

Béar committed himself to the Queen and her cause from the start – his passion for his Queen led him to throw himself wholeheartedly into pursuit of his studies in order that he become the example of all the positive qualities of the Bairdér that the other students would strive to emulate.

His training over the two years at the Coláiste was divided into several areas:

- He had classes and studies with the rest of his crew – his Criú, as the units of Bairdér are named - (Cerrallos, Dílis, Gavril, and Skáth) which focused on enhancing their ability to work together and use the strengths of each to compensate for the weakness in the others. The group spent much time together over the entire two year course of study, learning which of them should lead in different situations. Béar naturally evolved as the group leader in combat situations – both his physical prowess and his training as a soldier and tactician made him the obvious choice in this case.
- Many of his studies focused on improving his already considerable combat abilities. His affinity for straightforward, powerful fighting blends seamlessly into *KalariGund*, the Earth-focus martial arts style of Domhan. He had classes focusing on combating different kinds of opponents and fighting styles, as well as on fighting as part of units of different sizes. His intense training in this area improved his already impressive physique as well, toughening him and increasing the amount of damage he can absorb before succumbing to unconsciousness and death. He also received extra training in the tactical and leadership areas of combat, further improving his skills in these areas.
- A surprise to all, especially to Béar himself, one of the Queen's four paramour/Kings became his mentor and advisor during his studies. Bunú, the ClcochRí (Stone King), befriended Béar early in his studies and became his teacher in the art and science of politics. Béar initially entered this course of study in order to learn to make his way around the Queen's court comfortably, simply to be closer to her. He became quite adept at political maneuvering and at understanding the maneuverings of others. Though he rarely ever practiced himself, on a few occasions over the two years Máthair asked him to advise her during her weekly public hearings and during her strategy sessions with her advisors (only one of which is Bairdér). His growing friendship with Bunú is not without cost to Béar. Though the two are remarkably similar in interests as well as in their approaches to life, Béar's attraction to the woman Bunú is married to leads to strong feelings of jealousy in the big man. Béar's straightforward approach to life means he is rarely subjected to this type of conflict between his desires and his morality, and the situation is made more complicated by his friendship with the object of his jealousy.

By the end of his time at the Coláiste, the bond between himself and the rest of his Criú was cast in steel. In addition, he has learned the worth of the rest of the Bairdér – the Queen's judgment in the matter of character has been flawless when it comes to those offered this opportunity. While some don't make it through the training, it is never because of lack of character.

The Bairdér, both those established and those in training, spend much of their 'free time' at Airgead's – a pub in the outer city that has become a favored place for students at the Coláiste to gather for fellowship and friendly, often very animated, discussions of topics of study at the school, different instructors (even while said instructors are present, as they often are at Airgead's), and the relative merits of just about everything. Airgead McFionnuar, the proprietor, is remarkably tolerant of the idiosyncrasies of the students, and they've become almost his sole clientele. Béar spent even more time here than most, due to the discomfort of being around the school and court when he was not directly involved in his studies.

The suite in the dormitory where the party spent their first night becomes theirs on a permanent basis when they accept positions in the Coláiste. Even after their studies end and they graduate, this suite will belong to this Criú until they disband voluntarily. There are rooms for as many as 7 in the suite, which is also the maximum number in any one Criú. Béar's Criú spend a lot of time here, studying together and discussing their experiences over the two year course of study.

Graduation is a simple ceremony, held in the public Throne Room with the Bairdér who are in town in attendance. It is a public affair, so anyone who wishes can attend but it is a rare event when more than 10 or 15 people besides the Bairdér and the honorees families attend.