THE IRELAND FUNDS

FALL/WINTER 2018

Connect

PROGRESS THROUGH PHILANTHROPY

Colin Farrell Celebrates The Ireland Funds 43rd Annual New York Gala

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Connect

Dear Fellow Donors,

Welcome to the first exclusively digital edition of *Connect* magazine. Our Young Leaders at our summit earlier this year suggested we produce the magazine electronically on a once off trial basis. This experiment is to see if we can communicate all that is happening in The Ireland Funds in a more direct and environmentally friendly way. As an organization that is driven by and listens to all its donors, we would grateful for all your feedback on this experiment as we plan future editions of *Connect.*

Other than the delivery of the magazine, nothing else has changed. We are delighted to share with you examples of the effect your generosity is having on outstanding projects such as Age Concern and The Native Woodland Trust. These, and scores of others, are making such a difference across Ireland and Irish communities worldwide. We are also delighted to report on our Worldwide Conference in June which took place in the splendor of Adare Manor in Co. Limerick. We are most grateful to the 150 key supporters from across the world who joined us.

The high point of that gathering was meeting many of the projects that you support and learning just how that support is being applied and the impact it is having. Those projects visited by you, our donors, ranged from Music Generation to the Children's Grief Centre. We also focused strongly on planning for the future of this great organization and exploring how we can adapt to the changes in Ireland's worldwide diaspora and in philanthropy itself which recently, has become increasingly dynamic. With 40-plus years of experience and with a mission as relevant as ever, we are planning for our 50th anniversary. Again, any insights you might like to offer would be very welcome indeed.

As ever, and as you will see in *Connect*, your support of our events form the lifeblood and identity of our community of donors. Thank you for this and for your commitment to Ireland at a time when it counts most.

Kind regards.
John Fitzpatrick
Chairman, The Ireland Funds America

Connect

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The Ireland Funds is a global philanthropic network established in 1976 to promote and support peace, culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland, and Irish-related causes around the world. With chapters in 12 countries, The Ireland Funds has raised over $600 million for deserving causes in Ireland and beyond, benefiting more than 3,200 different organizations.

Progress
Through
Philanthropy

www.irelandfunds.org

ON THE COVER

In May of 2018, the New York Gala honored Golden Globe-winning actor **Colin Farrell** and **Stephen R. Howe, Jr,** US Chairman & Americas Managing Partner of EY. The evening raised $3 million for the work of The Ireland Funds with Irish charities and causes. *Photo: Sasha Gitin.*

For copies of The Ireland Funds America's audited accounts, go to www.irelandfunds.org

We welcome your comments about The Ireland Funds and Connect *magazine. Please send all correspondence to the Editor.*

THE IRELAND FUNDS

thank you

Progress
Through
Philanthropy

The generosity of our donors has changed thousands of lives across the island of Ireland and around the world. The Ireland Funds has never wavered in its commitment and core mission: to deliver private philanthropic support to worthy causes that promote peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development. On behalf of the organizations doing extraordinary work, we thank you.

"When we made our funding application for support from The Ireland Funds we were clear in our focus. By supporting the very best charities committed to transparency accountability and delivering impact we would help drive this sector forward. And that has been our strategy ever since. Without the support of The Ireland Funds, this road map would not have been possible." — LUCY MASTERSON, CEO, CHARITIES INSTITUTE IRELAND

"With support from The Ireland Funds, our Parent Child Home Program (PCHP), an innovative, home based literacy and parenting program, has helped hundreds of parents to develop the confidence and skills to support their children's language, literacy and numeracy development." — DR. JOSEPHINE BLEACH, DIRECTOR, EARLY LEARNING INITIATIVE AT THE NATIONAL COLLEGE OF IRELAND

"As CEO of CMRF Crumlin I would like to extend thanks to The Ireland Funds, and our supporters. Thank you for sharing our vision that every sick child deserves every chance, and for making an impact for children's health today, tomorrow and forever."

— LISA-NICOLE DUNNE, CEO OF CMRF CRUMLIN

Below is a sample of the outstanding organizations your generosity has assisted.

174 Trust
1st Port of Dublin Sea Scouts
Abbey School
The Abbey Theatre
Ablevision Ireland
ACET (AIDS Care Education & Training) Ireland
Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
Adare Recreation & Community Complex
Age Action Ireland
Age Concern Causeway
Age Concern Network
Aisling Irish Community Center
Aisling Return to Ireland Project
Alcohol Forum
Alliance Française Dublin
ALONE
Alzheimer Society of Ireland
Amal Women's Association
Amber - Kilkenny Women's Refuge
American Irish Historical Society
An Cosán
An Taisce
An tUltach
Anam Cara
Angel Eyes NI
Archbishop Marsh's Library
Ardoyne Holycross Boxing Club
The Ark
Arthritis Ireland
Ashoka
AsIAm
Athlone Sub Aqua Club
Atlantic Challenge Ireland
Baboró International Arts Festival for Children
Backstage Theatre
Ballina/Killaloe Sports & Community Facilities Development Co.
Bantry Development and Tourist Association
Bantry Hospice Project
Bantry Inshore Search & Rescue Association
Bantry Rowing Club
Barnardos
Barretstown
Baseball Ireland
Basispoint
Bedford Row Family Project
BeLonG To
Belvedere College S.J.
Belvedere Youth Club
Benefacts
Blackrock Castle Observatory
Blackrock College
Blackrock Hospice
Blanchardstown Traveller Development Group
Blossom Ireland
The Blue Box Creative Learning Centre
Blue Teapot Theatre Company
BlueFire
Brain Injury Matters NI
British-Irish Association
Business to Arts
The Butler Gallery
Cahoots NI
Camara Ireland
Camcor Community & Recreation Centre
Cancer Fund for Children
Cancer Support Sanctuary LARCC
Cappagh Hospital Trust
Captain Francis O'Neill Memorial
Cara-Friend
Care After Prison
Carrickfergus YMCA
Castlerea Community Arts Group
Ceiliúradh
ChangeX
Charities Institute Ireland
Charleville Castle Heritage Trust
Chernobyl Children's Project
Chester Beatty Library
Chief O'Neill Festival
Children, Adults, Parents and Autism (CAPAA)
Children's Law Centre
Children's Medical Research Foundation
ChildVision
Cill Rialaig Project
Cinemagic
CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory
Clara Family and Community Resource Centre
Clarecare
Clogherny Church
Clonard Monastery
Clonturk Community College
Cloughjordan Circus Club
Cnoc na Gaoithe
Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers
Coláiste Iognáid
Comhlacht Tithe agus Forbairt an tSuláin Teo
Community Action Network
Community Centre for Music and the Arts
The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland
Conamara Environmental Educational and Cultural Centre
Concern Worldwide
Connemara Therapeutic Riding
Conradh na Gaeilge
Co-operation Ireland
Cope Foundation
COPE Galway
Cork ARC Cancer Support House
Cork Counselling Services
Cork Foundation
Cork Penny Dinners
Cork Simon Community
Cork University Foundation
Corrymeela Community
Cox's Demesne Youth and Community Project
Croagh Community Council
Crosscare
Crossover Basketball NI
Cuan Mhuire
Cuisle Cancer Support Centre
CyberSafeIreland
CyberSmarties
Cystic Fibrosis Ireland
Daisyhouse
Damask Community Outreach
Dance Ireland
Dance Research Forum Ireland
Dance Theatre of Ireland
Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church Restoration
Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare Service
DCU Educational Trust
DCU Ryan Academy
DePaul Ireland
DIT Foundation
Diversity Sligo
Dogs for the Disabled
Dogs Trust
Donal Walsh #Livelife Foundation
Donegal Clinical Academy Trust
Donegal Family Resource Centre
Down Right Brilliant
Down Syndrome Centre
Down Syndrome Ireland
Dr Crokes GAA Club
Dress for Success Dublin
Druid Theatre Company
Dublin International Piano Competition
Dublin Jewish Board of Guardians
Dublin Jewish Progressive Congregation
Dublin Simon Community
Dublin Talmud Torah
Dublin/Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team
Dunbrody Famine Ship
Easi Access Transport
Eastern Harps GAA Club
Educate Together
Elemental Festival Team
Emerald Isle Immigration Center of New York
Emerald Warriors RFC
Empowering People In Care (EPIC)
Enable Ireland
Enactus Ireland
Energy Action
Enniscorthy Rugby Club
Extraordinary Bodies—Carlow Arts Festival
The Festival of Curiosity
Fettercairn Youth Horse Project
Field Day Collective
Fighting Words
Flax Trust
Focus Family Resource Centre
Focus Ireland
FoodCloud
Foróige Donegal
Foróige Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship
Forum for Cities in Transition
Foxford Community Garden
Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC)
Friends of St Lukes
Friends of the Cancer Centre
Friends of the Derry Walls
Front Line
Funky Fish Youth Café
Future Voices Ireland
Gaelic Players Association
Gaelscoil Longfoirt
Gaelscoil na gCeithre Máistrí
Gaisce - The President's Award
Galway Autism Partnership
Galway Community Circus
Galway GAA
Galway Hospice Foundation
Galway Rape Crisis Centre
Galway University Foundation
The Gate Theatre
Genio
GET Local
Giving Northern Ireland
GIY—Grow It Yourself
Glasnevin Cemetery Museum
Glenstal Abbey
GOAL
Gonzaga College S.J.
Good Shepherd Cork
Greater Dublin Independent Living
Grow in Ireland
Haven
Hawk's Well Theatre
Headstrong
Helium Arts
Hello World Foundation
Helpful Steps
High Kirk Social Action in our Community
Holy Family Boxing Club
Holy Trinity Abbey
Holywell Trust
The Hunt Museum
Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland
The Icon Walk
In Your Space NI
Inner City Enterprise
Institute of Cultural Studies
Institute of Technology Tralee
Integrated Education Fund
Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh
Ireland US Council Foundation
Ireland's Great Hunger Museum
IRFU Charitable Trust
Irish American Cultural Institute
Irish American Heritage Center
Irish American Writers & Artists
Irish Ancestry Research Centre
Irish Architectural Archive
Irish Arts Center
Irish Autism Action
Irish Cancer Society
Irish Chamber Orchestra
Irish Children's Museum
Irish Community Rapid Response
Irish Council for Civil Liberties
Irish Cultural Centre
Irish Film Festival
Irish Film Institute
Irish Georgian Society
Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind
Irish Horse Welfare Trust
Irish Hospice Foundation
Irish Immigration Center of Philadelphia
Irish Immigration Pastoral Center
Irish International Immigrant Center
Irish Martial Arts Academy
Irish Men's Sheds Association
Irish Museum of Modern Art
Irish Pages
Irish Pastoral Center
Irish Red Cross
Irish Repertory Theatre
Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
Irish Traveller Movement
Irish Wheelchair Association
Irish Youth Foundation
iScoil
Islamic Foundation of Ireland
Iveagh Trust
Jack and Jill Children's Foundation
Jesuit Refugee Service Ireland
Jewish Home of Ireland
Jigsaw
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
John F. Kennedy Library Foundation
John F. Kennedy Trust
Junior Achievement Ireland
Kenmare Carnegie Arts Centre
Kenmare Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Kerry Film Festival
Kerry GAA Centre of Excellence
Kerry Hospice Foundation
Kerry Parents & Friends
Kerry Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre
Kilkenny Arts Festival
Killaloe Community Development Co.
Killarney Immigrant Support Centre
Kinship Care Northern Ireland
Knocknagoshel Over55's Social Club and Women's Group
Lady Gregory Autumn Gathering
The Lantern Community Project
LASALLE College of the Arts
Lauragh Community Council
LauraLynn Ireland's Children's Hospice
Leitrim Calling
Lewis Glucksman Gallery
Lifestart Foundation
Lime Tree Theatre
Limerick Institute of Technology
Listowel Writers' Week
The Little Museum of Dublin
Longford GAA
Longford Women's Link
Lyric Theatre
Mae Murray Foundation
Mahon Blackrock Local Education Committee
Make-A-Wish Ireland
Making Connections
Mallow Day Care Centre

Maria Goretti Foundation
Marie Curie - Belfast
Marie Keating Foundation
Marina Dalglish Appeal
Mark Pollock Trust
Mary Immaculate College
The Mary Robinson Centre
The Mater Foundation
Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation
The Mendicity Institution
McAuley Place
Meath GAA
Meningitis Research Foundation
Mental Health Reform
Merchants Quay Ireland
Mercy Law Resource Centre
Michael McCarthaigh's Juvenile GAA Club
Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership
Midlands Science
Midlands Simon Community
Milford Care Centre
Miltown Malbay Development Company
Mobility Mojo
Move4Parkinson's Foundation
Moy Hill Community Farm
MRC Community Arts and Crafts Group
MS Ireland
Music Generation
Mustard Seed Ireland
MyMind
Na Píobairí Uilleann
Narrative 4 Ireland
Nasc
National College of Ireland—Early Learning Initiative
National Gallery of Ireland
National Library of Ireland
The National Trust
National Women's Council of Ireland
Native Woodland Trust
New York Irish Center
Newpin NI
Newry City AFC Special Olympic Club
The Next Step
No Mind Left Behind
North Offaly Community Development
North West Clare Family Resource Centre
Northend United Youth FC
Northern Ireland Children's Enterprise
Northern Ireland Hospice
Northern Ireland Phoenix Organisation
Not So Different
NUI Galway
NUI Maynooth
NYU Glucksman Ireland House
O'Hanlon Park Boxing Club
Omeath District Development Company
One in Four
Open Door Trust
Origin Theatre Company
Ossory Youth
Our Lady's Hospice
Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund
PeacePlayers International
Peter McVerry Trust
Philanthropy Ireland
Pieta House
The Playhouse
Poetry Ireland
The Princess Grace Irish Library
The Pushkin Trust
Queen's University of Belfast Foundation
Raheny Community First Responder Group
Ramelton Town Hall Development Co.
Ranelagh Multi-Denominational School
Rathbarry National School
Rathfriland and District Regeneration Co.
Rebel Wheelers
ReCreate
Rights Watch UK
The RISE Foundation
The Rory McDonagh Trust
Rory McIlroy Foundation
Roscommon County Board GAA
Roscommon Women's Network
Rosemont Secondary School for Girls
Rossinver Community Development Co.
Rough Magic Theatre Company
Rowing Ireland
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Royal Hibernian Academy
Royal Irish Academy of Music
Rural Area Partnership in Derry
SAFE Ireland
The Salvation Army Ireland
Science Gallery
Scoil Chríost Rí
Scoil Uí Chonaill
Self Help Africa
Senior Citizen Helpline Company
Sensational Kids
Shalom Centre for Conflict Reconciliation
Sharing Point
ShoutOut
Show Racism the Red Card
Siel Bleu Ireland
Skibbereen Active & Social Club
The Soar Foundation
Social Entrepreneurs Ireland
Social Innovation Fund Ireland
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
Solace House
Solas Project
Special Olympics Ireland
Specialisterne Ireland
The Spectrum Centre
Speedpak Group
Spinal Injuries Ireland
Spraoi agus Spórt Family Centre
St. Brigid's Church Belfast
St. James's Hospital Foundation
St. Jarlath's Court Residents' Association
St. Jarlath's Diocesan Trust
St. Luke's Home
St. Malachy's College
St. Mary's College
St. Mary's Youth & Communtiy Centre
St. Matthew's National School
St. Mel's College
St. Munchin's College
St. Patrick Visitor Centre
St. Patrick's Cathedral—Dublin
St. Patrick's Mental Health Service
St. Ultan's Childcare project
St. Vincent's Foundation
St. Vincent's GAA
Strokestown GAA
Suas Educational Development
Suttonians Rugby Footbal Club
SWAN Youth service
Tara Centre
Temple Bar Gallery and Studios
Temple Street Foundation
Temporary Emergency Accommodation Mulingar
Third Age Foundation
Thomas F. Meagher Foundation
Thoor Ballylee Development
Three Drives Family Resource Centre
Tipperary Rural Travellers Project
Together-Razem Centre
Transformative College
Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities (TCPID)
Trinity Foundation
Two Castles Amateur Boxing Club
Tyrone GAA
UCC Cork Cancer Research Center
UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business
Ulster University Foundation
The Undergraduate Awards
University College Dublin Foundation
University of Limerick Foundation
Valentia Island Development Co.
Verbal Arts Centre
Via Wings
Village Counselling Service
Vineyard Compassion
Washington-Ireland Programme
Waterford Healing Arts Trust
West Cork Music
West Cork Rural Transport
West Cork Women Against Violence Project
Wexford Festival Opera
Wexford GAA
Whitegates Community Business
Wicklow Hospice Foundation
Wicklow Travellers Group
Women For Election
Women in Business NI
Women on Air
The XLc Project
Yeats Society Sligo
Young at Art
Young Social Innovators
Youth Initiatives
Youth Work Ireland—Tipperary

music generation
MAKING MUSIC EDUCATION HAPPEN

Ireland's National Music Education Programme
A Music Network initiative, co-funded by U2, The Ireland Funds,
The Department of Education and Skills
and Local Music Education Partnerships

CONTINUING ON A HIGH NOTE

Last September

Music Generation announced the nine new areas of Ireland selected for participation in its second phase – a significant growth initiative enabled through the combined philanthropic support of U2, Bank of America and The Ireland Funds.

Within just months pilot programmes are already up and running in five of those areas, creating fresh opportunities for hundreds more children and young people to access quality music tuition in their local communities.

From a major six-county regional strings youth orchestra in the west, to whole-class singing programmes for participants in the south east, more and more music is catching on the breeze across the four corners of Ireland.

'Symphonic Waves [an initiative of Music Generation Galway County in partnership with Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture] will be a wonderful asset, not just to the young musicians of Galway County and City, but to the wider regional community, and the generations to come...'

—Hannah Kiely, Chief Executive of Galway 2020

MY MUSIC GENERATION JOURNEY...

'Music Gen to us was a stepping stone, an opening to a whole different world, because where we were from there was no 'joining groups', unless it was violence. There was no community centre, there was nothing like that. So when we met the lads at Music Gen and saw that people are coming together to create music, and they like it – they actually love it – and they're asking if we want to come back and record stuff and you're given those opportunities, that's beautiful. That's everything for someone who has nothing.' *– Hazey Haze (Limerick City musician)*

"... thanks so much to you all for giving Conor time, understanding, but most of all confidence, I didn't recognise the person he has become until yesterday, never once have I seen Conor chat to other teenagers like that, laugh and smile... I was so happy with his performance yesterday – but mostly happy with his interaction with those around him – which is nothing short of a miracle..." *– Parent, South Dublin*

MUSIC GENERATION AT THE IRELAND FUNDS CONFERENCE 2018

Earlier this summer Music Generation was honoured to play a small part in the great success of The Ireland Funds Conference 2018. On Wednesday evening, delegates received a fitting fanfare performed by a New Orleans-style ensemble of young brass musicians from Music Generation Cork City and Cork's Barrack Street Band.

The following morning, Music Generation Limerick City was thrilled to welcome delegates to its Creative Centre for a morning rich in music and song. Taking a tour through the Centre, delegates experienced youth music-making first hand and saw creativity come to life between young rappers, songwriters, rock bands and Limerick City musician-mentors.

Among those playing at the Centre were sixth class students from Corpus Christi National School, Moyross, who performed their own original song about 'turning tears into laughter' through music. They were joined by recent Music Generation 'graduates' and rappers SameD4ence, who spoke passionately about the power of music in bringing together divided communities and supporting young people even in the most challenging social circumstances.

- **48,500** opportunities for children and young people to engage in music tuition
- **400** employment opportunities, mainly for musicians
- Tuition in **800** centres across **11** tuition contexts
- **12** Instrument Banks
- Delivery of **58,500** tuition hours
- **150** different programmes offered across all genres of music
- **8,100** musical instruments for young musicians

MUSIC GENERATION
2017-2021

MUSICIANS ASSEMBLE

On Friday, 23 May 2018 more than 100 representatives from 17 programme areas assembled in Dublin City University (DCU) to take part in Music Generation's inaugural 'National Musicians' Day'.

A milestone moment on Music Generation's journey, this event marked the first ever meeting en masse of the extraordinary tutors that make music education happen for the children and young people with whom they work.

The day, which was designed in close collaboration with the musicians, sought to create opportunities for them to make new connections, share knowledge, reflect on their work, gain inspiration from colleagues, gather fresh perspectives and new ideas to energise their practice in the year ahead.

Keynote speaker, musician and composer Bill Whelan, spoke to delegates about their vital role as Music Generation musicians in inspiring and educating our next musical generation:

When, at the beginning, Bono expressed U2's aspiration he said that what they wanted to do was "really simple. We just want to make sure that everyone, whatever their background, gets access to music tuition." All of you sitting here today are not alone gifted musicians and performers in your own right, but you are also the hands-on executors of that "simple" idea...

Currently Music Generation creates some 400 employment opportunities for professional musicians in 17 counties who each week engage in transformational music-making with tens of thousands of children and young people throughout Ireland.

