gaelic display linked to the Virtual Museum of the Highland Village. There are 4 available fiddles to be played along with the video lesson or students can take a stepdance lesson, following along with the video, dancing on a wooden floor reminiscent of the dance floors built for community dances.

Music Workshops

Our workshops in fiddle, piano, guitar and dance offer opportunities to learners of all ages and varying abilities to learn from key instructors of Cape Breton music.

Music Demonstrations

A one-on-one session with our in-house musician, who gives an oral presentation on the music and dance history of Cape Breton, performs a demonstration of different tune types and dance steps, and provides anecdotal information about his/her development as a Cape Breton musician. Our musician is available to answer questions about Cape Breton music and culture during the informal session. The length and content of the demonstration can be tailored to suit your class.

Gaelic Language Classes

Gàidhlig aig Baile/Gaelic Immersion classes are offered weekly during the winter. The classes are based on the immersion method of instruction, which focuses on learning to speak, as you would learn your first language, with reading and writing coming at a later stage. The classes provide students with a strong foundation in the language in a fun and interactive environment. Classes are weekly during the evenings and usually run for 14-16 weeks.

The Buddy MacMaster Fiddle Camp

A weeklong fiddle camp offered at the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre in October during the Celtic Colours International Festival. The camp offers 10 professional instructors over five days (2 instructors per day), each having their own unique style of fiddle playing. Each year the CMIC offers a bursary provided by municipality of the County of Inverness to an eligible up and coming youth performer to attend the entire week of classes.

Information about the bursary is posted in July on our website at:

www.celticmusiccentre.com

PERFORMANCE

Sunday Afternoon Ceilidhs -- 3:00-6:00pm (year-round)

Our weekly Ceilidhs usually feature a fiddler and piano accompaniment, are open to all ages and encourage square dancing in a very informal atmosphere. Restaurant service is available from June-October. *Admission is \$8 (No charge for youth under 12 years).*

Lunch Ceilidhs -- 11:30am-3:00pm (June-October)

Enjoy live traditional music and dance while you have lunch. Oral presentation of music and culture is provided to encourage audience participation and questions. *There is no admission charge.*

The “Masters Concert” -- Thursday, October 6, 2016

is the opening concert of our Buddy MacMaster Fiddle Camp and features the 10 fiddle instructors and accompanists. This inspires students to get excited about the weeklong classes ahead and allows them to see the instructors as performers in a live concert setting showcasing their various styles. Concert is open to all.

Admission is \$15-\$25. Tickets are available in advance or at the door on the night of the concert if available.

The Celtic Music Centre presents over 300 performances each year such as Wednesday evening pub nights in July and August, Jam sessions open to all ages, CD release concerts, Gaelic social events, and much more. Visit our website to keep informed of our upcoming events. www.celticmusiccentre.com

ARCHIVES & RESEARCH

The archive department collects and preserves archival material that is based on the theme of Cape Breton Celtic music and genealogy. The Celtic Music Centre Society Archives gained institutional status with the Council of Nova Scotia Archives in 2006 and was officially recognized by The Municipality of the County of Inverness as the “Cultural Archives of Inverness County” in 2009.

Resource Library

Our library provides access to tune books, magazines, journals, thesis, poetry, song texts by local composers in both English and Gaelic and local literature about the culture and music. Non-fiction books on Celtic history, Nova Scotia history books, Cape Breton literature, local genealogies and family history books and information files about musicians past and present are also available. The archives library is open to the public by appointment but items are not loaned. A listing of available materials can be found on our Website under “Research”.

Exhibits & Artifacts

Among our archival artifacts, a special Ashley MacIsaac display is being set up to showcase materials Ashley has donated such as the outfit worn at the Vancouver Olympics, one of his fiddles and other materials spanning his career.

PRODUCTION & RECORDING

Recording Studio & Information Technology

The Celtic Music Centre offers full-scale recording and digitizing services such as conversion and duplication from cassettes, reel-to-reel, LP's and 78's to a digital medium. Our recording studio is equipped with top of the line equipment and software for on-site and remote recording of events in both audio and HD video format.

Product Development

The Celtic Music Centre records, edits, masters and publishes CD's and DVD's, such as our five compilation CD's in the “Failte” series, which promote established and up-and-coming local musicians. We are releasing our first DVD in our “Learning Series” this year titled “A Cape Breton Fiddle Lesson” with instructor Wendy MacIsaac. The DVD is for intermediate/advanced players who want to further their skills in the Cape Breton style of playing.

SPEND A DAY AT THE CELTIC MUSIC INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

Teachers are welcome to contact us at any time to discuss and arrange a class trip.

Your visit to the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre could include any or all of the following activities:

- Spend time in our **Interactive Exhibit Room** where students can try the real fiddles following the DVD lesson, learn some steps with the stepdance DVD lesson, learn the difference between tune types such as Marches, Strathspeys, Waltzes and Reels by clicking the interactive audio buttons, read about important musicians who have shaped this music, see the vintage instruments such as an old pump organ, antique bagpipes, radios, a Hawaiian guitar, albums and much more.
- Take a **Music Demonstration** with our professional in-house fiddler who will talk to the students about his/her development as a Cape Breton fiddler, give a short oral presentation on the music and dance history of Cape Breton, perform a demonstration of different tune types and dance steps and open the floor for any questions the students may have about the music and culture of Cape Breton.
- **Gaelic language instruction** can be provided to your class in a fun and interactive atmosphere. Our short lessons focus on students learning how to say basic phrases and words that they can use amongst themselves. We can tailor the lesson to be as short or long as you want it to be.
- The Celtic Music Centre is able to put together **Workshops** in fiddle and dance for your class anytime throughout the year. Contact us if you would like a group fiddle lesson, square dance lesson, Cape Breton stepdancing or Highland dance instruction. We can tailor the lesson to be as short or long as you want it to be.
- We would be happy to set up a **Ceilidh** that you and your students can attend at any time, day or evening. The Ceilidh can be advertised as a Youth Ceilidh open to the public or can be a closed Ceilidh for just your class. We provide live fiddle and piano music and encourage any student wishing to participate to bring their instrument and perform during the Ceilidh. Square dance instruction can also be provided so that students can dance and enjoy the Ceilidh to its fullest. Food and beverages can also be provided throughout the event.
- Browse our **Archives** department to view old books and recordings. We would encourage you to contact us in advance if you are looking to view something in particular so that we can have the material prepared for your visit.
- Take quick tour of our **Recording Studio** and learn about our recording and production services. Students may be interested to learn how our live events are recorded and then broadcast online.

For more information or to arrange a class trip to the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre, please contact:

Cheryl Smith, Executive Director

Tel: 902-787-2708 (Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm)

Email: cheryl@celticmusiccentre.com

www.celticmusiccentre.com