

May 27, 2009
PRESS RELEASE

**THE BATON ROUGE IRISH CLUB ANNOUNCES
THE FIRST ANNUAL
BATON ROUGE IRISH FILM FESTIVAL
AND ASSOCIATED IRISH EVENTS**

The Baton Rouge Irish Club is proud to announce the first annual Irish Film Festival to be held at the Manship Theatre in downtown Baton Rouge on Saturday, June 13 from noon to 10:30 PM. An exciting day of entertainment will include the showing of three highly acclaimed films about Ireland and the Irish people including *The Wind That Shakes the Barley*, *In America* and *Rat*. In addition there will be lively music and dancing performances with groups such as Danny O'Flaherty, Celtic Balladeer, the Muggivan's School of Irish Dance and Na Cait Dubh Bagpipe and Drum Band beginning at noon. Tickets are \$8.50 for each film showing which includes food and entertainment between films, along with a cash bar. Tickets are on sale at manshiptheatre.org or by calling 225-344-0334.

In addition to the films and entertainment at the Manship Theatre, the festival will continue on at 10:30 Saturday night with music by North Channel at the Red Star Bar, 222 Laurel Street in downtown Baton Rouge.

On Sunday, June 14, a showing of the popular classic film made in 1944, *The Fighting Sullivans*, will be open to the public at no charge at the USS Kidd Museum, 305 River Road in downtown Baton Rouge, at 2:00. This patriotic, emotional WWII melodrama recounts the true story of five close-knit brothers who served and died together at Guadalcanal. Refreshments will be served following the movie.

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The Irish experience does not end with the week end. Award winning Irish

short films will be shown at Phil Brady's Bar and Grill at 4848 Government Street on Monday, June 15 beginning at 6:30. No charge for the event but not appropriate for children.

Topping off the festivities will be the ever popular Bloomsday Celebration on Tuesday, June 16 from 6:30 to 9:00 at the Baton Rouge Gallery, 1442 City Park Avenue. Bloomsday is celebrated annually to commemorate the life of Irish novelist, James Joyce, and the fictitious events in his novel *Ulysses*. The story takes place in Dublin during a single day, June 16, 1904. The word Bloomsday is derived from the name of the central character in the book, Leopold Bloom. The first Bloomsday celebration took place in Dublin in 1954. Activities will include music, readings, and a short play based on an excerpt from Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist As a Young Man*. Refreshments and wine will be served. There is no charge for the event.

For more information contact the Baton Rouge Irish Club at bririshclub.com or bririshfilmfestival.com.

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