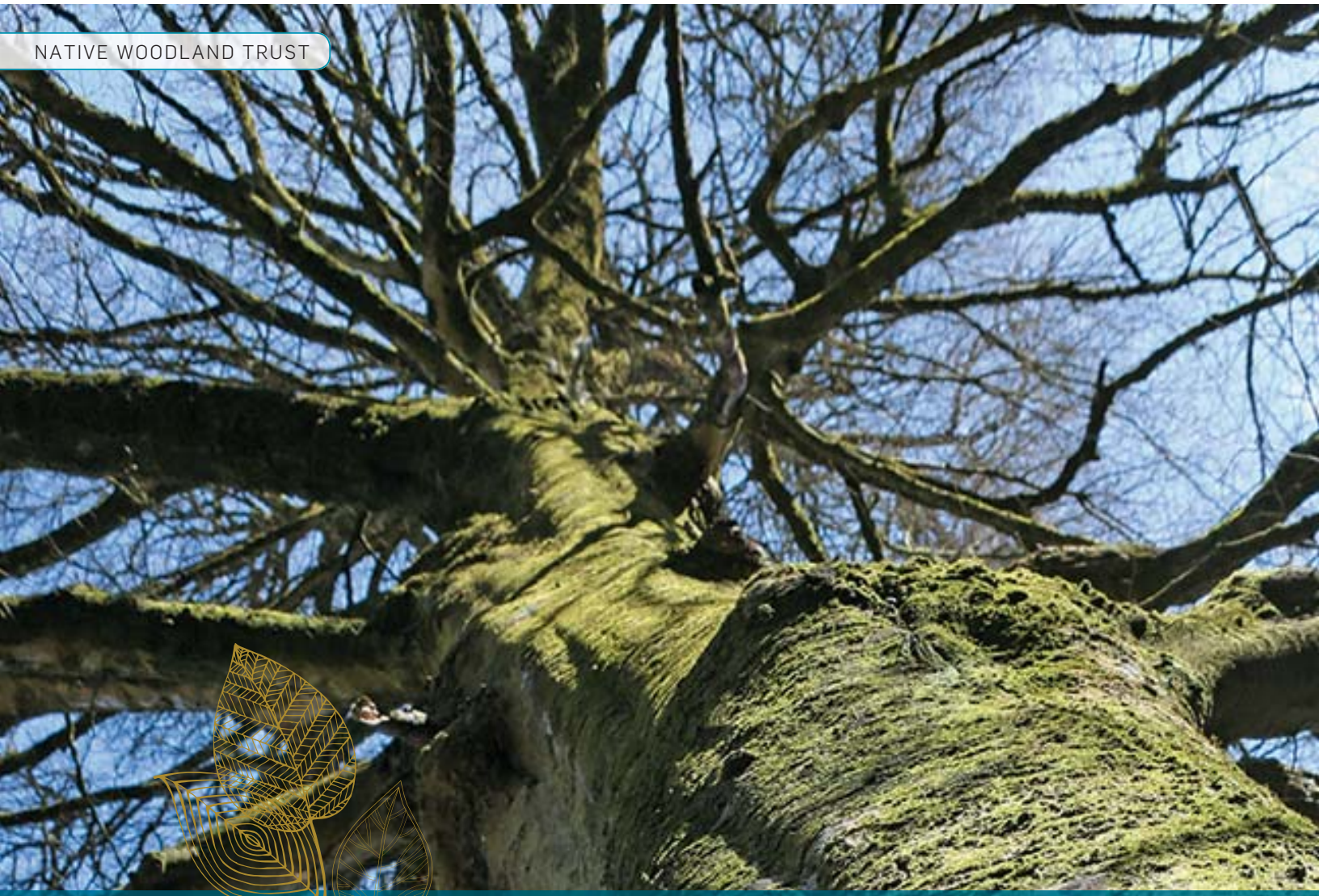
BUILDING ON PARTNERSHIP

In November 2017 the Arts Council of Ireland announced the renewal of its enormously successful partnership with Music Generation, including an investment of €530,000 over three years, to 2020.

The Music Generation/Arts Council Partnership was initiated in 2013 to create opportunities for children and young people to engage with world-class musicians and bring new dimensions to existing local programmes. Projects funded through the partnership's first phase ranged from a major choral residency for 4,000 young singers in Ireland's midlands, to an outdoor, all-ages brass and percussion extravaganza in Cork City, to a creative music-making programme for budding bands and song-writers in Donegal.

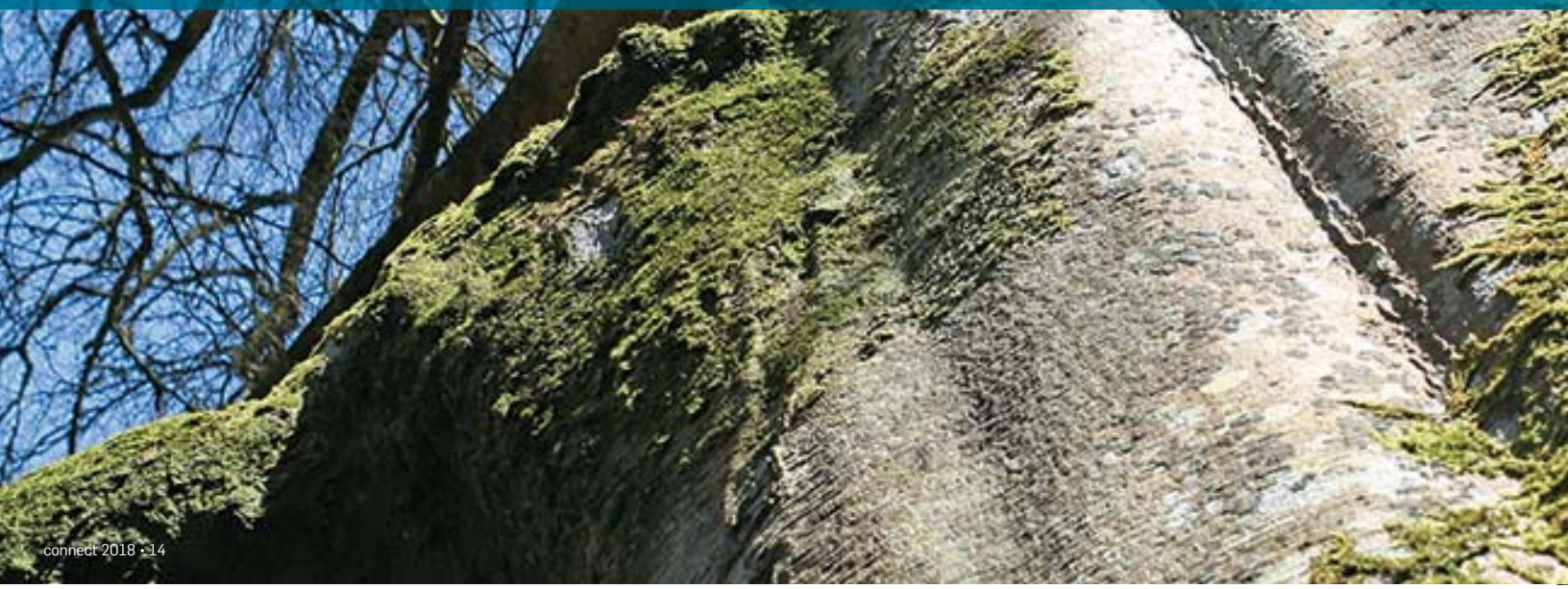
To date, the Partnership has enabled the delivery of 23 diverse residencies and projects in 12 areas of Ireland, involving participation by some 3,500 children and young people, working alongside 190 creative and performing musicians, producers, sound artists and poets.

We look forward to seeing and hearing what wonderful musical possibilities will be realised with support through the Partnership during its next exciting phase!



Native Woodland Trust

Keeping Ireland Green

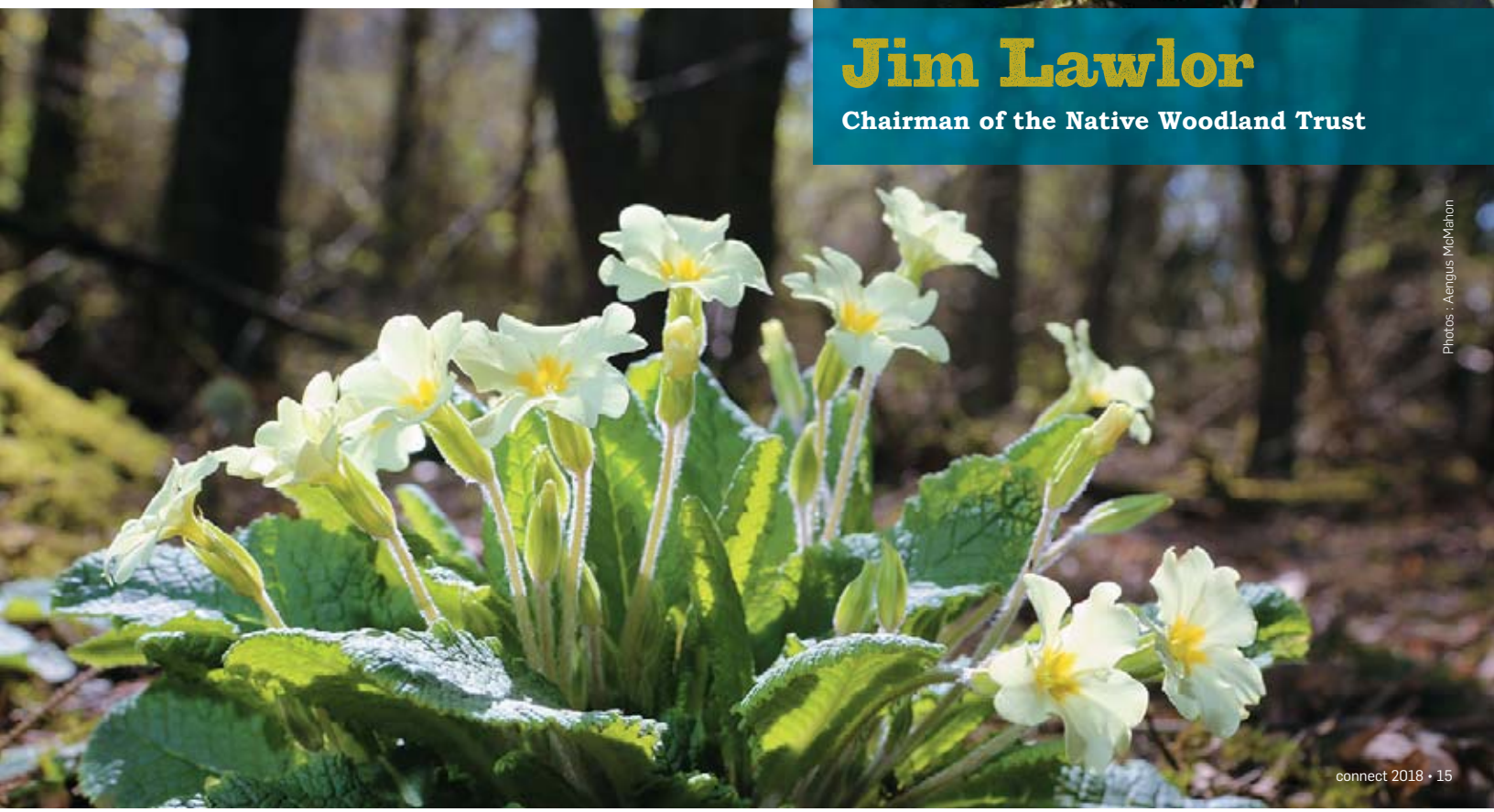


Ireland

like many places is facing environmental challenges. The Ireland Funds is supporting the Native Woodland Trust in its efforts to save and restore Ireland's forests and native species of trees. Here, Jim Lawlor, Chairman of the Native Woodland Trust, shares the importance of their work and the positive steps The Ireland Funds has enabled them to make in keeping Ireland green.

Jim Lawlor

Chairman of the Native Woodland Trust



Photos : Aengus McMahon

What's the first thing you think of when you think of Ireland? The Emerald Isle? Forty Shades of Green?

There can be little doubt that on the surface, Ireland appears to be a green and pleasant land, but in the modern vernacular—is Ireland's environment as healthy and green as it should be?

The reality might surprise you. Ireland avoided the levels of pollution associated with the industrial revolution and we still have little or no heavy industry. There are green fields everywhere, surrounded by hedgerows and picturesque untidy roadsides, full of weeds and wildflowers.

But originally, Ireland was a heavily forested island, with trees growing to the tops of all but the tallest mountains. We now have only 0.1% of our forests left—99.9% of them are gone. And with the loss of the forests went many wild animals and untold other species, along with a huge part of Gaelic culture.

Gone are our Wolves, Brown Bears, Lynx, Wildcats, Wild Boar. All of our Eagle species were extinct and have had to be reintroduced in recent years. We have also lost several species of Arctic Char (a type of fish related to salmon), all of which were unique to Ireland, due to pollution of their lakes. None of our species of Freshwater Pearl mussel (a freshwater shellfish) have bred in decades as there is not one river in Ireland clean enough to support them.

The original Irish form of writing, known as Ogham, associated each letter of the alphabet with one of the tree species of Ireland. In fact, the 8th Century Laws of the Neighborhood laid down what are probably the first written environmental laws in Europe. There were fines for cutting and damaging trees and the different species were even given importance in the same way that the Gaelic Order was structured—some trees such as Oak were considered "nobles" while others were the "commoners" of the woods. That forests were once such a large part of our culture has all but been forgotten.

Most of the depredations of our forests were carried out in past centuries, but even today, the few remaining fragments of forest are still under threat. Some are not protected by law and for those that are the penalties are so light that it is often possible to cut down a forest, pay the fine, sell the land and still make a profit.

In response to this, The Native Woodland Trust was founded by a number of concerned citizens. The Trust was setup to protect the existing forests as its primary aim. Once cut down, the nearest source of seed is unlikely to be native Irish trees and the ancient forests can never be recreated.

Our secondary aim is to replant forests where we can —using only native seed from Ireland and preferably from within a few miles.

Thanks to The Ireland Funds, we have been able to achieve successes which are rare or unmatched in environmental circles in Ireland.

Amongst our recent work, we have taken charge of an Ancient Woodland (one of the original 0.1%) in county Westmeath. We are currently bidding to purchase the surrounding land so that we can triple the size of this wood.

We have also managed to acquire a very rare river floodplain woodland in the Slieve Bloom Mountains. In the very area where the Celtic warrior Finn McCool learned to fight & hunt and in the shadow of Wolftrap mountain, we have preserved this ancient woodland and the spawning beds of the Croneen Trout. (The Croneen is confirmed by DNA sampling as unique just to the river Camcor in Ireland).

Further woodland reserves have been acquired in Co Wicklow, near Glendalough—Waterford City, County Meath, County Longford and County Donegal.

We dearly hope that these are just the beginning of the restoration of the grandeur of Ireland's forests and that, through the generosity and vision of The Ireland Funds donors', we can continue our crucial work.

About the Author

Jim Lawlor is the Chairman and one of the original founders of the Native Woodland Trust. Jim, like all members the Trust's Board of Directors, is a volunteer and donates his time to the organization.

With The Ireland Funds support of €25,000

the Native Woodland Trust attracted matching funding as well as a media partner and distributed over **20,000 trees** to schools all over Ireland.

With The Ireland Funds support of €100,000

land in the Wicklow Mountains was purchased and is now being transformed into an upland forest.

With The Ireland Funds support of €100,000

an additional **€65,000** was raised locally to enable the purchase of the rare ancient floodplain forest of Camcor in the Slieve Bloom mountains.

With The Ireland Funds support of €500,000

the Native Woodland Trust has been funded for **3 years**—including employing **2** full time staff, setting up an office and running **150** free-to-attend events for local communities all around Ireland.

Volunteers

replanting forests with the Native Woodland Trust

Camp Camilla

With help from The Ireland Funds, Camp Camilla builds friendships across community lines in Northern Ireland

Camilla Ballard has worked for more than 20 years as Director of Youth at First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, Texas. She has researched, organized and led multiple groups of Americans to Northern Ireland volunteering in cross-community work. She was the first recipient of The Ireland Funds Corboy Anam Cara Award, given by The Ireland Funds' Texas chapter, in recognition of her efforts supporting integrated education. Camilla and her husband Bill, are the proud parents of Megara Ward and Sam Ballard, both of whom have volunteered extensively in Northern Ireland.

Anam Cara: Soul Friends in Northern Ireland

BY CAMILLA ELLIS BALLARD

Growing up, my family's heritage was never discussed, so what a surprise recently when my older sister shared that one of the things our grandfather was known for was his repeated and fervent declaration that he was Irish. It was news to me. Does it explain my almost lifelong passion for peacemaking in Northern Ireland? Who can say?

In 1971, as a teenager growing up in south Arkansas, I came across a newspaper article detailing the ongoing violence in Belfast and surrounding areas. My reaction was swift and visceral. I was desperate to pack a bag, fly over and help in any way I could. In reality, I knew that wouldn't happen. I couldn't imagine that it ever would. So at 17, I began to pray for peace, thinking that would be my sole contribution toward reconciliation in a country with which I suddenly felt an inexplicable connection.

Decades passed, and in my 40s, as the new Director of Youth at First Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas, our senior pastor, Bill Carl, asked, "If you could lead our youth anywhere in the world to make a difference, where would you take them?" I sat bolt upright in my chair and without hesitating blurted out, "Northern Ireland!" He smiled and suggested I explore that notion.

From that conversation in 1996, doors gradually began to open which would give me and a community of others repeated opportunities to support the work of reconciliation. It began in earnest the year I was introduced to Netta Blanchard, who was then Director of The Ireland Funds Texas chapter. To this day, I consider her my Irish faerie godmother. Netta introduced me to Jean Kelly, founder and director of Speedwell, an environmental education program teaching respect for each other and our world to children from all backgrounds in Northern Ireland. We remain *Anam Cara*, or *soul friends*, to this day.

In 2006, our youth group was given the opportunity to volunteer for a week with Jean and her staff in Parkanaur Forest. Deep bonds were formed. Thanks to the vision and hard work of First Presbyterian youth leader, Harold Hall, 2012 saw 75 of us return to Northern Ireland, this time volunteering at Blackwater Integrated College in Downpatrick. Connecting with this school and their outstanding principal, Dr. Olwen Griffith, was again initiated by Netta Blanchard and Brian Small, a member of the Integrated Education Fund in Belfast. In 2015, our youth group returned one more time to try out a model for an American-style sports and arts camp. This was the brainchild of Dr. Griffith and two young Texas women—Jennifer Giles and Jess Skinner. The goal was to encourage friendship and fun among children and youth from all backgrounds in Northern Ireland. They named it Camp Camilla.

Where would we hold the camp? Would any families be interested in what we had to offer? And who could house our group of over 50 youth and adult volunteers? In short, Principal Amanda McNamee and Lagan College, the first integrated school in Northern Ireland, took a big chance and graciously agreed to host our experiment. A cluster of brave families registered a little over 30 children for camp that first year. And dorms at Stranmillis University College became the perfect housing solution for all those Americans.

The week proved to be a great success. But there were no guarantees going forward. The generosity of First Presbyterian Church could not be expected to continue full funding for such a large international project. And in fact, camp leadership was not expecting them to; but then who? Don't be shocked when I tell you that The Ireland Funds Texas leadership championed our cause and made both the second and third year of camp possible. In 2016, 75 campers enrolled. In 2017—we hosted more than 120 campers. This year we may have as many as 190 campers—with ever-expanding areas, including culinary arts, digital media, and crafts.

In conjunction with the camp in 2017, Charlene Echols, Dallas lawyer and volunteer at the first camp in 2015, created a leadership through service program for a select number of Northern Ireland and American youth. The "Kelly Campers", named for Speedwell founder Jean Kelly, launched with 14 youth last August. How was this possible? Through the financial generosity of those Ireland Funds folks and a scholarship program honoring Mike Corboy—my Irish faerie godfather! This June, 21 young people from both countries met in Dallas to continue the program.

"I would love to go back to my 17 year-old self and tell her, 'You're Irish. And you have no idea the adventure ahead of you.'"

The Kelly Campers were named for pioneering peacemaker and Harry McKillop Irish Spirit Award recipient, Jean Kelly. The Kelly Camper Program launched in 2017 offering opportunities for international fun, friendship and leadership development, with a distinctive American flair. Following up on that week in Belfast at Camp Camilla, 21 youth from Northern Ireland and America met in Dallas to continue the leadership through service experience. Led by staffers from both America and Northern Ireland, the campers volunteered at a variety of projects. The focus for several was young children's literacy (Mi Escuelita), clean water for the world (Paper for Water), and pediatric brain cancer research (Alex's Lemonade Stands). In the evening the group heard from a range of speakers who are making a positive difference in the world. We believe that the sky will be the limit for these young people and the difference they will continue to make in the world.

THE BLUE BOX CREATIVE ARTS THERAPY CENTRE

Life-changing intervention through the arts

There are children within the community who struggle with exposure to early childhood trauma whether that be abuse, home life that is lacking in nurture, or exposure to violence. Thanks in part to support from The Ireland Funds, Blue Box Creative Arts Therapy Centre is the first program of its kind in Europe to offer creative arts psychotherapy both in their centre and in select schools. Through play therapy, music therapy, art therapy, drama, dance, and movement therapies with trained and accredited therapists, the Centre tackles its mission to help the most marginalized and disadvantaged children progress and grow. Here, Bernadette Kenny, CEO of The Blue Box Creative Arts Therapy Centre, shares her thanks with you, The Ireland Funds donors, for making this vital work possible.

There are hundreds of children throughout Ireland trapped in a world of hurt and silence whose voices are not being heard.

But there is hope for them.

The Blue Box is a ground-breaking project that gives these children a voice, many for the first time. It's the only project of its kind in Ireland. It provides the help these children desperately need by creating a safe haven through Creative Arts Therapies (Play, Music, Art, Dance/Drama therapy). This speaks to the individual child in ways they understand and already use in everyday life, because play is the first language of every child.

