



Connecticut Academy of Irish Music

Fall 2021 Class Descriptions and Schedule

Welcome! Our fall classes will meet on the following Sundays (431 Hartford Avenue, Wethersfield) unless otherwise indicated: Sept. 12, Sept. 26; Oct. 3; 17; Nov. 7; 14; 21.

- *Please see the last page for class times for fiddle, flute/whistle, bodhran, and slow session. We will work out exact schedule times for the mandolin, banjo, and guitar students based on sign-ups.*
- *Classes are taught primarily in the traditional method, by ear, so remember to bring a recording device!*
- *We are hoping to return to in-person classes this fall but will follow all current public health requirements as we continue to navigate this challenging time.*

Fiddle - Jeanne Freeman and Katie Murray (Katie will teach Nov. 7 and 14; we look forward to welcoming her to the Academy!)

Beginner fiddle II - For those who have some experience, but are not yet ready to move up to the intermediate/advanced class. Emphasis will be on continuing to strengthen skills covered in the prior class, and building a repertoire of tunes.

Beginner Irish fiddle - For students who have played the violin/fiddle for at least a year (any style) but wish to develop Irish fiddling style and technique. Emphasis will be on building a repertoire of session tunes and introducing bowings and ornamentations.

Intermediate/Advanced Irish fiddle - For those who know some Irish fiddle but are working on expanding their repertoire, ornamentation, and developing their bowing style.

Whistle and Flute - Ellen Redman

Beginner whistle - For those just starting to play the whistle or flute. The class will focus on learning all the notes on the instrument in preparation to learning some basic tunes. This is also a good beginner class for those who have never played but who are interested in eventually moving on to Irish flute or uilleann pipes.



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Intermediate/Advanced whistle and flute - For those who have at least a year of experience playing the whistle or flute (either silver or Irish). Common session tunes will be taught, along with ornamentation and tone production and breathing.

Intermediate slow session for mixed instruments – Claudine Langille

Some experience on your instrument is required; emphasis will be on developing skills and confidence to play in a session (learning tunes by ear, familiarity with keys and modes, tunes types, building sets, and basic “session etiquette”). This class will literally function as a slow-paced session with a number of new tunes being played each week and past tunes being revisited.

Mandolin/Tenor Banjo/Guitar - Claudine Langille

Beginner and Intermediate – We will create the specific programming (classes or possibly some private or semi-private lessons) based on students’ needs and ability levels - so please contact us if you are interested and we will arrange the schedule. Beginners will learn the basics of the instruments, including basic chords and melody structures; you’ll be playing away in no time! For Intermediates, the emphasis will be on growing your repertoire, improving your ear, and spicing up your ornamentation.

Bodhran - Mary Gardner (Class meets 4 dates: Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Nov. 14 and 21)

Beginner - For absolute beginners as well as those with limited experience. This class will focus on learning basic rhythms and patterns for jigs, reels, polkas, and slip jigs, and well as proper tipper technique. (Meets 2-2:45 p.m)

Intermediate Students with previous experience will focus on incorporating the left hand to explore the tonal aspects of the bodhran. We will also learn how to accompany tunes in sessions with a focus on playing musically. (Meets 2:45-3:30 p.m.).



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Course Times (Sundays):

Time			
11:00 a.m.-12:00	Beginner Irish fiddle	Beginner whistle	
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Intermediate fiddle	Intermediate flute and whistle	
1:00- 2:00 p.m.	Beginner fiddle II	Mixed instrument slow session	
2:00-2:45	Beginner Bodhran		
2:45-3:30	Intermediate Bodhran		
2:00-3:30		Mandolin Banjo Guitar (Times TBD; we will work out schedule based on sign-ups)	

Questions? Contact Jeanne: (860) 810-4852 or info@ctirishmusic.com.