



An Cuairtear Ceòlmhor

U.S. National Mòd Welcomes Scottish Gold Medalists

Joy Dunlop, Iain MacLean to attend 24th U.S. National Mòd in Ligonier, Pa., Sept. 9-11

Scottish Gold Medalist Joy Dunlop



An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaga is delighted to welcome special guests **Joy Dunlop** and **Iain MacLean** to the 24th U.S. National Mòd next month in Ligonier, Pa.

Fàilte dhan dùthaich!

Joy and Iain won the prestigious Gold Medal competition at Scotland's Royal National Mòd last year in Caithness. They are the latest in a long line of award-winning Scottish Gaelic singers to attend the U.S. National Mòd as our

guests and as ambassadors for An Comunn Gàidhealach and the Royal National Mòd in Scotland.

We are also delighted to welcome adjudicator **Beathag Mhoireasdan** of the Isle of Lewis and Glasgow back to the U.S. for her fourth ACGA Mòd.

Joy, who hails from Connel, Argyll, is a Gaelic learner and veteran of Scotland's National Mòd. She won the gold medal last year after four previous attempts in the finals. She also was

(continued on next page)

Mòd Registration Materials

Everything you need to register and prepare for the 24th annual U.S. National Mòd Sept. 9-11, 2011, is being sent with this electronic edition of An Cuairtear Ceòlmhor.

- * Competition rules and procedures;
- * A reservation form for room and board at the Antiochan Village and the Mòd Banquet & Cèilidh;
- * A registration form for the competitions; and
- * An easy reference table for the competitions and all required materials.

Return the completed registration and reservation forms to ACGA Mòd, 3860 Dumfries Road, Catlett, VA 20119. Or scan and send them as an attachment to mackay@progeny.net.

We hope to see you in Ligonier! *Tapadh leibh.*

(continued from front page)

one of two adjudicators last November at Mòd Canada in Ottawa.

Joy released her solo album *Dùsgadh* (Awakening) last year and was nominated as Gaelic Singer of the Year at the 2010 MG Alba Scots Trad Music Awards and won the “Tradition Award” at the 2010 Fatea Awards.

Joy spent several weeks this summer studying Gaelic culture in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and we’re looking forward to her visit to the U.S.

Iain, originally from Waternish on the Isle of Skye, lives in Bearsden, Glasgow. He won the men’s gold medal last year in his first attempt at the prize.

He has a long connection to the Mòd, however. His wife, Kirsteen Grant, won a gold medal in 1964.

Joy and Iain are the latest in a long line of special guests welcomed by the U.S. National Mòd and ACGA stretching back to the first U.S. Mòd in 1988. Since 1996, those guests have included Scotland’s Mòd gold medalists. Norman MacKinnon joined us in Ligonier that year, and was followed by Alastair Barnett and Joanne Murray in 1997 at our 10th annual Mòd.

An Cuairtear Ceòlmhor

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Editor: Liam Ó Caiside

Contact: liam@gaidheal.com

Beathag Mhoireasdan Returns to U.S. Mòd

ACGA is pleased to welcome **Beathag Mhoireasdan** back for her fourth stint as adjudicator at the U.S. National Mòd.

Beathag grew up in Uig on the isle of Lewis completely immersed in the culture of the Gaels, not having even heard English as a child. She brings a host of talents to the Mòd, many of which she directly employs as our adjudicator.

She has many years as an accredited teacher of Gàidhlig, singing, and drama, for Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Bearsden Academy, Strathclyde, and Glasgow, to name a few. She is an accomplished singer, having been asked to perform for such venues as the Vancouver Mòd and venues such as Rathlin Island, the Rudolstadt Music and Dance Festival in Germany, and various programs for the BBC in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

She has adjudicated at the the Royal National Mòd, the Pan-Celtic Festival, and the Vancouver Mòd in British Columbia, Canada.



Beathag Mhoireasdan.

Mòd Naiseanta Aimeireagaidh 2011, An Comunn Gàidhealach, America
Twenty-fourth Annual Mòd
Ligonier Highland Games, Idlewild Park,
Ligonier, Pennsylvania — Saturday, September 10, 2011

Competition Rules and Procedures

General Information:

Awards: For those competing in the Mail-in competition and not present at the Mod, the adjudicator's comments, your cassette tape and awards will be sent to you by mail after the Mòd. Those taking part in the Poetry and Song competitions will receive their awards at the Mòd. *Competitors who have previously won cash awards or scholarships are not eligible for those awards again. Competitors who have won gold medals in a category for 2 consecutive years will not be eligible for that award the following year.*

Housing And Other Information: The Mòd Committee has arranged for housing at a modest cost in a nearby Conference Center (see reverse of registration form). Information on local area accommodations is also available on request. Weekend schedules, maps, and other information will be sent to participants before the Mòd.