Trauma deprives a child of life's possibilities. Many of our children suffer trauma in the home environment, which is traditionally a place of safety for Irish children. What is normally safe for most children is not for many of the children we support. This has created a need for Blue Box services.

The Ireland Funds' support has enabled Blue Box to offer more services to the children who are referred for Creative Arts Therapy work from the most deprived areas of Limerick.

This makes a remarkable difference to a child's therapy experience. It can mean that a child (or child and parent) can have the maximum amount of service in the academic year. This is significant in a child's healing process by helping them build a more secure relationship with the Therapist that supports their ability to process and integrate their learned experience.

To be able to offer more Blue Box services to a school that is struggling to meet the emotional and psychological needs of disadvantaged children when their role is to educate, is seen by Principals as a huge support.

Children who have been traumatized often cannot learn. Neuroscience now validates what people in Education and Therapy have known, that there is an essential need for a child to receive the kind of services Blue Box Creative Arts Therapies offer. In order for children to be fully engaged and have equal opportunity in school, home life and society, there need to be trauma-informed Intervention therapies like Blue Box.

I would like to sincerely thank The Ireland Funds and in particular thank the Donors for their foresight and compassionate action and with a spirit of great generosity in supporting and investing in this life-changing intervention for children and the future generations of Ireland.

In Gratitude,
Bernadette Kenny
CEO of The Blue Box Creative Arts Therapy Centre

What Makes Blue Box Unique?

The Blue Box is the only charity in Ireland and Europe that has dedicated its resources to child psychotherapy with family support. Since 1997, The Blue Box has worked with the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and youth in Limerick, using Creative Arts Therapy as a primary intervention response in over 16 DEIS (disadvantaged) schools, as well as with social services referrals.

It is the only charity to offer:

- Direct treatment through Creative Arts Therapy to children/youth in need of services
- A complete and comprehensive evaluation framework that supports the child, the family/school and the Therapist in a professional, transparent, responsive and dynamic structure.
- Affordable, adaptive and accessible services through the school environment.

The Blue Box Presence in Schools supported by The Ireland Funds:

- Reaches families that cannot avail of outside services and are therefore marginalized and are high priority
- Supports teachers and principals to be more effective in their mission of education
- Has designed an evaluative framework that holds accountability to the service users and stakeholders
- Is the first organization to develop Creative Arts Therapy services in Ireland for children in schools and social work

Thanks to the Donors of The Ireland Funds, Blue Box was able to offer **141 sessions** overall to **56 children** in 2017/18.

"I feel happier now. I can stand up to my sister and I don't cry anymore when I can't see my Mum in the house. I could talk about my feelings in the sessions and I feel stronger." **- Client, 9 years old**

"I would describe some children just walking around with a clenched fist in their chest. Blue Box unlocks something in them that otherwise would just be frustratingly locked. Because of trauma they have experienced, they can never open, they can never really discover who they are, they can never reach their full potential. But Blue Box gives them the opportunity to tap into that potential to be their full self." **- Principal**

"I can talk to my Blue Box music therapist. I'm listened to and my therapist understands me—she gets me." **- Client, 14 years old**

The Transformation of Clodagh

Age 9*

Clodagh was often a witness to domestic violence and substance misuse in her unstable home-life. She came to Blue Box excessively anxious and fearful. Subject to unregulated emotions and angry outbursts she was hyper-vigilant and challenged in engaging in play and developing trust.

Slowly, she became engaged in art-making and became more expressive as sessions progressed. Her creative engagement expressed her family trauma and lack of security and stability. Clodagh began to develop trust for her therapist and to incorporate more varied themes. After ongoing therapy with Blue Box, Clodagh now has developed a sense of security and began to explore referral issues symbolically with her therapist. Today she has decreased her angry outbursts, is less nervous and timid and regularly demonstrates happiness and confidence

** (names have been changed)*

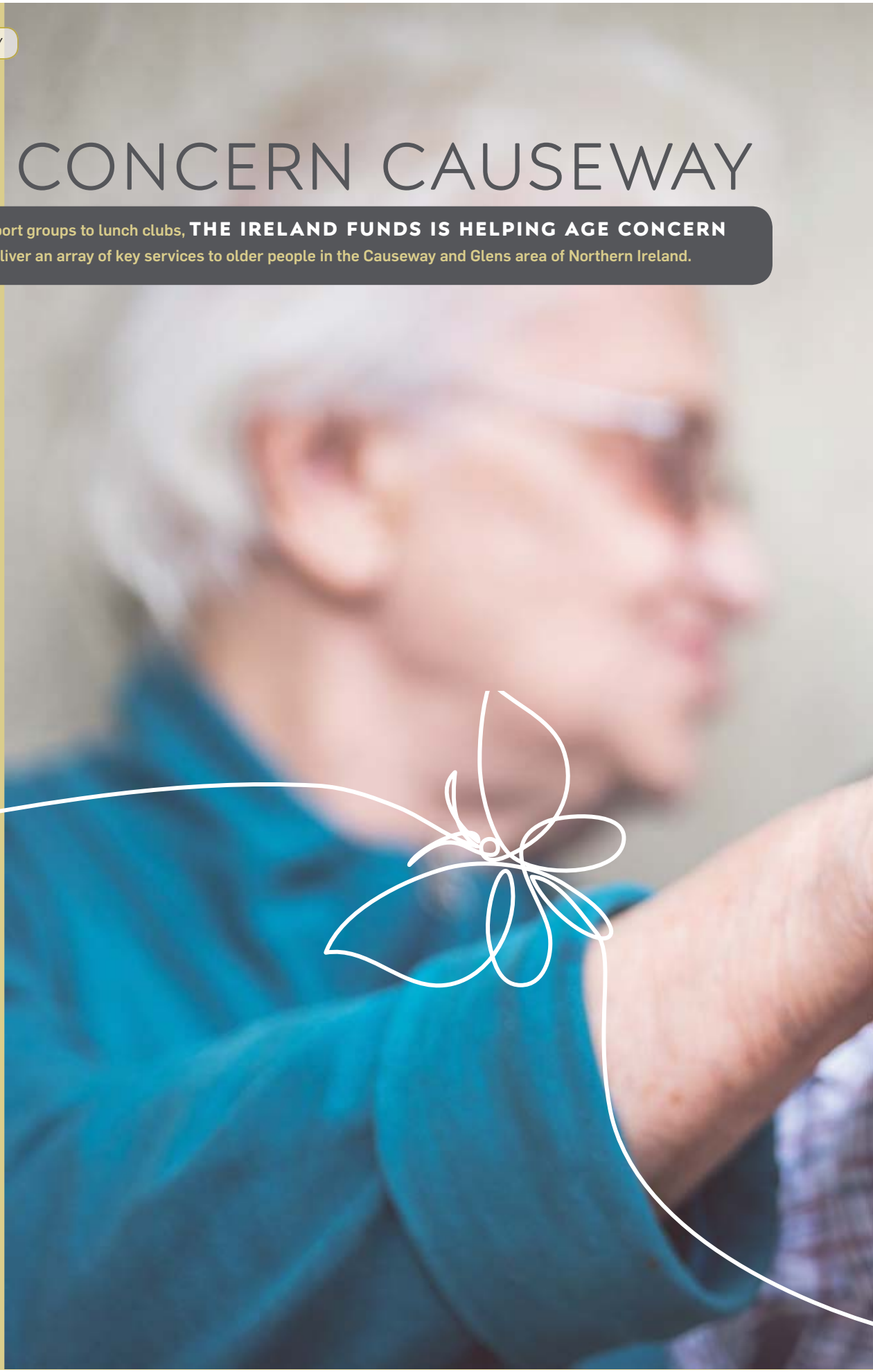
AGE CONCERN CAUSEWAY

From dementia support groups to lunch clubs, THE IRELAND FUNDS IS HELPING AGE CONCERN CAUSEWAY deliver an array of key services to older people in the Causeway and Glens area of Northern Ireland.

For over 40 years,

Age Concern Causeway has been improving the quality of life and combating the social isolation of older people in Northern Ireland. As the population continues to age, Age Concern Causeway's cross-community services are increasingly important to the local area which has a higher percentage of age 55+ residents than other areas.

"There are so many needs in our older community," explains Liz Lee, Chair of Age Concern Causeway. "Northern Ireland has reported an increase in suicide between the ages of 59 and 64 year. Each year our population is getting older so our programs are very important in keeping people engaged. The partnership we have with The Ireland Funds is so important. Without the support of our funding partners we simply could not deliver the services we do."



Age Concern
CAUSEWAY

GRANTS FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS

totalling £9490 are providing these services to improve the quality of life for older people in and around the Causeway Coast area of Northern Ireland. All activities encourage cross-community interaction.

Safe and supervised transport to support groups for vulnerable older people with dementia. This **supported an average of 8 people per session for 88 sessions**. Without this transport, the majority of members who live in rural and isolated areas would not have been able to attend.

Reading Room sessions for people with dementia. Families and carers reported that the **24 members returned in calm and relaxed state from 6 sessions** of this therapeutic program designed to stimulate memory.

A Lunch Club providing warm, **healthy meals for 20 members over the course of 10 weeks**. Members within an area of high-deprivation enjoyed meals together while also learning about additional Age Concern activities and services.

Line Dancing classes for 30 older people who attended 2 classes a week for 21 weeks. Led by an instructor, participants stayed active and connected which addressed social isolation for many.

Provision of the "Mind Matters" program for 80 people in the local community. With a focus on mental health and emotional well-being, the program offers resources to address stress and depression.

ONE OF THE SERVICES SUPPORTED BY THE IRELAND FUNDS IS AGE CONCERN CAUSEWAY'S DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP. HERE, BRENDA BURNSIDE SHARES FIRST-HAND WHAT A DIFFERENCE THAT GROUP HAS MADE FOR HER AND HER HUSBAND PHILIP.

MY HUSBAND PHILIP WAS DIAGNOSED WITH CORTICAL BASAL DEGENERATION IN OCTOBER OF 2017.

This is a very rare neurological disease which affects all aspects of the patient's life: cognition, mood, mobility and maybe more importantly, their sense of worth.

Philip worked until his 64th birthday in 2016 so he had a purpose in his life even though he was already experiencing difficulties with cognition and mobility and was also suffering from depression. We were working closely with an Occupational Therapist and she suggested that he be referred to Age Concern Causeway's Dementia Support Group.

At the time of diagnosis, it seemed to Philip that his life had ended and this further impacted on his depression. However, the group gave him a reason to get up in the morning and it took him out of the house. His depression has been reduced and in fact he was recently prescribed a different lower dose antidepressant by his doctor. She feels this is evidence that the social interaction that Philip is experiencing is having a real impact on his mental health.

Attending the group has ended a period of social isolation for Philip. He has been forging new friendships in a safe environment and has become very friendly with another member of the group. This new friend was initially hesitant about attending but through a period of building trust between the two of them, his friend now also attends the group on a regular basis. Philip takes great delight in helping others to get as much out of the group as he does. He comes home from the group and excitedly tells me about what activities they did, who he was talking to, and how his friend also enjoyed the morning. I feel that all of this is helping to sustain his language and speech as well as his thinking skills.

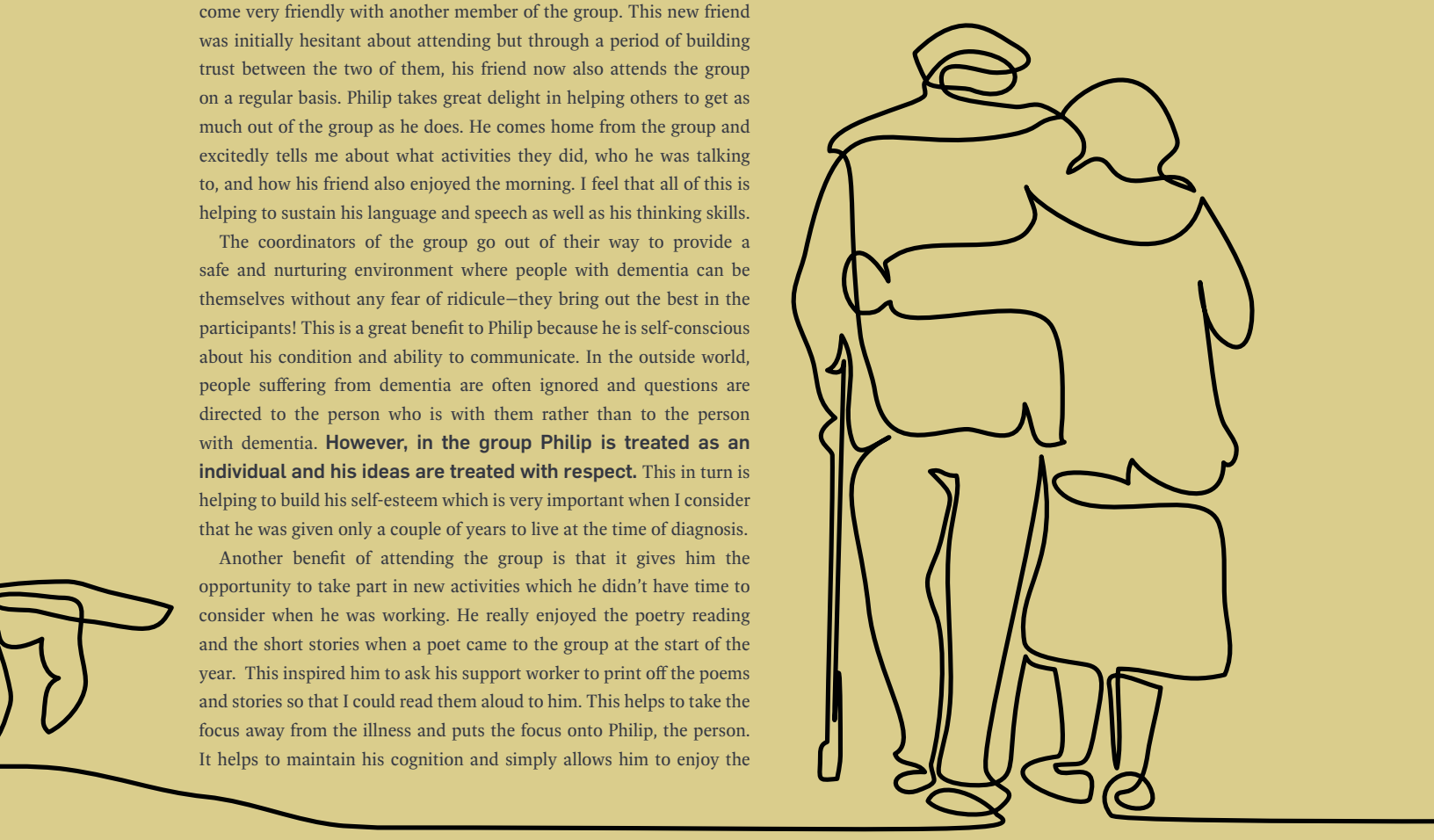
The coordinators of the group go out of their way to provide a safe and nurturing environment where people with dementia can be themselves without any fear of ridicule—they bring out the best in the participants! This is a great benefit to Philip because he is self-conscious about his condition and ability to communicate. In the outside world, people suffering from dementia are often ignored and questions are directed to the person who is with them rather than to the person with dementia. **However, in the group Philip is treated as an individual and his ideas are treated with respect.** This in turn is helping to build his self-esteem which is very important when I consider that he was given only a couple of years to live at the time of diagnosis.

Another benefit of attending the group is that it gives him the opportunity to take part in new activities which he didn't have time to consider when he was working. He really enjoyed the poetry reading and the short stories when a poet came to the group at the start of the year. This inspired him to ask his support worker to print off the poems and stories so that I could read them aloud to him. This helps to take the focus away from the illness and puts the focus onto Philip, the person. It helps to maintain his cognition and simply allows him to enjoy the moment for what it is. The group ensures that there is a very person-centered ethos no matter what stage in the dementia pathway someone may be on. This gives Philip a sense of belonging.

For me, the Dementia Support Group has many benefits. It has allowed me to have a little respite time from this most horrible disease. Caring for someone suffering from dementia is difficult and takes up almost every moment of the day. When he is at the group for a four-hour session, I know where he is, I know that he is safe, and I know that he is happy. This time is precious if only to get away from the relentless caring duties which build up as the condition progresses. The group even organizes transport to and from the sessions allowing me even more time to do something for myself or to have coffee with a friend etc.

The Dementia Support Group has been a lifeline for Philip and me. It provides a wonderful service not only for people who are suffering from dementia but for their families as well. Without the support of this group I am quite sure that Philip's deterioration in his disease would have been much faster and this is his doctor's opinion as well. These years are now about making memories and helping Philip make the journey through his illness in the best way possible.

— Brenda Burnside
Brenda's husband Philip is a member of Age Concern Causeway's Dementia Support Group



Equality Through Access

WITH HELP FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS, DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY'S ACCESS PROGRAMME IS TRANSFORMING LIVES AND SOCIETIES THROUGH EDUCATION, RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ENGAGEMENT.

Dublin City University (DCU) is located in the heart of Dublin and straddles economically-diverse neighborhoods. With an international reputation of excellence and innovation, DCU is committed to ensuring that opportunity is extended to disadvantaged students from all areas through their Access Programme. The first of its kind in Ireland, DCU began its out-reach over 30 years ago to provide entry and then provide ongoing support to students from underrepresented groups. The Ireland Funds is proud to support this remarkably successful program which is resulting in 93% of disadvantaged students completing third-level college education.

DCU | Dublin City University Educational Trust

WHAT HAS SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS MADE POSSIBLE?

- **Grants from The Ireland Funds totalling €53,882 supported 45 Access scholars in 2016/17.**
- **Grants from The Ireland Funds totalling €24,800 from 2011 to 2015 funded the Access Maths Outreach Initiative.**

THE SUCCESS STORY OF THE DCU ACCESS PROGRAMME

- 93% of Access Scholars complete their studies
- 53% go on the Master's level or higher
- 96% find employment

WHO BENEFITS FROM THE ACCESS PROGRAMME?

Over 1,000 scholars are currently enrolled in the Access Programme. They are all students under the age of 23 who have completed a Leaving Certificate and are from one of the following target groups:

- Students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds living in Ireland
- 1st generation students with no history of 3rd level education in the family
- Students residing in North Dublin in communities with lowest progression to third level education
- Students experiencing double disadvantage (disability and socio-economic disadvantage)
- Young people in the care of the State
- Young carers
- Members of the Traveller community
- Between 8,000 – 10,000 primary and secondary school students partake in DCU Access Initiatives to expose them to college aspirations and mentors

meet CASSIE

STUDIES: **ENGLISH AND GEOGRAPHY — FIRST YEAR**

"In 2017, I became the first person in my family to go to university. I did a Post Leaving Certificate course first and thankfully the Access Programme opened a door to university for me then. Without the Access Programme, I would not be here in DCU today.

Neither of my parents finished school themselves, my dad left school at 13 and my mum left school at 15 when she became pregnant with my older brother. I wasn't really pushed to do well in school but I always loved English and knew that I wanted to be a teacher when I got older. For a few years, I thought college wouldn't be possible for me but something clicked when I was in fourth year and I decided to work hard to give myself a different future. Where I live, I saw a lot of people doing the opposite and I decided that wasn't going to be my life and that my best way out was through education.

My school was linked with DCU and I got to spend a lot of time on campus taking part in programmes run with DCU's Access Programme. It always seemed like a friendlier college. I have absolutely loved my time in DCU so far, my course is great and I love the friends that I have made. The Access Programme has been an amazing support, my Access Officer checks in regularly to make sure everything is going okay and the grant has really helped with the books I need to buy. I need a lot of books for my English modules, they're not hugely expensive but it can really add up."

meet AARON

STUDIES: **BUSINESS — THIRD YEAR**

"Where I live most people just end up getting into trouble. Going to college is not a way of life. I never really had any pressure on me to go to school. When you're seventeen you think you're funny when you're being bold. I came here to DCU and it was the same thing. I was failing all my exams in the first year but I started working with Cathy, from the Access Programme, and she got me a place on campus. I always knew I was better than this so I started investing a lot of my time in college. My grades began to go up. I worked hard and the Access Programme pushed me. Some people in college if they struggle, they talk to their mother or their father but I have no one to talk to. The Access Programme has become my support. If it wasn't for the Access Programme, I'm honestly telling you. I would not be in college."

EDUCATION RESEARCH INNOVATION ENGAGEMENT

meet ROBYNN

STUDIES: **BACHELOR OF ARTS — THIRD YEAR**

"I come from the inner city in Dublin. I'm the eldest of three and also the first in my family to go to college. I had no kind of knowledge of college before that but I knew I wanted to go. DCU came to my school when I was in 6th year. I sat and listened as they told us what was possible. I always knew that I wanted to be a primary school teacher but because of financial reasons, that felt impossible. DCU showed me I could do it and told me they would help me every step of the way.

Now I'm studying Irish and Human Development. I also now go out to the schools and tell the younger kids they can do this. If I can do it, they can do it. We say to those schools' guidance counsellors, 'show us three or four students you think have a college ambition but who may not be getting encouragement at home to pursue that at home.' So, if they have a dream and there's no one pushing that dream at home, we help fill that gap. Some of these children we try to inspire, they've had struggles. They may have lost both parents to drugs. They may be in the care of the state. But they work hard and have drive. **DCU Access Programme means that hard work doesn't go unnoticed.**

It's incredibly rewarding to tell a younger student 'I'm from Ballybough' and to have one of the lads put his hand up and say 'Oh I'm from there too! I didn't think anyone from Ballybough went to college!' I look at them and say, "Well...you can be the second one."

