

The Band

Formed in 2005, Songs for Ceilidh combine Irish, Scottish and Canadian Maritime Celtic influences with American heartland roots and acoustic pop/rock. Their original music includes traditionally inspired Celtic melodies and modern narratives, with an emphasis on high energy, upbeat rhythms. Their name says it all, Ceilidh [Kay-Lee], a foot stomping, high energy party. In other words, a rip-roaring good time!

“You are never quite sure what they are going to throw in,” says a fan. “One minute they are playing ‘Whisky in the Jar’ and the next the fiddle is belting out the solo from ‘Stairway to Heaven’. It makes for a very interesting show!”

The four band members each bring their own specific influence. Hailing from Canada, Scott sings and plays the acoustic guitar, bodhran and tin whistle. Bryan plays fiddle with a blend of American and Celtic styles, sings backup and plays guitar. Chuck keeps the music moving with his steady twelve-string and banjo strumming while Jon ties it altogether with Djembes, bongos and any other percussion the music needs. The four unite to bring a truly unique sound to the music.

The Philosophy

Songs For Ceilidh was not formed to be a cover band. Their interpretation of traditional Celtic classics owes more to Cape Breton influences than it does to traditional Irish. While respecting the original music, their arrangements reflect a modern sensibility and desire to ‘keep it moving’! Their ever growing body of original works reflects this same balance of tradition and innovation.

While they bring a solid repertoire of traditional Celtic classics, don't expect to hear 'Danny Boy' or 'Irish Eyes'. Lively and fun is the emphasis. Upbeat classics and originals, with the occasional love song or ballad, provide a sound which appeals to all. "We're looking for people to enjoy themselves as much as we do! That's what it's all about!"

The Resume

Since 2005, Songs For Ceilidh has become local favorites in Massachusetts. Performances include the Worcester Irish Festival, the Worcester St. Paddy's Day Parade, and the 2008 Worcester Flag Day Festival. They have also performed in numerous town concerts and local pubs and been featured on the Internet, local radio and television.

The Music

In 2009, Songs For Ceilidh released their first full length CD "Beneath the Waves". Highlander Radio called it "...a swell of deep-sea musical Celtic heaven...ten tracks of Celtic bliss." In 2008 Songs For Ceilidh's demo CD was released. Two of the songs, 'Jolly Rover' and 'The Catch', both became most requested songs in the month of April on Highlander Radio. On St. Paddy's Day, 2008, the Band's performance at Mickey Cassidy's Irish Pub was recorded and selected tracks are available at www.SongsForCeilidh.com. Today, the band is actively writing and preparing for their second CD.

For more information about the band or to book an engagement please email at info@SongsForCeilidh.com or visit our web page at www.SongsForCeilidh.com.

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