I. SPEECH / TRANSLATION/ WRITING COMPETITIONS

A. Rosg: Prose Mail-In: Upon receipt of your registration, the Registrar will send you instructions on how to download the Mòd 2011 materials, especially prepared for this year's competitions by Beathag Mhoireasdan from the website <http://usmod.wordpress.com/>. Arrangements can be made to provide the texts, instructions, on a CD. Translate the required text into English and record on an audio cassette your reading of the spoken text in Gaelic. Write the required piece in Gaelic for your level, **double spaced**, using typewriter or computer if possible.

*New beginners will be asked to simply copy out and read a Gaelic text. (Translation included.)

Airmail this material to: Beathag Mhoireasdan, 23 Thornwood Drive. Glasgow. G11 7TS postmarked by August 15.

B. Bardachd: Original Poem (Mail-In) To be eligible for this special award, competitors must write an original poem in Scottish Gaelic and submit it by mail to the adjudicator with an English translation. The poem may be also used at the Mòd poetry reading competition. Mail your original poem and translation **to Beathag Mhoireasdan, as detailed above.** No additional fee is required.

C. Aithris Bardachd: Poetry Recitation at the Mòd

Poem of Choice:

1. Verses of a song may be used as the selection. However, the same song cannot then be used in a Song competition the same year.
2. Selections should not run more than three (3) minutes.
3. Selections are most meaningful if performed with a brief introduction /translation.
4. Although competitors are not required to memorize their selections, they should do so to the extent possible. Notes may be used, and it is recommended that these be handy should they be needed.

A copy of the poem and English translation must be mailed to:

Cathleen Mackay, 3860 Dumfries Rd, Catlett, VA 20119, no later than Saturday, August 31.

D. Sgeulachd: Story-telling at the Mòd: Tell a story in Gaelic, from memory - it must be a traditional story in order to be eligible for the David MacRitchie award for storytelling.

II. SONG COMPETITION AT THE Mòd

A. Co-fharpaisean an órain (Basic Song Competition)

Registration and Categories:

Competitors may enter either one or two of the following song categories **a-c**. Competitors may sing only one song per category. Competitors may sing either a selection from the Mòd 2009 CD or one from another source. Competitors should mail the text, music (if available) and an English translation for each song of choice to: **Cathleen Mackay, 3860 Dumfries Rd, Catlett, VA 20119, no later than Friday, August 31.**

Selections should be in Scottish Gaelic and sung unaccompanied. Finalists are required to include one song they have not presented at a previous ACGA Mòd. Selections should not run more than (3) minutes. Competitors should memorize their songs. Use of notes is permitted, though this may detract from a competitor's final score. A brief introduction/translation is encouraged, but not required. Singers will be awarded points for both music and Gaelic.

a. Prescribed: Oran mall agus Oran tàlaidh (Slow song or lullaby) "Iain Ghlinn Cuaich" for the women, "Gruagach òg an fhuilt bhàin" for the men. Words and music provided. A recording of the written music will be available if required. A recording of the words being spoken will also be provided. If a competitor chooses a self-

select song for the Slow Song category, he or she will not be eligible to be a finalist.

b. *Puirt-a-beul* (Mouth Music): Songs intended to accompany dance.

c. *Oran obrach* (Work Song): Songs intended to accompany work such as rowing, waulking the tweed, spinning or weaving.

d. *Oigridh* (Youth): For competitors 17 and under, perform one song from any category. Young competitors may, if they wish to be considered among the finalists, register as adults.

B. *Crìochaichean* (Finalists - if selected)

To be considered for this category, a competitor must sing two songs in the Basic song competition.

A competitor who has won first place in this competition for two years in a row is not eligible to compete as a finalist the following year. The Adjudicator will select top scorers in the above categories to deliver a third song for the finalist competition. This song may fall under any category.

C. *Bacaidhean* (Restrictions)

Professional musicians are not eligible to enter the competitions but everyone is encouraged to contribute their talents through performance at the Mòd banquet and ceilidh.

