

SEEKING STUDENT PERCUSSIONIST FOR A UNIQUE IRISH MUSIC ENSEMBLE COMPETITION:

TRY OUT TO JOIN THE U15 CÉILÍ BAND!

The Center for Irish Music is seeking a youth drummer to play with our under-15 céilí band! A céilí band drummer uses a three-piece kit: snare, wood block and bass drum (with foot pedal) to play rolls, maintain a steady downbeat for the melody instruments, and switch to the wood block for planned 8-bar sections of each piece. Together with piano, this makes up the rhythm section for our 10-member group. Other instruments include fiddles, flutes, accordions, and banjos.

Drummer Requirements:

- Be under age 15 as of January 1, 2026.
- Learn/create parts for three pieces of Irish dance music (2-3 minutes each). You can see video of the style here: <https://youtu.be/luwLCZ6FPNo>
- Maintain good rhythm/groove throughout the music selection.
- Attend rehearsals, **Wednesdays 5:00-5:45pm** at the Center for Irish Music (836 Prior Ave. N., St. Paul) from **February 11 - May 6**. Private lessons might also be necessary. Rehearsals are free for drummers.
- Audition at the Center for Irish Music in late January (date tbd). Drummers will be asked to accompany the panel in 6/8 time and 4/4 time, maintaining a steady beat. *All panelists are teachers and we will walk you through the process.*
- Travel to St. Louis, MO with a parent/guardian for the Midwest Fleadh Cheoil (competition) the weekend of May 9. The competition takes place at 6pm on May 9th at the Ballpark Hilton in St. Louis MO. Our groups typically do very well at these competitions!

For more information, or if you are interested in auditioning, please contact u15 céilí band director Mary Vanorny at mvanorny@centerforirishmusic.org or by phone at 952-807-5104.