The United States AIR FORCE BAND
WASHINGTON, D.C.

PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Air Force Celtic Band takes First Tour

Celtic Aire, the premier Celtic and folk ensemble of the United States Air Force, will present a free public concert at the Long Center for the Performing Arts in Lafayette on Thursday, May 22, at 7:30 p.m. This performance is part of the group's first national tour. The performance is sponsored by the Long Center for the Performing Arts. Free tickets are available at: http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/631564.

Stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., Celtic Aire is comprised of five Airmen musicians from The United States Air Force Band's Singing Sergeants, the official chorus of the U.S. Air Force. Using multiple instruments and lush vocal harmonies, they have a large repertoire of Celtic folk songs, Irish reels and jigs, pub songs, and even cover versions of pop songs.

The group is led by Technical Sgt. Julia Brundage who is excited about their first tour. "I started this group in 2007 with a passion for Celtic music. I am honored as a member of the armed forces to be able to share this type of music with the American public," Brundage said. The U.S. Air Force's only bagpiper, Technical Sgt. Adam Tianello, will be appearing with Celtic Aire as well. As a member of The U.S. Air Force Band's Ceremonial Brass, he regularly performs ceremonies and high-level functions at Arlington National Cemetery and other venues in metropolitan Washington, D.C.

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 U.S. 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.

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 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by Airmen stationed around the globe. Each member is proud to represent all Airmen, whose selfless service and sacrifices ensure the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America.

This inaugural tour will take these Airmen musicians through Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. For more information about Celtic Aire and links to the group's free, downloadable music, please visit: http://www.usafband.af.mil/aboutus/media/celticaire.asp

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