## Canadian group takes stage in Holyoke

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Phillips County Arts Council will kick off its 2009-10 season on Saturday, Oct. 3 at the Holyoke High School auditorium with "Everything Fitz."

The Fitzgerald family presents a high-energy fiddling and percussive step dancing of four of Canada's finest young musicians. With roots in the Canadian old-time fiddle tradition, their unique stage show combines a variety of musical styles. Everything from Celtic, bluegrass and western swing to entertaining novelty tunes and choreographed step dance routines will be presented.

Julie, Kerry and Tom are all champion fiddlers and provide intricate three-part fiddle harmonies as well as solo improvisations on fiddle and mandolin. Additional instrumentation includes Pat on percussion along with parents Pam and Paddy providing accompaniment on piano and bass guitar. An audience favorite is the award winning step dancing routines performed by all four siblings.

The band has toured across Canada and the United States performing in theaters, on festival stages, at fairs and exhibitions as well as corporate and fund raising events plus outreach programs in schools.

The family has recorded two CD's as well as a DVD of one of their live shows. These spirited young performers are noted for their polished performances and provide wholesome, captivating entertainment for all ages, but particularly for families.

Hank Brasby and Joy Schafer "Old-Fashioned Sing-Along" will begin the evening at 7 p.m. with "Everything Fitz" taking the stage at 7:30 p.m.