III. GROUP SONGS, Unison Singing

(Gaelic study groups, newcomers, and family members are especially invited to participate!)

A) *Orain luadhaidh*: Waulking Songs

Traditional Women's songs from Scotland and/or Men's Milling Songs in the Cape Breton, Nova Scotia tradition. Participants: 4 to 6. Present one or two songs at the waulking table, in the traditional manner (up to 6 minutes total).

B) *Orain obrach, puirt-a-beul, agus òran mall*: Group Singing: Work Songs (Except Waulking), Mouth Music, or Slow Songs.

Participants: Two or more. Sing one or more songs in ONE category below (Up to 5 minutes total).

- 1) Traditional songs used for work, such as reaping, rowing, milking, spinning, etc.
- 2) Songs traditionally sung as Mouth Music, suitable for dancing.
- 3) Slow songs, such as Love Songs, Laments, etc.

Group Song Rules:

- 1) Group singing will be in unison (everyone singing the melody together) but with solos included where that is the traditional format (as in waulking songs, or call and response), or in a group's desired arrangement of other songs.
- 2) Competitors may sing with only ONE group in each category (A or B).
- 3) No singer may present the SAME song as a solo at the Mod in more than one category.

III. Choral Singing

Ten to thirty singers, singing in four-part harmony, singing “Tir nam beann àrd” (provided on request—email mackay@progeny.net for materials).

NOTE: A late fee of \$5 will be charged for materials submitted after the specified deadlines. Late registrations may be refused.

Reservations for the Mòd Weekend

24th Annual U.S. National Mòd

Beathag Mhoireasdan, Adjudicator, at the Ligonier Highland Games

Friends of Scottish Gaelic culture, Gaelic language students, singers and musicians—join us in welcoming our guests from Scotland to ACGA’s Mòd Weekend, September 9-11, 2011, at the fine conference center in the highlands of Pennsylvania. This year’s adjudicator is Beathag Mhoireasdan; guest artists, Joy Dunlop and Iain G MacLean, Gold Medal singers from Scotland’s Royal National Mòd. Make reservations now for the Mòd—a great Fall getaway! ACGA members may also order the Mòd materials.

Cut out this page and fill out front and back for registration and reservations!

Mod Banquet Reservations — Historic Ligonier Tavern Saturday night, September 10, 2011: Adults, \$27 Children under 12, \$10 (selection from children’s menu)

Cash bar, Sliced Roast Beef, Baked Nantucket Whitefish, garlic mashed potatoes, green bean Almandine, salad, coffee, tea.

Conference Center Lodgings—Cost is *Per Person*

Includes Friday dinner, 2 nights lodging (Sept. 9-10), 2 breakfasts, ceilidhs, Sunday workshop, and lunch (Sept 11). Room reservations are on a first come/first serve basis, especially where sharing rooms is involved.

Adult Single, \$235 Youth (age 11-18), \$50
 Adult Double, \$175 Child (age 5-10), \$20 (in room w/2 adults)
 Adult Triple, \$150 Children under 5, free (in room w/2 adults)
 Adult Quad, \$140

You may pay the cost in full or place a \$30 deposit on each **adult** reservation. (Deposit not required for Youth and Child reservations.) Payment in full is due August 31. Your reservation is subject to cancellation if full payment is not received by this date.

	Quantity	Each	Total
Banquet <input type="checkbox"/> # of Adults _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Beef # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> # of Children _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Fish # _____			
Lodging <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Double <input type="checkbox"/> Triple <input type="checkbox"/> Quad # of Children _____ Age(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Deposit (if applicable) \$			
Mod Materials \$14 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ACGA Membership (\$35)			
Donation			
Competitor Fees —\$10 per competitor. Enter as many competitions as you wish for the one \$10 fee!			
T-Shirt —\$18 Medium-Large / \$20 XL/XXL			
Total Enclosed	-----	-----	
Balance Due by August 31	-----	-----	

Banquet Place Card Names: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Room Requirements: _____

Send form and check payable to ACGA-Mod in \$US to: Michael Mackay, 3860 Dumfries Rd, Catlett, VA 20119

ACGA Mod Naiseanta Aimeireagaidh 2011 Registration

Name: *(To be completed by competitors and non-competitors)*

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Prov: _____ Country: _____

Zip/Post: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Competitor Registration: Complete this side of the form to register for **all** competitions, both mail-in and at Ligonier. When your registration is received, you will be sent competition rules and materials. **Note:** Adult competition fee is \$10.00 per person (including each member of a group song or drama) regardless of number of competitions entered. Children 18 and under are free. *Fill in the previous side with total competitor/attendee fees.*

