



THE IRELAND FUNDS

FALL/WINTER 2019

Connect

PROGRESS THROUGH PHILANTHROPY



THE IRELAND FUNDS

Impactful Support
For Outstanding
Organizations

WWW.IRELANDFUNDS.ORG

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey knit beanie, a dark vest over a light-colored sweater, is smiling and sitting in a wooden boat on a body of water. In the background, a large, multi-story stone castle with multiple towers and battlements sits on a grassy hillside. The surrounding landscape is lush with green trees and foliage.

Fill your heart with **Ireland** 

They say you should always listen to your heart

And what better place to do that than the island of Ireland. After all, your heart knows best. It knows when you're lost for words, or just lost in the moment. Your heart is the best compass there is. And it's led you to some magnificent places, where you've been welcomed by new friends, tried sumptuous local cuisine and experienced the ultimate in relaxation. So get out there and fill your heart with the best of Ireland.

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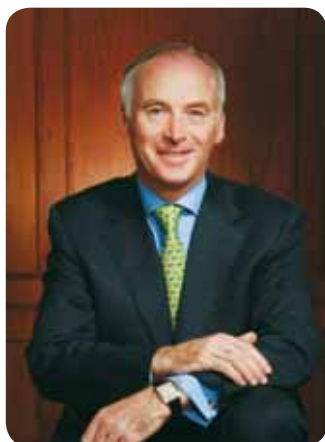
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Dear Fellow Donors,

Welcome to the latest edition of Connect Magazine. 2019 has been a strong year so far for The Ireland Funds. We were delighted to welcome David Cronin as the new President & CEO of The Ireland Funds America and we look forward to working with him as we continue to build this great organization.

Over the past number of months, we have hosted some incredible events around the world. The highlight of course, was our Annual Worldwide Conference held in Belfast, Northern Ireland. While in Belfast, our donors had the opportunity to visit some of the extraordinary projects we support such as Integrated Education and PeacePlayers.

We were also delighted to announce our €1 million grant round whereby projects across the island of Ireland can apply for funding. This would not be possible without your consistent generosity. It will truly make a difference to the lives of people all over Ireland and I look forward to you reading about and hopefully visiting these projects in the near future.

I hope you enjoy the stories in this edition of Connect magazine in the knowledge that The Ireland Funds is lending substantial support to those making a real difference on the ground across Ireland. We are immensely proud of what you have enabled us to achieve and we hope you share that pride.

After six years, my term as Chairman will come to a close at the end of 2019. It has been a privilege to serve as Chairman of this great organization and I would like to thank you all for your support during my tenure. I look forward to remaining involved and continuing to support The Ireland Funds and our incredible projects. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate long-time board member Gene McQuade upon being elected as our new Chairman, and fellow long-time board member Shaun Kelly upon his election as our new Vice Chairman, with both terms commencing on January 1st, 2020. Both gentlemen have distinguished themselves by their dedication to our mission, and I know that they will continue to do great things for this organization. Working together with our great team, led by David Cronin, Caitriona Fottrell and our newly appointed Chief Financial and Administration Officer, Conall McGonagle, I just know that together they will all help The Ireland Funds make tremendous leaps forward in the name of helping people with great needs.

As my second term as Chairman winds down, I am excited to know that the organization that I care about so passionately is in such great hands. I wish our Chairman-elect and our Vice Chairman-elect great success, and I look forward to giving them my full support as we move forward.

Thank you again for your ongoing generosity.

Kind regards,
John Fitzpatrick
Chairman, The Ireland Funds America

Connect

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.



On the Cover:

In July, The Ireland Funds announced the opening of the 2019 Grant Rounds with financial support for non-profit organisations in Ireland. Pictured: Geoff Harte of Dogs for the Disabled (an organization which has received support from The Ireland Funds) and his assistance dog, Jazz; Katie Norris, Grants Manager for The Ireland Funds; Caitriona Fottrell, Director of The Ireland Funds; and Labrador puppies en route to training in Cork. Photo: Mark Stedman

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*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.*

—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—



www.irelandfunds.org

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Dear Donors and Friends,

I would like to begin by thanking our US Board, worldwide Board members, donors, colleagues and friends for the warm welcome and support that I have received since starting with The Ireland Funds this summer.

The experience of meeting so many people who share a common sense of purpose is energizing and the passion is palpable! I look forward to working with you all in the months and years ahead.

My primary focus is to build on our strengths and ensure that we stay true to our mission – to genuinely impact charitable organizations on the island of Ireland, improving the lives of those we serve and supporting young talent to fulfil their potential.

We have a great team and together we continue to refine our organization, our business model, our impact and our focus. There is always room for improvement and we are open to input, direction and guidance from those who share our passion and commitment.

Thank you again for your generosity, your compassion, your commitment and your support. Together we will build The Ireland Funds into an organization of which we can be even more proud, expanding our base, staying true to our mission and ensuring we are impactful and sustainable for the future.

Connect magazine is a wonderful way to get a glimpse of some of the work that we all do together. The Ireland Funds is you. Without you, we do not exist. With you, we can make a real difference. Together, we can change lives.

I look forward to working with you all and thank you again for your continued support.

Warm regards,

David Cronin

President & CEO, The Ireland Funds America



THE IRELAND FUNDS

thank you

—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—



Barnardos

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.

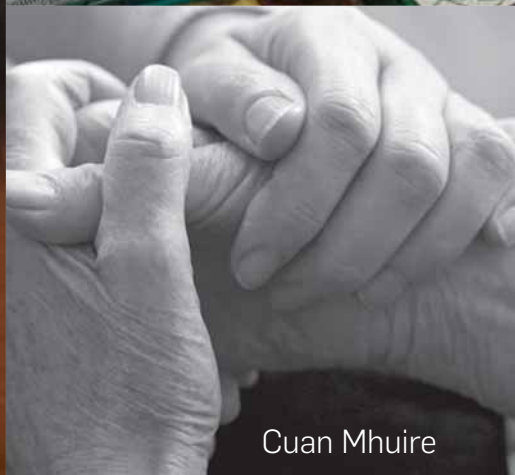


FoodCloud Hubs was delighted and honored to receive The Ireland Funds Flagship Grant for 2017/18. We utilized the €90k provided through The Ireland Funds Grant to support in engaging the food industry to encourage donation of surplus food, thus directly increasing our impact and contributing to our financial sustainability. This funding continues to support us in scaling the positive impact of our work to communities across the country.” — AOIBHEANN O'BRIEN, CEO OF FOODCLOUD HUBS

Equine Enrichment



FoodCloud



Cuan Mhuire



Derry Playhouse
– Northern 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 CHILDREN'S MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION – CRUMLIN

Below is a sample of the outstanding organizations your generosity has assisted. The Ireland Funds is proud to support these organizations through our Small Grants Round, the larger-scale investment of our Flagship Awards, and with Donor-Advised Gifts that fulfill our donors' extraordinary philanthropic vision.

