

FACT SHEET 2019 Dayton Celtic Festival

Title: The United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival, presented by United Irish of Dayton, in partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks.

Festival Times:

Fri., July 26, 5.30-11 p.m.

Sat., July 27, 11.30 a.m. – 11 p.m.

Sun., July 28, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Location:

RiverScape MetroPark, 111 E. Monument Avenue, Dayton Ohio and surrounding streets

Information:

Visit www.daytoncelticfestival.com or call (937) 372-9788 for more information.

Description appearing in Five Rivers MetroParks Parkways magazine:

Downtown Dayton comes to life with the sights and sounds of Ireland, Scotland and Wales at the eighteenth Annual Dayton Celtic Festival. FOUR stages offer continuous live musical and dance entertainment with audience seating under-cover. Enjoy Celtic arts and language, cultural demonstrations, children's activities, food, beverage, a Gaelic Mass and Celtic breakfast on Sunday and lots more FREE family-friendly fun!

Festival Factoids:

- FREE!
- RAIN OR SHINE
- DAYTON'S LARGEST DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL
- Celebrating its 18th year
- An estimated 90,000 people visited the three-day festival last year
- SEVEN headliner bands
- Voted Best of Dayton 2016-2017 by Dayton Magazine
- Featuring authentic Irish beverages and craft beers
- 50/50 Raffle
- Whiskey tastings on Saturday and Sunday

Headliner Bands:

Gaelic Storm

Fan favorite Gaelic Storm returns to headline the 2019 Dayton Celtic Festival. Over the course of 10 albums and nearly 3,000 live shows, Gaelic Storm — the chart-topping, multi-national Celtic band is back! Regularly playing more than 120 shows a year, Gaelic Storm has built a loyal following as diverse as the band's own music. Fans of traditional Irish music have championed the group for years, as have fans of harder-edged Celtic rock. On tour, Gaelic Storm is just as likely to play a large rock club as a plush theater. The band makes regular appearances on cruises, too, joining artists like the Barenaked Ladies and Michael Franti. Gaelic Storm has straddled the line between tradition and innovation for nearly two decades, infusing traditional Celtic music with modern influences,

and updating the genre for a new generation of fans raised on rock, country and folk. Along the way, the group has topped the Billboard World Chart four times and earned a reputation as a hard-touring, genre-bending band.

Scythian

A Dayton Celtic Festival fan favorite, Scythian (sith-ee-yin) returns for their eleventh appearance at the Dayton Celtic Festival. Rousing and raucous, Scythian plays kicked-up Celtic and world music with hints of Gypsy and Klezmer, all infused with a touch of punk-rock sensibility. Their immigrant rock sound is saturated with thunderous energy, technical prowess and storytelling songwriting, which beckons crowds into a barn-dance rock concert experience.

Socks in the Frying Pan

Socks in the Frying Pan returns for their sixth year as traditional headliners for the 2019 festival. Socks in the Frying Pan comprises of Aodán Coyne on guitar and vocals and the accomplished Hayes brothers, Shane Hayes on accordion and Fiachra Hayes on fiddle & banjo. This youthful trio blend Irish traditional melodies with their own personal flair which has gained them critical acclaim and accolades including 'New Band of the Year' by the Irish Music Association. The group have been embraced in the United States, having been booked by every major Irish festival and praised for their modern traditional style and energetic approach to music. They have a clear love for live performance which only compliments the traditional essence in their shows and makes for a truly unique form of entertainment.

Cuig

This Irish five-piece band from the North of Ireland makes its debut at the 2019 United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival! These musicians are tearing up the rule book with their bold approach to their native musical tradition. Since the release of their critically acclaimed debut album, "New Landscapes," for which Cuig were awarded "Best New Irish Band 2016" by the Irish American News, they have taken both sides of the Atlantic by storm having toured extensively in the US, Europe, and Ireland. Comprising of Miceal Mullen (banjo, mandolin), Rónán Stewart (fiddle, uilleann pipes, vocals), Ruairí Stewart (guitars), Eoin Murphy (button accordion), and Cathal Murphy (drums, guitars, vocals), Cúig look set to continue this success with the release of their highly anticipated sophomore album, 'The Theory of Chaos'.