Photos : Aengus McMahon and Dublin City University

SCIENCE GALLERY DUBLIN

WITH HELP FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS, SCIENCE GALLERY DUBLIN HAS BEEN IGNITING CREATIVITY AND DISCOVERY WHERE ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLIDE FOR YOUNG ADULTS SINCE 2008. SCIENCE GALLERY DUBLIN HOSTS A ROTATING SERIES OF EXHIBITIONS WHICH ENABLE PEOPLE TO INTERACT WITH SOME OF THE MOST FASCINATING CURRENT SCIENTIFIC ISSUES, DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS.

IRELAND'S FIRST GLOBAL CULTURAL INSTITUTION CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

SCIENCE GALLERY DUBLIN IS A WONDER.

An initiative of Trinity College Dublin, it is a collision of science, art, philosophy, music and medicine where visitors can explore concepts and ideas—for free—around provocative exhibits with themes such as risk, fake, edible, happy and illusion.

Science Gallery Dublin is far from the staid museums of childhood fieldtrips. Located at the edge of Trinity College Dublin's campus in Dublin's city center, it offers an inviting modern vibe housed in multiple stories of open glass walls. Rotating exhibits are highly interactive and often pose questions to visitors to further draw them into conversation with those around them and with "mediators", well-trained undergraduate students who engage and educate visitors on the themes.

Visitors at the exhibit themed around the concept of FAKE can visit a working delicatessen in the Gallery to sample foods they may be surprised to learn are sourced from "fake" sources. As they sample various foods, they may find a discussion arises around technology and farming production. In another exhibit, history and art and sociology merge around the timely topic of "fake news" as visitors view and discuss historic altered photographs designed to steer emotion and social opinion during the wartime era.

"When you come into Science Gallery Dublin, you are guaranteed to have an experience that you're not necessarily expecting to get in a cultural space," explains Lynn Scarff, former Director of the Science Gallery Dublin. "The place really generates conversations and it forces connections between people."

While some universities in urban settings can seem lofty and intimidating to the communities around them, Trinity College Dublin is utilizing Science Gallery Dublin for outreach and education to young people in the surrounding communities.

"We talk about Science Gallery Dublin as being this kind of porous membrane on the side of the university that kind of lets things pass through it," says Lynn. "We're blessed with this wonderful glass frontage which allows everybody to see in." Lynn goes on to share a story about Owen, one of the mediators at Science Gallery Dublin. "I asked Owen, 'how did you find out about Science Gallery Dublin?' He said, "Oh I grew up in the flats across there, that you can see from the window. I had never been in Trinity College before but I wandered in.'"

Owen ultimately benefited from the Trinity Access Program and came to study geography and sociology, he then came back to Science Gallery Dublin as a mediator and has been bringing young people from his own community into Science Gallery Dublin on a regular basis. This is why projects like Science Gallery Dublin are so critical, is because they provide that open door into the larger university. "We always have to be facing out and engaging," reflects Lynn. "Spaces like Science Gallery Dublin are critical if we want to talk about a world where access to education is one of the biggest game changers in people's lives."

HOW HAVE THE IRELAND FUNDS HELPED?

"It takes time to develop new ideas and to think about them and to hone them down," says Lynn. "That need for unrestricted funding coming in from a philanthropic space in turn helps us leverage more funding. It is critical to our sustainability. That is really where The Ireland Funds come into play in a big way. It gives organizations the opportunity to create just that little window so they can start to plan to be more sustainable."

SINCE OPENING IN 2008,

OVER 3 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE VISITED THE SCIENCE GALLERY DUBLIN —

RANKING THEM AMONGST THE TOP TEN FREE CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS IN IRELAND.

FLAGSHIP GRANT SUPPORT

FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS HAS ENABLED SCIENCE GALLERY TO PROVIDE MENTORING, HANDS-ON EDUCATION AND VISITS TO OVER **6,000** YOUNG PEOPLE WITH OVER **2,000** OF THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE COMING FROM UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND DEIS (DISADVANTAGED) SCHOOLS.

WHAT'S NEXT?

THE DUBLIN MODEL HAS BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL THAT **IT HAS NOW SPREAD TO 6 OTHER SCIENCE GALLERIES IN CITIES AROUND THE WORLD**. THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE HAS SECURED THE RIGHTS TO AUSTRALIA'S ONLY NODE IN THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SCIENCE GALLERY INTERNATIONAL NETWORK, FOUNDED AT TRINITY COLLEGE IN DUBLIN. INSPIRED BY THE INNOVATION AT THE INAUGURAL SCIENCE GALLERY IN DUBLIN, THE IRELAND FUNDS AUSTRALIA WAS DELIGHTED TO PARTNER WITH SCIENCE GALLERY MELBOURNE FOR THEIR FIRST POP-UP EXHIBITION, "BLOOD" AS THEIR OFFICIAL OPENING NIGHT PARTNER IN AUGUST 2017. WHEN IT OPENS IN 2021, SCIENCE GALLERY MELBOURNE WILL BE A PUBLIC-FACING, DYNAMIC AND ENGAGING SPACE TO INSPIRE YOUNG ADULTS INTO THE STEM WORKFORCE. WITH 75% OF FUTURE JOBS IN AUSTRALIA EXPECTED TO REQUIRE STEM QUALIFICATIONS, SCIENCE GALLERY PROGRAMS WILL SPARK THE MINDS OF TOMORROW'S INNOVATORS.

"IT MAY HAVE 'SCIENCE' IN THE TITLE, BUT EACH EXHIBITION AT THE GALLERY PROVES IT TO BE THE MOST CREATIVE, INNOVATIVE AND ARTISTIC VENUE IN IRELAND." — *The Irish Times*

The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition

KIDS SPEECH LABS WINS €10,000 IN THE ANNUAL IRELAND FUNDS BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

The 2018 Finalists at The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition

Photography: Aengus McMahon

THE 2018 JUDGES OF THE IRELAND FUNDS BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION: Gary Leyden (Commercial Director, NDRC), Ian Casey (Investor), Grainne Barron (CEO & Founder, Viddyad), Bill McKiernan (Founder of The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition and Board Member of The Ireland Funds America), Angela Moore (Managing Director of Ravensdale Capital, LLC and Board Member of The Ireland Funds America) and Gene Murphy (Entrepreneur in Residence at Bank of Ireland).

NOW IN ITS SEVENTH YEAR, The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition, founded by The Ireland Funds America Board member Bill McKiernan, continues to nurture creativity and hone entrepreneurial skills among Irish-based pre-seed entrepreneurs. Initially modeled on a similar initiative run at Harvard Business School, the competition enables teams from across Ireland to have their ideas judged by leading entrepreneurs, executives and venture capitalists from the US and Ireland. Along the way they are mentored by industry domain leaders, worked closely with other entrepreneurs and the expert team at Ireland's NDRC (National Digital Research Centre).

In June of 2018, ten selected teams gathered to pitch those business ideas, explore market opportunities and determine their business models.

Kids Speech Labs, led by co-founders Shona D'Arcy and Celine de Looze, won €10,000 in the annual Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition final which took place at the University of Limerick.

The team is currently developing a suite of products, enabling parents to track their children's speech development, through Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled speech and language games.

The €10,000 prize fund will allow Kids Speech Labs to attract new staff and to scale their business idea.

"Winning The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition has given us the validation that we needed', said Sharon D'Arcy. 'We are now in a position to develop this product further and to bring it to the next level. This competition was hugely beneficial and the invaluable advice and guidance that we received from The Ireland Funds and the NDRC has given us both the courage and confidence to keep going," she said.

The second runner up, RecEasy, led by Maynooth University graduate, David Duignan, helps finance teams in large companies show every figure in their accounts are correct, reviewed and reconciled, using robotics and machine learning. This enables companies to save time and money and ensure they are compliant by having accurate accounts.

The third runner up was Cian O'Flaherty for his cloud-based compliance platform, Safecility, which provides building owners with legally required compliance in a digital format, saving them €10,000 per building, per year.

Machine Eye was also awarded an Innovation Prize for their machine safety product.

"Ireland boasts a thriving start up scene, with initiatives popping up across the country,' said Bill McKiernan, founder of The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition. "The competition aims to hone entrepreneurial skills amongst budding young entrepreneurs, who play a crucial role in developing local industries, attracting investors and creating jobs in Ireland," he said. "The 2018 Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition was by far the best we have hosted. The teams were very impressive and reflect the growing strength of entrepreneurship on the island of Ireland."

BILL MCKIERNAN

with Business Plan Competition winners Shona D'Arcy and Celine de Looze of Kids Speech Labs

"The teams were the best prepared that we have seen in the seven years that we have been hosting the competition. The ideas were innovative, the presentations were thoughtful, and the teams were passionate about their businesses. I am very encouraged by the state of entrepreneurship in Ireland and it is very gratifying to see how interest in entrepreneurship among young people has grown since we started the competition. It is especially gratifying to see so many women participating in the competition and indeed our winners this year were two bright young women."

– *Bill McKiernan, founder of The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition*

Third runner-up: Safecility

Innovation Prize Winner: Machine Eye

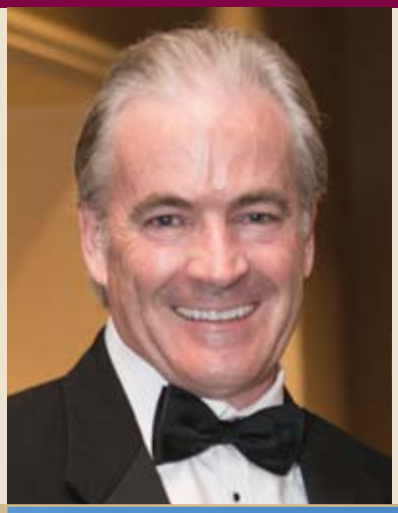
Second runner-up: RecEasy

ABOUT THE IRELAND FUNDS WINEGEESE SOCIETY

Members of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society represent some of The Ireland Funds' most generous donors. The Society celebrates wine, food and art of Irish provenance from around the world while raising support for the work of The Ireland Funds. The name "WineGeese" comes from the story of the Wild Geese—a term coined to describe a group of Irish families who fled Ireland in the 17th century and established successful wineries around the world. Today, members enjoy access to private trips, tours, and tastings at vineyards around the world. All activities are funded by WineGeese Society members.

KEVIN CURLEY

IS APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE IRELAND FUNDS WINEGEESE SOCIETY



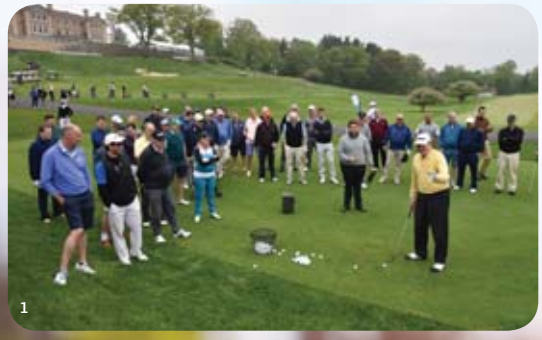
The WineGeese Society is proud to announce that Kevin Curley has been appointed as the new Chairman of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society. Kevin has been a long-standing and committed member of the Society to which he has been most generous.

Members were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of John Sharkey, one of the Founding Chairs of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society. John, together with his wife Helen, travelled on many of the WineGeese trips throughout the years. Prior to John's passing, he along with his founding Co-Chairs, Ken Gorman and John Tillotson, had taken the decision to step back from the day-to-day management of the Society and jointly proposed Kevin as Chairman. Ken Gorman and John Tillotson will now assume the position of Chairmen Emeritus and remain fully involved in all the WineGeese events and tours.

The central activity for 2018 is the tour of the Finger Lakes of New York from September 20 to 23, 2018. We look forward to sharing a report on this trip in the next Spring/Summer 2019 edition of Connect magazine.

The Eithne & Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Fund Celebrates the 25th Annual Golf Tournament

The 25th Annual Eithne & Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Golf Tournament took place on Monday, May 14th, 2018 at the **Sleepy Hollow Country Club**, one of the country's most prestigious and attractive golf courses, located in Scarborough, NY. **The Eithne and Paddy Memorial Fund**, was set up in 1993 by the well-known hotelier and Chairman of The Ireland Funds America **John Fitzpatrick** in memory of his late parents, **Eithne** and **Paddy**. The Memorial Fund works to raise funds in support of a diverse group of worthy organizations across the island of Ireland that focus on a range of much needed initiatives including expanding educational opportunities, helping families and children affected by serious illnesses, delivering social services to the elderly and fostering peace and understanding between people in troubled areas. The Memorial Fund works closely with The Ireland Funds to support a variety of projects. To date, the Fund has now raised $4 million for worthy causes like the Barretstown Camp (for seriously ill children and their families), **the Integrated Education Fund, the Irish Arts Center, the Mary Robinson Library, the New York Irish Center, Barnardos, Corrymeela** and many more. Its latest project was the **O'Hanlon Park Boxing Club** in Dundalk, which recently reopened in a spacious new facility that will ultimately be used by up to 200 children, young people and adults daily. Irish Golf Pro **Eamonn Darcy** attended the event and conducted a golf clinic shortly before the shotgun start. Irish Ambassador to the United Nations **Geraldine Byrne Nason**, former Ireland football manager **Mick McCarthy** and actor **Matt McCoy** were also in attendance. This year's event raised over $380,000.



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1 Eamonn Darcy
2 Eamonn Darcy, Mick McCarthy, John Fitzpatrick, Matt McCoy, Mary McCoy
3 Fireworks celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Eithne & Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Fund
4 Sleepy Hollow Golf Course

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THE IRELAND FUNDS

NEWS

RORY GODSON

Appointed Chair Of The Ireland Funds Great Britain

Born in Dublin, Rory is the founding partner of Powerscourt, a leading London-based financial and strategic communications consultancy that combines capital markets experience with a widely-recognized expertise in helping companies at times of reputational stress. Powerscourt recently collected awards for Best Crisis Management and Best IPO communications. Clients include many leading FTSE and international companies including: Airbus, BP, CRH, DCC and Volvo. The company also has an office in Dublin and has worked with many of Ireland's leading companies. Prior to founding Powerscourt in 2004, he was Director of Corporate Affairs for Goldman Sachs International. Before this he was an established award-winning journalist in Ireland and then the UK including periods as Ireland Editor and then Business Editor at The Sunday Times.

JAMIE HEASLIP

Appointed Chair of The Ireland Funds Young Leaders in Dublin

Jamie is a former Irish rugby union player who played for Leinster and Ireland. He earned 95 caps for Ireland during his international career from 2006 to 2017,making him one of the most capped players in Irish national team history. He was a member of the victorious Irish team who won the Six Nations Championship in 2009, and again in 2014 and 2015. Jamie has captained the Irish team, and was a member of the British and Irish Lions squad for the 2009 and 2013 tours. He was nominated as player of the year, and won Try of the Year award in 2016. Jamie retired from international rugby in February 2018, and is now an entrepreneur and investor in high potential early stage technology companies.

LORETTA BRENNAN GLUCKSMAN

Serves as Grand Marshall of the NYC St Patrick's Day Parade

Loretta, Chairman Emeritus of The Ireland Funds America, led the 257th New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade up Fifth Avenue on March 17, 2018. Over 100 marching bands led the annual celebration in NYC as luminaries from Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar to NY Governor Andrew Cuomo marched the traditional route. Loretta rode in a horse-drawn carriage accompanied by family. Staff and supporters of The Ireland Funds joined over 150,000 participants in marching with the celebration.

R.I.P. JOHN SHARKEY

December 9, 1936 – June 25, 2018

John Sharkey, Board Director of The Ireland Funds America and Founding Member of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society, passed away on June 25, 2018. John was active with The Ireland Funds attending countless events, WineGeese Society trips and annual Ireland Funds Conferences. John was the Chairman of Kane, Saunders & Smart and later joined MCI retiring in 2000 at the conclusion of the MCI and WorldCom merger. John and his wife Helen's philanthropic interests touched numerous charitable causes including The Ireland Funds, the Flax Trust in Belfast and the Glucksman Ireland House in NYC. John had a deep love for all things Irish and shared that passion with his friends at The Ireland Funds. He will be deeply missed.

Donors from across the international chapters of The Ireland Funds gathered at the organization's annual Conference based at the Adare Manor Hotel in Co. Limerick.

LIMERICK • 2018

The Ireland Funds

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Conference

THE FOUR-DAY CONFERENCE WELCOMED OUR SUPPORTERS FROM 27 CITIES ACROSS THE WORLD

visiting a range of funded projects as well as key events that included The Ireland Funds AWB Vincent Literary Award which was presented to Irish author Anne Enwright. The conference also included a plenary session that discussed the long-range plans for the organization.

The philanthropic impact of The Ireland Funds was recognized at the event's Gala as special guest Senator George Mitchell addressed those gathered and thanked them for their generosity which has impacted thousands of causes and nonprofit organizations across the island of Ireland. Donors who have shown a philanthropic commitment at the highest levels to The Ireland Funds were acknowledged as members of the new Ireland Funds O'Reilly Rooney Society. Several of those donors present on the night were recognized and thanked by those gathered.

THANK YOU to all our supporters and friends who took time to join us in June. We simply could not do this key work without you.

Addressing the Gala event, Senator George Mitchell said,

"THE IRELAND FUNDS HAS DONE SUCH GREAT WORK HERE IN THE REPUBLIC AND IN NORTHERN IRELAND. I'VE SEEN IT FIRSTHAND IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WHAT YOU ARE DOING REALLY DOES MATTER AND MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MANY PEOPLE ON THIS ISLAND AND BEYOND. ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW YOU, THOSE WHO MAY NOT EVEN KNOW OF THE IRELAND FUNDS, I SINCERELY THANK YOU."

John Fitzpatrick, Chairman, The Ireland Funds America said:

"AT THIS CONFERENCE WE HAVE MEMBERS FROM 27 CITIES FROM AS FAR AS SINGAPORE, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA. ONCE A YEAR WE COME TOGETHER TO WORK AS A TEAM AND TO UNITE FOR COMMON CAUSES THAT HELP THOSE WITH GREATER NEEDS. I THANK ALL OF OUR CHAPTERS FOR COMING TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR IRELAND ON BEHALF OF THE IRELAND FUNDS."

Kieran McLoughlin, Worldwide President and CEO, The Ireland Funds said:

"WE CELEBRATE THE POWER AND THE SPIRIT AND THE IMPACT OF PHILANTHROPY. PHILANTHROPY CAN BE IMMEDIATE AND IT CAN ALSO BE LONG-TERM AND SUSTAINED. IT CAN BE INNOVATIVE AND TAKE RISKS ONBOARD IDEAS. THE IRELAND FUNDS HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF SUPPORTING OVER 3200 PROJECTS THANKS TO YOU, OUR DONORS, WHO HAVE STOOD UP FOR IRELAND."