174 Trust	British-Irish Association	Connemara Therapeutic Riding	Foróige Network for	Irish Deaf Society
Abbey School	Burrenbeo Trust	COPE Galway	Teaching Entrepreneurship	Irish Film Institute
Ablevision Ireland	Business to Arts	Cork ARC Cancer Support House	Foxford Community Garden	Irish Georgian Society
The Abbey Theatre	Butler Gallery	Cork Counselling Services	Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC)	Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind
ACET (AIDS Care Education & Training) Ireland	Cabragh Wetlands Development Trust	Cork Foundation	Friends of St Luke's	Irish Heritage Trust
Adare Recreation & Community Complex	Cahoots NI	Cork Penny Dinners	Friends of the Cancer Centre	Irish Hospice Foundation
Age Action Ireland	Cáirde Fundraising - Knocktemple N.S.	Corrymeela Community	Front Line	Irish International Immigrant Center
Age Concern Causeway	Camara Ireland	Crosscare	Fund it (Business to Arts)	Irish Martial Arts Academy
Age Concern Network	Camcor Community & Recreation Centre	Cuan Mhuire	Funky Fish Youth Café	Irish Men's Sheds Association
Aisling Irish Community Center	Camp Camilla	Cuan Modh Day Centre	Future Voices Ireland	Irish Pages
Aisling Return to Ireland Project	Cancer Fund for Children	Cuise Cancer Support Centre	Gaelic Players Association	Irish Red Cross
Alcohol Forum	Cancer Support Sanctuary LARCC	CURE	Gaelscoil na gCeithre Máistrí	Irish Repertory Theatre
Alliance Française Dublin	Cappagh Hospital Trust	CyberSafelreland	Gaisce - The President's Award	Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
ALONE	Cara-Friend	CyberSmarties	Galway Autism Partnership	Irish Traveller Movement
Alzheimer Society of Ireland	Care After Prison	Cystic Fibrosis Ireland	Galway Community Circus	Irish Wheelchair Association
Amal Women's Association	Carmichael Centre	Daisyhouse	Galway GAA	Irish Youth Foundation
American Irish Historical Society	Carrickfergus YMCA	Damask Community Outreach	Galway Hospice Foundation	iScoil
An Taisce	Castlerea Community Arts Group	Dance Ireland	Galway Rape Crisis Centre	IT Sligo
Anam Cara	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York	Dance Research Forum Ireland	The Gate Theatre	Iveagh Trust
Angel Eyes NI	The Cavan Centre	Dance Theatre of Ireland	Genio	Jack and Jill Children's Foundation
ARC Healthy Living Centre	Ceiliúradh	Darndale Belcamp Village Centre	Giving Northern Ireland	Jesuit Refugee Service Ireland
Archbishop Marsh's Library	ChangeX	DCU Ryan Academy	GIY - Grow It Yourself	Jewish Home of Ireland
Ardoyne Holycross Boxing Club	Charities Institute Ireland	DePaul Ireland	Glasnevin Cemetery Museum	Jigsaw
AREMOJA Women's Group Sligo	Chernobyl Children's Project	Dogs for the Disabled	Glenstal Abbey	Kanturk Community Hospital
The Ark	Chester Beatty Library	Dogs Trust	GOAL	Kenmare Carnegie Arts Centre
Arthritis Ireland	Children in Crossfire	Dolmen Clubhouse CLG	Gonzaga College S.J.	Kenmare Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Ashoka	Children, Adults, Parents and Autism (CAPAA)	Donegal Clinical Academy Trust	Good Shepherd Cork	Kerry GAA Centre of Excellence
AsIAM	Children's Grief Centre	Donegal Family Resource Centre	Grace Park Educate Together N.S.	Kerry Hospice Foundation
Athlone Institute of Technology	Children's Law Centre	Down Right Brilliant	Graffiti Theatre Company	Kerry Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre
Athlone Sub Aqua Club	Children's Medical Research Foundation	Down Syndrome Centre	Greater Dublin Independent Living	Kerry Writers' Museum
Atlantic Challenge Ireland	ChildVision	Down Syndrome Cork	Grow in Ireland	Killaloe Community Development Co.
Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland	Cill Rialaig Project	Down Syndrome Ireland	HADD-ADHD Ireland	Kinship Care Northern Ireland
Avoca Community First Responders	Cinemagic	Dr Crokes GAA Club	Haven	Lady Gregory Autumn Gathering
Baboró International Arts Festival for Children	Citizens of Senior Years (COSY) Club	Druid Theatre Company	Hawk's Well Theatre	The Lantern Community Project
Backstage Theatre	Clara Family and Community Resource Centre	Dublin City University	Helium Arts	Laois Sports Partnership CLG
Ballina/Killaloe Sports & Community Facilities Development Co.	Clare GAA	Dublin Institute of Technology	Hello World Foundation	L'Arche Belfast
Ballymun Adult Read & Write Scheme	Clarecare	Dublin International Piano Competition	High Kirk Social Action in our Community	LASALLE College of the Arts
Banbridge Amateur Boxing Club	Clogherny Church	Dublin Jewish Board of Guardians	Holy Family Boxing Club	Lauragh Community Council
Bantry Development and Tourist Association	Clonard Monastery	Dublin Simon Community	Holywell Trust	LauraLynn House's Children's Hospice
Bantry Hospice Project	Clonturk Community College	Dublin Talmud Torah	Hope 4 Life NI	Learning Hub Limerick
Bantry Rowing Club	Cloughjordan Circus Club	Dublin/Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team	The Hunt Museum	Leitrim Calling
Barnardos	Cnoc na Gaoithe	Enactus Ireland	Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland	Letterkenny Institute of Technology
Barretstown	Coláiste Chú Chulainn	Eastern Harps GAA Club	The Icon Walk	Lewis Glucksman Gallery
Baseball Ireland	Comhlacht Tithe agus Forbairt an tSuláin Teo	Elemental Festival Team	Imaginosity, Dublin Children's Museum	Lime Tree Theatre
Bedford Row Family Project	Common Ground N.I. C.I.C.	Emerald Isle Immigration Center of New York	In Your Space NI	Limerick Autism Group
Behind the Stable Door	Community Action Network	Emerald Warriors RFC	Inner City Enterprise	Limerick Institute of Technology
BeLonG To	Community Centre for Music and the Arts	Empowering People In Care (EPIC)	Institute of Cultural Studies	Little Castle Playgroup
Belvedere College S.J.	The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland	Enable Ireland	Institute of Technology Tralee	The Little Museum of Dublin
Belvedere Youth Club	Conamara Environmental Educational and Cultural Centre	Enactus Ireland	Integrated Education Fund	Liverpool Hope University Foundation
Benefacts	Conradh na Gaeilge	Enniscorthy Rugby Club	International Charity Bazaar	Longford GAA
Birdhill N.S.	Conary Community First Responders	Equine Enrichment CIC	Ireland US Council Foundation	Longford Women's Link
Blackrock Castle Observatory	Co-operation Ireland	Extraordinary Bodies - Carlow Arts Festival	Ireland's Great Hunger Museum	Lyric Theatre
The Blue Box Creative Learning Centre	Concern Worldwide	The Festival of Curiosity	IRFU Charitable Trust	Mae Murray Foundation
Blackrock College		Field Day Collective	Irish America Business Chamber and Network	Make-A-Wish Ireland
Blackrock Hospice		Fighting Words	Irish Ancestry Research Centre	Making Connections
Blossom Ireland		Fighting Words Belfast	Irish Arts Center	Mallow Day Care Centre
BlueFire		First Fortnight	Irish Cancer Society	Maria Goretti Foundation
Brain Injury Matters NI		Flax Trust	Irish Chamber Orchestra	Marie Curie - Belfast
		Focus Family Resource Centre	Irish Children's Museum	Marie Keating Foundation
		Focus Ireland	Irish Community Rapid Response	Marino Institute of Education
		FoodCloud	Irish Cultural Centre	Mark Pollock Trust
		Foróige Donegal	Irish Culture Bay Area	

