



## Celtic Journey

March 15–16, 2025 | 7:30 p.m. & 2 p.m.

Holland Performing Arts Center

Ernest Richardson, conductor | Bill Coulter, guitar | Brian Bigley, pipes  
Caitlin Golding Coleman, dancer | Garrett Coleman, dancer | Ross Hauck, tenor  
Samantha Harvey, accordion | Susanna Perry Gilmore, fiddle | Tomáseen Foley, narrator  
Dowds Irish Dance Academy | Wild Primrose Fiddle Band

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*O'Neill's March*

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*The Green Mountain*

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*Marie's Wedding*

Arr. Sam Shoup

*Symph-ly Fiddlin' Around*

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*Lagan Love & The Kid on the Mountain*

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*Dance Duel*

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*Danny Boy*

Arr. Garth Neustadter

*Rocky Road to Dublin/Rolling Waves Jig/Boys of Mallin*

INTERMISSION

Beethoven/Simon  
Jeffes/arr. Neustadter

*Beethoven's 5th of Whiskey/Music for a Found Harmonium*

Traditional; Lian Dall  
O'Heffernan/arr. Neustadter

*Pé 'n Éirinn Í*

Arr. Richardson

*Musical Priest/Drowsy Maggie/Jer the Rigg*

Brandan Graham/arr. Neustadter

*Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears*

Traditional/arr. Neustadter

*Whiskey in the Jar*

Traditional; Kathleen  
Keane/arr. Neustadter

*The Quarter Inch Wick/Cregg's Pipes*

Donald Shaw/arr. Neustadter

*Wedding Reel*



## Ernest Richardson, conductor

Ernest Richardson is in high demand as conductor, composer, arranger, organizational leader and inspirational speaker. His versatility finds him within one season conducting Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* or Broadway artists in the works of Leonard Bernstein, a live-to-movie production of *Harry Potter*, facilitating strategic decision-making for leading arts organizations, or training young musicians for the passionate, persistent pursuit of perfection.



## Susanna Perry Gilmore, fiddle

Susanna Perry Gilmore enjoys a multifaceted career as solo artist, chamber musician, and orchestral concertmaster. Performing on both modern and period instruments and versatile in diverse styles from classical to fiddling, she is hailed as a player who is both “thrilling and sensitive” by the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, “luminous and hypnotic” by the *Omaha World-Herald*, and “authentic with exquisite good taste” and “rich in tone, bringing musical depth and a human touch” by the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.



## William Coulter, guitar

William Coulter is an internationally acclaimed, GRAMMY-Award-winning master of the steel-string guitar. His most recent recording, *The Rolling Waves*, was released in December 2022 on the Gourd Music label. This solo project is a collection of original arrangements of folk and original music from the Celtic lands and beyond. His duo with Edwin Huizinga, Fire & Grace, released their third CD, *Alma*, in 2021 and the duo has been taking their music on the road again with performances around the US. Coulter has been Music Director for Tomáseen Foley's *A Celtic Christmas* since 1998, and has performed with the Santa Cruz Baroque Festival, Apollo's Fire and many other ensembles.



## Tomáseen Foley, Irish storyteller

Tomáseen Foley grew up on a small farm in the remote parish of Teampall an Ghleanntáin in the West of Ireland - where storytelling ‘was as natural as breathing.’ Each year from Thanksgiving through the Christmas season, his show, *Tomáseen Foley's A Celtic Christmas*, plays to critical acclaim and packed concert halls all over the US. He also tours annually with Brian Bigley's *An Irish Rambling House*.

# Featured Artists



## **Brian Bigley, uilleann pipes, Irish flute and whistles**

Brian Bigley comes from a musical family on the west side of Cleveland, Ohio, where he first heard the ethereal sound of the Uilleann Pipes at the West Side Irish American Club. Soon after, at the age of eight, he began studying with Achill Island piper Michael Kilbane. Since then, Brian's sensitivity to the art of Uilleann Piping has developed into a high level of understanding with the help of his family and the countless musicians that have crossed his path.



