

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Anne Marie Geary 602.864.2355| annemarie.geary@azirish.org #IrishChristmasCastle

Fourth Annual Christmas at the Castle held at the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library Saturday Dec. 8th, 6pm-10pm 1106 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004

PHOENIX, Ariz. - The Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library is once again hosting an old fashioned Christmas celebration with our gorgeous Irish Castle as the backdrop on Saturday, December 8th from 6-10pm.

Join us under the twinkling lights of the Courtyard (Clos) and listen to live music performed by Celtica! Chorale, Far From Home, and the Arizona Coleen, Rose and Shamrocks; sample some delicious hot cocoa or tasty dishes from a local food truck; and participate in family activities including games, story time with Mrs. Claus, holiday crafts, face painting, and photo opportunities with Father Christmas (Santa Claus) in An Holla Mór (The Great Hall). Take the opportunity to admire and cast your vote for your favorite tree in our affiliate and cultural center Christmas tree decorating contest. This year, we will also have an ugly sweater contest, so come wearing your best ugly holiday sweater and enter to win! Our bar will also be open to purchase beverages.

Come, relax, and enjoy some Christmas peace surrounded by the beautiful holiday décor. We hope to see you on December 8th to enjoy some old-fashioned Christmas magic at the foot of an Irish castle. Thank you to the Caledonian Society of Arizona for their help in organizing this year's event and for bringing our special guest, Nessie the Loch Ness Monster!

Purchase your tickets online for Christmas at the Castle at: http://www.azirish.org/christmas-at-the-castle/

Tickets to the event are:

Adults (over 16): \$10.00 – includes 3 tickets to use towards activities Kids 11-16: \$5.00 – includes 2 tickets to use towards activities Children 10 & Under: free

Additional activity tickets can be purchased at the door for \$1.00 each.

We believe the holiday season is about giving! This year we are proud to be partnering with Vitalant (formerly United Blood Services) to save lives. Sign up now to give blood and receive free admission for 2 adults and two kids to either Christmas at the Castle or our Winter Solstice Celebration and a free 10-inch pizza from Streets of New York Pizza!

Direct link:

http://www.bloodhero.com/index.cfm?group=op&step=2&opid=854898&opidh=82CD559D96CCD72B28CA6DC1F6F61DCC&idt=43418.6414583 or go to bloodhero.com and use the sponsor code "IrishCultural"

Funds raised will provide and improve access to dynamic Irish culture, arts and education for people of all ages and backgrounds.

To learn more, visit www.azirish.org/, or call us at (602) 258-0109.

The Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library are located at 1106 North Central Avenue in Downtown Phoenix.

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The mission of the Irish Cultural Center is to provide a link between the people of Arizona and the people of Ireland and other Celtic cultures. The goal of the McClelland Library is to make accessible a comprehensive collection of materials on Ireland and the Irish diaspora on the role of Irish-Americans in Arizona and the Western United States. The Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library are divisions of the Irish Cultural & Learning Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, and are owned and maintained by the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department.