



**Starting Things Off Right**  
***Friday night "Roots and Branches" concert***  
***sets tempo for BCMFest 2012***

Youthful energy usually abounds at the BCMFest Friday night kick-off concert, and this year is no exception. "Roots and Branches," which takes place January 6 from 7-9 p.m. at Club Passim in Harvard Square, will give a fun, fresh take on the music of Scotland and Ireland, and its diasporic communities in Appalachia, Quebec and Cape Breton, presented by some of the most dynamic young musicians, singers and dancers in Boston's Celtic music scene.

A diversely talented house band of Eden Forman (fiddle, vocals), Abbie MacQuarrie (fiddle, feet), Jefferson Hamer (guitar, vocals), Neil Pearlman (piano, mandolin) and Nic Gareiss (feet), will be the anchoring force of the concert. They will welcome a number of special guests, including fiddlers Kimberley Fraser, Emerald Rae and Hanneke Cassel, singer and multi-instrumentalist Grace Van't Hof, and Irish stepdancer Siobhan Butler -- what's more, concert co-organizers Forman and MacQuarrie add, there will be "some secret 'rad' musicians joining in as well, so you don't want to miss it."

Tickets for the Friday night concert are \$28, \$25 for Passim members. Hold onto your ticket stub — when the concert is over, you can head down the street to The Atrium (50

Church Street, 4th floor) and use it to get free admission to the Boston Urban Ceilidh, BCMFest's Celtic dance party.