Doolin'

Doolin', making its United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival debut, was formed in Toulouse in 2005 and comprises six accomplished and eclectic musicians who have gained fame through their music. French in origin – though easily mistaken for Irish musicians – this sextet (guitar, bodhrán, violin, tin whistle, accordion/vocals, bass) brings a fresh approach to Irish music. Inspired by the purest tradition, Doolin' combines instrumentals, vocals, and original compositions in a resolutely modern style. The arrangements, at times taking their inspiration from pop-rock, folk, jazz, funk, or even rap (and always in the best taste), emit great energy. That's Doolin' – Irish music with a French touch!

Rory Makem

Rory Makem returns to the Dayton Celtic Festival after his festival debut last year! A seasoned performer with over 25 years on the road, Rory has toured extensively with The Makem and Spain Brothers and for 18 years toured and played guitar with his father, the legendary Tommy Makem. He has entertained countless sold-out venues, festivals, and theaters throughout the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and Ireland. At his best on stage, Rory captivates audiences with his skilled musicianship, his charisma and passion for the songs, his extensive knowledge of poetry and history, and his humor.

The Fitzgeralds

The Fitzgeralds, also making a return appearance at the Dayton Celtic Festival, are a family group consisting of fiddling and step dancing sensations - Tom, Kerry, & Julie Fitzgerald (the youngest members of Everything Fitz). These siblings, from Canada's renowned Ottawa Valley, have come a long way from their small-town roots. Featuring 3-time Canadian Grandmaster Fiddle Champions and Ontario Open Step Dance Champions, this unique

act features high-energy fiddling and mind-blowing step dancing. It is the rare combination of exceptional musicianship, incomparable step dancing, audience interaction, evident love of performing, and genuine sibling connection that resonates with audiences of all ages and sets this group apart.

Regional Entertainers:

Ceili with Éamónn de Cógáin
Celtic Academy of Irish Dance
Dulahan
Dwyer School of Irish Dance
Father Son and Friends
Fin Tan
Jameson's Folly
Mary's Lane
McGovern Irish Dance
Miami Valley Pipes and Drums
Sons O'Blarney
The Drowsy Lads
The Rice Brothers
The Roving Rogues

Presenter: United Irish of Dayton, Inc.

Festival Partner: Five Rivers MetroParks

Sponsors: Murphy's Stout/Heidelberg Distributing; Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway; WDTN/Dayton's CW; Key Ads; Five Rivers MetroParks; Coca-Cola; Culture Ireland; Westendorf Printing; DaytonLocal.com; O'Diam & Estess Law Group; Ohio Arts Council; University of Dayton; Greater Dayton RTA; Dublin Pub; Chase; Water Street District; Hammerman, Graf, Hughes; and Auman, Mahan + Furry.

Festival Featured Attractions:

- FOUR stages of continuous entertainment; all under cover
- Visit our Culture area, complete with the following new workshops:
 - Cindy Thomson, Author. Known for the inspirational Celtic theme employed in most of her books, Cindy Thomson is the author of six novels and three non-fiction books, including her newest, Celtic Song. A genealogy enthusiast, she writes from her home in Ohio where she lives with her husband Tom near their three grown sons and their families. Visit her at www.cindyswriting.com or on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest at @cindyswriting, and Book Bub at @cindyswriting.
 - Cathy Jo Smith: Storyteller & The Irish Wake: The Irish Wake attempts to explain in a family-friendly way many of the customs and traditions associated with the 3-day period of mourning as it was observed in Ireland. More information about Cathy Jo's stories and the Irish Wake can be found at www.irishteller.com.
 - Mai Herson, Singer/Dancer: Traditional singer/dancer from Gurteen, County Sligo, Ireland. She has four CDs on the market and has toured Ireland, England, Europe,

and America. This is her fifth year performing and conducting workshops at the Dayton Celtic Festival. She is also performing with the duo Celtic Font at this festival and has shared a stage with bands such as Scythian, Cherish the Ladies, members of Dervish, The Drowsy Lads, and many more. To learn more about Mai, visit her website www.maihernonirishtradsinger.com.

