

For Immediate Release
Friday, February 13, 2026

**BIS Announces its annual play 2026 “Marrying Mike”
a three-act comedy by Irish playwright Jimmy Keary**

IN BRIEF

Everyone is invited to buy a ticket to the Benevolent Irish Society’s popular annual play. “Marrying Mike”, a three-act comedy by Irish playwright Jimmy Keary, is included in the first annual PEI Irish Festival. Shows are Friday – Saturday, March 20 – 21 and 27 – 28 at 7:30 pm, with matinees on Sunday, March 22 and 29 at 2:30 pm, onstage in the BIS wheelchair-accessible Irish Cultural Centre, 582 North River Road, Charlottetown. To purchase tickets, visit [Locarius.io](https://www.BenevolentIrishSocietyofPEI.com) online. For more information about the play, and to see the schedule of the Irish Festival events Island-wide, visit <https://www.BenevolentIrishSocietyofPEI.com>.

IN FULL

Mary Ellen Callaghan, President of the Benevolent Irish Society of PEI, is pleased to announce that this year’s Irish play offering, “Marrying Mike” is a comedy by playwright Jimmy Keary of County Westmeath, Ireland, and that it is included in the 1st annual PEI Irish Festival. The Irish play is produced by Mary Ellen Callaghan, directed by PEI theatre veteran Paul Whelan, with assistance from stage manager Barbara Rhodenizer, and is performed by some of the Island’s best community actors.

The entire action of the play takes place in the living room of middle-aged Crofter and Farmer Mike Fogarty (played by Vernon Campbell). Elderly bachelor Mike, who has land and money despite appearances to the contrary, suddenly announces that he is looking for a wife. Mike’s scheming friend Barney O’Toole (played by Thane Clarke) decides that his sister Colette (played by Shelley Tamtom) would be an ideal candidate. Both Barney and Colette are determined that it will be a very short marriage. Mike’s friend Kate O’Sullivan (played by Laura Stapelton) discovers the scheme and rushes to the rescue. But Mike is a hard man to save from himself. “I encourage everyone to see the comedy to enjoy inevitable laughter, much needed during the not-so-fun winter months on the Island,” says Callaghan.

Shows are Friday – Sunday, March 20 – 21 and 27 – 28 at 7:30pm, with matinees on Sunday, March 22 and 29 at 2:30pm, onstage in the BIS wheelchair-accessible Irish Cultural Centre, 582 North River Road, Charlottetown.

Tickets are \$25 per person, plus tax and fees, and are only available via Locarius.io, an Island-based online ticketing company. “Marrying Mike” tickets are for general seating. It is recommended that tickets are purchased in advance as soon as they become available as events quickly sell out and tickets are not sold at the door. Once purchased, tickets are sent as an attachment via email from Locarius.

For more information about the play, and to see the schedule of the PEI Irish Festival events Island-wide, visit <https://www.BenevolentIrishSocietyofPEI.com>.

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