Mary Immaculate College
The Mary Robinson Centre
The Mater Foundation
Mayo Roscommon
Hospice Foundation
McAuley Place
Meath GAA
Meath Springboard
Family Support Services
The Mendicity Institution
Meningitis Research Foundation
Mental Health Reform
Merchants Quay Ireland
Mercy Law Resource Centre
Michael McCarthy's
Juvenile GAA Club
Mid & East Antrim
Agewell Partnership
Midlands Science
Migraine Association of Ireland
Milford Care Centre
Miltown Malbay
Development Company
Mobility Mojo
MountEagles Community
Association
Move4Parkinson's
Moy Hill Community Farm
MRC Community Arts and
Crafts Group
MS Ireland
The MS Society of Ireland -
South East Region
Music Generation
Mustard Seed Ireland
MyMind
Na Piobairí 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 Hospice
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 Boys Youth Club
Our Lady's Hospice
Our Steps Foundation
Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund
PeacePlayers International
Peter McVerry Trust
Philanthropy Ireland
Pieta House
The Playhouse
Poetry Ireland
Purple House Cancer Support
The Pushkin Trust
Queen's University of Belfast
Ramelton Town Hall
Development Co.
Ranelagh Multi-
Denominational School
Rapid Prompting Method

Rathfriland and District
Regeneration Co.
Rebel Wheelers
ReCreate
RESPECT
Rights Watch UK
The Rory McDonagh Trust
Rory Mollroy Foundation
Rory Staunton Foundation
Roscommon County Board GAA
Rosemont Secondary
School for Girls
Rossinver Community
Development Company
Rough Magic Theatre Company
Rowing Ireland
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Royal Irish Academy of Music
Rural Area Partnership in Derry
SAFE Ireland
The Salvation Army Ireland
Science Gallery
Scoil Chríost Rí
Scoil Uí Conrail
Self Help Africa
Senior Citizen Helpline Company
Sensational Kids
Shalom Centre for Conflict
Reconciliation
Shannon Paddlers Club
Sharing Point
ShoutOut
Show Racism the Red Card
Siel Bleu Ireland
Skibbereen Active & Social Club
Smock Alley Theatre
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 Trust

Speedpak Group
Spinal Injuries Ireland
Sport Against Racism Ireland
Spraoi agus Spórt Family Centre
St. Bernadette's Boxing Club
St. Brigid's Church Belfast
St. Camillus Bethany Bereavement
Support Group
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 &
Community Centre
St. Matthew's N.S.
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 GAA
Strokestown GAA
Suas Educational Development
Suttonians RFC
SWAN Youth service
Tallaght University
Hospital Foundation
Teesside University
Temple Street Foundation
Third Age Foundation
Thomas F. Meagher Foundation
Thoor Ballylee Development
Three Drives Family
Resource Centre
Tipperary Rural Travellers Project
Together-Razem Centre
Transformative College
Transition Town Kinsale
and Plastic Free Kinsale
Trinity Centre for People
with Intellectual Disabilities
Trinity College Dublin

Two Castles Amateur Boxing Club
Tyrone GAA
UCC Cork Cancer Research Center
UCD Michael Smurfit School
of Business
Ulster University
The Undergraduate Awards
University College Cork
University College Dublin
University of Limerick
Verbal Arts Centre
Via Wings
Village Counselling Service
Vineyard Compassion
Walkinstown Greenhills
Resource Centre
Washington-Ireland Programme
Waterford Healing Arts Trust
Waterford Institute of Technology
Waterside Women's Centre
West Belfast Partnership
West Clare Family
Resource Centre
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
WOMEN'STEC
The XLC Project
Yeats Society Sligo
Young at Art
Young Social Innovators
Youth Initiatives
Youth Work Ireland - Tipperary

The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition



Down Syndrome Ireland



Meet David Cronin

Photo: James Higgins

THE IRELAND FUNDS AMERICA
WELCOMES **DAVID CRONIN**
AS ITS NEW PRESIDENT & CEO

IN JUNE OF 2019, THE IRELAND FUNDS AMERICA WELCOMED DAVID CRONIN AS OUR NEW PRESIDENT & CEO. HAVING WORKED IN PHILANTHROPY FOR OVER A DECADE IN HIS PREVIOUS ROLE AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK FOUNDATION, DAVID HAS RAISED AND INVESTED OVER \$100 MILLION IN PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING. WELCOMING DAVID'S APPOINTMENT, JOHN FITZPATRICK, CHAIRMAN OF THE IRELAND FUNDS AMERICA SAID, "**DAVID HAS THE EXPERIENCE, ENERGY AND INTEGRITY TO ENSURE THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF THE IRELAND FUNDS. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE SECURED A BUSINESS LEADER OF HIS CALIBER, WHO UNDERSTANDS AND REFLECTS OUR CORE VALUES AND MISSION SO INTRINSICALLY.**"



David Cronin, President and CEO of The Ireland Funds America; Chairperson of Interpeace (Geneva), Professor Monica McWilliams; former President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, and John Fitzpatrick, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America at the 2019 Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference



Loretta Brennan Glucksman, David Cronin



David Cronin and Sara Canning at The Ireland Funds AWB Vincent Literary Award given to Lyra McKee



David Cronin, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs, Renate Cronin, Bart Murphy (Photos: Aengus McMahon)

Here, Connect Magazine sits down with David to learn more about his interesting road to the position and his vision for The Ireland Funds.

Living in Ireland, I have seen on a daily basis the impact that The Ireland Funds' investment makes on our island. Traveling internationally in philanthropic circles, I have met so many wonderful people committed to supporting the The Ireland Funds' mission. When the opportunity arose to bring my experience across governance, philanthropy and international business, to the role of President & Chief Executive of The Ireland Funds America, I knew this was a special role where I could make a real difference.

I grew up in Cork and Kerry spending my formative years living within walking distance of Muckross House and Killarney National Park. From an early age I would have been aware of the phenomenal impact of the Vincent family's generosity to the state and the impact of philanthropy on our country.

As a recipient of the St. Brendan's Irish-American scholarship (sponsored by a longtime supporter of The Ireland Funds, Denis Kelleher) to New York early in my career, I was personally a beneficiary of philanthropy and had the opportunity to work on Wall Street for a number of years.

Returning to Ireland with some excellent experience gained in NY was a springboard for my career in the private sector, where I spent much of the next decade commuting between Cork, Europe and the US building an Irish tech start-up specializing in governance, risk and compliance management solutions for highly regulated industries. The company was ultimately acquired by a NASDAQ listed organization.

When the University of Limerick Foundation offered me the role of Chief Executive in 2008, the prospect of leading one of Ireland's leading University Foundations was compelling. The Foundation had been founded and chaired by Chuck Feeney of The Atlantic Philanthropies and then led by

Lew Glucksman, a longtime supporter of The Ireland Funds. On meeting the Board, I relished the opportunity to work with inspirational philanthropic leaders across industry, culture and education. In 2014, when Loretta Brennan Glucksman stepped down as Chair of The Ireland Funds, I was privileged that she agreed to become Chair of UL Foundation to lead us through the Foundation's most successful fundraising chapter. I spent a decade with UL Foundation raising and investing philanthropic funding in projects with enormous and tangible impacts.

I consider it a privilege to facilitate philanthropic giving. It is an honor to work with leading figures in business, industry, arts, culture, sport and politics. With this comes a responsibility to ensure that The Ireland Funds stays as relevant in the years ahead as it was in 1976.

