

# 2012 Immersion Weekend, Flagstaff, AZ, April 19-22, 2012

**Ceud Mìle Fàilte gu Arizona! (100,000 Welcomes to Arizona!)**

**IMMERSION 2012 TO BE HELD IN FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA**



An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach (ACGA) is pleased to be jointly sponsoring its 15th Annual Scottish Gaelic Immersion Weekend with the **Northern Arizona Celtic Heritage Society** ([www.nachs.info](http://www.nachs.info)) This is an exciting experiment in conducting the event together with a local organization, and we're looking forward to an excellent event. This will be the first ACGA Immersion Weekend ever held in Arizona. The dates are April 19-22, 2012. A summary of the schedule is shown below.



The immersion weekend is a unique opportunity for learners of Scottish Gaelic to come together with more advanced and native speakers in both a classroom setting and informal gatherings. Whether you are a new learner with no experience or an advanced speaker, the immersion weekend will provide opportunities to speak Gaelic in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

We'll likely have informal afternoon, or at least evening events on arrival day, Thursday, April 19th. We'll have a full schedule of classes, workshops, and special events all day on Friday and Saturday, and morning sessions on Sunday, April 22. Extracurricular activities will include a cèilidh on Saturday evening.

## Our Teachers



**Advanced Class: Michael Mackay** began studying Scottish Gaelic in 1997 and has become fluent through the help of ACGA-sponsored events and through the teachers and native speakers he has met through the organization. He has appeared on the BBC *Radio nan Gaidheal* station for occasional news interviews on *Aithris na Maidne* and the *Coinneach Mòr* program, and contributes to the Internet podcast program *Gaelcast*, together with Liam Cassidy and Ed Bradshaw. Michael has been teaching Gaelic to students across the country, both on behalf of ACGA and via Skype on the Internet. We're especially proud of him, though, for his second-place finish in the Traditional Singing competition at last year's Royal National Mòd of Scotland.

**Intermediate Class: Muriel Fisher** has brought the Gaelic language into the lives of more than a thousand students using her lively style of teaching. She is a native speaker from the Isle of Skye, who founded the Tucson Gaelic Institute in 1983 and developed her own two year Gaelic language learning program -available on Amazon. Currently she teaches at the University of Arizona and at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig's summer short course program. Muriel conducts classes online, as well. She works with the Linguistics Department at the University of Arizona on a National Science Foundation grant studying the intricacies of Gaelic. You may also hear her from time to time on BBC Reidio nan Gaidheal.



**Beginning Class: Scott Morrison** has been studying Gaelic for over eight years. His teachers have included: Nick Freer, Liam Cassidy, Michael MacKay, Angus MacLeod (of Cape Breton), and Gillebride MacMillan (of South Uist).



Mr. Morrison has been teaching Gaelic through the Atlantic Gaelic Academy for the past two years and has been teaching his four children Gaelic since he started learning. An accomplished musician, Mr. Morrison teaches percussion and Celtic Traditional music in his studio called Rimshots. In particular, he teaches the Bodhràn, the Tin Whistle, the Bones, and the Spoons. Mr. Morrison also sings many Gaelic songs (learned from Gillebride) and won the men's traditional singing contest in the US National Mòd in 2011. Mr. Morrison has also won numerous awards at previous Mòds for Gaelic poetry writing, poetry recitation, and story telling including the coveted Argyll Cup for outstanding scholarship three times.

Mr. Morrison has also appeared as a workshop teacher and/or cultural presenter at many Celtic festivals in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania and spent two weeks at the Gaelic College in Cape Breton in 2006 teaching the Bodhràn.

## Our Venue: Holiday Inn Express, Flagstaff, Arizona

<photo goes here>

<text goes here, including contact information>

## Event Schedule

Thursday 4/19	Friday 4/20	Saturday 4/21	Sunday 4/22
<i>Travel-In Day</i> [PHX arrivals between 12:00pm – 6:00pm]			<i>Travel-Out Day</i> [PHX departures no earlier than 12:00pm]
Shuttle from Phoenix Registration 2-7 pm	Full Day of Language Classes	Full Day of Language Classes	Morning Language Class (optional)
	Music and Dance workshops	Music and Dance workshops	
Casual Ceilidh/Night out	Dinner	Banquet/Ceilidh	Shuttle to Phoenix

- Banquet on Saturday at Weatherford Hotel
- We hope to bring short workshops on Friday and Saturday on Bones/Spoons, Ceilidh Dance, Celtic percussion and Gaelic song which will be open to the public.

## Registering for the Event

You'll find the registration form, including all costs and special arrangements, here.

(It's also available from the navigation bar to the left).

For easiest registration, you can file it out and email it to the registrar (instructions are in the form) and pay using PayPal.

Or, if you prefer ordinary mail, just print the form, fill it out, and mail it in with payment. Instructions are in the form.

We hope to see you there.

## Other Information

<information regarding local area, transportation arrangements, etc. goes here>

**Watch this space** for information updates, including teachers, special events, and transportation information.

## For Additional Information

For information about registering for the event, contact Rudy Ramsey, Registrar, at [rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com).

For other information about the event, the venue, the local area, etc., contact either of:

- Brent Abbott at [babbott@sst-us.com](mailto:babbott@sst-us.com) or call 602-284-7997 or
- Scott Morrison at [sammallets@netzero.net](mailto:sammallets@netzero.net)