## **Samantha Harvey, accordion**

Samantha Harvey, originally from California but now residing in County Sligo, Ireland, is a prominent traditional music and dance performer. Highly skilled in step dancing and as an instrumentalist on piano and accordion, Samantha has performed throughout the world with groups such as Téada, Ireland The Show, Irish Christmas in America, and Tomásean Foley's Irish Times. This performance work has involved concerts and festivals in Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, Europe, and the United States. Samantha was privileged to perform in RTÉ's Centenary, broadcast live on television from the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre in Dublin.



## **Ross Hauck, tenor**

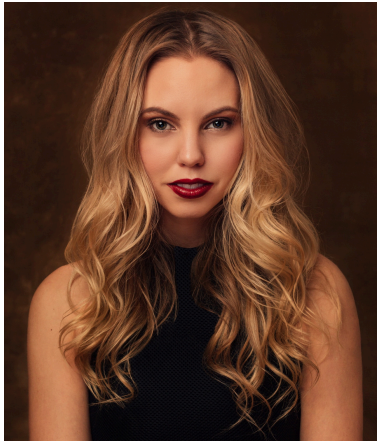
Tenor Ross Hauck is thrilled to bring *Celtic Journey* back to Omaha. Ross has sung with orchestras and music festivals across the country. He is a lapsed cellist, an average pianist, a pun aficionado, and a decent lyricist (he "distills" a new local "Whiskey in the Jar" for each *Celtic Journey*). He loves limericks but hates wearing a tux. He is an alum of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Ross has won some awards and gained some plaudits, but his greatest prize is his wife and four kids, the oldest of which is named Daniel (*Danny Boy*). They live in the foothills outside Seattle where he is both a voice professor and church music director.



## **Garrett Coleman, dancer**

Garrett Coleman is a dancer, choreographer, and actor best known for his featured performance and role as co-choreographer in the original Broadway musical, *Paradise Square*, for which he won a Drama Desk Award, a Chita Rivera Award, and received a Tony Nomination for Best Choreography. He is a two-time solo World Champion in Irish dance and has won 17 other national and international titles. Coleman toured professionally with Riverdance, Trinity Irish Dance Company, Cherish the Ladies, The Chieftains, and others.

# Featured Artists



## Caitlin Golding-Coleman, dancer

Beginning Irish Dance at age seven, Caitlin Golding-Coleman has been dancing for the past 28 years. She began her studies with the Broesler School of Irish Dance in Baltimore, Maryland, and owned the Golding Academy of Movement and Dance in New York as a certified An Coimisiun teacher for seven years. Throughout her 14-year competitive career she won many titles. Her most upstanding accolades include five-time Southern Region Champion, top three North American Champion, top ten World Champion, top three Great Britain Champion, and top ten All Ireland Champion. After receiving her degree in social work from the University of Maryland, Caitlin began to pursue her professional Irish Dance career.



## Dowds Irish Dance

Dowds Irish Dance Academy, located in the heart of Omaha, teaches Irish step dance in a fun, friendly environment. The school has many national and world-qualified dancers! The Academy's award-winning teachers provide the best possible instruction to all students. Whether you want to seriously compete or just dance for the love of Irish culture – Dowds is the school for you.

## Wild Primrose Fiddle Band

Anne Nagosky has been a full-time violinist with the Omaha Symphony since 1998 and also holds the title of Lead Residency Teacher for the Symphony's education department. Anne is a passionate music educator and maintains one of the largest private violin and viola studios in Nebraska. Anne's students have been featured numerous times with the Omaha Symphony, including twenty years of appearances on the Omaha Symphony Christmas Celebration concerts! They have also appeared as fiddlers on the Family Concert Series and Celebrate Creativity at the Joslyn.

Inspired by their first two appearances on Celtic Journey in 2018 and 2020, a group of Nagosky's students asked to start an Irish fiddle club, which then evolved into the Wild Primrose Fiddle Band. The group, comprised of interested violin and viola students (and one alumna) ages eight to twenty, now practices and performs regularly and are assisted by guitarist Ben Rasmussen and mentored by Chattanooga-based fiddler, Tom Morley. They are thrilled and honored to join Susanna, the band, and the Omaha Symphony again this year!

### This printed program is a condensed version.

For more info about the orchestra, guest artists, and the full program notes, download the Omaha Symphony app or scan this QR code with your mobile device.

\*program subject to change