My vision for The Ireland Funds is that it will be sustainable, impactful and compelling in the years ahead.

Our Donor base has very high expectations of us. We need to surpass their expectations. We can only do this by our focus on return-on-investment and tangible impact. The key to our success is a completely transparent approach. When you build credibility and respect over time, you attract those who want to see their monies deployed to maximum effect in an impactful way. People want to see their philanthropic investment provide a return that can be measured, sustained and a catalyst for future success over a period of time.



The Ireland Funds June Conference in Belfast



David Cronin, John Fitzpatrick (Photo: James Higgins)

Giving whilst you are alive
is much more fun. — Chuck Feeney

Sustainable
Compelling
Impactful

SUAS



LITERACY CHANGES EVERYTHING

LITERACY IS... "THE ABILITY TO READ, WRITE AND USE NUMERACY, TO HANDLE INFORMATION, TO EXPRESS IDEAS AND OPINIONS, TO MAKE DECISIONS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS." HELPING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP LITERACY SKILLS GIVES THEM THE TOOLS TO BREAK GENERATIONAL CYCLES OF POVERTY AND DISADVANTAGE.

Photos: Malcolm McGettigan





Since 2012, using trained volunteers, Suas has helped over 5,500 children from the most disadvantaged communities in Ireland to improve their reading and math skills through one-to-one mentoring and smart learning materials. Over the past two years alone, with support from The Ireland Funds Australia and The Ireland Funds, it provided one-to-one support to 3,208 children and recruited over 1,000 volunteer mentors.

Worryingly, one-in-three children in disadvantaged schools in Ireland experiences serious literacy difficulties. The consequences of failing to equip these children with literacy skills are stark. Teenagers with poor literacy are much more likely to experience anxiety and depression and to use drugs. Poor literacy skills restrict a range of life-choices, particularly employment. Early school leaving is highly correlated with poor labour market outcomes and ill health.

The good news is, unlike so many of the other massive and intransigent social problems Ireland faces, this challenge is solvable. With support from The Ireland Funds, Suas has developed smart, proven and simple solutions that improve children's reading and math scores. The model has already demonstrated positive outcomes in the most testing of environments.

*Last year, children on the reading program had an average rate of improvement of **210%** relative to the national average and a **215%** average rate of improvement on the maths program.*

The Suas program is also easily scalable and that's good because the demand is great and urgent. Childhood doesn't wait. There are bright eight-year-olds in primary school right now who won't survive second level education because of poor reading and math skills. With The Ireland Funds' support, we can continue to change that.

— John Logue is the CEO of Suas, Ireland's leading children's literacy charity.



"People mightn't realize how powerful it is. Having an adult that sits down and gives them real attention—one-to-one time. The confidence building that happens, the rise in self-esteem, is palpable. It's about making them feel and believe that 'I'm an important person' – it's therapeutic on so many different levels. It makes coming into a library, reading, attending school — fun and very positive."

"Some kids are so behind, one-to-one is pure gold dust. It makes the most impact. Especially if it's someone from outside the school environment who wins trust and develops a good relationship with the student."



TESTIMONY FROM TEACHERS ON THE IMPACT OF SUAS



"I've seen first-hand, here on the ground, in classrooms, in the library, the impact of this work. How can you put a value on that? It's priceless. And whatever it costs, it's money so well spent. It's such a lean model anyway. The amazing Mentors are volunteers. So it's all about training them well, getting them here so they can work magic, and making sure they come back. So in that sense, every euro is put into the child's problem and the child's potential to solve that problem."



THE IRELAND FUNDS HAS SUPPORTED THE WORK OF SUAS SINCE 2005. SINCE THEN, SUAS HAS RECEIVED \$300,000+ IN SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS ALONE, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS AUSTRALIA AND THE IRELAND FUNDS OF \$80,000, SUAS HAS PROVIDED ONE-TO-ONE SUPPORT TO 3,208 CHILDREN AND RECRUITED OVER 1,000 VOLUNTEER MENTORS. THANKS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE IRELAND FUNDS:

- 97% ➔ of children said they enjoyed literacy sessions
- 85% ➔ of children agreed they were better at reading
- 73% ➔ said they enjoyed solving maths problems
- 81% ➔ said they are happier to take part in maths class

WHAT ARE THE SUAS STEPS?



- 1** Find the children most in need of reading and maths support by working with teachers in disadvantaged schools
- 2** Recruit and train a fantastic team of volunteer mentors to work 1-to-1 with children most in need of support
- 3** Deliver evidence-based literacy and numeracy support interventions to those children most at risk.
- 4** Put in place a robust monitoring and evaluation process to ensure mentors and funding are being used in the most effective way possible.



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

MORE MILESTONES
FOR IRELAND'S
NATIONAL MUSIC
EDUCATION PROGRAM:

**KERRY
KILDARE
LONGFORD
MEATH
TIPPERARY**



Photo: Brian Farrell

MUSIC GENERATION REACHED ANOTHER MILESTONE MOMENT

in May of 2019 when it announced its latest phase of expansion, opening the door to a brighter musical future for thousands more children and young people in five further counties: Kerry, Kildare, Longford, Meath and Tipperary.

As part of Music Generation, each of the new areas will receive funding to create local access to affordable music tuition for their next musical generations, while also creating employment opportunities for professional musicians living within those communities.

Building on the first two philanthropically funded phases of Music Generation, which established the program in 20 areas between 2010 and 2017, this latest significant step will, for the first time, see the five newly-announced partnerships co-funded from the outset by the Irish Government, through the Department of Education and Skills.

“Every milestone reached on this journey is a source of great pride for the band as well as everyone who has worked so hard to make it happen. With this latest announcement, the finish line is firmly in sight and our dream of an accessible music education for every young person in Ireland is getting ever closer. We are beyond excited.”

—The Edge, U2

MUSIC GENERATION

This follows the landmark commitment made by An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, T.D. in December 2017, to support full nationwide roll-out of Music Generation to all remaining cities and counties by 2022, as part of the Creative Ireland Programme plan.

This is a hugely important moment for Music Generation, and evidence of what truly revolutionary, long-lasting achievements can be gained through strategic partnership-working between philanthropy, Government and local partners.

The original €7m donation from U2 and The Ireland Funds that established Music Generation in 2010 was the largest single philanthropic donation to music education in the history of the state. In July 2017 U2 and The Ireland Funds, with support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and Bank of America, gifted a further combined donation of €6.3m to expand Music Generation into new areas of Ireland.

The tangible outcomes and long lasting impact of Music Generation have also already secured ongoing, sustainable partnership funding of €3.5m annually from the Department of Education and Skills, which is matched by local partners. By 2022 it's estimated that the total annual funding contribution from the exchequer, together with Local Music Education Partnerships, will reach €13m.

Looking ahead to 2022, the original vision of Music Generation's parent company, Music Network, for a publicly supported national system of local music education services appears close on the horizon.

"That Music Generation continues to flourish is a testament to what can be achieved through meaningful public-philanthropic partnership-working. I would like to particularly acknowledge the commitment of our government partners in the Department of Education and Skills who have backed this fantastic initiative for the long-term and who are now supporting it to grow nationally, in addition to the local partners in new and existing areas whose on-the-ground leadership is vital to the program's success."

— Caitríona Fottrell, Vice President & Director Ireland of The Ireland Funds

"Music and the arts inspire us all and Music Generation is having enormous impacts in communities, with young people having instrument, ensemble, voice and choral experiences that simply wouldn't be possible without this program... I am delighted that today's announcement brings us even closer to our goal of giving children in every county access to this opportunity." — Minister for Education and Skills, Joe McHugh T.D.

