

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTION FEATURED IN CVUHSD 2018-2019 School Year

This program is made possible through a grant from
Arts Ed Collective, a division of Los Angeles County Arts Commission
Grant's focus: Cultural Relevance

A GAELIC GATHERING: IRISH MUSIC AND DANCE



ABOUT THE ARTISTS AND THE PERFORMANCE

This production was commissioned by The Music Center. A Gaelic Gathering: Irish Music and Dance is a feast of Irish tunes and dances created by the group's leader Máire Clerkin. In addition to Máire Clerkin, the production also features Kira Ott, Music Director, fiddle player, and vocalist; Patrick D'Arcy, uilleann piper, bodhran (drum) player, and vocalist; Megan Drake, Daithi Fisher and Ian McLead, dancers; guest artists

Frank Simpson (flutes and whistles), Susan Winsberg (flute and whistle), Brendan Bell (flute), Eric Rialer (pipes), and Steve Pribyl (pipes). Together they guide their audience on a cultural journey through Ireland's rich heritage.

The show celebrates the exuberance of Irish culture. Traditional instruments accompany rhythmic hard shoe Jigs and Hornpipes, as well as lyrical soft shoe Reels and Slipjigs. The artists explain the social context of Irish people gathering to socialize and relax, by singing, playing, and dancing. Audience members experience interactive rhythm exercises and participatory singing, hear rhythmic step and Ceili (groups) dances. Several students are invited onto the stage to join in with a social dance. The musicians describe the origins and mechanics of their instruments, teaching the students their names and helping them understand the differences between string, wind, and percussive instruments.

The program also mentions the immigration history of Irish people to the United States and their impact on American culture.

ABOUT THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION FOR TEACHERS

As part of CVUHSD's Arts Integration's goal, a Professional Development (PD) session will be offered to teachers of all subjects prior to the presentation of the show. It will be led by an artist from A Gaelic Gathering who will provide background information on the art form and suggests activities useful for all teachers. The teaching artist will work in collaboration with our Arts Coordinator, H  l  ne Trudeau, for the preparation of the PD.

All PDs will be held after school from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM