

Contact: Valerie Plested, 601.366.2775, yaple21@gmail.com

The Celtic Heritage Society

p.o. box 5166, jackson, mississippi 39296-5166

www.CelticFestMS.org

Press Release

JUNE 18, 2009 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Details:

Event: CelticFest Mississippi

Date: September 10, 11, 12, & 13, 2009

Place: Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum, Jackson, MS

Website: www.CelticFestMS.org

CELTICFEST MISSISSIPPI 2009

(Jackson, MS) -- CelticFest Mississippi 2009, Celtic Heritage Society's 19th annual weekend festival is almost here! Take your mind off of the weather at air-conditioned stages filled with the best of Celtic music and dancing -- Or venture outdoors to get your fill with everything else the festival has to offer. It's a packed weekend of Celtic music, dance, and fun not to be missed.

"CelticFest" is a celebration of the Celtic nations including Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, the Isle of Man and Brittany. It takes place on September 10-13 at the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum. CelticFest features an exceptional variety of exciting Irish and Scottish music and dance on 6 stages, plus free Celtic heritage, music and dance workshops, a children's area, Celtic specialty vendors, and plenty of food and drink. Because much of the festival takes place indoors, CelticFest will be held RAIN OR SHINE!

CelticFest annually features several headlining artists of both international status and high caliber. 2009's artists are Irish supergroup TRIAN (featuring Liz Carroll-fiddle, Billy McComiskey-button accordion, and Daithi Sproule-guitar), Dublin balladeer BRENDAN NOLAN, the newly formed CAPTAIN MACKKEY'S GOATSKIN & STRING BAND featuring Máirtín de Cógáin and Jimmy Crowley, both of Co. Cork, as well as virtuoso uilleann piper, TIM BRITTON.

Of course, CelticFest's tried-and-true local and regional performers (over 40 acts) will travel from as far away as Michigan, sRhode Island, Florida for another round as well, including Smithfield Fair, Finvarra's Wren, Kula, Legacy, Jim Flanagan, and more.

The festivities begin Thursday evening with the first annual "Filum," an Irish film festival (co-sponsored by the Crossroad Film Society), and will continue on Friday night 7pm-12am with music/dance performances on multiple stages, vendors, the Whiskey and Scotch Tasting benefit, and an open tune session. On Saturday, the gates open at 10 am with even more entertainment, workshops, and activities continuously until midnight. The gates open again 11 am Sunday for another day of Celtic fun.

An ever popular highlight of CelticFest, the massive Céilí Dance (pronounced 'kay-lee') caps off the Saturday night. No dancing experience is required to participate – beginners are welcome.

The children won't be left out— CelticFest is a family-friendly festival! There will be a Children's Area and kid-oriented vendors on the grounds.

Contact: Valerie Plested, 601.366.2775, yaple21@gmail.com

Admission is \$12 for an adult Weekend Pass, \$8 for seniors and students, \$5 for children ages 5-17, and \$1 for children under four. "A greater value of this quality can't be had in Jackson....," says Harvey Kimble, past president of the Celtic Heritage Society.

For more information, please visit the CelticFest web site: www.CelticFestMS.org. The Celtic Heritage Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with the mission of promoting and preserving the arts and culture of the Celtic nations. CelticFest is a family-oriented event, and all CHS events are open to the public.

CelticFest's sponsors include: Fenian's Irish Pub, Wine & Spirits In the Quarter, Cabot Lodge Millsaps, Branch Cable, Capital Cities Beverages and Guinness, and the Jackson Irish Dancers. This project is also funded in part by a grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency and by the Southern Arts Federation in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Mississippi Arts Commission.

###