- Michael Vignoles, based in Galway, Ireland, is a musician and maker of traditional Uilleann pipes and bodhran drums. He will be joining the Dayton Celtic Festival for a fourth year of workshops on his instruments, as well as conversation and demonstrations throughout the weekend. To learn more, please visit his website at www.michaelvignoles.com or email him at michaelvp60@gmail.com.
- Meet the magnificent Irish wolfhound, the world's tallest breed of dog. Once prized as the war dog of the Celts, this canine is now known as the gentle giant. Legends of the wolfhound abound in ancient Irish mythology. It was the dog of royalty in medieval times. During the Celtic Revival, the wolfhound became a symbol of Irish nationalism. See these amazing dogs up close, pet them, and maybe get a free Celtic kiss!
- Dayton Area Rugby Club (DARC) & Five Rivers Youth Rugby Foundation (FRYRF). Rugby first came to Dayton, Ohio, in the fall of 1969 when a group of University of Dayton students played their first rugby match. In the years that followed, the interest in the sport evolved to establish official club rugby in 1973 and squads in the Dayton area have been successful ever since. In 1979, Dayton rugby saw the creation of the first women's squad, and in 1999, it was reformed into the present-day women's team. Today, DARC is a rugby union club dedicated to the promotion and growth of the sport. They play their home games at Dayton Rugby Grounds located at 620 Shiloh Dr. in Dayton. For more information on how to get involved, or even just to come out and watch one of their matches, visit www.daytonrugby.com.
- Terence O'Leary, Irish-American author. An Irish-American author, who was born in Chicago, Illinois, but spent his teenage and adult life in Northwest Ohio. Mr. O'Leary's five critically acclaimed, realistic coming-of-age novels focus on teenagers facing a family crisis. Irish Crossings: Danny's Story and Irish Crossings: Caitlin & Paddy's Story are fictional accounts of his family's struggles during the heartbreak of the Irish Potato Famine. Aside from sharing his novels during the festival, Mr. O'Leary will also talk about life in Ireland during the time of the Great Hunger. He will discuss how the Potato Famine not only changed the destiny of Ireland, but also America. For more information, email: terry@terenceoleary.com or visit www.terenceoleary.com.
- Staff members of the Dayton Metro Library's Genealogy Department will provide an overview of resources available, specifically the Irish and British Isles sources within their collection. For more information on the resources, events, and workshops available, visit Dayton Metro Library Genealogy Center's website at: <http://www.daytonmetrolibrary.org/locations/history>.
- Maggie Delaney - The Story of an Indentured Servant: Forced from her homeland of Ireland, Maggie Delany, along with her husband and children, came to the American colonies as an indentured servant hoping to find a better life. Instead, she

found sorrow and hardship as human property forced to serve whatever master bought her. Listen as Maggie shares her tale that reveals how thousands of our ancestors came to America in the 17th and 18th centuries.

- **David McDonnell, Author and Storyteller:** David is a critically acclaimed author and storyteller. He's told his tales and presented historical talks throughout North America and Ireland. He has a vast repertoire of stories and a near-encyclopedic recollection of Irish history. His stories draw upon history, culture, and folklore with his vivid imagination and wry sense of humor added to the mix. David will present "The War of Independence and the Ordinary Irish" and "An Hour of Irish Storytelling." Both promise to be interactive and entertaining, with full audience participation. More information is available at clandonnell@gmail.com and www.clandonnell.net.
- **Introduction to Irish Music:** Have you ever wondered: What is the difference between jigs and reels? What do you call those instruments? How can people from all over the world sit in a circle and play the same song? This workshop will take a big picture look at what makes Irish music...Irish! Get a chance to hear tunes, songs, and explanations from some of the Dayton Celtic Festival's top Irish and American headliners. Feel free to come ready with questions. Participating Artists: Fiachra Hayes: fiddle and vocals (Socks in the Frying Pan), Shane Hayes: accordion and vocals (Socks in the Frying Pan), and Daniel McKewen: guitar, uilleann pipes, and bodhran (The Drowsy Lads).
- **Riley School of Irish Music:** Founded in 1996 by Susan Cross Gilligan, the Riley School is a community of children, teens and adults dedicated to the pursuit of Irish traditional music. The Mission of the School is to foster traditional Irish music in the Greater Cincinnati region through instruction, communal events, and enrichment activities. Quarterly sessions are offered starting in September, January, and March. Classes are held on Saturdays at the Grace United Methodist Church in Norwood, Ohio. Small class sizes provide a rewarding and effective way for students to experience the history, camaraderie, and joy of playing traditional Irish music. The Riley School is honored to receive support from both the Ohio and Kentucky Arts Councils and was awarded the Ohio Heritage Fellowship for Community Leadership in 2018 by the Ohio Arts Council. For more information visit their website <https://www.rileyirishmusic.com/> or their Facebook page.
- **Irish Music Sessions:** Hosted by the Riley School of Irish Music, come join Irish Musicians, of all skill levels, as each pulls up a chair to join in jigs, reels, and the energy that comes with a community driven Irish session. Bring your own instruments, or borrow one of ours, to take part in this new addition to the 2019 festival. You never know, you may just get the opportunity to sit down and play right along with some of your favorite artists and headliners.
- **Tim Garner, member of the Southern Ohio Forge and Anvil (SOFA),** will be onsite along with other SOFA members to demonstrate traditional blacksmithing. Come learn more about the technique and art of blacksmithing while watching them create various pieces. To learn more about their organization please visit www.sofablacksmiths.org.

