

APPRENTICESHIPS

with the



Irish harp
COLLEGE

3rd LEVEL FULL TIME TRAINING,
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATION
in a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 3 years duration

Solo:

Performance training to Master level
Repertoire Development in the Arts of Harping
Fleadh, Feis and Festival competition
Examination & Qualification in the Irish Harp College and other institutions

Ensemble:

Group Stage Performance
Membership of the National Harp Orchestra (Tours & Concerts)
Media (TV and radio) and Studio Recording

Music in Community:

Session participation
Music in Church
Music at all kinds of local events
Music in Hospitals, Hospice, Nursing Homes and Day Centres

Professional training:

Corporate and Commercial Entertainer Training
Wedding Ceremony and Reception
Teacher Training
Palliative Harp Therapy

Business and Personal:

Personal Development, Team Training and Leadership Skills
Managing your Full or Part-time Music Career
Running a Music School
Professional Etiquette
Career Coaching

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Insert 1 (LINKED from Read more...)

The Irish Harp College

Is a traditional Irish harp training system taking students to a level of significant competence after four years of musical study. Having passed Level 4, students proceed to advanced levels in “The Arts of Harping”. This is 12 areas of specialism, up to 6 of which are chosen by the student. These are: 1 Goltraí, Geantraí, Suantraí (The art of improvisation for the accompaniment of poetry and storytelling); 2 Historical (or Classical Irish) Repertoire (17th and 18th Centuries); 3 Lamentations and Slow Airs; 4 The Romantic & Folk Repertoire (19th and 20th Centuries); 5 The ‘New Irish’ (or Modern Formal Harp Composition) Repertoire; 6 Dance Music Repertoire; 7 Song and Harp Accompaniment; 8 Sacred and Ritual Music; 9 Music for Healthcare and Comfort; 10 Composition; 11 Arrangement; and 12 Accompaniment. Students will choose one or two specialist areas for their examinations at Advanced Levels 5-7, after which they will graduate the performance training with a programme of their choosing at ‘Master Level 8’. Diploma courses in different professional aspects and at different levels are also accessible. See below....

Individual harp training, examination and qualification

Training in solo performance, accompaniment and arrangement to Master Level in the Irish Harp College Curriculum.

Performance Experience (Solo, Duo and Group)

National and International Stage Performance with the Irish Harp Orchestra
and other performance groups

Solo Performance (arranged recitals) in private and public situations;

Duo Performance with violinists/fiddlers, flautists/fluters and others

Competition experience in local, national and international competitions

Performance experience in radio, tv and recording studios;

Solo performance opportunities in concert locations and various festivals
with the IHO and other stage productions

Traditional Session Playing and Preparation

Participating in the traditional ‘session’ or ‘seisiún’ is how many of the older generation of traditional musician learned their music. Today in the culture of ‘class’ learning, the experience of participating in a session can be daunting. Apprentices are prepared and encouraged to join the local session in Castleconnell for social as well as musical interest.

Music in Community programme

This entails music involvement at every level in community, from playing in nursing homes to mini-recitals in primary schools, Special Needs centres, shopping centre features, local arts occasions and promotions etc

Music in Church

Training for and being regularly involved in playing during mass and Sunday service, and other occasions such as funerals, baptisms, retreats etc; choosing an appropriate music programme for different denominations, and accompanying the standard choir, a folk group and various soloists (including the priest).

Entertainer Training

This aspect of the apprentice prepares for professional engagements, primarily for weddings, commercial and corporate entertainment engagements. In the months of September to November there is intensive training in this and general performance improvement so as the apprentice will confidently be able to undertake professional work. The specific Entertainer Repertoire involves learning a wide variety of popular Irish music (trad, folk, parlour, stage). The course also includes staging preparation, performance and professional etiquette and placement in a variety of hotel, tourism & commercial locations.

Palliative Harp Therapy PHT

The role of music in the promotion of health and welfare is widely recognised throughout the western world today. The Irish Harp College PHT programme has taken the use of the harp in Palliative Therapy to a significant level of practical skill and expertise with improvisation techniques that impact on the harmonisation of body and brain rhythms, pain relief, stress control, the limbic system, energy and consciousness levels. The Irish Harp College has a regular therapy programme in operation with a local mental health facility, a hospice and elderly care home. The Irish Harp College PHT programme is currently in the diploma certification process.

Personal Development, Team Training and Leadership

Personal development, the building of self confidence, team training and leadership are fundamental aspects of the IHC apprenticeship experience. The apprentice will also be trained in social and professional etiquette in meeting, mixing and collaborating with numerous significant personalities from the worlds of music, media, politics, business and arts management in the course of their year. There is particular emphasis in leadership training so the apprentice will confidently, competently and efficiently lead teaching, training, public address and direction group performance, and stage production and direction situations.

Business and Management

Laying the foundation for professional activity as a self employed musician undertaking engagements independently or through an agent/agency; what you need to know about contracts and copyright law; personal business organisation: book keeping, diary, engagement arrangement, accounting, budgeting, insurance and tax. Also, advice and assistance with 'Setting up your own Harp Centre'.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE and minimum standards

While 'Apprentices' may enter the Apprenticeship Programme at early stages, minimum standards will need to be achieved before the Apprentice undertakes any professional engagements. Normally, this standard would be Level 3 in the Harp College training system (or equivalent).

