TG4 Gradam Ceoil Awards Concert to be Broadcast on TG4 and Worldwide On-Line, Sunday October 31st at 9.30pm

The Annual TG4 2021 Gradam Ceoil Awards pay homage to musicians who have advanced, strengthened, and preserved traditional music in Ireland. The awards ceremony now in its 24th year, will be recorded at Whitla Hall at Queens University Belfast on Sunday October 24th and will air on TG4 on Halloween night to celebrate TG4's 25th birthday .

The 2021 **Musician of the Year** will be awarded to **Angelina Carberry.** Angelina was born in Manchester but is living in Longford since the 1990's, where her family are from. Angelina started playing traditional music on the tin whistle, but quickly followed in the footsteps of her grandfather Kevin and took up the banjo. The Carberry clan are renowned musicians, her father Peter plays the button accordion, his uncle Peter the uilleann pipes, his son Noel also the uilleann pipes and Peter's grandsons Diarmuid and Kevin also play the uilleann pipes. Though her style echoes that of her grandfather, Kevin, who was a well-known player at Longford céilís and house dances, Angelina has developed a light-handed, sparkling touch on the banjo.

From Tulla in east county Clare, fiddle player, **Sorcha Costello** will be awarded the title of **Young Musician of the Year**. Sorcha's musical lineage is peerless; her mother Mary MacNamara is a renowned concertina player and her grandmother Ita's musical pedigree reached back generations.

Steve Cooney will be awarded **Composer of the Year**. Born in Melbourne Australia in 1953, he came to Ireland in 1980 and maintains his connections with the Aboriginal culture there, into which he was initiated. He has ancestral links with Tipperary, Cavan, and Galway. Steve Cooney is best known for his development of an influential style of guitar accompaniment to traditional Irish dance music which he developed in West Kerry and for which he won the National Entertainment Award with Séamus Begley in 1997.

Tyrone's **Niall Hanna** is this year's **Singer of the Year**. His grandfather Geordie Hanna, Geordie's sister Sarah Anne O'Neill, and the extended Hanna and O'Neill families ensured he was immersed in music from a very early age. Niall has embraced the wider Ulster traditional song repertoire while also developing his own song writing talents. His sense of place and family strongly influence his musical journey, and his solo work and various musical collaborations continues to bring Ulster music and song to a wider Irish and International audience.

This year's **Lifetime Achievement Award** goes to Cork native **Seán Ó Sé** who first rose to fame as a singer, singing and recording the most popular song *An Poc Ar Buille*, with Seán Ó Riada and Ceoltóirí Chúlainn back in the 60's. Since then, his voice has been recognised as one of the great voices of this country and cannot be surpassed while singing.

The Glengormley School of Traditional Music is awarded the **Outstanding Contribution Award** for 2021. Over its twenty-year history, this essential hub has nurtured countless musicians, many of whom have gone on to work professionally. The summer courses in Donegal bond young people socially and musically and instils in them a deep passion for music-making.

The full list of **TG4 Gradam Ceoil 2020** recipients reads as follows:

- **Ceoltóir na Bliana/Musician of the Year**: Angelina Carbery
- **Ceoltóir Óg/Young Musician of the Year**: Sorcha Costello
- **Cumadóir na Bliana / Composer of the Year:** Steve Cooney
- **Gradam Saoil/Lifetime Achievement**: Seán Ó Sé
- **Amhránaí na Bliana/Singer of the Year**: Niall Hanna
- **Gradam Comaoine/Outstanding Contribution**: Glengormley School of Traditional Music

Gradam Ceoil TG4 is the premier annual traditional music awards scheme and academy. An independent panel of adjudicators selects recipients each year. It is not a competition. The Gradam Ceoil recipients are presented with a specially commissioned piece by leading sculptor John Coll as well as a small stipend.

This year's awards will be presented at the Gradam Ceoil TG4 Concert in the Whitla Hall in Queen's University Belfast and Broadcast on TG4 and Worldwide On-Line on Halloween night at 9:30pm.

Ceolchoirm Ghradam Ceoil TG4 le Craoladh ar TG4 agus ar fud an Domhain ar Líne Dé Domhnaigh, an 31 Deireadh Fómhair ag 9.30pm

Le Gradam Ceoil bliantúil TG4, léirítear urraim do cheoltóirí a bhfuil an ceol traidisiúnta tugtha chun cinn, neartaithe agus caomhnaithe acu in Éirinn. Is é seo an 24^{ú} bliain den searmanas gradam, a ndéanfar taifead air in Whitla Hall in Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste, Dé Domhnaigh an 24 Deireadh Fómhair agus a chraolfar ar TG4 Oíche Samhna chun 25 bliain ó cuireadh tús le TG4 a cheiliúradh.

