

For immediate release:
Tuesday June 16, 2009

Contact: Allison Knuppel, 414.332.1170, ext. 176
aknuppel@dominicanhighschool.com

Dominican Students to Travel to Ireland For Culture, History, and Sightseeing

WHITEFISH BAY - Dominican students will embark on Wednesday, June 17th, on a week-long tour of Ireland to experience Irish theatre, music, art, history and culture. The trip was organized by the DHS Irish Cultural Club *Deoraíocht Páistí*, moderated by Mr. Christian Tomsey.

Key to the experience is a group of dedicated student musicians who will both hear and play Irish traditional music and entertain Irish crowds with American and Canadian tunes as they travel from town to town. The band, christened *Aislin Aoiffe* or "Dream Life" in Irish, consists of William and Nathan Bredeson, Katie Bolan, Anna Herzfeld, Mary Linn, Jenna Cava, Peter Grau, Janis Cava, Rachel Zembrowski and N'Jameh Camara. Janis, Rachel and N'Jameh will not be traveling to Ireland, but dedicated time and effort to help the rest of the band raise money for the trip.



The Dominican High School Irish Music Club was founded by students who wanted a new outlet for their musical talent and who have a strong interest in Irish and Celtic music. After approaching Mr. Tomsey, an English teacher at Dominican, the group decided to form a culture club with the eventual goal of traveling to Ireland to learn more about the culture. In October of 2008, the band began rehearsals during lunch hours at Dominican, and by February, they were performing their first "gig" at Paddy's Irish Pub on the East Side. Since then, the band has performed several shows and has added Cape Breton and Scottish tunes to their repertoire.

In total, twenty-nine students and five adults will make the journey via an Aer Lingus flight to Dublin out of O'Hare in Chicago. The trip is lead by several teachers and staff members: Christian Tomsey, Dave Gnadt, Sr. Vicki Wuolle, Amy Kryzkowski, and Bryn Van Beek. The tour is lead by Mr. John Gleeson, a center coordinator at UWM and an Irish native and professor of Irish history.

Travelers will begin in Dublin, and then travel to Tralee and Dingle, then to Galway and the Aran Island of Innis Mor before returning to Dublin for the return flight on June 25th. The final night will be spent in a restored Irish castle -- Cabra Castle, now a hotel in the north midlands.

A send-off will be held at Dominican High School at 12:45 on June 17th.

WHITEFISH BAY, Wis. –

Dominican High School is a leader in secondary education, providing young men and women with a quality, Catholic college-preparatory education in a supportive, nurturing environment. Founded over 50 years ago by the Sinsinawa Dominicans and based in Whitefish Bay, Wis., Dominican's diverse population draws students from more than 50 grade schools and four counties across southeastern Wisconsin.

###