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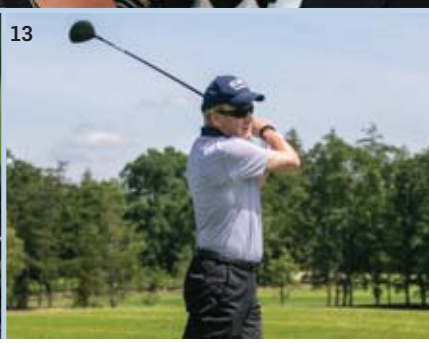
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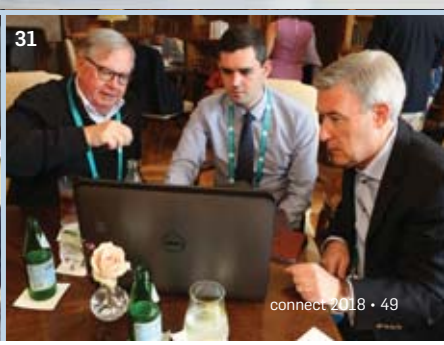
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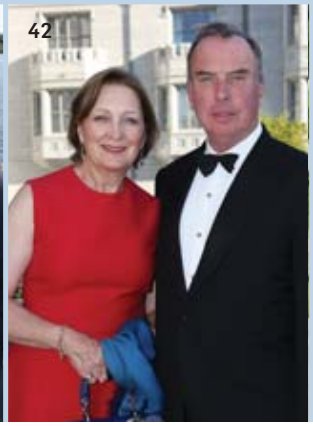
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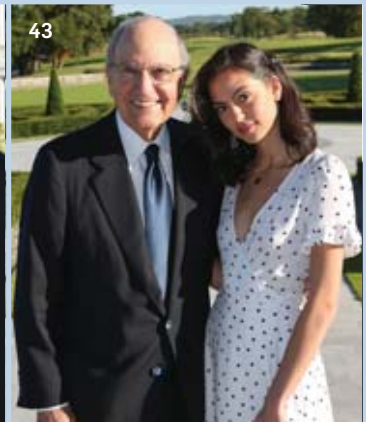
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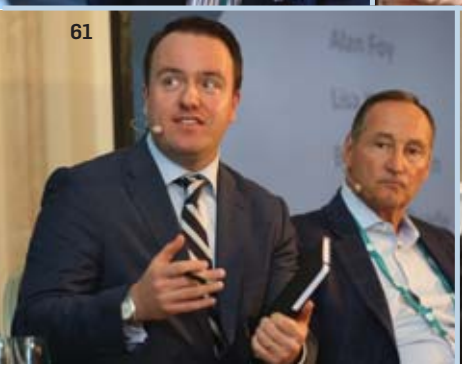
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A SELECTION FROM THE CRAWFORD ART GALLERY'S GREAT SOUTHERN COLLECTION
September 2018 FREE ADMISSION
69

Photos: Aengus McMahon (lead photographer), Arthur Ellis, Don Moloney

1 Group Photo
2 Music Generation group photo
3 Megan Levitan, Maureen Sullivan
4 Bob & Linda Sullivan
5 Susan Davis, John Fitzpatrick, Marie Heaney
6 Fiona Lowe, Denise Melone, Claire Tighe, Kathleen Weber
7 Kate and Laurene Hardy Buckley
8 Guest, Archie & June Bennett
9 Mike & Gaelynn McGavick
10 Christina McInerney, guest
11 Niamh & Michael Flatley
12 Gene McQuade
13 Kevin Curley
14 Kieran McLoughlin, The Very Reverend Niall J. Sloane
15 Gillian & Colin MacDonald
16 Elmar & Ursula Conrad Hassell, Christina McInerney, Anne & Bill McNally
17 Kyle Clifford, Mary & Donal Boylan
18 Tom O'Neill, Roseann LeFevour, Mike O'Halleran
19 Susan Davis, John Cooney
20 Maureen Sullivan, Susan Davis
21 Peggy & Kip Condron, Des Fitzgerald, Loretta Brennan Glucksman
22 Leslie & Bart Grenier
23 Marie Heaney
24 Tom Codd at Barnardos
25 Marianne O'Shea
26 Susan & Harry Hartford, Sarah Rooney
27 Barnardos group photo
28 Kip Condron at Learning Hub
29 Nicole Patterson and Patrick Tuttle
30 Learning Hub group photo
31 Gene McQuade, Rory MacIntyre, Kieran McLoughlin
32 Narrative 4 group photo
33 George Mitchell, Kieran McLoughlin, John Fitzpatrick, Caitriona Fottrell
34 Boat tour group photo
35 Emer Gilvarry, Peter Rooney, Gerardine Connolly, Kieran McLoughlin
36 Susan Davis, Tom Codd
37 Dennis Early, Myles Gallagher, George Mitchell, Tom O'Neill
38 Mike O'Halloran, Kate Gibbons, Eamonn Byrne, Dan Gibbons
39 Kip Condron, Maureen Sullivan
40 Michael Flatley
41 Denis, Eileen & Bart Murphy
42 Sue & Brian Dickie
43 George Mitchell and daughter Claire
44 Len Hremiako & Yvonne LeBas
45 Mary Harney, guests
46 Literary Awards Dinner at St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick
47 John Fitzpatrick
48 Project presentations - Karen O'Donoghue
49 Devon Bruce
50 Marie Heaney, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Kieran McLoughlin, Anne Enright
51 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Bart Murphy
52 John Fitzpatrick, Anne Enright, Marie Heaney
53 Conor Houston, Colleen Gallagher, Caoimhe Connolly, Gerardine Connolly, Pat Tully
54 Fiona Lowe, Conor Houston, Colleen Connolly
55 Performer - Sibeal Cassidy
56 Rachel Alabiso, Caroline Kennedy, Siobhan Gallagher
57 Kevin Curley, Harry Fehily, Michael Flatley, David Cronin
58 Tom Quick
59 Worldwide Directors
60 Plenary Panel - Lisa Kearns, Gene McQuade, Angela Moore, Alan Foy, Bill McKiernan, John Fitzpatrick
61 Alan Foy
62 Stanley Quek
63 Sinead Faughnan, Michael Flatley, Monica Mc Cartan
64 Peg Lombardo, George Mitchell, Lyn McKeaney
65 George Mitchell and John Fitzpatrick
66 Guest, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Leslie Grenier
67 Bruce Neal & Angela Moore
68 Michael Donnell, Maureen Sullivan, Tom Quick
69 Hunt Museum group photo
70 Guest, Ryan Tubridy, Caroline Kennedy
71 Bill & Betsy McKiernan
72 Frankie Gavin and musicians
73 George Mitchell
74 Harry & Susan Hartford
75 Michael Donnell, Marjorie Muldowney, Tom Quick
76 Susan Corcoran & Dennis Early

THE IRELAND FUNDS

The Ireland Funds 2019 Worldwide Conference

save-the-date

THE CULLODEN ESTATE & SPA

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

JUNE 19 – 22, 2019

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The New York St. Patrick's Day Parade Celebration of Loretta Brennan Glucksman as Grand Marshall

January, 29 Board Members of The Ireland Funds America gathered in Manhattan's storied **Lotos Club** to celebrate **Loretta Brennan Glucksman**'s role as Grand Marshall in the 2018 New York St. Patrick's Day parade. Loretta is Chairman Emeritus of The Ireland Funds America having served as Chairman for over 18 years and was the 5th woman to serve as Grand Marshall of the parade in its 250-year history. **John Fitzpatrick**, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America, opened the evening by welcoming Loretta and guests. He spoke of how Loretta's late husband **Lew** would have been so proud to see her as Grand Marshall. Following dinner, Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds, **Kieran McLoughlin** described Loretta as 'the First Lady of Irish America' and introduced the evening's musical entertainment, **Greg Harrington**. Greg performed three pieces celebrating Loretta's Irish and Jewish ties before the evening drew to a close.

1 Tom Quick, Kip Condron, Bob McCann, Lore Dodge, Michael Donnell, Gene McQuade, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, John Fitzpatrick, Peggy McQuade
2 Bill Murphy, Tom Quick, Una Murphy, Michael Higgins
3 Bob McCann, Loretta Brennan Glucksman

Photos: James Higgins

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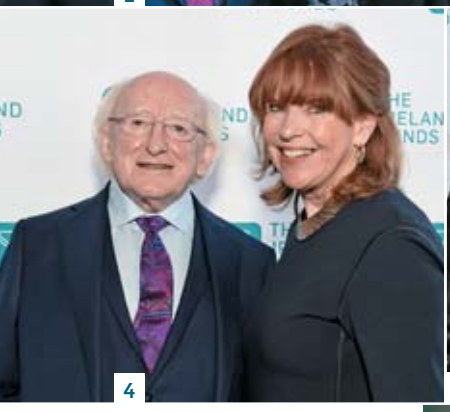
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1 John Fitzpatrick, Bridget Moynahan
2 President Michael D. Higgins, Mary Murphy
3 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Consul General Ciaran Madden, Commissioner James O'Neill
4 President Michael D. Higgins, Susan Davis
5 Sabina Higgins, President Michael D. Higgins, Tom Quick
6 Sabina Higgins, President Michael D. Higgins, Kara Ross
7 Guests gathered in the Rainbow Room
8 President Michael D. Higgins addressing guests

Photos: James Higgins

New York Women's Leadership Series Breakfast with President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins

April, 2018 On the morning of April 26, supporters of The Ireland Funds gathered in New York's iconic Rainbow Room for a keynote address with the 11th President of Ireland, **President Michael D. Higgins**. President Higgins was visiting New York on a five-day trip and addressed the group as part of The Ireland Funds Women's Leadership Series. **John Fitzpatrick**, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America, opened proceedings by welcoming President Higgins and his wife Mrs. **Sabina Higgins.** The President then thanked John Fitzpatrick for the invitation to speak and congratulated The Ireland Funds on all it had achieved over the past 40+ years since its founding. He referred to The Ireland Funds Women's Leadership Series as a 'a most important initiative' and spoke of the advances made towards gender equality as well as the work that still needed to be done. He stated that Ireland believes in 'removing all barriers' and that it was privilege for Ireland to lead as Chair of the **UN Commission on the Status of Women**. President Higgins also saluted the role of women in the Northern Ireland Peace Process. Following his address he was joined on stage by **Mary Murphy** of **Pix11** for question and answers and then took questions from the floor. **Kieran McLoughlin**, Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds, wrapped up the official proceedings by thanking the President for his time and insightful remarks.

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New York Gala

May, 2018 The Ireland Funds 43rd Annual New York Gala Raised $3 million for Irish Charities and Causes Actor **Colin Farrell** and **EY**'s **Stephen Howe** are Honored at 2018 Gala. Over 1,000 guests from the spheres of business, the arts and politics came together to support the largest of the 150 global events held each year by The Ireland Funds. Held annually in May, the Gala is now one of the key social events on the NYC calendar. Over the course of its 43-year history, the event has raised over $60 million in support of hundreds of Irish charities and causes. Golden Globe-winning Irish actor **Colin Farrell** was recognized by The Ireland Funds with its **Performing Arts Award** in recognition of his work as an ambassador of Irish culture throughout his extensive film career. He has created awareness around the work of many organizations assisted by The Ireland Funds including **Special Olympics, Fighting Words, Crumlin Children's Hospital,** and **BeLonG To Youth Services.** Commenting on work of The Ireland Funds in his acceptance speech, Colin said, "In the 42 years since its inception, The Ireland Funds has promoted, fostered and maintained a global network of community outreach that is as staggering in its scope as it is essential in its worth... I am utterly grateful for The Ireland Funds for all that you do and will continue to do to make this world we share a kinder, more compassionate and more loving place." Also recognized on the evening was **Stephen R. Howe, Jr,** US Chairman & Americas Managing Partner of **EY**. He received the **Leslie C. Quick Jr. Leadership Award** which annually recognizes a person of outstanding character and business acumen. Stephen is a proud Irish American and a great champion of the Irish American community. "Tonight's Gala exceeded our already-ambitious goals," said **Kieran McLoughlin**, Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds. "Once again our network of donors and friends have come together to raise significant support for the island of Ireland. This impact will be felt by thousands of people who benefit from the outstanding nonprofit organizations supported by The Ireland Funds." "Events such as this express the power of philanthropy and for that we are immensely grateful," said **John Fitzpatrick**, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America. "The ties between the island of Ireland and its diaspora are stronger than ever and that has truly been demonstrated tonight through our donors' generosity." The evening was Co-Chaired by **Jennifer Morgan**, President of Americas and Asia Pacific, **SAP; Kelly Grier**, US Chairman and Americas Managing Partner Elect, **EY**; and **Michael Dowling**, President and CEO, **Northwell Health**. Notable guests at the 2018 Gala included actor **Liam Neeson; Ciarán Madden**, Ireland's Consul General; **Antony Phillipson**, British Consul General; Ambassador **Geraldine Byrne Nason**, Ireland's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and **Heather Humphreys**, Ireland's Minister for Business, Enterprise & Innovation.

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1 The Ireland Funds 43rd Annual New York Gala Committee
2 Shaun Kelly, Norah & John Daly, Mary Kelly
3 Liam Neeson, Colin Farrell
4 John Fitzpatrick, Colin Farrell; Stephen Howe, Kieran McLoughlin
5 Michael Donnell, Lore Dodge, Tom Quick, Peter Quick
6 Gene & Peggy McQuade with friends
7 Jennifer Morgan, Kelly Grier
8 Michael Brewster, Adrian Jones
9 Claudine Farrell, Colin Farrell
10 Kate & Steve Howe
11 The 43rd Annual New York Dinner Gala
12 Colin Farrell
13 Kelly Grier
14 Steve Howe
15 Michael Donnell, Lore Dodge, Liam Neeson, Guest
16 The Hank Lane Band
17 Colin Farrell, John Fitzpatrick
18 Bruce Neal, Angela Moore
19 Already captioned – can remain as is
20 John Fitzpatrick
21 Guests enjoying the band
22 Lauren Croke, guest, Daniel Forbes, Rachel Conlan

Photos: James Higgins, Sasha Gitin, Michael Nagle

1 John Fitzpatrick, Bill Casey, Enda Kenny
2 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, John Duffy
3 Lore Dodge, Thomas Quick
4 Angela Moore, Amb. Elizabeth Frawley Bagley
5 Peggy & Kip Condron
6 Howard & Michele Kessler
7 Sheila O'Malley & Fuchs Joe Fuchs
8 Jim & Stephanie Rooney, Sheri Lambert, Sean Rooney
9 Kyle Clifford, Nancy Brinker
10 Bill Finneran, Hillie Mahoney

Photos: Capehart Photography, James Higgins

Palm Beach Dinner

February, 2018 The Ireland Funds' Annual Emerald Isle Dinner took place on Feb. 15 at **The Breakers**. The event drew 200 friends, supporters and dignitaries that included Former Prime Minister of Ireland, **Enda Kenny** who received **The Ireland Funds Distinguished Leadership Award**; Irish Ambassador to the United States **Daniel Mulhall**. The Honorable **Elizabeth Frawley Bagley**, the Honorable **Nancy Brinker**, family members of the late Amb. **Dan Rooney**, Co-Founder of The Ireland Funds; and **Bob Wright**, CEO of the **Palm Beach Civic Association** and Co-Founder of Autism Speaks, were also in attendance. The Mediterranean Courtyard set the scene for an al fresco cocktail reception, followed by dinner in the Circle Dining Room with entertainment provided by the **Bob Merrill Orchestra. Kieran McLoughlin**, Worldwide President and CEO of The Ireland Funds, welcomed the guests and thanked Honorary Co-Chairmen **Lore Moran Dodge, William B. Finneran, Michele Kessler, Hillie Mahoney, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs** and **Thomas C. Quick** for their support and generosity, and all of The Ireland Funds America Board Members in attendance. He then introduced **John Fitzpatrick**, the Chairman of The Ireland Funds America, who also extended words of welcome and thanks. Later, McLoughlin presented honoree, B**ill Casey, EY Americas** Vice Chair, with an award. Casey, who attended the dinner with his family, expressed his gratitude and pride in his Irish heritage.

FIVE STAR HOSPITALITY IN NATURAL SPLENDOUR

Overlooking the picturesque Sheen Falls, just outside the Heritage Town of Kenmare, this 5 star, Relais & Chateaux hotel also features a unique collection of cottages and villas which are perfect for larger gatherings. Situated between the world famous Ring of Kerry and the lesser known, but equally spectacular Ring of Beara, Sheen Falls Lodge offers the best of Irish hospitality in an unsurpassed location.

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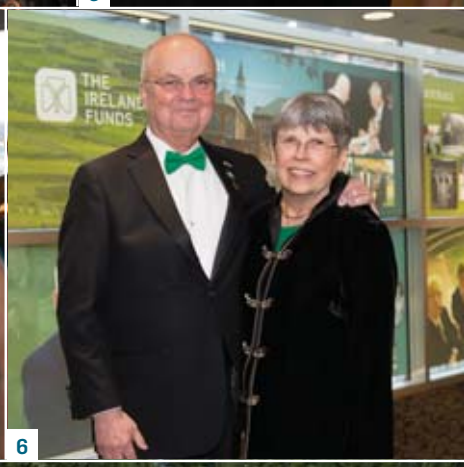

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Pittsburgh Dinner

March, 2017 On St. Patrick's Day, friends of the late Ambassador **Daniel M. Rooney** gathered at **Heinz Field** to honor his memory and celebrate his contributions to the island of Ireland as co-founder of The Ireland Funds. "I know my father would have been embarrassed by all of the attention. However, he would have wanted to acknowledge with great appreciation, the friends and partners who made the evening a terrific success," said **Art Rooney, II**. A special VIP reception featured former **Pittsburgh Steelers** Head Coach **Bill Cowher,** General **Michael Hayden** and NFL Commissioner **Roger Goodell** sharing their memories of the Ambassador with **Duquesne University** President **Kevin Gormley** who moderated the discussion. Those in attendance included: **Kieran McLoughlin,** Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds, committee members **Bob McCann, Sr., Sy Holzer, Andrea Carelli, Chuck Bagosta, Michael Mullen**, and family members **Patricia Rooney, Jim & Stephanie Rooney, Greta, Mary Greta** and **Anne Rooney, Pat & Bob Gerrero** and **Chris Clancy & Joan Rooney Clancy, Caitlin Rooney Miller** and **Dan Martin Rooney**.

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1 Ken Gormley, Bill Cowher, Roger Goodell, Jim Rohr
2 Art Rooney, II gives the toast with Dinner Chairman David Malone, Kieran McLoughlin, and General Michael Hayden.
3 Laura Ellsworth, David Malone, Stephanie Rooney
4 Bill & Vee Cowher, Greta & Art Rooney II, Roger Goodell
5 Charles Batch, Ken & Laura Gormley
6 General Michael & Jeanine Hayden
7 Kristin & Omar Kahn
8 Joan Rooney Clancy, Patricia Rooney, Pat Gerrero

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Photos: Karl Roser

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1 Olivia & Brian Gaynor-Long
2 Brian McCraith, Lorraine Twohill, Kieran McLoughlin
3 Marjorie Muldowney, Lorraine Twohill, Olivia Gaynor-Long
4 Beth & Bob Borchers, Pete Davis
5 Bart Murphy, Lorraine Twohill
6 Lorraine Twohill
7 Kim Murphy (center) and guests
8 Maggie Gorwky, Rebecca Stack, Sarah O'Leary
9 The Gaynor-Long party

Photos: Anthony Delgado

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San Francisco Gala

March, 2018 Carlow-born **Lorraine Twohill**, Senior VP of Global Marketing at **Google** was presented with **The Ireland Funds Distinguished Leadership Award** at the **St. Francis Hotel** on March 9th. Among the VIPs in attendance was renowned philanthropist **Chuck Feeney** who was honored by The Ireland Funds in 2016 for his passion for "giving while living" through **Atlantic Philanthropies**. Lorraine was recognized by The Ireland Funds for her extraordinary business accomplishments as well as for her philanthropy. She spoke warmly about her alma mater, **Dublin City University**, and announced a special gift to DCU in honor of her mother, to be known as the **Teresa Twohill Access Scholarship Endowment**. Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds **Kieran McLoughlin** paid tribute to former longtime supporter and national Board Director, **Craig Sullivan**, who passed away in December and is greatly missed by his many friends at The Ireland Funds. Over 400 guests from the spheres of business, the arts and politics included the event's Honorary Chairs **Brian & Olivia Gaynor-Long** of **Atlantic Bridge**, Dublin City University President **Brian McCraith**, Consul General **Robert O'Driscoll**, Vice Consul **John Callaghan**, The Ireland Funds America Board Director **Bart Murphy**, and **Paraic Hayes** of the **IDA**. Actor **Matt McCoy** was Master of Ceremonies. Other special guests included **Maureen Sullivan** and family, **Colin Ryan** of **Goldman Sachs**, **Kathleen Ryan, Helen & John Hartnett** of **ITLG, Erin Ebeling** of **Alice Phelan Sullivan Corporation, Mary & Tom Hunt, Nancy & Bill Murphy, Claire Lee** of **Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), Emmet Daly** of **PwC, Mary & Steve Almassy, Sally Ann Flood & Michael Kenny**, and **Derry Casey**. The Gala was generously sponsored by: **EJ Tracy** of **Tracy Industries, Joan & Dave O'Reilly, Bill McMorrow** of **Kennedy Wilson, First Republic Bank, Essence, Keith Ennis, Mrs. Patsy McGinnis, Diane Wilsey, Chris Kenefick** of **Kenefick Ranch Wines** and **UCSF**.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE GENEROUS AUCTION SUPPORTERS: **Ashford Castle, Dromoland Castle, The Merrion, Sheen Falls Lodge, Fitzpatrick Manhattan Hotel, Rugby World Cup Sevens.**

DRAWING SUPPORTERS: **Cinta Salon, Teeling Whiskey Distillery, St. Francis Hotel, Momo's Restaurant, San Francisco Giants, Surf Air.**

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Los Angeles Oscar Week Reception

February, 2018 An evening of celebration and conversation was held on February 28 as a group of 250 supporters of The Ireland Funds gathered in West Hollywood to toast Ireland's nominees at the **2018 Academy Awards**. Los Angeles Irish star power came out strong and other guests attending included Golden Globe-winning actor **Colin Farrell** (**In Bruges, The Lobster**), award-winning actors **Aisling Bea** (**The Fall**), **Chris O'Dowd** (**Bridesmaids, Get Shorty**), **Adam Fergus** (**Supernatural, Being Erica**), and other talent such as **Aisha Tyler** (**Criminal Minds, Archer, Whose Line Is It Anyway, Friends**), **Sunday Times** bestselling author **Dawn O'Porter**, the Irish producers of **Brooklyn, Nightflyers, Man About Dog**, Ireland's Consul General to the Western United States **Robert O'Driscoll** also attended. Colin Farrell went on to receive **The Ireland Funds Performing Arts Award** on May 3 at The Ireland Funds' annual New York Gala, the largest of The Ireland Funds' 150+ global events. Award-winning Irish actress **Victoria Smurfit** (**ABC's Once Upon A Time, NBC's Dracula**) hosted the evening at **Ysabel** restaurant along with Chris O'Dowd and his good friend Cartoon Saloon's co-founder, Oscar-nominated producer **Paul Young** whose company was up for its 3rd Academy Award® nomination for Best Animated Feature for **The Breadwinner**, executive-produced by **Angelina Jolie** and directed by **Nora Twomey**.