Bronnfar **Ceoltóir na Bliana** 2021 ar **Angelina Carberry.** Rugadh Angelina in Manchain ach tá sí ina cónaí sa Longfort ó na 1990idí, áit ar as a muintir. Is ar an bhfeadóg stáin a thosaigh Angelina ag seinm ceol traidisiúnta ach ní raibh sé i bhfad gur thosaigh sí ar an mbainseó, mar sheinn a seanathair Kevin roimpi. Tá clú agus cáil ar mhuintir Carberry ina gceoltóirí, seinneann athair Angelina, Peter, an bosca cnaipí, seinneann a seanuncail, Peter, chomh maith lena mhac Noel agus a gharmhic Diarmuid agus Kevin, na píb uilleann. Cé go bhfuil stíl a seanathar, Kevin, a raibh aithne mhaith air ina cheoltóir ag céilithe agus ag damhsaí tí sa Longfort, le brath ar stíl Angelina, tá a stíl mheidhreach bheoga féin freisin aici ar an mbainseó.

Bronnfar **Ceoltóir Óg na Bliana** ar an bhfidléir **Sorcha Costello** as an Tulach in oirthear chontae an Chláir. Tá oidhreacht shaibhir ceoil i muintir Shorcha; is í Mary MacNamara a máthair, bean atá aitheanta as bheith ag seinm ar an gconsairtín, agus téann ginealach ceoil a seanmháthar Ita i bhfad siar.

Bronnfar **Cumadóir na Bliana** ar **Steve Cooney**. Rugadh Steve Cooney in Melbourne san Astráil in 1953, tháinig sé go hÉirinn sa bhliain 1980 agus tá ceangal fós aige le cultúr na mBundúchasach ann, a ghlac isteach le Steve féin. Tá ceangal ag a shinsir le Tiobraid Árann, leis an gCabhán agus le Gaillimh. Tá aithne ar Steve Cooney as an stíl tionlacain ar an ngiotár a d'fhorbair sé in Iarthar Chiarraí do cheol damhsa traidisiúnta na hÉireann, stíl a bhfuil an-tionchar aici ar cheoltóirí eile, agus ar bronnadh an Gradam Siamsaíochta Náisiúnta air féin agus ar Shéamus Begley ina leith sa bhliain 1997.

Is ar **Niall Hanna** Thír Eoghain a bhronnfar **Amhránaí na Bliana**. Tá Niall báite sa cheol ó bhí sé an-óg - rinne a sheanathair Geordie Hanna, deirfiúr Geordie, Sarah Anne O'Neill agus muintir Hanna agus muintir O'Neill cinnte dearfa de sin. Ghlac Niall go fonnmhar le stór amhrán traidisiúnta Uladh i gcoitinne, fad a bhí sé ag cur lena chumas amhráin a chumadh chomh maith. Téann mórtas áite agus mórtas muintire go mór i gcion ar cheol Niall, agus tríd a shaothar aonair agus na tionscadail éagsúla ceoil ina mbíonn sé páirteach, bíonn ceol agus amhránaíocht Uladh á gcur chun cinn aige os comhair lucht féachana agus éisteacha níos leithne in Éirinn agus ar fud an domhain mhóir.

Bronnfar **Gradam Saoil** na bliana seo ar an gCorcaíoch ó dhúchas **Seán Ó Sé** a bhain cáil amach ar dtús ina amhránaí. Ba é *An Poc Ar Buille*, a chan sé agus a thaifead sé le Seán Ó Riada agus Ceoltóirí Chualann sna 60idí, an t-amhrán ba cháiliúla dá chuid. Ó shin i leith, glactar leis go bhfuil a ghlór ar cheann de na glórtha is binne in Éirinn, glór nach a bhfuil a shárú le fáil agus é i mbun na fonnadóireachta.

Bronnfar **Gradam Comaoine** na bliana 2021 ar **Scoil Ceoil Thraidisiúnta Ghleann Ghormlaithe**. Ní féidir an méid ceoltóirí a cothaíodh sa mhol riachtanach seo le fiche bliain anuas ó bunaíodh é a chomhaireamh, agus d'éirigh le go leor acu dul leis an gceol go gairmiúil. Leis na cúrsaí samhraidh a bhíonn ar siúl i nDún na nGall, tugtar deis do dhaoine óga bualadh lena chéile go sóisialta agus ceangal a dhéanamh tríd an gceol, agus cothaítear dáimh ar leith leis an gceol iontu.

Is é seo a leanas an liosta iomlán de bhuaiteoirí **Ghradam Ceoil TG4 na bliana 2021**:

- **Ceoltóir na Bliana**: Angelina Carbery
- **Ceoltóir Óg na Bliana**: Sorcha Costello
- **Cumadóir na Bliana:** Steve Cooney
- **Gradam Saoil**: Seán Ó Sé
- **Amhránaí na Bliana**: Niall Hanna
- **Gradam Comaoine**: Scoil Ceoil Thraidisiúnta Ghleann Ghormlaithe

Is é Gradam Ceoil TG4 príomhscéim agus príomhacadamh bliantúil na ngradam ceoil traidisiúnta. Is painéal moltóirí neamhspleách a roghnaíonn na buaiteoirí gach bliain. Ní comórtas é. Bronnfar píosa dealbhóireachta leis an dealbhóir mór le rá, John Coll, a coimisiúnaíodh go speisialta, ar na buaiteoirí chomh maith le suim bheag airgid.

Is le linn Cheolchoirm Ghradam Ceoil TG4, a bheidh ar siúl san Whitla Hall in Ollscoil na Banríona i mBéal Feirste agus a chraolfar Oíche Shamhna ag 9:30pm, a chuirfear gradaim na bliana seo i láthair.