MINISTER FOR
EDUCATION & SKILLS,
JOE MCHUGH, T.D.
WITH YOUNG
MUSICIANS FROM
SOUTH DUBLIN



MUSIC GENERATION IN NUMBERS

- **42,500** engagements in music tuition by children and young people, who would not otherwise have had the choice of access or the chance to participate
- **350** employment opportunities, mainly for musicians
- Tuition in **800** centres across **11** tuition contexts
- **12** Instrument Banks
- Delivery of **56,200** tuition hours
- **150** different programs offered across all genres of music
- **8,300** musical instruments for young musicians



Photo: Paul Moore



Photo: Naoise Culhane

For four years now, Music Generation's South Dublin partnership has been working together with St Ronan's National School – a multi-denominational, DEIS category school based in Clondalkin – to establish a strings program. Students from third to fifth class, ranging in age from 8 to 12, receive weekly violin tuition and, in sixth class, are offered the chance to join the school strings orchestra. The impact of the partnership has already surpassed the expectations of the school staff, who have witnessed their students' growth and achievement both within and outside of the music room. For the young musicians, the benefits of access and participation are perhaps articulated best in their own words:

"It makes me feel happy. It makes me feel many things – it's a part of me. Let's just say that when I'm down, it gets me back up."

"It makes me feel that I can learn anything I want to learn. I like how I'm just able to let go, and pretty much just spread my wings."



IRISH MEN'S SHEDS

As one member of the men's shed in Co. Waterford, south-eastern Ireland put it: "If it wasn't for the shed, I'd be a different person now. Over the past year, everything has changed. I don't mind saying that I was in a pretty dark place this time last year. I don't want to put it too dramatically, but I'd even say that the shed saved my life."



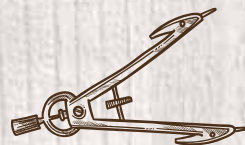
**The Ireland Funds is helping strengthen communities
all across Ireland, one men's shed at a time.**

Photos : Aengus McMahon





Men's sheds have been proven to benefit the health and wellbeing of their members, with over 90% of members reporting improved wellbeing.



Men's sheds are shared community spaces where men can exchange skills, make friends and contribute to their communities. They allow men to explore different approaches to masculinity, based on shared experience, frankness and openness to new ideas.

Since 2011, the Irish Men's Sheds Association (IMSA) has grown from a cellphone number to an umbrella organization overseeing almost 500 community organizations throughout the island of Ireland.

The support of The Ireland Funds has allowed the Irish Men's Sheds movement to grow to almost 500 sheds engaging over 12,000 men on a weekly basis. The Irish Men's Sheds Association was a recipient of the Small Grants Round long before we became an Ireland Funds' Flagship Awardee in 2017, receiving €100,000 over 2 years. The Flagship Award has also facilitated the development of a unique Shed Support Volunteer program, whereby a single individual volunteer in each of Ireland's thirty-two counties is trained to offer logistical support and information to all the sheds in his county.

"Without the direct support, guidance and encouragement of The Ireland Funds, under its Flagship Awards and a range of other supports, it is inconceivable that men's sheds would have developed into the national phenomenon they have become," says CEO Barry Sheridan. "The endorsement of The Ireland Funds has been a signal to other donors and agencies that the Irish Men's Sheds Association is a professional and reputable charity with a genuine commitment to improving society."

The impact of the men's shed on an individual attendee can be at once subtle and dramatic. The enduring and growing appeal of the men's shed model lies in its simplicity; however, that simplicity belies a depth of impact that can be truly transformative.

The granddaughter of a men's sheds member in Co. Mayo, on Ireland's Atlantic coast, described the transformation in her grandfather's life: "For five years, we couldn't get granddad out of the house. He didn't really have an interest in anything anymore. He was very, very reluctant to join the shed, but I drove him over and said I'd come and pick him up whenever he wanted if he didn't like it. Well, to cut a long story short, we hardly see him at all now under dinnertime! He's so completely at home in the shed and everyone in town knows his name from the community projects he's involved in."

Men's sheds have been proven to benefit the health and wellbeing of their members, with over 90% of members reporting improved wellbeing. To consolidate this impact, the IMSA has introduced its Sheds for Life initiative, a health and wellbeing programme backed by Ireland's Health Services Executive. The IMSA is also advising nascent men's sheds movements in Iceland, Central Asia, the United States, Denmark, Kenya and a number of other countries and regions and was recently invited to address the World Health Organization on the benefits of men's sheds. Without the support of The Ireland Funds, this level of reach and impact would have been beyond the IMSA.



Men can be reluctant to talk about their feelings and this means that they usually don't ask for help. Probably because of this many men are less healthy than women, they drink more, take more risks and they suffer more from isolation, loneliness and depression.

Good health is based on many factors including feeling good about yourself, being productive and valuable to your community, connecting to friends and maintaining an active body and an active mind. Becoming a member of a Community Men's Shed gives a man that **safe and busy environment** where he can find many of these things in an atmosphere of friendship. And, importantly, there is no pressure. Men can just come and have a chat and a cuppa if that is all they're looking for.



The support of The Ireland Funds has allowed the Irish Men's Sheds movement to mushroom to almost 500 sheds engaging over 12,000 men on a weekly basis.



CELEBRATING DUBLIN'S CULTURAL TREASURES

THE NUMBER ONE RATED MUSEUM IN DUBLIN IS
STRENGTHENED BY SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS

UP UNTIL 2011, DUBLIN WAS THE ONLY EUROPEAN CAPITAL CITY WITHOUT A CITY MUSEUM OF ITS OWN. FOR A COUNTRY WITH SUCH A RICH HERITAGE, THIS MADE NO SENSE. THANKS TO SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS, THE LITTLE MUSEUM OF DUBLIN WAS CREATED. AT THE TIME, IRELAND WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A RECESSION. TODAY, EIGHT YEARS LATER, THE LITTLE MUSEUM IS AN AWARD-WINNING VISITOR ATTRACTION IN THE HEART OF THE IRISH CAPITAL.



Photos: Aengus McMahon

The Little MUSEUM of DUBLIN

BY TREVOR WHITE, *MUSEUM DIRECTOR*

The Ireland Funds offered us support in the very early days when we had a promising idea but had not yet demonstrated success. You trusted our mission, believed in our goals and have supported us as we've grown to become an award-winning civic initiative in the heart of the Irish capital.

In 2012 the Little Museum received a small grant from The Ireland Funds to test the concept of an education class for local school children. The museum was founded in response to a need to grow civic pride locally in Ireland, and this grant was invaluable in allowing us to test the concept and trial what would go on to become the 'I Love Dublin' classes. From this initial support, we directly cultivated a corporate philanthropic partnership which allowed us to grow the free school classes to what they are today.

Our temporary exhibition programming has also been supported by The Ireland Funds. In naming our ground floor exhibition space The Ireland Funds Gallery, your support has enabled part funding of every single exhibition and their associated outreach activities. Since 2014, Flagship Funding from The Ireland Funds has enabled us to engage over 400,000 individuals with the work and goals of the museum.

Thanks to your support, the museum is now a tremendous success. With 118,779 visitors in 2018, we are officially the **NUMBER ONE MUSEUM IN IRELAND** on TripAdvisor—and were recently voted the number 20 museum in Europe.

