



7th Annual Boston Celtic Music Fest
January 8 and 9

Don't Just Sit There...

BCMFest 2010 has plenty of participatory events

Traditional music and dance is not just something to watch and listen to – it's made for joining in.

The Boston Celtic Music Fest has always tried to find ways to get audiences involved, and in response to requests for more such opportunities, will offer several events at the 2010 festival built on participation, not performance.

•**Boston Urban Ceilidh**, Friday, January 8, 8 p.m., Springstep, Medford: Always one of BCMFest's most popular features, the "BUC" is an evening of Irish, Scottish and Cape Breton social dances set to a rocking, high-energy beat: Think "contra dance meets mosh pit." All dances are taught beforehand, so it doesn't matter if you've never tried them before. And don't worry about finding a partner – there'll be plenty of them around.

•**BCMFest Singalong: All Chorus Songs, All the Time**, Saturday, January 9, noon, Club Passim: Guaranteed, every song sung here will have a part for you. Come sing some old favorites, or learn new ones.

•**Session with Barbara & Robert McOwen**, Saturday, January 9, 1 p.m., Club

Passim: If Scottish tunes are your thing, then pull up a chair and play along with Barbara and Robert.

•**Open Irish session**, Saturday, January 9, 6:15 p.m., Parlor Area, First Church: Break out the fiddles, flutes, accordions and whatever else you got.

•**BCMFest Music Makeover**, Saturday, January 9, 3:45 p.m., Attic, First Church: A panel of experts – experienced performers as well as concert organizers – will offer an ear, and sage words of advice, for individual performers and bands who want to polish up their acts, and a shot at appearing at BCMFest the following year. Last year’s winners will give a concert, which will be followed by the 2010 Makeover (sign-up information will be provided).

•**Open singing session**, Saturday, January 9, 5:30 p.m. (approx.), Attic, First Church: Raise up your voices, whether it’s classic traditional ballads, pub songs, love songs or laments.

For more on BCMFest 2010, see bcmfest.com.