



DAYTON CELTIC FESTIVAL FEATURES SIX HEADLINER BANDS

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The United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival, presented by the United Irish of Dayton in partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks, returns July 26-28 at RiverScape MetroPark in Downtown Dayton. The festival will take place, rain or shine. Admission is FREE, and plenty of shaded seating is available! Festival hours are 5:30-11 pm on Friday, July 26th; 11:30 am-11 pm on Saturday, July 27th; and 9 am-6 pm on Sunday, July 28th.

The festival features six headliner bands, including fan favorite Gaelic Storm. This multi-national, Celtic juggernaut grows stronger with each live performance, and as you can imagine, after two decades and over 2,000 shows, it is a true force to be reckoned with. With their latest release, *Go Climb a Tree*, their music has never sounded more representative of themselves as musicians and as live performers. Gaelic Storm's storytelling, thrilling instrumentals, and devotion to traditional Celtic music have captivated their legion of fans over the last 20 years.

The Fitzgeralds also return to the Dayton Celtic Festival in 2024. A family group consisting of fiddling and step dancing siblings, the Fitzgeralds feature 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.

Socks in the Frying Pan, another returning festival favorite, consists of a multi-award-winning trio from County Clare on the West coast of Ireland, the universal hub of Irish traditional music.

Their dynamic vocal harmonies, virtuosic musical ability and their onstage wit has captured and captivated audiences around the world. One of the most sought-after groups in Irish music today, the worldwide ‘Sock Invasion’ continues!

Davy Holt performs traditional, original, and contemporary Scottish folk music in an upbeat and energetic style that has seen him become a well-known and popular entertainer throughout Scotland. Performing in pubs, festivals, hotels, theatres, Burns suppers, and Corporate Events, Davy’s music has also seen him tour throughout Europe, The Middle East, and North America.

The festival also welcomes back The Drowsy Lads, who thundered onto the Irish music scene in the US over 15 years ago. The group brings unique energy and pure friendship to their live show that is rarely seen. Named as the 2018 “The Best Irish-American Band”, the 20 year performing veterans have galvanized their place among Irish and folk music as a must see performance.

New to this year’s Dayton Celtic Festival is JigJam. Described as ‘The best Irish band in bluegrass’ and ‘sparkling, infectious’ these lads have been hailed as ‘Ireland’s answer to New Grass Revival’. JigJam made its Grand Ole Opry Debut in Nashville in March 2023 to critical acclaim receiving a standing ovation from a sold-out crowd on Country Music’s biggest stage. The group was joined on the night by Garth Brooks, Trisha Yearwood, Steve Earle, Lauren Alaina, and many more. This Offaly and Tipperary-born band has started the first wave of attack in the new Irish invasion of Americana.

The festival will also feature several regional and local musical groups, including Dulahan, Father Son and Friends, Jameson’s Folly, Miami Valley Pipes and Drums, Kennedy’s Kitchen, Dogwood Road, The Pints, and Skylark, and The Roving Rogues. In addition, festival goers will enjoy dance performances from several Irish Dance groups throughout the weekend: Celtic Academy of Irish Dance, McGovern Irish Dance, and Dwyer School of Irish Dance.

For more information on the festival, including the performance schedule, or volunteer opportunities, visit our Facebook page or our website at www.daytoncelticfestival.com.