Today we try to offer a world class visitor experience to every single person who engages with the museum. We believe this comes down to quality human interaction and storytelling. In the next decade, our ambition is to become the 'best city museum experience' in the world. We will do this with a relentless focus on three guiding principles:

HISTORY

our subject, and the focus of our work.

HOSPITALITY

we greet all visitors with a smile, with five-star service and the céad míle fáilte that they hope to find in Ireland

HUMOR

this is how we elevate an ordinary moment to a piece of drama. Our team creates experiences for our visitors which brings the Irish tradition of storytelling, craic and charm to life.

The museum occupies a landmark building at 15 St Stephen's Green, owned by our local government, Dublin City Council. We have just secured a 35-year lease in our new premises at 14 St Stephen's Green: a mirror image of 15, both built together in 1776. So our key challenge is also our biggest opportunity, because in the Spring of 2020, the museum will leave its home and in 2020 we will reopen next door.

Offering security of tenure and a permanent home for the Little Museum of Dublin, the move to 14 St. Stephen's Green will offer more space, universal access, a dedicated lecture theatre and a world-class education center for future generations of civic spirited leaders. None of this would have happened without the support of The Ireland Funds.

On behalf of our team here in the museum, thank you to The Ireland Funds for the extraordinary work that you do.

Museum Director Trevor White was born in Dublin in 1972. Educated at St. Columba's College and Trinity College, he created The Dubliner magazine, published Ireland's best-selling restaurant guide for many years, and is the author of three books. "Working with our extraordinary team is a privilege," he says. "Our goal is to create a world-class museum that embodies the history, hospitality and humor of Dublin."



Since opening, the Little Museum of Dublin has:

- Welcomed 632,421 visitors
- Educated 17,345 school kids
- Collected 6,835 artefacts
- Programmed 29 temporary exhibitions
- Published 8 books
- Collaborated with museums in London, Denmark, New York & Japan
- Produced 3 plays



GOGAN. RICHARD DICK
VOTE FOR THEM 1-2-3
IN THE GREEN AND WHITE
HELP OF VILERS COMPLETE THE TASK



**MAKE SURE
OF
ALFIE
FIRST**



IMPACT OF THE IRELAND FUNDS SUPPORT

The Little Museum of Dublin was one of The Ireland Funds first ever Flagship Awardees in 2014, receiving €100,000 over 2 years. In addition to the Flagship Award, the Museum received donor advised and grant round support totaling over \$100,000. Thanks to The Ireland Funds' support, the Museum has created a diverse program of exhibitions with talks, events and school classes—engaging over 400,000 members of the public. Among the highlights:

- **THE WINGS OF IRELAND:** charting the inspiring growth and impact of aviation in Ireland
- **WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE:** profiles of inspiring women working in traditionally male dominated environments
- **IRELAND'S FASHION RADICALS:** the designers from Ireland who impacted the worldwide fashion industry
- **JUDGING SHAW:** curated by Fintan O'Toole, an exhibition about the life and times of George Bernard Shaw in partnership with the RIA
- **THE DUBLIN PUB:** A history of the role of the pub and brewers as an employer and a social space at the heart of life in Dublin
- **HOME IS ANOTHER PLACE:** award-winning conflict photographer Seamus Murphy documents a lesser known yet familiar side of everyday life in Ireland
- **CHURCHILL & THE IRISHMAN:** the story of Brendan Bracken, founder of the Financial Times and right hand man to Winston Churchill
- **REWRITING HISTORY:** School teacher & illustrator Fergal McCarthy tells the story of 1916 through a lifesize comic book aimed at engaging children and adults alike
- **COMING HOME:** the story of Patrick Lafcadio Hearn was told by tracing his odysseys around the world, his binding ties to Dublin and his artistic influence across the globe
- **CHRISTY BROWN:** the museum displayed the art and writing of Irish artist Christy Brown in his hometown for the first time, then travelled his work to show in New York







INTEGRATED EDUCATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE EDUCATED TOGETHER

By Paul Caskey,

Head of Campaign for the
Integrated Education Fund
in Northern Ireland



The Ireland Funds supported the establishment of Northern Ireland's first-ever planned integrated school, Lagan College in 1981, and has been a long-standing partner and friend for almost four decades. Here, Paul Caskey, Head of Campaign for the Integrated Education Fund in Northern Ireland, shares the journey of Integrated Education. Paul is also a parent of three young children experiencing an integrated primary and post primary education.

Northern Ireland has a proud history of quality schools, many continuing to deliver an excellent education for their pupils. We don't wish to change that proud tradition, we want to make it even better. To do that, we need to address another characteristic - religious and cultural division. Children traditionally attend schools that are mainly Catholic or Protestant in their enrolment, culture and ethos. This separation has served to make it more difficult for young people to create cross community friendships and limits their experience of people who may have different community backgrounds to their own.

A PARENT-LED MOVEMENT

Integrated education is a parent led and grassroots response to this division. Given Northern Ireland's history it is perhaps unsurprising that it has received little political support from mainstream parties in Northern Ireland. Moreover, government has never planned for, nor created any integrated school. It was parents who established the first ever planned integrated school, Lagan College, and each school since has been created by parents either setting up new schools themselves or more recently by parents voting to change their child's existing school into an integrated school.

The number of schools has risen steadily to 65, and from just 28 pupils in 1981 to over 24,000 today. Currently almost one in five first preference applications to integrated schools cannot be accommodated because so many of the schools are full to capacity.

THE CHALLENGES TO INTEGRATED EDUCATION

Independent surveys and research always demonstrate high public support for more integrated education but the gap between demand and supply remains vast. This is a great source of frustration but we must remember that there are significant barriers to growth. There is an absence of an education planning process that effectively takes into account the preference of parents and local communities when it comes to education provision and there are two separate statutory school planning authorities, one for Catholic schools and one for the rest. It took the use of litigation in 2014 by Drumragh Integrated College in Omagh, after it was denied approval to expand to meet demand, to highlight how the Department of Education was failing to implement its statutory duty to 'encourage and facilitate' integrated education properly. However, since the legal ruling, 30 school development proposals for growth and expansion have been approved, with 23 existing schools now also in line for major capital funding from the UK Treasury under the Fresh Start Agreement, totalling £295 million.



THE LEVERAGE OF THE IRELAND FUNDS' INVESTMENT

One such school to benefit is Drumlins Integrated Primary School in Ballynahinch, a school which was previously dependent on The Ireland Funds' support for additional classrooms and resources to enable it to grow and develop. Today Drumlins' dream has come true and its children enjoy a new £4 million government funded school building. Quite simply, donor investment in integrated schools has gone on to leverage hundreds of millions in rightful government funding.

Whilst helping with the successful expansion and development of existing integrated schools is a great source of pride for the IEF and our donors, we must always look to the future and the creation of more schools. We are encouraged that the majority of parents aspire to greater integration, however the challenge is that most are unaware they have a right, protected in law, to express their support for their child's school to become integrated. If parents representing 20% of pupils want integrated status for their school then they can ask their school to consider transformation to integrated status which must then be put to a ballot of all parents in the school.