1 Jonathan Loughran, Barry O'Dowd, Colin Farrell, Aisha Tyler, Michelle Loughran, James Hickey
2 Chris O'Dowd, Paul Young, Victoria Smurfit, Jonathan Loughran
3 Harry Hartford, Catherine Thyen, Keith Ennis
4 Drew Buckley, Laura Sullivan, Rich Sullivan
5 Chris O'Dowd, Paul Young, Victoria Smurfit
6 Yvonne Ross, Chris O'Dowd, Dawn O'Porter, Josie Naughton, Mel Lubey

Photos: Elaine Lee

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Los Angeles St. Patrick's Leadership Series Breakfast

1 Min. Griffin
2 Alan Hearty, Bill Delaney, Alessandra Daouvar, Min. Griffin, Jonathan Loughran, Michael Matkins
3 Min. Griffin, Bill Delaney, Garrett Delaney

Photos: Marina Milosevic

March, 2018 The Ireland Funds hosted a special St. Patrick's Day Leadership Series breakfast in the law offices of **Allen Matkins** on March 16th. Guest speaker was **Brendan Griffin** T.D., Ireland's Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, who was joined by Vice Consul General of Ireland to the Western U.S. **John Callaghan. Jonathan Loughran**, VP Development for The Ireland Funds, welcomed guests to the event. The theme of the conversation was Ireland's diaspora and its achievements, as well as the important contribution of The Ireland Funds to peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland, the need for greater reconciliation/integration in this challenging political climate, the Government of Ireland's commitment to the Good Friday agreement as well as touching on the potential impact of Brexit. Thanks to Regional Advisory Committee member **Alan Hearty, Tim McDonnell** and **Michael Matkins** of **Allen Matkins** for hosting the event at their firm's offices.

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Los Angeles Newport Beach Film Festival Reception

1 Consul Gen. Robert O'Driscoll
2 Jonathan Loughran, Catherine Thyen, Caoimhe Ni Chonchoille, Consul Gen. Robert O'Driscoll
3 James Delaney, Laurie Grier-Mulvenna, Catherine Thyen

April, 2018 Friends old and new came together in the beautiful **Balboa Bay Club** in sunny Newport Beach to celebrate the Irish film-making talent visiting California for **the Newport Beach Film Festival's Irish Spotlight**. Attendees included Consul General **Robert O'Driscoll** and his wife **Caoimhe Ni Chonchoille**, and director **Frank Berry** and producer **Donna Eperon** who made the feature film **"Michael Inside"**, for which Frank won Best Director at the Newport Beach Film Festival. Long-time supporters of The Ireland Funds attending included Capt. **Kevin Mac Donnell**, **Ed Gaffney & Aine Healy**, **Dolores Keshkar**, **John & Veronica O'Doherty**, **James Delaney**, **Seamus** and **Joan Mulvenna**, **Laurie Grier-Mulvenna**, **Anne & Dermot Tuohy**, **Sean & Jane Brown**, **Eileen Weatherbee**, **Deirdre O'Neill**, **Emilie Guilbaud** and **Evan Kilbourne**, **Eamonn & Sylvia Fitzgerald**, as well as new friends such as **David Gaskin** of **IDA Ireland**, and **Gregg Schwenk**. Consul General O'Driscoll spoke passionately about the contribution Irish culture continues to make and how the work of The Ireland Funds supports culture in all its forms. Special thanks to **Catherine Thyen** for hosting the wonderful event.

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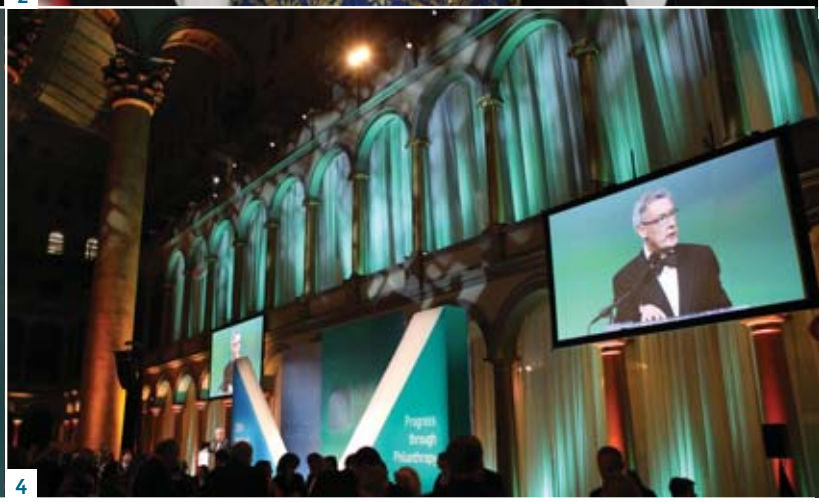
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Washington DC National Gala

March, 2018 The Ireland Funds hosted its 26th Annual National Gala at **The National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.** An Taoiseach, **Leo Varadkar,** TD Prime Minister of Ireland addressed the 750+ guests attending The Ireland Funds' event as part of his multi-stop St. Patrick's Day visit to the U.S. The Gala also marked the 20th Anniversary of the **Good Friday Agreement** with special recognition given to Representative **Peter T. King** (R-NY-2) and Representative **Richard E. Neal** (D-MA-1), Chairs of the Friends of Ireland Caucus in Congress, for their personal achievements and promotions of the Good Friday Agreement. **John Fitzpatrick**, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America welcomed guests and **Kieran McLoughlin**, Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds announced that the event had raised over $1 million to benefit great causes across the island of Ireland. The Taoiseach delivered a stirring speech on the shared values of Ireland and the U.S. He thanked supporters of The Ireland Funds saying, "Your generous support is a powerful expression of your commitment to peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland for more than forty years." The Ireland Funds recognized **Anne Finucane**, Vice Chair, **Bank of America** for her professional and philanthropic contributions to the island of Ireland including **Music Generation,** Ireland's National music program. The evening also honored **Sean McGarvey**, President, **North America's Building Trades Unions** for his great support of Irish causes. The evening was a gathering of Gala Chairs, Irish and Irish American leaders, leaders in business, government, the media and the arts. The annual event is a key opportunity to celebrate Irish-American relations in the presence of key decision makers. Guests of note included H.E. **Daniel Mulhall**, Irish Ambassador to the U.S; Sir **Kim Darrock**, British Ambassador to the U.S.; renowned Irish flutist Sir **James Galway** who performed on the evening, House Democratic Leader **Nancy Pelosi** and 25 U.S. members of Congress.

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1 John Fitzpatrick, Cong. Richard Neal, An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Cong. Peter King
2 Kieran McLoughlin, Anne Finucane, An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar
3 An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar
4 Kieran McLoughlin
5 Sean McGarvey
6 The D.C. National Gala Committee: Kieran McLoughlin, James Carroll, Joseph Hassett, John Tolman, Mark Tuohey, Paul S. Quinn, Susan Davis, An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Amb. Elizabeth Bagley, Erik Huey, Bernard F. McKay, Dennis Lucey
7 Peter Nguyen, Kyle Clifford, Curtis Bell
8 Sir James Galway
9 House Democratic Leader Cong. Nancy Pelosi, guest, Cong. Carolyn Maloney, guest
10 Bruce Neal, Guest, Angela Moore
11 Megan Molloy, Mike Miley, Eileen Blessinger
12 Amb. Elizabeth Bagley, Dennis Lucey, Pam Lucey

Photos: Erika Layne, Caitlin Myler

THE
IRELAND
FUNDS
GREAT BRITAIN

Celebrating 30 Years of Philanthropy

TOM BRETT PHOTO

CONFEDERATION OF CONCERN: Gathering in Kelkenny were (left to right) Robert Kearns, Ireland Fund of Canada Chairman; Tony O'Reilly, AIF Chairman; Pierre Joannon of France; Jane Cosgrove of Australia; John Riordan of Great Britain; and outgoing AIF President John Brogan.

PHILANTHROPY THROUGH THE YEARS

Desmond Fitzgerald (Knight of Glin), Colin Watson

Garrett Hayes, Martin O'Neill OBE

Peter Sutherland, Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, Stephen Quinn

Former Irish Ambassador Ted Barrington, Honor Hayes, Terry Wogan, Bryan Hayes

Terry Wogan's Team at Moor Park Golf Club

Pat Marsh, The Baroness of Badenscoth

The Rt. Hon David Trimble MP, Sir Bob Geldof, Peter Sutherland

Sir Anthony O'Reilly , Tom Gallagher

The Hon. Kevin Pakenham & Claire Pakenham

Imelda May, Kieran McLoughlin

Keith Woods, Peter Sutherland, Fergus Slattery

Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny

Thank You

The following projects are just a sample of organizations supported by The Ireland Funds Great Britain over the course of its 30-year history. THANK YOU for helping us do great things for Irish communities and causes in Great Britain, Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Acton Homeless Concern
Age Concern Hillingdon
Aisling Return to Ireland Project
Age UK Hillingdon – Failte Club
Alzheimer's Society
Anam Cara
Basingstoke Irish Society
BeLong To
Birchfield Residents Action Group
Birmingham Irish Association
Bolton Irish Community Association
Brain Injury Matters NI
Brandwood Community Centre
Brent Irish Advisory Service
Celtic FC Foundation
Central and Cecil (Cara)
Children's Medical Research Fund
Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú
Coventry Irish Society
Cricklewood Homeless Concern
Eastleigh & District Irish Society
Emerald Circle Club
Federation of Irish Societies
Failte
Forest Bus
Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music
Glasgow Women's Centre
Glasnevin Cemetery Museum
GIY (Grow It Yourself)
Haringey Irish Centre
Haringey Irish Pensioners
IMDL – The Trad Gathering Youth Project
Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy (ICAP)
Integrated Education Fund
Irish Arts Foundation – Leeds
Irish Chaplaincy
Irish Community Care Manchester
Irish Community Care Merseyside
Irish Cultural Centre
Irish Diaspora Foundation
Irish Elderly Advice Network
Irish Film London
Irish Heritage Foundation Scotland
Irish Heritage Limited
Irish in Britain
Irish Network Stevenage
Irish Pensioners Choir
Irish Welfare and Information Centre – Birmingham
Justice for Magdalenes
Kilburn Irish Pensioners Club
Leeds Simon Community
Leicester & Leicestershire Irish Forum
Level Water
Lewisham Irish Community Centre
Links Outreach CIC
Liverpool Irish Centre
Lismore Music Festival
London Irish Centre
London Irish Pensioner's Choir
London Irish Reflections
London Irish Survivors Support Group Network
London Irish Women's Centre
Mansfield and Dukeries Irish Association
Luton Irish Forum
Milton Keynes Irish Welfare Support group
Northampton Irish Support Group
Personal Support Unit Liverpool (PSU)
Quaker Homeless Project
Reading and District Irish Association
Reading Irish Society
Rehab Irish Elders Centre
ReCreate
Sandwell Irish Society – Birmingham
SIFA Fireside
Sliabh Sneacht Centre
Solace Women's Aid
Southwark Irish Pensioners Project
St Ultans Primary School
Strabane Cricket Club
St John Bosco Youth Club
St John's Ward Crumlin as part of The Aisling Appeal
St Michael's Irish Centre – Liverpool
St Patrick's Irish Club
St Vincent Support Centre
Tara Irish Pensioners
The Old Vic Theatre Trust
The Hibernian Society
The Irish Arts Foundation
The Irish Chaplaincy in Britain (ICB)
The Irish Charitable Trust (Irish Support & Advice Service)
The Irish Cultural Centre
The Irish in Greenwich
The Irish Repertory & Film Company
The Lighthouse Club
The London Irish Service
The Maya Centre
The Abbey Theatre
The Shona Project
Tyneside Irish Centre
Women's Survivors Group
York Irish Association

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The Ireland Funds Great Britain 2018 Community Award

February, 2018 Each year, The Ireland Funds Great Britain, through its grants program, supports Irish organizations that are working hard to enrich the lives of many people in the Irish community. Each year, one organization is selected to be presented with The Ireland Funds Annual Community Award. This year's recipient, the **Irish Cultural Centre** (ICC), was announced during a reception held at the **Irish Embassy** in London, for The Ireland Funds Great Britain and its supporters. Chair of ICC **Jim O'Hara** and his team received warm accolades from Ambassador **Adrian O'Neill**; Chair of The Ireland Funds Great Britain **Garrett Hayes**, The Ireland Funds America Chairman John Fitzpatrick and Worldwide President & CEO of The Ireland Funds **Kieran McLoughlin**. All paid tribute to the work done to secure the future of the Centre which resulted in beautiful new premises being built to be held in perpetuity for the Irish community in Great Britain.

1 Ruairi Conneely, John Fitzpatrick, Jim O'Hara, Garrett Hayes, Seamus McGarry, Kieran McLoughlin
2 Seamus McGarry, Paul Costelloe
3 Emily Bohill, Eoin Bastible, guest

Photos: Fergus Burnett

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The Ireland Funds Great Britain Leading Ladies Reception

March, 2018 2018 marks the 100-year anniversary of women achieving the right to vote in Great Britain and in honor of this milestone, the Mayor of London, **Sadiq Khan**, encouraged the organizers of London's **St. Patrick's Festival** to include a strong female presence in this year's parade. Two Grand Marshals were appointed to join the Mayor to lead the parade: broadcaster **Gloria Hunniford** and actress **Imelda Staunton**, best known for her role in **Harry Potter**. They were accompanied by fifty other women of Irish heritage who excel in their respective fields. Prior to the parade, The Ireland Funds Great Britain hosted a breakfast reception for the 'Leading Ladies' group at **Bentleys**, the restaurant of Irish chef **Richard Corrigan**.

1 Siobhan Breatnach, Imelda Staunton, Jacqueline O'Donovan
2 Norah Casey, Orla Kiely, Sarah Finucane
3 Leading Ladies and friends

Photos: Malcolm McNally/ The Irish Post and Noel Mullen

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1 Seamus McGarry, Rory Godson, Garrett Hayes, The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor, Jose Manuel Barosso, Karen Spencer, Barry Devereux, Zachary Webb
2 Elgin Loane, Michael Keaveney, Seamus McGarry
3 Jose Manuel Barosso
4 Guests in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House
5 The Egyptian Hall
6 The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor
7 Barry Devereux
8 James Hickey, Barry Devereux and Guests
9 Caitriona Fottrell

Photos: Fergus Burnett

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The Ireland Funds Great Britain London City Lunch

May, 2018 The Ireland Funds Great Britain hosted the third annual London City Lunch at the magnificent **Mansion House**. The sold-out event brought together more than 230 leading business figures and dignitaries to support the work of The Ireland Funds. **Caitriona Fottrell**, Vice President and Director Ireland of The Ireland Funds, opened the program by welcoming guests. She also welcomed Ambassador of Ireland to Great Britain, **Adrian O'Neill**, his wife, **Aisling**; and The Lord Mayor of the City of London, The Rt. Hon **Charles Bowman**, who kindly hosted the event in his residence. Ms. Fottrell introduced the Lord Mayor who took the stage and welcomed guests and spoke of the history and traditions of the Lord Mayor's role, as well as the philanthropic links associated with the position. She then introduced **Barry Devereux**, Managing Partner of **McCann FitzGerald**, sponsors of the London City Lunch, who spoke about the impactful work of The Ireland Funds. After lunch, the London City Lunch Committee Chair and The Ireland Funds Great Britain Trustee, businessman **Rory Godson**, whose strong leadership was the bedrock of the success of the lunch, fondly remembered the late **Peter Sutherland**, former Chairman of the IFGB, before introducing the special guest speaker, **José Manuel Barroso**. Proceeds of the event support the ongoing work of The Ireland Funds Great Britain which has funded projects including the **Birmingham Irish Association, Integrated Education** in Northern Ireland, **London-Irish Reflections,** the **Southwark Pensioners** and **The London Irish Centre** which addresses health and wellbeing in London's Irish community.

1 Melanie McCourt, Jamie Heaslip, Kieran McLoughlin
2 Louise Kennedy, Caroline Kennedy
3 Kieran McLoughlin, Joanne Cantwell, Jamie Heaslip, Caitriona Fottrell
4 Caoimhe Connolly, Daniela Bills Everett
5 Guests at the Rugby Lunch
6 Joanne Cantwell, Jamie Heaslip
7 Catherine Burke Kennedy, Rachel Hussey, Gerardine Connolly
8 Katie Norris, Ronan Foley, Jamie Heaslip

Photos: Mark Stedman, Sean Curtis

The Ireland Funds 10th Anniversary Rugby Lunch

February, 2018 Over 350 guests attended The Ireland Funds annual Rugby Lunch in Dublin's **Shelbourne Hotel** on Friday 9th February. The lunch honoured Irish Rugby hero, **Jamie Heaslip**. Director Ireland, **Caitriona Fottrell**, welcomed guests and thanked them for their support, acknowledging that many guests in the room had attended all ten Rugby Lunches. Worldwide President and CEO of The Ireland Funds, **Kieran McLoughlin**, gave an update on The Ireland Funds' activities over the past 12 months and thanked those gathered for their great philanthropic support. **RTÉ** Broadcaster **Joanne Cantwell**, emceed the event and conducted an interview with the honoree Jamie Heaslip who has seen it all in the world of Rugby including three Heineken Cups with Leinster, Grand Slam success with Ireland and a tour with the **British & Irish Lions** in 2009. In attendance was Chairman of The Ireland Funds America **John Fitzpatrick**. Previous honoree **Gordon D'Arcy** and legendary Liverpool footballer **Ian Rush** also joined the capacity room. The Ireland Funds Board Directors were represented by **Ronan Foley, Alan Foy, Tommy Gallagher, Emer Gilvarry, Caroline Kennedy, David McRedmond, Gerard Ryan, Trevor Ringland, Ciaran Murray** and **Jim Barry**. Special thanks to all our lunch Partners: **Land Rover Ireland, AIB Wholesale Institutional and Corporate Banking** and **Brandes Investment Partners** and guests for their wonderful support.

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The Ireland Funds Spring Gala

May, 2018 The Ireland Funds fifth annual Spring Gala was held in Dublin's **InterContinental Hotel**, Ballsbridge on Friday 18 May. The event honored actor **Aidan Gillen** with **The Ireland Funds Spirit of Ireland Award**. He attended with his partner, singer, **Camille O'Sullivan** and he spoke of his experience of philanthropy in the arts, and of the work of The Ireland Funds' grantee, **The Irish Arts Center** in New York. As is now a Spring Gala tradition, on the night guests entered the Diamond Draw, to win a diamond kindly sponsored by **Cullen & Co Jewellers.** After dinner, guests danced the night away with tunes from **Spring Break**.

1 Back Row: L-R: Fintan McGovern, Dareth Newton, Paul McClatchie; Front Row: Catherine Hughes, Lorraine Fenelon, Siobhán Gallagher, Katherine Juhas, Mairead O'Brien
2 Shane Horan, Alexandra Ramirez
3 Catherine Hughes, Lisa Kearns, Fiona Conway
4 Avril O'Flynn, Orna Holland
5 Alan Foy, Aidan Gillen, Caitriona Fottrell, Ronan Foley
6 Aidan Gillen, Katherine Juhas
7 David Mathews, Justin Van der Spuy, Laura Abrahamse, Paul McClatchie, Gerard Ryan, Will Sparks, Pat Brown, Brendan Meehan
8 George Dargan, Brid O'Shea, Dee Colgan, Davis Colgan, Guests

Photos: Mark Stedman, Dee Organ

AUSTRALIANEWS

2018 PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE IRELAND FUNDS AUSTRALIA

Suas partners with disadvantaged schools across Ireland to deliver literacy support to 8 to 14 year olds who are struggling with reading and writing – the building blocks of almost all future achievements. Since 2012 they have provided measurable improvements for over 4,000 students. Our continued support, including that of the Australian Young Leaders, will assist 2,820 children to:

- Improve their literacy & numeracy skills
- Reduce school dropout numbers and gain confidence

Inspired by Jim Stynes' Reach Foundation of Melbourne, **Soar** provides workshops to young people aged 12-18 across the island of Ireland when they are at a transitional period in their lives. Our support this year will assist Soar to:

- Provide 70 Facilitators and 45 Youth Crew
- Reach approximately 62,000 teenagers by 2020
- Provide a generation of young people with opportunities to improve well-being

Photo: Pauline Rowan

integrate my School.com

Integrate My School, Integrated Education Fund Today only 7% of schools are integrated in Northern Ireland, despite polls showing 80% support for integration. The Ireland Funds Australia are very proud to be a part of the next important step in the IE movement, transformation. With Liam Neeson's high profile involvement, our aim is to vastly improve the awareness rate, through the IEF's Integrate My School campaign, a one-stop-shop digital platform for parents containing:

- Succinct explanation of the simple process of transformation
- Ability to register schools online

SCIENCE GALLERY

Pioneered by Trinity College Dublin and part of a global network, **Science Gallery Melbourne** aims to engage young adults through the collision of arts and science to prepare for the estimated 75% of future jobs requiring STEM qualifications. Together with The Ireland Funds Australia two vocational programs have been developed:

- Indigenous cadetship: where a young Australian will join the team in a paid role developing professional skills, as well as travelling to Dublin for work experience at Trinity College.
- Regional schools outreach: where a class of students from disadvantaged areas in Victoria and Dublin will travel to their respective Science Gallery to spend a day on campus.

