



Irish harp
COLLEGE

COLLEGE STUDENTSHIP

Third level study for full-time harpers at the Irish Harp College
and

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

1 Year Training & Professional Experience

Applicants to have passed at least Level 6 in the Harp College
training programme.

Director: Dr Janet Harbison

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 the homes of the elderly, disabled, chronically ill

Professional training:

Corporate 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



STUDENTSHIP AT THE IRISH HARP COLLEGE

Third level study for full-time students at the Irish Harp College

Course modules

Solo Harp Performance training to Master Level

Repertoire Development in the Arts of Harping

Examination & Qualification in the Irish Harp College

Teacher Training and Certification

Examiner Training and Certification

Second instrument / voice training option

Fleadh, Feis and Festival competition

National Harp Orchestra Membership (concerts & tours)

Ensemble Stage Performance

Ensemble and Orchestra Leadership

Studio Recording

Media (TV and radio)

Seisiún participation

Music in Church (all services & ceremonies)

Community & Charity Concerts (guest artist spots)

Music in Care Facilities (elderly, disabled, hospital and hospice)

Palliative Harp Therapy (to Dip.PHT)

Corporate Entertainment & Wedding Reception (to CHE Certificate in Harp Entertainment)

Team and Leadership Skills

Career Development and Management

Concert design, organisation, management and presentation

The Law: Performing Rights and Copyright

Book Keeping and Business Organisation

Professional Etiquette

Students may enter the College at any level and may graduate in 3 stages as the standards are met:

Stage 1: 'Initiate Level' Levels 1 to 4

Stage 2: 'Advanced Level' Levels 5 to 8

Stage 3: 'Master Level' Postgraduate

Professional experience is offered only where professional minimum standards are evident

Examination sittings: November / December (dates posted beg. October) and May / June

(dates posted beg. Term 3). Diploma and Professional Certifications May / June only.

Commencements (Awards Ceremony) are held October / November in the year of graduation.

The Studentship year

Term 1 September to December

Harp Technique, Repertoire and Style development

Towards stage performance with National Harp Orchestra (with poss. December Europe Tour)

Second instrument study (optional)

Preparation for professional entertainer experience

Music in Church for weekly services (in group)

Harp Teaching observation

PHT (Palliative Harp Therapy) observation

Session participation (Folk)

Book Keeping and Business Organisation 1

Working in the Music Business

Professional Etiquette

Term 2 January to Easter

Technique, Repertoire and Style development cont

National Harp Orchestra concerts + tours (poss with professional as well as training orch.)

Stage performance with National Harp Ensemble (mini concert tours)

Professional entertainer experience (if appropriate standards met)

Community & Charity Concerts (guest artist spots if appropriate standards met)

Music in Care Facilities (elderly, disabled, hospital and hospice)

Music in Church for weekly services (solo, if appropriate standards met)

Team and Leadership Skills 1

Harp Teaching practise (if appropriate standards met)

All instruments teaching observation

PHT practise (if appropriate standards met)

Session participation (+ Trad)

Book Keeping and Business Organisation 2

Term 3 Easter to June

Technique, Repertoire and Style development cont

Examination preparation (for May/June)

Teacher Training course and Examination

Examiner Training course and Certification

Fleadh and Feis competition

Community & Charity Concerts (guest artist spots)

Studio Recording

Media (TV and radio)

Career Development and Management
The Law: Performing Rights and Copyright

Term 4 July to August

Fleadh and Festival competition
School management
Student management
Summerschool Teaching Experience
Class management
Orchestra leadership & management
Ensemble leadership & management
Concert design, management and presentation

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Irish Harp College Training & Examination

is a traditional Irish harp training system taking students to a level of significant competence after four years of average musical study. After Level 4, students proceed to advanced levels of "The Arts of Harping" in their choice of: 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 Comfort and Healing; 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 system at 'Master Level 8'. Teacher's & Examiner's courses are dealt with separately.

Individual harp training, examination and qualification

Training in solo performance, accompaniment and arrangement to Master Level in the Irish Harp College Curriculum. Students are recommended to have achieved Level 4 before applying for the Apprenticeship Programme but may apply for a studentship at any level.

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, and at local arts occasions 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 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

The opportunity for personal development, building of self confidence, team training and leadership is exceptional in the IHC apprenticeship experience. The apprentice will also meet, mix and collaborate with numerous significant personalities from the worlds of music (pop and traditional) and world politics in the course of their year. With the Harp Orchestras and various other groups and workshops, they will enjoy working in a collaborative team with many possibilities for honing their leadership skills as they work with adults as well as young people in lessons, workshops and concert performance.

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'.

