

Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

Tom Finucane Branch Newsletter

March - April 2024

“SIAMSA” LIBRARY PERFORMANCES: PARTNERSHIP WITH AOH, LAOH, IACI, AND DANCE SCHOOLS

- March 6th, 6-7:30: Music, dance, and culture at Pittsford Library
- March 13th, 7-8:30: Music, dance, and culture at Fairport Library
- March 20th, 6:30-8: Music, dance, and culture at Penfield Library
- March 27th, 6-7:30: Music, dance, and culture at Gates Library



Want to perform with us? Email rochesterccce@gmail.com.

CONCERTS

- April 18th, 7PM: Shannon Heaton concert and session at The Well Church, 335 Helendale at Empire Blvd, Irondequoit. \$15 members, \$20 general admission, pay at the door.
Details at <http://irishrochester.weebly.com/>



Boston-based Irish flute player/singer Shannon Heaton has performed and taught on four continents. She is an Artist Fellow of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was twice named Live Ireland's Female Artist of the Year, and is half of acclaimed duo with guitarist Matt Heaton. In her solo shows, Shannon shares tunes, songs, and stories, taking listeners on a tour of places and people who keep Irish music alive. She is passionate about making traditional music fun and accessible to a wide range of listeners, which she enjoys onstage and with her culture podcast Irish Music Stories.

A wildly creative teacher, Shannon has created free resources for musicians, including her long-running "Tune of the Month" video/podcast series. During the early days of the pandemic, she and Matt Heaton started the Virtual Guided Session with participants from over 50 countries. She co-founded Boston's Celtic music fest and served on its board for 15 years, creating performance and mentoring opportunities for hundreds of traditional musicians and dancers; taught for Boston's CCE Irish Music School for a decade; and her original compositions have been recorded by the Battlefield Band, Allie Robertson, Childsplay, and many others.

<https://shannonheatonmusic.com>

<https://www.youtube.com/shannonheatonmusic>

CEILI DANCE JANUARY 20, 2024

WHEN: Saturday March 23, 2024, 7:30 pm

WHERE: 335 Helendale Rd (by the Empire Blvd exit off 590), Rochester 14609

\$10 Admission (\$8 CCE Members)

\$5 off with a raffle item donation!

We'll feature a program of set dances and ceili dances, called by a number of callers from the Rochester set dancing community and with music from the Tom Finucane Ceili Band. Dances will include the Merchants, Caledonian, Moycullen, Barnane, Clare Lancers sets and the Haymakers Jig ceili dance.

Interested in playing for the dance? Email rochesterccce@gmail.com.

Want to learn to set dance? Groups meet:

- Every Monday, 6:30: Set dancing lessons at Irondequoit Recreation Center
- Every Wednesday, 7:30: Set dancing lessons at Johnny's Pub, Rochester



COMHALTAS NORTH AMERICA CONVENTION IN BUFFALO!

- April 4-7, 2024
- Workshops with musicians from the US and Ireland including Joanie Madden (Cherish the Ladies), Kevin Crawford (Lunasa), Anna Colliton (A Ship in the Clouds), Patrick Ourceau (Chulrua), Brian Conway, Brendan Dolan, John Nolan, Regina Delaney, and Western New Yorkers Mark Warford, Ben Hockenberry, and Gregor Harvey.

- Rochester's **Bill Hallahan** will receive a CCE Service Award for his decades of contribution to Irish music and culture through Comhaltas.
- Ceilis with the Western-Central NY supergroup The Drumlin Ceili Band, Connacht Ceili band, Joanie Madden and Friends, and Ena O'Brien's Ceili Band.



Details and registration at <https://www.cceconvention.com/>. Want to volunteer to help? Contact Dave Halligan (halligan33@gmail.com).

SESSIONS

- Every Monday, 7:00: Slow session at Pittsford Recreation Center
- Every Tuesday, 7:00: "Study Session" at Charlotte Tavern, Rochester
- Every Wednesday, 7:00: Trad session at The Idle Hour, Geneseo
- Every Saturday, 3:30: Trad session at Temple Bar & Grille, Rochester
- March 24, April 28: Learners Session (3:00) and Regular Trad Session (5:00) at Johnny's, Rochester (usually the last Sunday of the month, shifted in March due to Easter)
- First Sunday of the month, 4:00: trad session at American Hotel, Lima
- Second Sunday of the month, 3:00: trad session at Drumroll Stage & Sushi, Geneseo

- Third Thursday of the month, 7:00: study session at Lock Stock Brewing, Canandaigua



JOE DADY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTS COMHALTAS MEMBERS AT HOCHSTEIN

John Michael Ryan introduced a new class at Hochstein School of Music on November 11, 2023, *Irish Music 101*. Comhaltas members and associated youths are eligible for a generous subsidy from the [Joe Dady Scholarship fund](#): contact john.ryan@hochstein.org for info.

During each 9-week session, students learn the fundamental structures and rhythms of Irish music, and foster a familiarity with the history and masters of the tradition who brought it into the present day.

Following the successful model in Irish primary schools, each student receives instruction in the basics of that humblest of instruments – the tin whistle. Musicians of any level of experience will learn a great deal, regardless of long term interest in tin whistle, and this class is a pre-requisite for future Hochstein courses in Irish trad.

More information is available at hochstein.org/Music/Irish-Traditional-Music-101.

BRANCH OFFICERS – 2023-2024

Welcome to our new officers!

Cathaoirleach (Chair): Mark Ballard
Leas-Cathaoirleach (Vice Chair): Dan McGrath
Rúnaí Taifeadta (Recording Secretary): Mary Tunney
Rúnaí Ballraíochta (Membership Secretary): Emily Nunn
Cisteoir (Treasurer): Kathy Whitfield
Iniuchoir (Auditor): Emily Nunn
Oifigeach Caidreamh Poibli (Public Relations Officer): Ben Hockenberry
Treoraí na Gaeilge (Irish Language): Dan McGrath
Youth Protection Officer: Kate Ballard
Youth Officer: Open
Ceili Dancing: Mary Tunney
Music Instrument Library: Mark Gowman

Look for us on Facebook – plenty more going on in March that we'll be sharing!

[Rochester Irish Musician's Association](#)

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Membership Dues 2023-2024

First Adult \$25.00

Second Adult \$ 8.00

Family \$40.00

Junior \$ 4.00

irishrochester.weebly.com/membership.html

Rince Na Saor

Rochester's Non-competitive Irish Dance School since 1997!

Irish Stepdancing, Ceili, Sean Nós, and Country Sets

Classes for ages 7 to Adult
at Dance Biz
Longview Plaza--1742 Long Pond Road



www.rns.dance
227-6614