Australian Indigenous Education Foundation is a private sector led non-profit organisation focused on empowering Indigenous children to build a future through quality education and careers at Australian schools, universities and companies. The partnership between AIEF and The Ireland Funds Australia means 80 scholarship places by 2020. To date the AIEF has:

- More than 95% of alumni engaged in career pathways
- Funded around one third of all scholarship places for Indigenous boarders
- Consistently achieved a retention and Year 12 completion rate of more than 90%

The GO Foundation was founded by former Sydney Swans AFL players Adam Goodes and Michael O'Loughlin. With around 85% of Indigenous students in public schools GO are playing a vital role in making the education of young Indigenous Australians a more fulfilling and enjoyable experience and is proudly supported by the Australian Young Leaders' fundraising efforts. The GO Foundation public school scholarships provide:

- Financial assistance for educational needs, equipment and learning support
- Access to the broader GO Ecosystem, providing a network of support
- Cultural mentoring and corporate mentoring
- Transition support from school to university
- Employment and internship pathways

Trinity College Dublin
The University of Dublin

Trinity Business School and The Ireland Funds Australia Partnership

Officially launched by the Governor-General of Australia, Sir Peter Cosgrove in September 2017, the partnership enables:

- 20 scholarship places by 2020
- 4 scholarships per year for Australian residents
- First intake September 2019

Fairwater Supporters Reception

1 David Kelly, Carmel Callan, Ambassador Richard Andrews, Yvonne Le Bas
2 Kim Maloney, Toni & Peter Ryan, Amber Cleary, Lisa Malouf
3 Ambassador Breandán Ó Caollaí

March, 2018 On March 7, a beautiful autumn evening reception on the stunning grounds of **Fairwater** was once again hosted as a thank you to the incredible supporters of The Ireland Funds Australia. Irish Ambassador **Breandán Ó Caollaí** thanked supporters on behalf of the Government of Ireland for their friendship and financial support to the people of Ireland. Over the evening, we reflected on the wonderful year that was 2017, including the highlight of hosting a dinner for President of Ireland **Michael D Higgins** and his wife **Sabina**. Chairman of The Ireland Funds Australia **Yvonne Le Bas** thanked all guests including supporters, board members and corporate partners for their ongoing support.

Brisbane Supporters Reception

1 Jude Bolger, Sallyanne Atkinson AO, Cian O'Brolchain
2 Guests at Blackbird
3 Teresa Keating, Dr. Tom Moore and supporters

June, 2018 Overlooking the city skyline at the fabulous **Blackbird**, supporters came together on June 5 to connect and have some fun. Executive Director, **Teresa Keating**, provided a brief history of The Ireland Funds Australia and how today The Ireland Funds exists in 12 countries, supports over 3,200 projects in Ireland and Irish causes around the world and has raised more than $600 million for those projects. Teresa told guests that in 2017, The Ireland Funds Australia proudly celebrated its 30th Anniversary and over the last 5 years 93.5% of tax deductible donations received had been allocated to our charities. Former Lord Mayor of Brisbane and former Director, **Sallyanne Atkinson AO** and Director **Dr. Tom Moore** thanked everyone for coming out mid-week to support activities. Young Leader committee member **Jude Bolger**, spoke of his involvement giving back in Ireland and Australia.

1 Yvonne Le Bas
2 Gabrielle Ebsworth
3 Professor Karen Day, Catherine Murphy
4 Ambassador Breandán Ó Caollaí
5 Professor Pat McGorry AO, James Dunne, Helene McNamara, Celtic Club guests
6 3 TenOZ perform
7 Sandra Booth, Catherine Murphy
8 Teresa Keating, Chris McKearney, Sharon Fox-Slater, EBM Insurance guests

Melbourne Luncheon

May, 2018 The Ireland Funds Australia celebrated its annual Melbourne Luncheon at **Zinc at Federation Square** on May 18 where more than 180 guests enjoyed great food, fun, entertainment and company, all while giving something back. AIEF Scholarship graduate **Gabrielle Ebsworth** gave a wonderful acknowledgement of country and speech to open the occasion. Chairman of The Ireland Funds Australia **Yvonne Le Bas** welcomed guests including Board Members, Supporters, Major Sponsors and the Melbourne Young Leader Committee. Yvonne provided an update on the work of The Ireland Funds Australia over the last 12 months which included hosting 15 events and a grant round of $416,000 for the 2016/2017 financial year. Irish Ambassador **Breandán Ó Caollaí** endorsed the work of The Ireland Funds Australia telling guests the support of The Ireland Funds worldwide network for nonprofit organizations was vital and was making a huge difference in the lives of many people. MC **Catherine Murphy** invited Professor **Karen Day,** Dean of Science at Melbourne University to the stage to discuss her impressive career along with some initiatives The Ireland Funds Australia and **Science Gallery Melbourne** were partnering together to support via pledges on the day. First offered, a unique opportunity for a young Indigenous Australian to join the Science Gallery Melbourne team in a part-time paid role for 6 months with the opportunity to travel to **Science Gallery Dublin** for further work experience. Secondly, a regional schools outreach programme where students from disadvantaged areas in Victoria and Dublin will travel to their respective Science Gallery to spend a day on campus. Auctioneer **Chris McKearney**, EBM Insurance, expertly conducted the live auction. A huge thank you to major sponsors, **Emirates, Coolmore Stud, Sydney Yachts, Mrs Jones at the Orient, Eureka Level 89, Rugby Australia** and **Australian Radio Network.** Guests were entertained by the **Bad Penguins** and **3 TenOz**, who brought soaring vocals and humorous banter to the day.

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1 Pat & Collette Canavan
2 Gail Dunne, Carolyn Dunne, Eithne Heffernan
3 Colleen Donnelly, Oliver Murray
4 Rod Black
5 General John de Chastelain
6 Minister Denis Naughten
7 Adrienne Oliver, Dana Welch
8 Cathy Murphy, Jane Noonan, Dana Welch

Photos: Rick O'Brien

The Ireland Funds Canada St. Patrick's Day Lunch

March, 2018 The Ireland Funds Canada Annual St. Patrick's Day Lunch was another sold-out event this year. Over 900 people gathered in **Toronto's Convention Center** to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and to honor **General John de Chastelain**. In recognition of General de Chastelain's significant role in the Northern Ireland peace process, **Oliver Murray**, Chair of The Ireland Funds Canada, presented de Chastelain with the **Bird and Bell Award**. Speaking at the event, Oliver acknowledged that 20 years since the Good Friday Agreement, "The Bird and Bell Award is a well-deserved recognition of the great work that General de Chastelain accomplished during his time in Ireland as a member of the Mitchell Commission, co-Chair of the Multi Party Talks leading to the Good Friday Agreement; but more especially as the man who oversaw the decommissioning of paramilitary weapons at the end of the Troubles. De Chastelain is a proud Irish Canadian and a true friend of Ireland." After a prolonged standing ovation from all in attendance, General de Chastelain thanked The Ireland Funds for the special award and for its role in helping to create the conditions for peace in Northern Ireland and for continued support of important initiatives such as Integrated Education.

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The Ireland Funds Singapore Grant: Brian Friel's *Translations*

Set in 1833, **Brian Friel's *Translations*** was produced with a cast made up of nationalities from five nations; Irish, British, Portuguese, Australian and Singaporean. The production was sponsored in part by The Ireland Funds Singapore. "The unprecedented success of the recent production of Brian Friel's Translations in Singapore shines a light on the huge appetite there is in this part of the world for great drama and great writing," said **Ciaran Mullally,** Producer. A portion of the production's proceeds went to support **Autism Resource Center Singapore.**

1 A scene from Translations
2 The cast of Translations
3 Audience
4 Support for Autism Resource Center Singapore

Photos: Wilson Wong

The Ireland Funds Singapore Grant: An Introduction to the GAA

The Ireland Funds **Singapore has supported the Singapore Gaelic Lions GAA Club (SGL)** and **St. Patrick's Secondary School** since 2015 in helping both to create awareness of Ireland's rich cultural & sporting heritage. So far 400+ Secondary Level 1 & 2 pupils participated in week long Gaelic football skill and coaching sessions and to further the reach and deliverability of this initiative, The Ireland Funds Singapore recently supported a week-long trip to Ireland by 5 Singapore PE teachers who were hosted by the **Connacht Council (CC) of the GAA** in Co. Mayo. The objectives of the program were for the teachers to be a) introduced to GAA & Gaelic football culture in Ireland, b) learn how to coach the basic skills, c) create and build Gaelic football teaching resources for teachers in Singapore schools so that all pupils could learn the skills of the game.

The group landed in Claremorris, Co. Mayo on Sunday June 17th and were met by **Peter O'Brien** Co- Chairperson SGL who also travelled to act a liaison for the trip. The CC hosted the group that afternoon at **Dr Hyde Park** in Roscommon for the Provincial U-20 and Senior Football Finals. The Senior final was a closely contested game but Galway managed to win by 0-16 to 0-12. Both finals were highly competitive and of high quality which provided great advertisements for the game of Gaelic football and the GAA. The group also traveled to Dublin to meet **Pat Daly**, Global Head of Games at the GAA and discussed sport in Education matters with him. They were given a tour of Croke Park, the home of the GAA. It was proudly noticed that the logo of the Singapore Gaelic Lions displayed at the entrance to the Croke Park museum. "We will now begin to spread Gaelic Football to Singapore students and further their awareness of all things Irish and Ireland," said **Eric Lee**, Principal of St Patrick's School.

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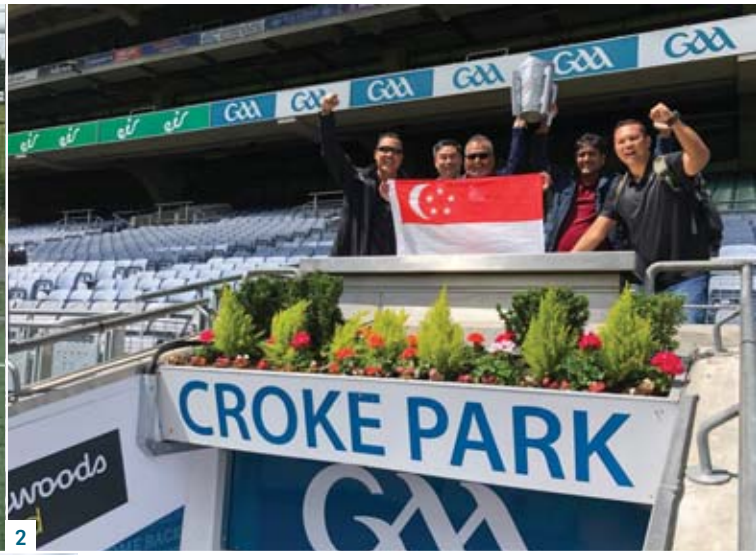

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1 Indrajit Singh, Abdul Nasir, Irfan Ismail, John Tobin, Irwan Wijaya, Peter O'Brien
2 Irfan Ismail, Glynne Chiu, Abdul Nasir, Indrajit Singh, Irwan Wijaya
3 Indrajit Singh, Irwan Wijaya, Pat Daly, Irfan Ismail, Glynne Chiu

1 The Emerald Ball Tokyo committee together with her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado (center); Irish Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government Mr. Eoghan Murphy TD and Her Excellency Mrs. Anne Barrington Irish Ambassador to Japan and her husband Mr. Ed Milano
2 Irish singer Mundy performed while on tour in Japan
3 Trad performers Chowder 99%
4 DJ Guy Perryman had the room dancing
5 Guests enjoy Dinner with rolling Irish images
6 Ambassador Anne Barrington
7 Irish dancing to Taiko Drums
8 Irish Minister Eoghan Murphy

The Ireland Funds Japan 25th Emerald Ball Tokyo

March, 2018 The 25th Emerald Ball Tokyo Charity Ball & Dinner took place on March 17. It was held at the **Hotel Gajoen** in the Meguro ward of downtown Tokyo. The 2018 Emerald Ball Tokyo committee created an island of Ireland within this traditional Japanese setting to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Guests included her Imperial Highness **Princess Takamado**; the former Irish Ambassador to Japan **Anne Barrington**; the Irish Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government **Eoghan Murphy** T.D. and **Father Doyle**, an extraordinary Irish priest who has spread his love of Ireland through education and faith throughout Japan over five decades. Miss World Ireland 2016 **Niamh Kennedy** as well as Miss World Japan 2017 **Haruka Yamashita** also attended. The event attracted a record number of guests with 325 patrons in attendance. The event was not only a great night of Irish revelry but also fulfilled the important goal of raising money for the work of The Ireland Funds Japan. These funds generated were allocated to deserving causes in both Japan and Ireland. The Japanese/Irish theme continued throughout the evening with an exhilarating bodhran/taiko drum performance, dancing by the **Ardagh School** of Irish dancers and **Chowder 99%** a Japanese trio of harp, guitar and fiddle, who played trad music for the delighted guests. The DJ, **Guy Perryman**, a renowned artist from a local English speaking Japanese radio station **Inter FM**, provided a mix of Japanese and Irish music for dancing late into the night. However, the highlight of the evening's entertainment was without question, a stunning performance by **Mundy**, the renowned Irish musician. A special thank you goes out to the hardworking committee which worked tirelessly to put on this record-breaking event with **Patricia Delahunt-Loing** as Chair, **Chris Green** representing the Irish Embassy, **Richard Grehan** of **ImageMILL** who provided the design, **Paddy Hogan** who headed up Sponsorship & Fundraising with the help of **Mary Toal, Lauren Kerr** who managed all the financial & accounting functions, **Susan Lawlor** who provided a critical link with the Hotel, **Fiachra Martin** on Entertainment, **Guy Strong** on communication & social media and **Nicola Waddington** who defined all the culinary and beverage requirements for the event. **Declan Collins** with translation provided by **Clare Greenan**, compered the evening. Thanks to our sponsors: **British Airways, Diageo, the Hotel Gajoen, Coca Cola, Pernod Ricard, PacaPaca Farms, Mercedes Benz** and **Life14** for photography.

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I Love Ireland Festival

March, 2018 The I Love Ireland Festival was held again this year in **Yoyogi Park, Shibuya** over the Saint Patrick's Day weekend. Started in 2014, today this is largest Irish event in Asia. The Ireland Funds Japan again was very happy to support this event promoting Irish culture, sport and education and community in Japan. The festival showcased the best of Ireland to Japan, including Irish culture, sport, music and dance, food and drinks and of course friendly craic. This year we also highlighted rugby, as the Rugby World Cup will be hosted in Japan in 2019 and Ireland's rugby team had just won the Grand Slam that weekend. It was estimated that over 120,000 people attended from Japan, Ireland and many other countries. The number continues to increase each year and the Festival was blessed with beautiful sunshine all weekend.

The Festival was honored to be joined by the Irish Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, **Eoghan Murphy** T.D., Ambassador of Ireland to Japan **Anne Barrington**, members of the Japanese rugby team including **Hitoshi Ono**. Also attending were Miss World Japan **Haruka Yamashita** and Miss World Ireland **Niamh Kennedy**. There were over 40 booths related to Ireland and the attendees enjoyed Irish food, drinks and goods provided by each booth. Over 20 Japanese and Irish musicians and dancers contributed to an authentic Irish experience. There was also significant press coverage exposing Ireland to a larger and broader Japanese audience.

The Ireland Funds China—Croí an Ċladaiġ—From the Woods to the Water

March, 2018 Hong Kong Island based **Stanley Sea School** Principal **Hon Piu Lee** and his teenage students hosted the **Claddagh Boatmen Peter Connolly, Coilin Hernon** and **Joe Joyce** for the week 22 to 29 March. The Claddagh Boatmen are the custodians of the **Galway Hooker,** the iconic fishing vessel of the West of Ireland. For the first time, the Boatmen travelled to Hong Kong and Macau to share their unique skills, experience and passion. They spent time with the students in the Sea School in Stanley, met with counterparts in Macau and screened a documentary on their work titled **Croí an Ċladaiġ – From the Woods to the Water**, by documentary film-maker **Tony Walsh**. The students received hands-on training in traditional boat building skills and the school and wider Hong Kong community were able to learn about the working history and recent regatta resurgence of these unique vessels.

1 Joe Joyce with students
2 Learning boat-building skills
3 Tony Walsh, Coilin Hernon, Peter Connolly, Joe Joyce at Stanley Sea School Hong Kong

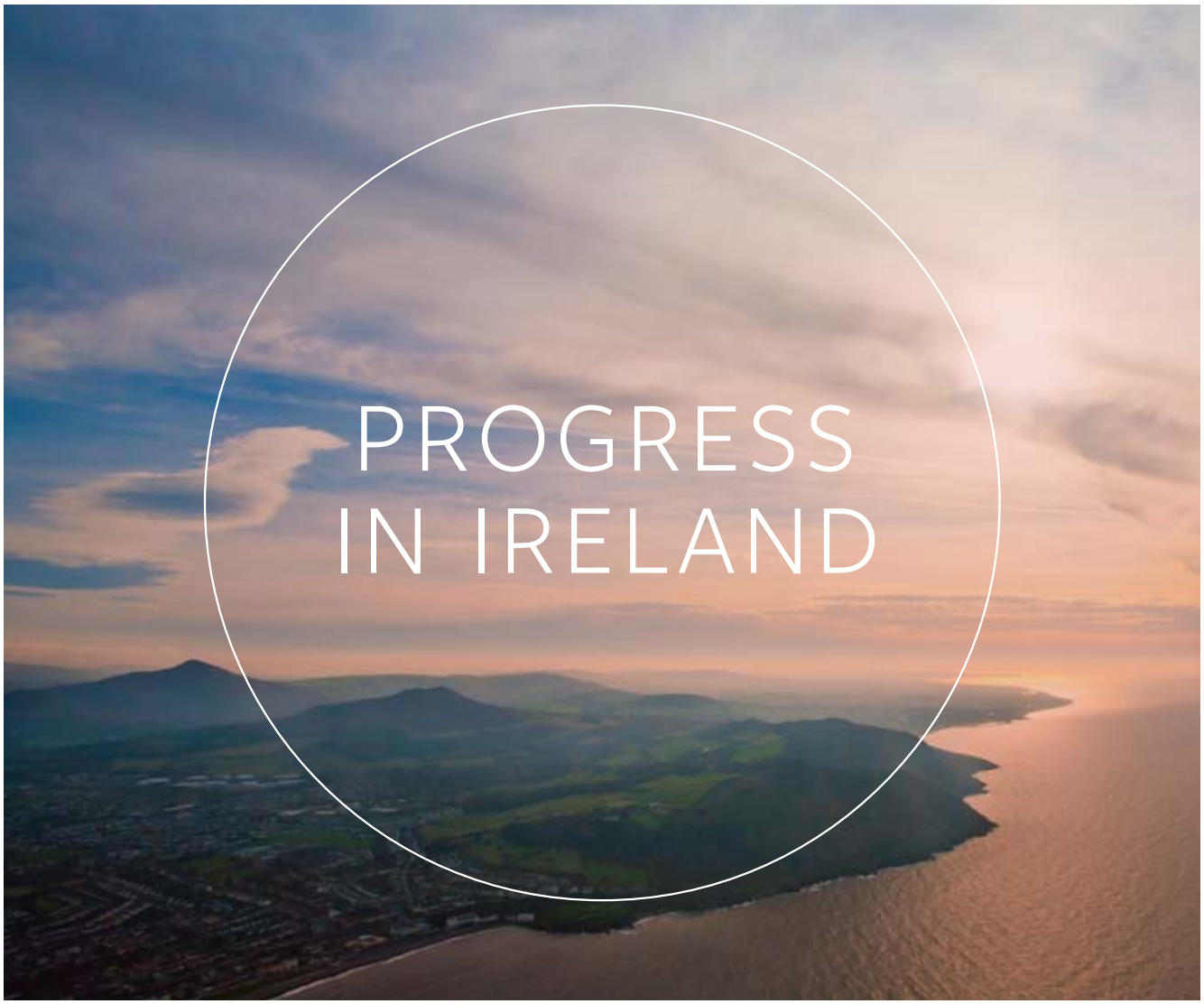
Photos: Paul Gallagher

The Ireland Funds China & Pieta House Darkness into Light 5K Walk

May, 2018 **Darkness Into Light Hong Kong 2018** excelled having 30% more registered participants than the 2017 inaugural event. **Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park** at 5 am witnessed 500 yellow clad walkers support **Pieta House Ireland** and **Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong (SBHK)** in preventing suicide and self-harm, with a symbolic passage from darkness of night to light of dawn. With 200,000 participants at 180 Irish and worldwide venues, Irish and Hong Kongers alike showed solidarity and raised awareness for this Irish campaign. Local donations and sponsorship has been directed by The Ireland Funds to SBHK's Life Education schools and community program.

1 Darkness Into Light Hong Kong 2018 participants greet the dawn at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park
2 Darkness Into Light Hong Kong 2018 signed message of HOPE

Photos: Paul Gallagher



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The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society

The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society attracts professionals aged 25-40. Paving the way for the future, the Society cultivates an emerging generation of philanthropists, connects the global Irish community and inspires positive change. Visit **www.irelandfunds.org/young-leaders** to learn more.

To learn more about the Young Leaders Society in the US contact **Cliona Doyle** at **cdoyle@irelandfunds.org** and to learn more about the international chapters contact **Siobhán Gallagher** at **sgallagher@irelandfunds.org**

- Complimentary and discounted admission to exclusive Irish cultural and philanthropic events throughout the year
- Invitation, and for preferred levels—discounted admission, to The Ireland Funds Conference in Ireland and complimentary admission to The Global Young Leaders Summit
- Exclusive networking opportunities with global leaders in the fields of finance, government, the arts and technology

#YLS7

The Ireland Funds Global Young Leaders Summit 2018 in Washington DC

IN JANUARY 2018, THE IRELAND FUNDS GLOBAL YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT BROUGHT OVER 150 YOUNG LEADERS TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL, WASHINGTON DC. YOUNG LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE US, IRELAND, NORTHERN IRELAND, GREAT BRITAIN AND CANADA CAME TOGETHER TO STRATEGIZE FOR THE YEAR AHEAD, HEAR UPDATES ON THEIR PHILANTHROPY, AND STRENGTHEN THEIR GLOBAL RELATIONSHIP.

