



## MEDIA RELEASE

# SEARCH FOR A TRADITIONAL MUSIC RADIO PRESENTER LAUNCHED IN CO. CLARE

**County Clare, IRELAND, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2006** – An exciting new competition aimed at aspiring radio presenters and Irish traditional music enthusiasts was officially launched in County Clare today.

Aimed at 15–20 year olds, the '**Young Traditional Presenter Competition**' will offer the winning entrant the opportunity to present their own traditional music programme on Clare FM on St. Patrick's Day 2007. The initiative, which is being hosted by Clare FM in conjunction with the Arts Office of Clare County Council and the Arts Council of Ireland, was officially launched on Clare FM's Morning Focus programme by Mayor of Clare Cllr. Flan Garvey.

Commenting on the competition, Mayor Garvey said, "*I welcome this initiative which actively seeks to promote the participation of young people in the traditional arts. I would like to congratulate the Arts Office of Clare County Council and Clare FM for initiating this competition, which I am sure will draw huge interest from around the county and will allow the county's young people to experience an important part of Irish culture.*"

"*This is a really exciting opportunity to involve young people in an area of traditional music that they may not normally have access to. It's anticipated that the competition will develop and build on an existing understanding of Irish traditional music, song and dance while also attracting new audiences*", stated Tara Connaghan of the Clare Arts Office.

According to Susan Murphy, Head of Operations, Clare FM, *“The new skills attained by the five finalists during the course of the competition will hopefully create exciting new opportunities later in life. We hope that this competition will encourage participants to pursue careers in broadcasting.”*

Ms. Murphy added, *“Following today’s launch, the search has now got underway for a dynamic young presenter to present their own traditional music programme on Clare FM on St. Patrick’s Night. The overall winner will also win a laptop. Four runners-up will each win €250 worth of vouchers.”*

The competition is aimed at 15–20 year olds from or residing in Clare. Anyone interested in participating is asked to submit entries explaining why they should be chosen along with a two minute demo tape. The demo should be recorded on cassette, CD or DAT tape and include a personal introduction to a favourite Irish music track/song/tune. Entries must be submitted to ‘*Young Traditional Presenter Competition*’, Clare FM, Francis Street, Ennis, Co. Clare before 5pm on Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007.

Further information is available from Clare FM on 065-6828888.