- Bill Evans of Evans Bakery will be leading workshops on the art of bread making, specifically Irish Soda Bread. Come join as he shares the steps, ingredients, and process of making this Irish favorite. Evans Bakery, Dayton family owned and operated since 1969, is located in Old North Dayton and serves fresh baked breads, pastries, and various other treats daily. Visit them on Troy Street or check out their Facebook page to learn more.
- The Five Points Cloggers are a non-profit, energetic dance group based in Dayton, OH with dancers of all ages. The group specializes in Appalachian Mountain style clogging, also known as buck dancing, to traditional and popular music. The Five Points Cloggers have been performing in the Dayton area for over 30 years at local and regional festivals and events. The group was created to provide an extracurricular activity for young people (ages 8-80) in the Dayton area, to provide entertainment at local festivals and nursing homes and to continue the American traditional dance form created by settlers to America over 200 years ago. For more information about the group – their schedule, joining the group, or attending a clogging class, see their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FivePointsCloggers/>.
- Miami Valley Knitting Guild (MVKG) members put Irish craftsmanship at their skilled fingertips as they demonstrate Aran knitting. The Aran sweater is an integral part of Irish heritage, with a long history linked to the farming and fishing families of Connemara and the three Aran islands off Connemara's coast. From a craft created on the wind-swept islands at the mouth of Galway Bay, see centuries-old embossed patterns come to life stitch by symbolic stitch. Miami Valley Knitting Guild is a friendly group of local knitters who offer a standing invitation to knitters of all skill levels, whether you are a master knitter or haven't yet learned a knit from a purl. Information is available on Facebook, Meetup, ravelry.com, and mvkg.org.
- Christopher Bodkin: Lessons from the Irish Canting Crew, Leaving New Orleans after learning from the Irish street gangs, Christopher Bodkin headed north with the intention of warning, teaching, and extolling against the 'hucksters, shiesters, and tricksters' who were preying on their own population. Using gambling sleights, magic, and the other skills learned in the Irish canting crews of his youth, his goal is to teach his people 'Do Not Play This For Money'. A family-friendly interactive look at the seamier side of Irish life, Christopher Bodkin is actually Eric Scites of Faire Wynds Entertainment, which strives to bring the historical side of entertainments to life. Find more information at www.fairewynds.com.
- Celtic Marketplace
- Whiskey tasting classes will be held in the cultural workshop area. Tickets will be available for purchase in the cultural workshop area beginning one hour prior to the tastings: Saturday 5:00 pm - Tullamore D.E.W. Irish Whiskey; Saturday 7:00 pm - Tullamore D.E.W. Irish Whiskey; Sunday 2:00 pm - Tullamore D.E.W. Irish Whiskey
- Children's Area – NEW LOCATION: Fountains on Monument Ave across from Wright Flyer
- Parade of Kilts, Friday and Saturday at 6:30 p.m., Sunday following Gaelic Mass
- Gaelic Mass on Sunday, July 28 at 10 a.m.

- Celtic Breakfast on Sunday, July 28 starting at 9 a.m.