The Apprentice's professional work is most likely to include the following:

- Reception entertainment (with Entertainment Repertoire Lists);
- Solo corporate entertainer (")
- Solo commercial entertainer (")
- Corporate ensemble (with Corporate Ensemble Repertoire);
- Palliative Harp Therapy (with appropriate training and improvisation repertoire)
- Teaching Adult Beginners
- Teaching Levels 1 – 4 (as teacher training stages passed)
- Teaching the 'Advanced Arts' (after 'Master Level' in the Arts are passed)
- Stage performance 1 (variety concert guest spot)
- Stage performance 2 (solo collaboration in group recital)
- Stage performance 3 (solo concert)
- Participating in Community / Schools / Charitable / Care Facility concerts
- Leading in Community / Schools / Charitable / Care Facility concerts
- Producing and Directing Community / Schools / Charitable / Care Facility concerts

ACCEPTANCE ON THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME IS BY APPLICATION, INTERVIEW AND AUDITION. Prospective candidates are invited to fill in the Apprenticeship Application and send it along with a DVD of minimum 15 minutes performance and a 4 minute talk direct to camera on “Why I would like to be an Apprentice at the Irish Harp College”.

QUALIFICATIONS ON THE APPRENTICESHIP

All Apprentices are processed through the Irish Harp College examinations (Levels 1-8) and will undertake diploma examinations as they are ready. These are facilitated as part of the apprenticeship experience (costs included). Examinations from other institutions may be undertaken by students seconded from other College programmes by special arrangement.

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APPRENTICESHIP TERMS AND FEES

The APPRENTICESHIP is “learning the skills on the job” – that is that the apprentice is both ‘a student’ and ‘at work’ while serving their ‘apprenticeship’.

Apprenticeship durations can vary depending on the needs of the individuals and lasts a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 3 years. The first priority is to acquire minimum standards so that the apprentice may undertake professional work. Skills development, repertoire study and experience broadening then follow directing them to achieve their highest potential and qualification in all the ‘Arts of Harping’. Apprentices will be expected to conduct themselves professionally at all times as, even when studying, they will be in a representative capacity meeting the public and work-shadowing other professionals.

The Apprenticeship year runs from the first week of September to last week of August.

Holidays There will be intermittent weeks in the course of the year for holiday / ‘down time’ depending on the concert and activity programme. The College is closed from Christmas and New Year to the 2nd week in January. Easter Holidays are variable and dependant on international engagements which will be advised before the Christmas break.

Outside engagements While Apprentices may perform their own engagements during their ‘holiday time’. During the apprenticeship year however, their first call for any professional work will be with the Harp Centre. The protocol is to discuss any engagements in advance with Dr Harbison / Mr Gullis at the centre.

Rotating Option Where a one-year course is not feasible for professional musicians/ teachers to be taken in one calendar year; it may also be taken in a ‘rotation option’ where the three terms may be paced over a consecutive 3 year period: September – December (Autumn Term in year 1); January – April (Spring Term in year 2); April – August (Summer Term in year 3). Only one student per year can be catered for on this option.

APPRENTICESHIP FEES

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Years: | 2007-8 | € 11,600 |
| | 2008-9 | € 11,750 |
| | 2009-10 | € 11,850 |

This fee is charged at 50% at the start of the Apprenticeship. Since the apprentice will be undertaking fee earning professional work, this is lodged to the Apprentices’ Account at the harp centre. As soon as this account has reached the balance of the payment, the apprentice will be informed that they are now in ‘credit’ and will be paid ‘wages’ on a monthly basis for the remainder of the Apprenticeship.

ACCOMMODATION FEES at the Harp Centre

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2007-8 | €3,600 | (Payable in 3 installments of €1,200) |
| 2008-9 | €3,750 | (Payable in 3 installments of €1,250) |
| 2009-10 | €3,870 | (Payable in 3 installments of €1,290) |

(Apprentices may arrange their own accommodation but they must reside within 5 minutes walk of the Harp Centre if they do not have their own transport)

The room rental period is 12 months from the beginning of September to the end of August. Accommodation is provided at the centre in the ‘Cottage Apartment’ and in an adjacent rented modern house across the road from the Harp Centre. Students each have their own rooms and share all other house facilities. The Harp Centre cottage is their leisure area with a fully equipped modern kitchen for

their use. Residents are all self catering except for Thursdays at mid-day when all Harp Centre staff and residential students (including apprentices) have a formal meal together. The village of Castleconnell is within 2 minutes walk from the Centre and has all essential supplies including a supermarket, medical centre, pharmacy, bank and post office. Students are required to have their own harps, lap top computers and mobile telephones. (Broadband internet access is available at the Harp Centre.)

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Irish harp

COLLEGE

APPLICATION FOR IRISH HARP COLLEGE APPRENTICESHIP

(Print off, complete and fax to +353 61 372 712 or email to info@irishharpcentre.com)

Name Age

Address
.....

Home Phone

Mobile (Cell) Phone

Email

Years studying harp to date:

Type of harp played (*circle*): Irish (Lever / Celtic) Orchestral Lap Baroque

Style of harp study: Irish traditional Classical Folk Scottish Therapy

Give % of your total experience:

Are you considering a career with the harp? Yes Temporarily Possibly No

Please detail over

- 1 last examinations taken with the name of the educational institution / exam board
- 2 any full time professional experience (if any)

3 significant competition awards / engagements / accolades

With your application, send an informal (home produced) DVD with a 15 minute programme of your harp playing with introductions to your pieces. Also talk to camera for about 2 minutes on: “Why I would like to be an Irish Harp College Apprentice”.

We advise that applications should be made up to a year before your intended apprenticeship. Since there are only 3 apprentices taken on per year, selection will be adjudicated on ‘professional potential’. You will be informed of your acceptance or otherwise directly by the College director.