



THE KIMMEL CENTER  
ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
MERRIAM THEATER

#### **Tweet It!**

Kick off St. Patrick's Day early with one of the most renowned and revered musical groups to this day! Six-time #Grammy Award winners @TheChieftains come to the @Kimmelcenter on 3/11 for an electric evening of song and dance. More info @ Kimmelcenter.org

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## **KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS GRAMMY® AWARD-WINNING IRISH FOLK BAND THE CHIEFTAINS FOR *THE IRISH GOODBYE* TOUR MARCH 11, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, February 11, 2020) – The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus presents six-time Grammy® Award-winning Irish band, **The Chieftains**, in Verizon Hall on March 11, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. for a memorable evening of music, song, and dance. Highly-recognized globally for their ability to reinvent traditional Irish music with a contemporary flair, The Chieftains are hailed as one of the most renowned and revered musical groups to this day. Their beautiful musical stylings transcend musical boundaries, blending traditional sounds with modern music for an eclectic sound that is all their own.

"We feel so lucky to kick off Philadelphia's Saint Patrick Day celebrations with the world's most celebrated Irish band," said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. "Their range is impeccable, while the vast catalogue has captivated audiences around the world – breaking down generational and geographical boundaries."

The Chieftains, made up of Paddy Moloney, Kevin Conneff, and Matt Molloy, is almost entirely instrumental and has become synonymous with traditional Irish music. Throughout their legendary career, spanning over 5 decades, The Chieftains have earned a staggering 18 Grammy® Award nominations. The band popularized Irish music across the world, inspiring interest in Celtic music

globally through collaborations with legendary performers such as The Rolling Stones, Sting, Van Morrison, and Ziggy Marley.

In 1989, the Irish government awarded them the honorary title of Ireland's Musical Ambassadors. The band was given a Lifetime Achievement Award at the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards in 2002. In 2012, marking The Chieftains' 50th Anniversary, they were awarded the inaugural National Concert Hall Lifetime Achievement Award "in recognition of their tremendous contribution to the music industry worldwide and the promotion of the best of Irish culture" at a gala event in Philadelphia hosted by The American Ireland Fund.

Regarded as cultural ambassadors, their performances have been linked with seminal historic events such as being the first Western musicians to perform on the Great Wall of China, participating in Roger Waters' The Wall performance in Berlin in 1990, and being the first ensemble to perform a concert in the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

The Chieftains are never afraid to shock purists and push genre boundaries. The trappings of fame have not altered The Chieftains' love of, and loyalty to, their roots; however, they are as comfortable playing spontaneous Irish sessions as they are headlining a concert at Carnegie Hall. After more than fifty years of making some of the most beautiful music in the world, The Chieftains' sound remains as fresh and relevant as when they first began.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: **An Evening With Bruce Hornsby and yMusic** (March 4, 2020, Merriam Theater), **Lewis Black: It Gets Better Every Day** (March 6, 2020, Merriam Theater), **Paula Poundstone** (March 7, 2020, Merriam Theater), **MasterChef Junior Live!** (March 11, 2020, Merriam Theater), **Kristin Chenoweth in Concert: For the Girls** (March 13, 2020, Verizon Hall), **Ethan Lipton & his Orchestra** (March 14, 2020, SEI Innovation Studio), and **Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles** (March 13-15, 2020, Merriam Theater).

### **Tickets**

Tickets are on sale now starting at \$52.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org), or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are also available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org) for more information

### **THE CHIEFTAINS: THE IRISH GOODBYE**

#### **Verizon Hall**

*March 11, 2020, 7:30 p.m.*

### **The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus**

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region's diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1 million guests per year and includes the **Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**, the **Academy of Music**, and the **Merriam Theater**- representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts along Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. We are home to eight esteemed Resident Companies: **The Philadelphia Orchestra**, **Opera Philadelphia**, **Pennsylvania Ballet**, **The Philly POPS**, **PHILADANCO**, **The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia**, **The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society**, and **Curtis Institute of Music**. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to

enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially-responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride, integrity, and respect. As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is our proud sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2019-2020 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org).

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