Mod Lodgings/Banquet: If you wish to make reservations for Ligonier lodgings and Mod banquet, *fill in the reverse side.*

Name of Competitor	Age	Level of Gaelic Study	Prose, Poetry	Group Song and Drama	Solo/Group Song Type
	<input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Youth <input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Gaelic Starter <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> Prose (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Original Poem (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry Recitation (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Sight Reading (Mod)	<input type="checkbox"/> Waulking (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Group Song (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Choir (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Drama (Mail-in)	<input type="checkbox"/> Solo Group: <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Air <input type="checkbox"/> Work <input type="checkbox"/> Puirt
	<input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Youth <input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Gaelic Starter <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> Prose (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Original Poem (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry Recitation (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling (Mod)	<input type="checkbox"/> Waulking (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Group Song (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Choir (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Drama (Mail-in)	<input type="checkbox"/> Solo Group: <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Air <input type="checkbox"/> Work <input type="checkbox"/> Puirt
	<input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Youth <input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Gaelic Starter <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> Prose (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Original Poem (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry Recitation (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling (Mod)	<input type="checkbox"/> Waulking (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Group Song (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Choir (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Drama (Mail-in)	<input type="checkbox"/> Solo Group: <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Air <input type="checkbox"/> Work <input type="checkbox"/> Puirt
	<input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Youth <input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Gaelic Starter <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> Prose (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Original Poem (Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry Recitation (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling (Mod)	<input type="checkbox"/> Waulking (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Group Song (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Choir (Mod) <input type="checkbox"/> Drama (Mail-in)	<input type="checkbox"/> Solo Group: <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Air <input type="checkbox"/> Work <input type="checkbox"/> Puirt

Competitors:

Group song competition - please state the name of the group and region:

Drama competition - please state the name of the participants:

Rules Queries: Nick Freer, Ph. 703 836-5654
 Neacalban1@aol.com
 Registration Queries: Mike Mackay, 540 788 4708
mackay@progeny.net

Mòd Naiseanta Aimeireagaidh, 2008
An Comunn Gàidhealach, America, Cathleen Mackay
amum44@gmail.com

Mòd Naiseanta Aimeireagaidh, 2011

A Chàirdein Chòir a' Mhòid (*Dear Friends of the Mòd*):

What a wonderful opportunity our 24th Mòd will give us all to meet up with old friends and make new ones.

A great time to listen to native Gaelic speakers, fluent learners, and adventurous newcomers tackling Gaelic songs, stories and poems in competition and at cèilidhs. A great time to soak up as much Gaelic as you can in a friendly, non-classroom environment. A great time to be part of a Gaelic community – without the cost of a roundtrip airfare to Scotland!

We will be having Beathag Mhoireasdan back as our adjudicator this year. Those of you who met Beathag during her many trips as adjudicator will want to return for another chance to meet this remarkable Gaidheal.

Both Gold Medalists from Scotland's Royal National Mòd will be attending our event. This year, we will have the honor to welcome the male and female medalists, Joy Dunlop and Iain G MacLean, brought to us courtesy of An Comunn Gaidhealach in Scotland.

Putting on the U.S. National Mod requires funds (over and above what competitor fees bring in and is budgeted by ACGA) to house our overseas guests, pay our adjudicator, arrange for prizes, etc. Thanks to the generosity of our donors in past years, the Mòd Committee has managed to keep accounts in the black, but just barely.

We welcome donations to support our efforts to continue holding Mòd Naiseanta Aimeiragaidh. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. For \$35 or less, you can be a Caraid (friend) of the Mòd; for \$36-\$50, a Laoch (champion); for \$51-100, a Gaisgeach (hero); and for more than \$100, a Tighearna or Bantighearna (lord or lady). Those donating \$200 or more will be elevated to Rìgh (king) or Ban-rìghinn (queen)! At least as far as we're concerned ...

The Mòd Committee hope you will be able to join us in Ligonier, or if not, that you will consider making a donation. Please mail all donations to:

ACGA Mòd
PO Box 103069
Denver, CO 80250
USA

Leis gach deagh dhùrachd

Cathleen MacKay

Cathraiche (Chair),

Mòd Naiseanta Aimeiragaidh 2011



***A Mòd t-shirt?
Abair snasail! Now
that's fashionable!***