INTEGRATE MY SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

The Ireland Funds were one of the first backers of our recent innovative 'Integrate My School' Campaign, launched by Liam Neeson, to empower parents. A Flagship Award in 2017 of £100,000 over 2 years from The Ireland Funds has helped to ensure there is now more interest in transformation than ever before. This was evidenced by parents at six schools across Northern Ireland voting overwhelmingly in favor of transforming to integrated status during 2019. Support from parents ranged between 85% to 100%. The democratic parental ballots include three Catholic schools; namely Seaview Primary School in Glenarm, Ballyhackett Primary School near Coleraine and St Mary's High School, Brollagh. Votes have also been held at Carrickfergus Central Primary and Harding Memorial Primary in East Belfast. Bangor Central Nursery School is the first ever Nursery School to have held such a vote. There is no guarantee that the Department of Education will approve all of these schools going forward but is clear evidence of growing demand. The 'Integrate My School' platform was enthusiastically embraced by parents in all these schools.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

The Integrated Education Movement has a track record of success, winning changes in law, precedent and practice to lay foundations for the future.

SUCCESS: TRANSFORMATION

The first success was the 1978 Dunleath Act, which allowed Catholic and Protestant schools to transform to integrated status. Whilst there were no successful transformations at that time, today transformation has been accepted as a way forward and over 35% of all integrated schools have achieved this status through transformation. In 2019, parents at 6 more schools balloted in favour of transformation following the success of our 'Integrate My School' Campaign supported by the Ireland Funds.

SUCCESS: PUBLIC OPINION

The 2018 Northern Ireland wide opinion poll, carried out by Lucid Talk and commissioned by the Integrated Education Fund (IEF), reveals that almost 70% of parents interviewed said they would back a move to transform their child's school to integrated (Lucid Talk, 2018).

In the Independent Review of Integrated Education (2017) commissioned by the Department of Education, over 86% of respondents believe that integrated education is vital to breaking down barriers between Catholics and Protestants, and that there should be more integrated schools in Northern Ireland.

SUCCESS: LIFELONG INTER-RELIGIOUS CONTACT

Research shows that integrated schooling has a significant and positive social influence on the lives of those who experience it, most notably in terms of fostering cross-community friendships, reducing prejudicial attitudes and promoting a sense of security in religious, racial, or ethnically diverse environments (ARK Research Update Number 111, April 2017; Stringer, 2009, 2000; Montgomery et al., 2003; McGlynn, 2001; Irwin, 1991).

Other research (Stringer et al., 2009, 2000;) has found that the inter-group contact of integrated or mixed schools can influence social attitudes, with pupils adopting more positive positions on key social issues such as politics, religion, identity, mixed marriages and integrated education.

Attendance at formally integrated schools specifically, or schools which had generally a mixed religious intake, also had a significantly positive effect on the attitudes of young Protestants to young Catholics. Dirk Schubotz, 2017.

SUCCESS: GROWTH

The number of pupils, and schools, has grown from 28 children in one school in 1981 to 24,000 children in 65 schools at nursery, primary and second level in 2019: if there were more integrated schools, offering more integrated school places, then there would be more children benefiting from this kind of education.

Integrated education is the fastest growing form of education in Northern Ireland with 30 School Development Proposals for the growth and expansion of existing integrated schools having been approved by the Department of Education since 2014, creating around 1,700 new integrated school places and yet hundreds of first preferences still being denied due to the lack of available places.

SUCCESS: PUBLIC AND POLITICAL SUPPORT

There is a commitment to support integrated education in Article 13 of the Good Friday Agreement.

The Independent Review of Integrated Education published in 2017 contained 39 recommendations to the Minister of Education regarding the growth and development of integrated education.

The most positive Department of Education guidance ever on integrated education was published in January 2018 entitled 'Integration Works'.

SUCCESS: RECURRENT FUNDING

By proving demand and viability, integrated schools have won state funding of recurrent costs for new schools provided certain stringent viability criteria are met.

SUCCESS: CAPITAL FUNDING FOR EXISTING SCHOOLS

Just under £300 million in capital funding has been agreed for integrated schools by HM UK Treasury as part of the Fresh Start Agreement, benefiting 23 out of the 65 existing integrated schools.

In June of 2019, donors attending The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference in Belfast visited Cliftonville Integrated Primary School, which became an integrated school in 2008. Located in North Belfast, the present enrollment is 351 children plus an additional 26 in the newly-opened Nursery. Donors learned about the challenges and complexities of the education system in Northern Ireland and how The Ireland Funds is continuing to help on this journey towards integration.



The Ireland Funds, through their support for the Integrated Education Fund, has been with us every step of the way. When we needed an extra classroom, an extra teacher or even outdoor play equipment for the children, they were there when we needed them. You believed in us. Look at us now – we have a wonderful new school to enjoy for generations to come. It might have been hard going at times but together we stuck at it and it was worth it. We couldn't have succeeded without such support.

— Janice Marshall, Principal of Drumlins IPS

GIVING BACK:

ALUMNI OF INTEGRATED EDUCATION

Many former integrated school students are keen to give something back. One such person is Stuart Irwin. Stuart is a proud alumnus of Hazelwood Integrated College, a working-class school on the North Belfast peace-line, which now educates over 1,000 pupils and has developed thanks to many supporters in The Ireland Funds.

He recently completed a PhD in history at Queen's University Belfast. In 2015, Stuart was selected to participate in the Washington Ireland Program for Service and Leadership; returning in 2017 to join the Management Team. Most recently, he has joined the Belfast Hub of the Global Shapers Community, which is an initiative set up by the World Economic Forum. Stuart is a leading member of the newly-established Integrated AlumNI and says: "Attending an integrated school opened my eyes to the world and allowed me the opportunity to grow in confidence and develop the skills required to fulfil my aspirations. I am passionate about Integrated AlumNI because I want to ensure that future generations of young people in Northern Ireland are able to avail of the wonderful opportunity I enjoyed in attending an integrated school."



