

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Introducing Arizona Educators to Irish Music

Arizona students benefit when teachers learn traditional Irish music

Phoenix, AZ--August 11, 2008—Another school year. Umpteen music classes of nothing but Hot Cross Buns on the recorder. Endless hours of enduring the Hokey-Pokey. Untold performances of boring programs for parents. Those are just some of the thoughts running through the minds of Arizona's elementary and middle school music teachers as they look ahead to the new school year. Imagine what the students are thinking!

Now, Arizona educators can help their students get “jiggy” with it by interjecting some fun and fresh ideas into the classroom. Teachers have an opportunity to participate in a workshop which is an introduction to traditional Irish music for the elementary and middle school classroom sponsored by Four Peaks Irish Arts. Respected elementary school music educator and accomplished Irish musician, Anita Arden, M.M. will present the information-packed four hour workshop. This workshop will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. at the Irish Cultural Center, 1106 S. Central Avenue in Phoenix.

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Teachers can expect to become familiar with the instruments, types of traditional music, and dance. They will learn how to use the music to meet Arizona standards and how to incorporate it into the General Music classroom. In addition, Ms. Arden will give them resources for more information so they can further tailor curriculum for their students.

As space is limited, those interested are encouraged to pre-register early for the workshop. More information is available at info@fourpeaksirisharts.com, or by calling 602.315.3065.

Who says music teachers can't make a "reel" difference this school year, anyway?

About Four Peaks Irish Arts

Founded in 2008, Four Peaks Irish Arts is the Arizona chapter of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (**'kōl-tis** kīōl-**tōr-ē** **'ār-in**), which is the largest group in the world dedicated to the preservation and promotion of traditional Irish music, song, dance, language and culture. The Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (CCÉ) organization was founded in Dublin, Ireland in 1951. CCÉ now has more than 400 branches promoting the traditional arts of Ireland around the world, including countries such as: Hungary, Sweden, Australia, Japan, Italy, and Argentina, among others.

For more information about Four Peaks Irish Arts, please visit the organization's Web site at www.fourpeaksirisharts.org.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Cyndy Gaughan, Please call Cyndy at 602.315.3065 or email her at cyndy@fourpeaksirisharts.org.