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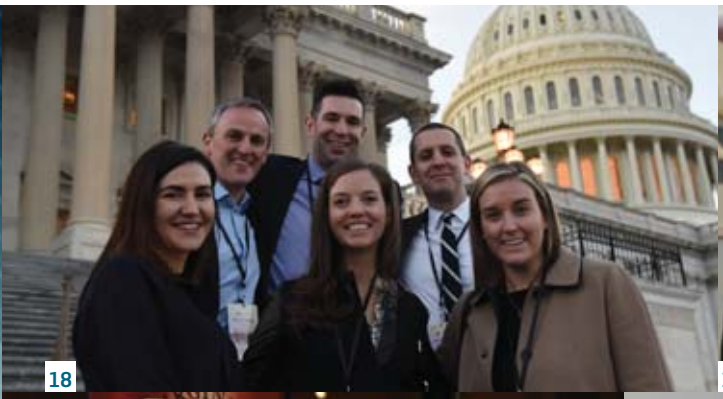
1 Global Young Leaders at Capitol Hill
2 Conor Curley, Hugh Gibbons, Ciara Hickey, John Fitzpatrick, Dan Healy
3 Will Reeve
4 Global Young Leaders in the Smithsonian
5 L-R Backrow: Meredith Flynn, Tom Kennedy, Will Reeve. Frontrow: David Shine, Abbey Canning
6 Angela Moore
7 Christy McCallion, Megan Molloy, Mary O'Kennedy
8 Jack O'Meara, Kelsey Fraser, Kaitlin Schiele, John McCarthy, Matthew Wholey
9 Leslie McDonough, Caoimhe Connolly, Colleen Connolly, Catherine Hughes
10 Rory Godson, Shaun Kelly, Gene McQuade, Angela Moore, Bart Murphy
11 Jim McCann, Meredith Merrill
12 Katie Curley, Susan Davis, Tara McCabe
13 Claire Tighe
14 Media Panel: Susan Davis, Hadas Gold, Olivia Nuzzi, Suzanne Lynch, Tom Fitzgerald
15 Norman Houston
16 Niamh Parker, Mairead O'Brien, Aisling O'Leary
17 John McCarthy, Olivia Nuzzi, John Fitzpatrick
18 Backrow: Steve Pedlow, Diarmuid Moroney, James, Beesley, Frontrow: Claire Thornhill, Joanne Kearney
19 Lisa Kearns, Anne Murtagh
20 Shaun Kelly, and Young Leaders
21 Grainne Barron, Conor Houston, Angela Moore
22 John Fitzpatrick, Michael Kelly
23 Young Leaders at Uber
24 Michael Kelly, Chris Matthews
25 LJ Prendergast, Ian Casey, Grainne Barron, Ciara Hickey
26 Ambassador Dan Mulhall, Sarah Lyden, Patrick Lyden
27 The Ryder Cup of Bowling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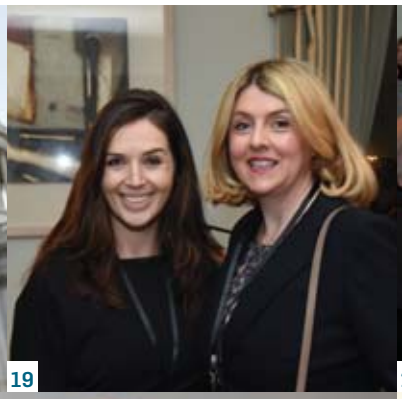
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1 Matt Harrington, Nora Kennedy, Mike Greeley, Michael Collins, Jr.
2 Olivia Florence, Maggie Berkley, Kristen Blake, Holly Foster, Campbell Probert
3 No caption
4 Meghan O'Donnell, Campbell Probert
5 Leanna Coskren, Andrew Flynn, Mike Coskren
6 Suffolk Construction
7 Charles Veysey, Jeff Carter
8 St Patrick's Committee Chairman, Mike Greeley

Photos: Sandie Allen

Boston Young Leaders St. Patrick's Celebration

MARCH, 2018 On March 15, The Ireland Funds' Boston Young Leaders hosted a record crowd of 600+ at the annual St. Patrick's Celebration, their signature event each year. Keeping with The Ireland Funds' tradition of top venues, the Young Leaders, their friends and Ireland Funds' supporters were welcomed to the **Wharf Room** at the **Boston Harbor Hotel**. Overlooking Boston Harbor, appropriately up-lit in green, the room was filled with laughter, stories, bidding on hotly-contested auction items. **Steve Greeley**, The Ireland Funds New England Director and Vice President of Development, opened the program by noting it was another record-breaking evening of celebrating Irish pride which would make a real difference in Ireland. County Mayo's TD **Michael Ring**, Ireland's Minister for Rural and Community Development, gave a rousing and well-received expression of the deep gratitude of the Irish government for The Ireland Funds' astounding support of Irish nonprofits. Minister Ring concluded by assuring those with Irish roots in the filled-to-capacity room, that their grandparents and great grandparents were looking down and smiling at the continued expression of Irish bonds. Chairman **Mike Greeley** challenged the Young Leaders to continue to gather and give back to Ireland. Mike Greeley then thanked his Vice Chairmen **Michael Collins, Jr.** of **Optum, Nora Kennedy** of **Suffolk Construction**, and **Matt Harrington** of **Intercontinental Real Estate**, who each saluted the event's sponsors. With records broken for both fundraising and attendance, the party continued with great momentum. Boston-based Irish band "Devri" kept the night upbeat and Irish. Thank you to all our sponsors and supporters, particularly our Patron Sponsors: **Newmark Knight Frank, Optum, State Street, and Suffolk Cares** and Benefactor Sponsors: **Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, Claremont Properties, Dell EMC, Eversource, Goldman Sachs & Co., Grand Coast Capital, & Laura & Bob Reynolds** and our in-kind sponsors **Winston Flowers** and **Delta Airlines**.

Boston Young Leaders Summer Social

1 Kevin Thurston, Clancy Galgay, Shane Early
2 Avery Adams, Caitlin Power, Rachel Lehman
3 John Swanson, Matthew Olson, Blake McLaughlin, Jen Corcoran, Allie Percoco, Margaret O'Connor, Nicola Chapple, Elizabeth McLaughlin

JUNE, 2018 120 of Boston's spirited Young Leaders celebrated summer on June 27 at the beautiful **Bostonia Public House** owned by Ireland Funds' supporter and 2017 Boston Gala Co-Chairman, **Dave Greaney**. Glasses were raised to toast the St. Patrick's Celebration Committee and the Committee Chairman Mike Greeley and his three Vice Chairs **Michael Collins, Jr.**, **Matt Harrington,** and **Nora Kennedy**, whose efforts set a new fundraising record for Boston and The Ireland Funds Young Leaders, worldwide. **Steve Greeley**,The Ireland Funds' New England Director and VP of Development, thanked everyone for their hard work on the event that exceeded all expectations while maintaining its reputation as Boston's best St. Patrick's Celebration. He also reported on The Ireland Funds' Worldwide Conference recently held in Co. Limerick and his visits to local projects supported by The Ireland Funds.

1 David Diehl, Sinead Faughnan, Bridget Moynahan
2 St Patrick's Day Celebration Committee
3 Bridget Moynahan
4 BFloral Team
5 Bridget Moynahan, John Fitzpatrick
6 Jessica LaSalle, Kevin Bui, Ashley & Dan Healy
7 Siobhan Byrne, Renee Rossi
8 Guests with the Hank Lane Band

Photos: James Higgins, Stetson Gleave

New York Young Leaders St. Patrick's Celebration

MARCH, 2018 On Thursday, March 8, The Ireland Funds New York Young Leaders hosted their 13th annual signature fundraiser, The St. Patrick's Celebration at **Espace**, which was attended by more than 600 friends and supporters of The Ireland Funds. The event honored **Bridget Moynahan** with the Irish Spirit Award and two-time New York Giant Superbowl Champion, **David Diehl** with the **Dylan Smith Community Service Award**. **Pat Tully**, Vice President of Development, welcomed guests and introduced **Cliona Doyle**, Director of the Young Leaders. Cliona thanked the event committee, sponsors and introduced Co-Chairs of the event, **Dan Healy** and **Sinead Faughnan**. Dan spoke of David's contribution to so many charities in the New York and New Jersey area. He also recognized the heroic efforts of **Dylan Smith** whose life the award commemorates. Sinead Faughnan then introduced the second honoree of the evening, Bridget Moynahan. Bridget is currently starring in the **CBS** hit show **"Blue Bloods"**. Sinead spoke to the group of Bridget's Irish upbringing and her great support of many charities. Bridget thanked The Ireland Funds for the award and spoke warmly about her work with **Hole in the Wall Gang Camp** which The Ireland Funds supports in Ireland. Pat Tully conducted the live auction which included a luxury trip to Ireland and a trip for six to the **Kentucky Derby**. The fundraising continued with a special appeal for the **Irish Arts Center**'s capital campaign. The official after party hosted by **Union Beer Distributors** at **Rattle and Hum West**. Thank you to our sponsors including: **The O'Connor Family, Jameson Irish Whiskey, BFloral, Delta Airlines** and **BMW**.

1 Bridget Monahan, Dan Gibbons, Sarah Brennan, Suzanne Denihan, James Keeley, Abbey Canning, Kelly Cannon, Meghan Lee, Tristia Barrett, Annie Duffy, Nick Parrish, Pat Tully
2 Corey & Rachel Walz, Lindsey Lasater, John MacDonald
3 Pat Tully, Bridget Monahan, Garrett Hayes
4 Sarah Brennan, Alex Storm, Geoff Powell, Kelly Brennan, Meg Murphy
5 Alex Storm, Lauren Handzik, Molly Lamping, Caroline Berko, Meg Murphy, Sarah Brennan
6 Meghan Lee, Bridget Monahan, Suzanne Denihan, Pat Tully
7 Emmett Finnegan, Caroline Mazzone, Elizabeth Finnegan, Steven Mazzone
8 Ashley & Sean Rooney

Photos: Datu Ramel Photography

Chicago Young Leaders 8th Annual Green Gala

MARCH, 2018 The Chicago Young Leaders kicked off the St. Patrick's Day season with panache on March 10 with the 8th Annual Green Gala. Nearly 200 guests generously raised a new record for the Green Gala. **Pat Tully**, the Vice President of Development, welcomed guests and offered an overview of the work of The Ireland Funds. Chicago Young Leader Chair, **Abbey Canning**, and Vice Chair, **James Keeley**, encouraged guests to become involved in the Chicago chapter. The live auction included a trip to Ireland thanks to sponsors **United Airlines, Sheen Falls Lodge** and **Ireland's Blue Book**. New to the Gala was the use of mobile bidding for the silent auction. **Suzanne Denihan**, along with the rest of the Steering Committee, secured enticing prizes for guests to outbid each other to win. After viewing the latest Ireland Funds video, guests donated via their mobile phones in a live donation appeal, raising thousands of dollars for the work of The Ireland Funds in a matter of minutes. Donors for the appeal and auction were rewarded with green sunglasses. **Signature Entertainment** kept the dance floor packed until the after party began next door at **Timothy O'Toole's**. Thank you to sponsors: **The O'Halleran Family, CIBC, GCM Grosvenor, National Home Rentals, The Big Dog Fund, Breakthru Beverage, Patrick and Betsy Canning, Chez, Fifth Third Bank, First National Assets, Keaney Construction, Ireland's Blue Book, Mayo Steel Erectors, MillerCoors, Mooney Family Foundation, Premier Catering and Events, Pine Valley One Real Estate, Rock Capital Partners, Signature Bank, Totem Lumber,** and **United Airlines**.

Chicago Young Leaders Cubs Night

JUNE, 2018 On June 5, the Chicago Young Leaders gathered for a night of baseball at the iconic **Wrigley Field** to watch the **Chicago Cubs** vs. the **Phillies. Sarah Brennan**, together with **James Keeley,** Co-Chair of the Young Leaders, and **Abbey Canning**, Chair of the Young Leaders, planned a beautiful summer evening. Guests began the night at the **Old Crow Smokehouse** with a pre-game reception on the roof top. They were able to enjoy some of the best views of the city while connecting with friends and supporting the many worthy causes of The Ireland Funds.

1 Kenzie Ungar, Tom O'Neill
2 Annie Duffy, Jack Duffy
3 Matt Gebert, Dave Reusch, Sule Baptiste, Abbey Canning

Chicago Young Leaders Leadership Forum with Consul General

FEBRUARY, 2018 The Consul General **Brian O'Brien** and Vice Consul General **Justin Dolan** hosted a reception for the Chicago Young Leaders on February 21, in the **SkyLounge**, atop the Kemper Building. Brian O'Brien is Ireland's 22nd Consul General serving Chicago and the Midwest and has been building bridges between Ireland and the region's numerous Irish organizations. The Consul General met with The Ireland Funds Young Leaders and spoke about the issues affecting Ireland and U.S. Irish relations while thanking them for the fundraising they are doing to make an impact on the lives of so many. It was a beautiful setting and there was a lively, informative discussion about Ireland and the Young Leaders. The Ireland Funds thanks the Consul General and Vice Consul General for their outreach and hospitality.

1 Jack Gordon, Consul General Brian O'Brien
2 John O'Neill, Hannah Stewart, Consul General Brian O'Brien, Rachel Moore, Quinn McCarthy
3 Kevin Lally, Tristia Barrett

Dublin Leadership Series with Anne Morrison

1 Anne Morrison
2 Jack Drea, Marcus Walsh, Joleen Quinn, Aisling McDonnell
3 David Henry, Anne Morrison, Jack Drea, Niall Cribben, Ronan Harbison, Jack Kavanagh

MARCH, 2018 Following her very successful talk in the Leadership Series in London, **Anne Morrison** gave a talk in the series to the Dublin Young Leaders. The event was hosted by Irish corporate partner, **KPMG** in their stunning office space in Dublin's city centre. Anne is currently chair of **BAFTA**'s International Committee and formerly Chair of BAFTA from 2014 to 2016, the second woman to hold the position in its 70-year history. In her television career, having worked as a producer/director, she held senior management positions for 20 years at the **BBC**, and as Controller of Documentaries and Contemporary Factual, was responsible for hundreds of hours of factual television including many award-winning programmes. A native of Belfast, she shared her stories of growing up in Northern Ireland, and her experiences working in London as a female executive in BBC. Anne's witty stories offered together with her life lessons, were well-received by the Dublin Young Leaders.

Japan Young Leaders Leadership Series with Dr. Greg Story

1 Standing: Dr. Greg Story
Clockwise from bottom: Brendan Jennings, Ayumi Miyano, Paul Nugent, Jamie Curtis, Jonathan Patchell, Matthew Connolly, Gordon Hatton, Conor Canavan, Fiachra Martin, Eamonn Murphy
2 Clockwise from bottom: Paul Nugent, Dr. Greg Story, Jamie Curtis, Jonathan Patchell, Conor Canavan, Fiachra Martin, Eamonn Murphy, Sayo Kuroda, Teppei Serizawa, Lorcan Brophy, Stephen Dempsey, Emmett Duffy, Mari Ozaki
3 Emmett Duffy, Dr. Greg Story

MARCH, 2018 On July 3, The Ireland Funds Japan held their inaugural Young Leaders Leadership Series at **Pembroke**'s office in the beautifully designed **Tri-Seven Roppongi** building in Tokyo. **Dr. Greg Story**, President of **Dale Carnegie** and number 1 best-selling author (**Japan Sales Mastery**) on **Amazon** spoke to a group of 20 professionals on **The Future Of Leadership in Japan**. Greg spoke about the challenges of leading teams in Japan and the complexities of the shrinking domestic market. The group had a lively question and answer session and Greg shared insights he has gained throughout his career moving from the academic world, to consulting, investments, trade representation, international diplomacy, retail banking and now people development.

Belfast Leadership Series with John Fitzpatrick

APRIL, 2018 John Fitzpatrick, President and CEO of the **Fitzpatrick Hotel Group**, North America, and Chairman of The Ireland Funds America, spoke to the Belfast Young Leaders for the Leadership Series on May 18. The event was hosted in the **Duncairn Centre**, a grantee of The Ireland Funds, a shared space venue for Arts & Culture in North Belfast. Guests were welcomed by Rev. **Bill Shaw** and U.S. Consul General **Daniel Lawton** who warmly introduced John Fitzpatrick. John and **Jonathan Ireland**, Belfast Young Leaders committee member, engaged in a fireside chat, discussing John's success, his lessons on leadership, and his entertaining stories of the early years he spent in New York. John spoke of the **Paddy and Eithne Foundation**, which he set up in honor of his parents. He urged the Young Leaders to engage with the work of The Ireland Funds and to make sure they take every opportunity to see and meet the organisations it supports. A lively questions and answers session followed.

1 Jonathan Ireland, John Fitzpatrick
2 Back Row: Dan Lawton, Gareth Quinn, Trevor Ringland, Richard Willis, Caitriona Fottrell
Front Row: Jonathan Ireland, Siobhán Gallagher, Emma Hunt, John Fitzpatrick, Andrew Trimble, Jonny Elliott, Bill Shaw
3 John Fitzpatrick
4 Bill Shaw, Gareth Quinn
5 John Fitzpatrick and guests
6 John Fitzpatrick and guests

Photos: Neil Harrison Photography

Belfast Digital Diaspora at DigitalDNA

JUNE, 2018 The Ireland Funds hosted a special session on Digital Diaspora at **DigitalDNA**, Northern Ireland's leading business and technology event. The session explored how technology can better connect the diaspora, and in turn, how that diaspora contributes to Northern Ireland both from a philanthropic and commercial perspective.The panellists were: **Ryan Feeney**, Head of Public Engagement, **Queen's University Belfast** & Belfast Young Leaders steering committee member; John Greer, Director of Economic Development, Belfast City Council; Dermot McLaughlin, Principal Consultant at **Creative Strategic Solutions**; **Anton McGonnell,** MBA Candidate **Harvard University** and **Siobhán Gallagher,** Director, The Ireland Funds. After the session, Belfast Young Leaders, networked at an after-event kindly hosted by DigitalDNA and planned their trip to the Global Young Leaders Summit in New York in 2019 to meet their fellow diaspora.

1 Young Leaders at DigitalDNA
2 Ryan Feeney

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Great Britain Leadership Series with Harry Handlesman

1 Harry Handelsman, Siobhán Gallagher
2 Harry Handelsman speaks to The Ireland Funds Great Britain Young Leaders
3 John-Paul Eaton, Byron Fry, Dermot Skinnader, James Meade

Photos: Noel Mullen

FEBRUARY, 2018 The Ireland Funds Young Leaders gathered on February 27 for a lecture in the Global Leadership Series at the magnificent **St. Pancras Renaissance** Hotel in London. The owner of this iconic hotel and visionary property developer, **Harry Handelsman** of **Manhattan Loft**, led an excellent leadership session, sharing an overview of his pioneering journey in business over the past 25 years. It was a masterclass in entrepreneurial spirit.

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Sydney— Diversity and Inclusion in Sport: A Panel Discussion

1 Yvonne Le Bas, Adam Goodes, Dr. Stanley Quek, Keira Kinahan Murphy, Tadhg Kennelly
2 Sydney Young Leader Committee with Dr. Stanley Quek, MC Brian Deane, Panelists
3 Guests at The Private Kitchen

Photos: Stanley Images

MARCH, 2018 To kick-off the 2018 event calendar, the Sydney Australia Young Leaders spent an evening exploring the true impact of diversity and inclusion with Ireland and Australia's sporting legends. The panel, which consisted of Australian of the Year **Adam Goodes**, one of Australia's most successful **GAA** stars **Keira Kinahan Murphy**, dual **AFL/Gaelic** star **Tadhg Kennelly**, and **Swans** legend **Mick O'Loughlin**, held attendees captive by their achievements and stories. Thanks to generous support of **Dr. Stanley Quek**, guests enjoyed **The Private Kitchen, Kensington St** with drinks courtesy of **Jacob's Creek** wines and **The Dubliner** Irish Whiskey Liqueur. A key takeaway was realizing the distance still to travel in making true diversity and inclusion a reality in society. The **GO Foundation**, supported by the Young Leaders, is bridging this gap with a tangible impact on the lives of children.

THE IRELAND FUNDS

THE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Make a Lasting Gift to Ireland

The Ireland Funds America has over 40 years of experience connecting philanthropic vision with initiatives that make a difference. Your lasting partnership with The Ireland Funds America builds a bridge between the past and the future, helping ensure the work you value today will continue to make a difference tomorrow.

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- REAL ESTATE
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In many cases, The Ireland Funds America may not be aware that you are considering including us in your estate plans. Please contact us to let us know of your intentions so that we may, in turn, acknowledge and recognize your future contributions. Your legacy will be treated with care.

Your Legacy

CAN REFLECT ALL THAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

"My philanthropy is motivated by a wish to give back and a desire to see Ireland reach her full potential. The Ireland Funds have been a major focal point for the Irish diaspora to come together, reconnect with their heritage and support good work at home."– *John Ryan, California*

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