



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

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2010 "MUSIC IN THE AIR" ENTERTAINMENT KICKS OFF WITH IRISH DANCING AT O'HARE AND MIDWAY

CHICAGO – The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) begins its 2010 "Music in the Air" program on Friday, March 12 with Irish dancers from the Trinity Academy performing at O'Hare and Midway International Airports. The spirited performances will offer travelers the opportunity to experience a sampling of Chicago's renowned St. Patrick's Day Parade and activities downtown on Saturday, March 13.

"Our 'Music in the Air' programming is right in step with Mayor Richard M. Daley's vision to introduce Chicago's rich culture to visitors from around the world," said CDA Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "Chicago is well known for its festive St. Patrick's Day celebrations and these performances allow connecting passengers to share the experience at O'Hare and Midway."

The Trinity Academy of Irish Dance group will perform on Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. at O'Hare in Terminals 1, 2, 3, and 5, and at Midway in Concourse A near the "Battle of Midway" exhibit.

Friday's Irish dance performances are the first of several CDA "Music in the Air" events planned this year at Chicago's airports. In the coming months, the CDA will feature live music to coincide with Chicago's Gospel, Blues and Jazz music festivals.

Additionally this summer, the CDA will once again host "Taste of Chicago at the Airports", during which restaurants will offer specially-priced "Taste" portions to travelers at O'Hare and Midway, at the same time as the City's official Taste of Chicago festival in downtown Chicago.

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The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM), released in August 2009. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit www.airportgoinggreen.org.

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit www.oharemodernization.org to learn more about the OMP.

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