QUALIFICATIONS

Teacher Training and qualification

There are three levels of teacher course and qualification:

AIHC (Associate) Teaching Diploma is the teacher's qualification for students to Level 4. Each level involves a separate examination on the prescribed Irish Harp College training course. Training courses for Levels 1 & 2 are taken over one week or a number of weekends after which there will be examinations for those levels. Levels 3 and 4 involve separate training weeks (or weekend series) and examinations. Please see when forthcoming courses are held, and enquire at our office if there are out-sourced courses in your regions.

LIHC (Licentiate) Teaching Diploma course is a more advanced teacher qualification requiring expertise to Advanced Level in 8 Arts of Harping, with directing formal and informal group performances. Course participants need to be active professional teachers catering to at least 8 students and undertaking at least 5 hours of teaching weekly. The final examination involves the submission of essays on prescribed subjects, the staged presentation of a student group performance and an interview.

FIHC (Fellowship) Teaching Diploma is awarded to an experienced teacher who has at least 10 years consistent teaching experience with at least 40 students having passed Advanced levels in the Arts of Harping and having brought at least 4 students to Master Level.

(Students need to have been under the tutelage of the teacher for at least 3 years.)

Examiner Training and Qualification

The qualification of Examiner of the Irish Harp College (EIHC) involves only the examination up to Level 4 of the Irish Harp College curriculum. (Specialist examiners for the Advanced Arts are appointed by invitation of the College Director.) The Examiner's course is held over 3 days, the dates of which are posted on the internet and available from the Irish Harp Centre.

TERM OF PROGRAMMES

STUDENTSHIP / APPRENTICESHIP

Beginning of September to End of August

There will be intermittent weeks in the course of the year for holiday / down time depending on the concert and activity programme. Please enquire on these. The College is closed from Christmas and New Year to the 2nd week in January. Easter Holidays are taken in advance of Easter with a return to the College on Easter Monday.

Outside engagements: for Apprentices

Apprenticeship is a full-time commitment to the Irish Harp College for the duration. Apprentices may perform their own engagements on time off, the protocol being to discuss any engagements in advance with Dr Harbison or Mr Gullis at the centre.

Outside engagements: for Studentships

Professional Engagements are offered through the College as suitable opportunities arise. Students may also accept outside engagements but the College requires to be informed of these and permission sought in writing if time off from any coursework is involved.

Rotating Studentship Year Option

Where a one -year course is not feasible for professional musicians/ teachers to be taken in one block; it may also be taken in 'rotation' taking the four terms over a consecutive 3 year period.

Term 1	September to December	Year 1
Term 2	January to Easter	Year 2
Terms 3 & 4	Easter to August	Year 3

Only one student per year can be catered for on this option and is a full course committment.

Intense Study Programmes

For one week each month, there is an Intense Study Programme option where up to 4 students (maximum) can have individual ½ hour lessons over a 4 day

period coming into a Workshop Weekend at the Harp Centre. Please see the Intense Study Programme page for more information.

Spring Study Programme

Over seven weeks from the second week in January, the Harp College offers students full-time involvement in the Harp College programme with up to three individual half hour lessons per week. Please see the Spring Study Programme page for more information.

STUDENTSHIP / APPRENTICESHIP

FEES 2006-7

Studentship / Apprenticeship training fee: € 11,200

The Studentship/Apprenticeship fee is charged at 50% at the beginning of the year, and the remaining 50% is due on February 1st. As apprentices 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. Students undertaking professional work will be paid in cash at the end of that month. Some optional trips and tours with the National Harp Orchestra may require students to contribute toward the travel expense.

FEES 2007-8

Studentship / Apprenticeship training fee: € 11,600

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

Accommodation fee: 2006-7: €7,500; 2007-8: €7,850

Accommodation is arranged for students in the village of Castleconnell (September to August). Students will each have their own rooms but will share and manage house facilities collectively. Substantial mid-day meals are catered at the Harp Centre Tuesday – Friday during term-times as well as during programmed activity weekends. Students will be responsible for their own catering in the evenings, on Mondays, through free weekends and holidays.

Health, Safety and Security

Students are required to have their own mobile telephones and to have their own lap-top computer and internet access should they wish it.

There is a no tolerance policy for antisocial behaviour or recreational drug taking



Irish harp COLLEGE

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APPLICATION FOR IRISH HARP COLLEGE STUDENTSHIP

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 a 10 minute informal video (European format) or DVD of your playing, introducing your pieces demonstrative of your skills.

We advise that applications should be made up to a year before your intended studentship. Since there are only 4 studentships per year, selection will be adjudicated on 'professional potential'. You will be informed of your acceptance or otherwise directly by the College director.