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FOR RELEASE: *Immediately through May 23, 2014*

U.S. Air Force Celtic Band takes First Tour

Who/What: Celtic Aire, the premier Celtic and folk band of the United States Air Force, will present a free public concert at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago on Friday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. This is the last performance on the group's first national tour which took them through Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., Celtic Aire is comprised of five Airmen musicians.

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 U.S. Air Force's only bagpiper, Technical Sgt. Adam Tianello, will be appearing with Celtic Aire as well. The performance is sponsored by the Irish American Heritage Center. Free tickets are available at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/631568>

When: May 23, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Irish American Heritage Center Auditorium, Chicago

INTERVIEW OPTIONS:

Members of Celtic Aire are available for in-studio or phone-in interviews and coverage before, during and after concerts. To set up interviews and/or request more information contact Technical Sgt. Mandi Harper (contact info listed above).

For more information about Celtic Aire, including photos and a link to the group's free, downloadable music, please visit: <http://www.usafband.af.mil/aboutus/media/celticaire.asp>

BACKGROUND ON CELTIC AIRE:

Formed in 2007, Celtic Aire is a subset of The United States Air Force Band's Singing Sergeants, the official chorus of the U.S. Air Force. In addition to community relations concerts in Washington, D.C., and the surrounding area, this small ensemble 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 a member of The U.S. Air Force Band's Ceremonial Brass, Technical Sgt. Adam Tianello regularly performs ceremonies and high-level functions at Arlington National Cemetery and other venues in metropolitan Washington, D.C. A native of Rochester, N.Y., his Air Force career began in 2009 as a member of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

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. 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.

For more information about The United States Air Force Band, please contact Sergeant Harper (listed above) or visit their website: www.usafband.af.mil

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