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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE through May 20, 2014

Carnegie Mellon alum returns

Carnegie Mellon University alumnus, Master Sgt. Joe Haughton will be part of a “homecoming” concert at Carnegie Mellon University’s Kresge Theatre on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. Haughton is a member of the premier Celtic and folk ensemble of the U.S. Air Force, Celtic Aire. Using multiple instruments and lush vocal harmonies, the five-member group has a large repertoire of Celtic folk songs, Irish reels and jigs, pub songs, and even cover versions of pop songs. Stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., Celtic Aire is embarking on its first national tour traveling through Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. This concert marks the first performance on this tour. It is sponsored by the Carnegie Mellon University School of Music. Free tickets are available at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/631506>

Haughton received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in vocal performance from Carnegie Mellon University in 2002. During and after his undergraduate studies he performed with the Pittsburgh Opera Company and Pittsburgh Opera Theater. Haughton has also appeared with the Metropolitan Opera, Washington Concert Opera, Mobile Opera, Pensacola Opera, Chautauqua Opera and Asheville Lyric Opera. Originally from Philadelphia, Pa., his Air Force career began in 2005.

In addition to concerts in Washington, D.C., and the surrounding area, Celtic Aire regularly performs at official functions for military and civilian leaders including the president, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the United States Air Force chief of staff. In 2009, Celtic Aire deployed to Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar and Kyrgyzstan in support of diplomatic and troop morale initiatives as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Haughton performs on various fretted instruments and provides vocals for the ensemble.

Technical Sgt. Adam Tianello will also be performing on this tour. As a member of The U.S. Air Force Band’s Ceremonial Brass, he is the only bagpiper in the U.S. Air Force. He regularly performs ceremonies and high-level functions at Arlington National Cemetery and other venues in metropolitan Washington, D.C.

As part of The U.S. Air Force Band, these Airmen musicians honor those who have served, inspire American citizens to heightened patriotism and service, and positively impact the global community on behalf of the U.S. Air Force and the United States of America. The excellence demonstrated by these Airmen musicians is a reflection of the excellence carried out by Airmen stationed around the globe. Celtic Aire is proud to represent all Airmen, whose selfless service and sacrifices ensure the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America.

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For more information about Celtic Aire, including photos and links to the group's free, downloadable music, please visit:

<http://www.usafband.af.mil/aboutus/media/celticaire.asp>

Master Sgt. Joe Haughton's bio and photo are available at:

<http://www.usafband.af.mil/ensembles/BandBio.asp?BandBioID=716>