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As I Am

BY ADAM HARRIS

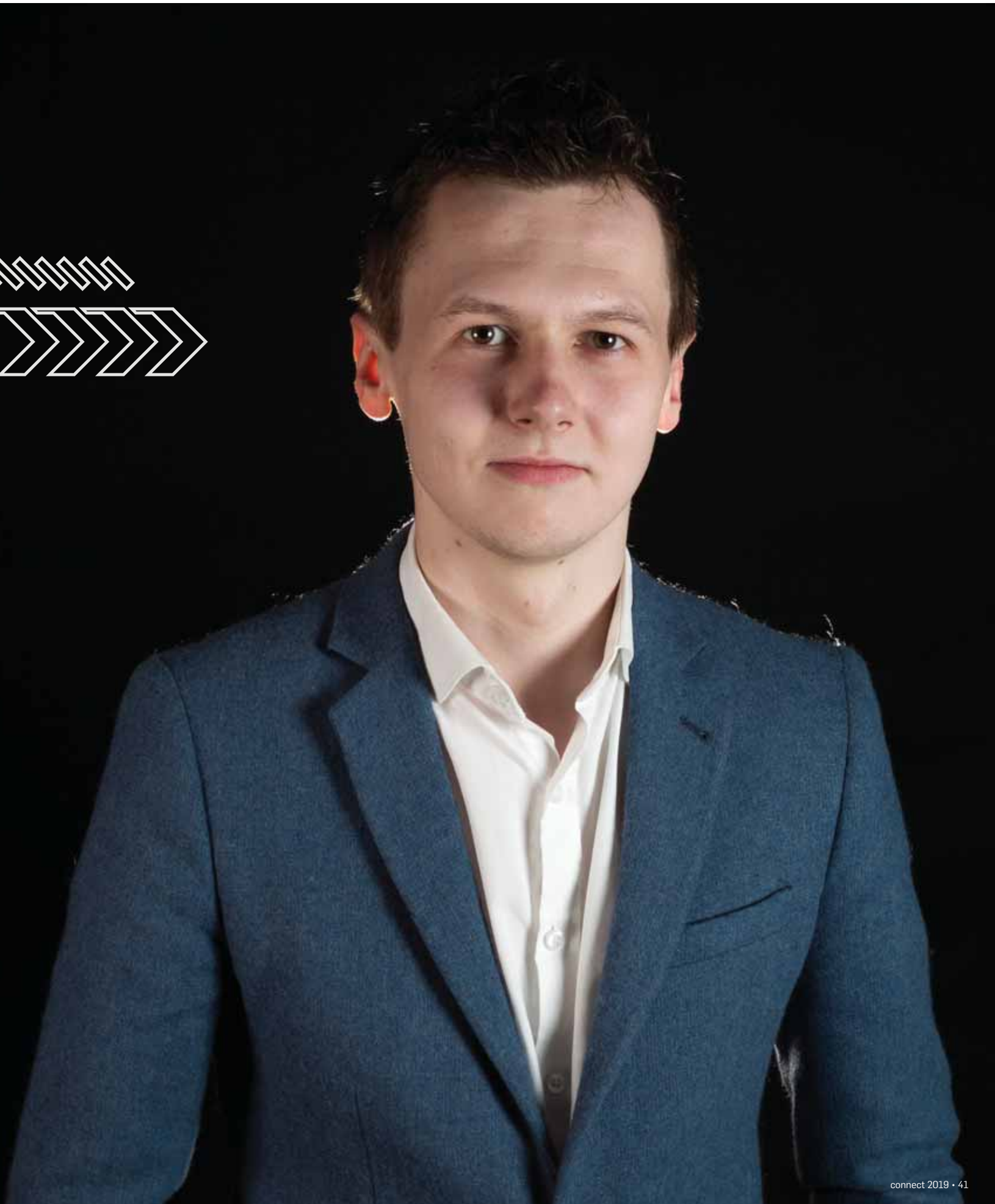
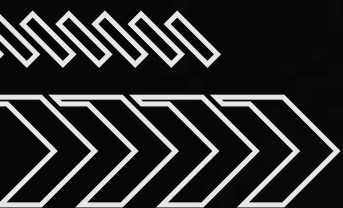
ADAM HARRIS IS A 24-YEAR OLD SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR AND FOUNDER-CEO OF ASIAM, IRELAND'S NATIONAL AUTISM CHARITY. ADAM FOUNDED THE ORGANIZATION IN 2014 IN RESPONSE TO HIS OWN EXPERIENCES GROWING UP IN IRELAND AS AN AUTISTIC PERSON. THE IRELAND FUNDS HAVE BEEN KEY SUPPORTERS OF THE WORK OF ASIAM FROM AN EARLY STAGE AND ADAM SHARES WITH US WHY THIS SUPPORT HAS BEEN CRITICAL TO THE GROWTH OF THE ORGANIZATION. 

Autism is something which we have all become very “aware” of in recent years. Many of us can point to someone in our family or community who is on the autism spectrum and, if not, we can cite the names of a plethora of celebrities or television and fictional characters who are autistic. This is an important start – we cannot take any action if we do not realize this diversity exists. It is significant in an Irish context in particular. When I was a young child, this awareness did not exist. But in just 15 years, through a government policy shift towards inclusive education, we now have a reality that 86% of autistic young people attend mainstream school. However, awareness is just a start. The next steps, for meaningful inclusion must be understanding, empathy and action.

BUILDING CAPACITY, EDUCATING SOCIETY

I know this first hand. When I reached an age of self-awareness I did not want to discuss my autism for many years as I saw how people reacted when you mentioned that you were on the autism spectrum – desperately wanting to do the right thing but not knowing where to start. As a result, many of the barriers which autistic people experience today come from society's response to those with the condition. The statistics bear this out. 80% of autistic adults are under or unemployed, autistic people are at least 9 times more likely to end their lives by suicide and access to basic public services such as education and healthcare remains a marked challenge.

I was lucky, by the time I was 16, to be in school independently with a strong group of friends – but this is far from the reality for the majority and I decided to take action in establishing AsIam because I felt the challenges autistic people met were not inevitable but could be addressed through building the capacity of autistic people and their families and educating society to fully include the autism community.



A TEAM FOR GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

5 years on I am really excited about the progress which we are making. We are now a team of 12 staff members, half of us being autistic ourselves, ably supported and guided by an experienced, voluntary Board of Directors. Our Community Support Team provides guidance and support to autistic people and families who contact us – this ranges from basic sign-posting through to making complex representations to government bodies. In addition, it provides a range of training, support and information to autistic people and family members on managing the challenges that go with the condition and effectively advocating for yourself.

On the policy front, we have led efforts to secure a National Autism Strategy for Ireland and holding government to account in terms of providing equality of opportunity for our community. As the only National Charity undertaking this type of support role, there is a real need for us to grow our team in this area over the coming years to ensure that every family is adequately supported and the voice of the community heard at a national level.

UNIQUE INITIATIVES FOR IRELAND

Our Training and Business Advisory Team has led out on some highly unique initiatives around creating an autism-friendly society. The team operate a range of programs which start in early years settings and work their way up to supporting employers, gardai and businesses in supporting autistic members of the public using their services and opportunities. We were proud to support Dublin City University (DCU) in becoming the World's first Autism-Friendly University, and we are now rolling this initiative out across Ireland and indeed globally with the first US universities expected to be accredited by 2020.

In partnership with SuperValu, Ireland's leading retailer, we have rolled autism-friendly shopping times out across the country and supported Clonakilty in becoming the country's first autism-friendly town. In Clonakilty, over 100 organizations have undertaken training and put in place accessibility measures for autistic community members addressing the main barriers to inclusion for autistic people such as communication, predictability and control, sensory processing, judgement and attitudes.

This year we will support a further nine towns in making this commitment. This initiative, also known as the Clonakilty Commitment, follows a series of principles aimed at fostering autism inclusion and empowerment in local committees.

These are:

- Understandable staff training
- Environmental evaluation
- Assistance dog-friendly
- A commitment to enact at least one change in the community

Whilst lots has been achieved there is so much more to do. We passionately believe Ireland has strong communities who, with the right support, can help us make our country the most accessible and inclusive place in the world for the autism community. The small size of Ireland has allowed us to innovate and develop programs which we believe can be brought to other jurisdictions over time. Our ultimate goal is to be redundant and that will be achieved when we can safely say every autistic person born in Ireland has the opportunity to reach their own personal potential, whatever that may look like, and fully participate in every aspect of Irish life.

THANKS TO THE IRELAND FUNDS

We have been incredibly lucky to be supported by The Ireland Funds from day one of this journey. We were not long-established when our Secondary School Program, which aims to address bullying of autistic students through peer education, received a grant from The Ireland Funds' Small Grant Round of €3,000 in 2014. This enabled us to develop and pilot the program, which has now been delivered in well over 100 schools across the country.

Creating an Autism-Friendly University requires significant investment and from the day I explained the concept to The Ireland Funds' team they understood its importance in terms of providing opportunities for adults and ultimately reducing unemployment in the autism community, the team proactively sought support from the initiative and has secured €300,000 to date.

It has been a true privilege to be invited to many Ireland Funds' events in both Ireland and the United States and to meet so many amazing members of The Ireland Funds' family. It is truly special knowing that there is a network of people around the world who want to support work such as ours and many have demonstrated this proactively to us with generous personal donations towards supporting our information and training services.

I want to thank all donors for the work you do and all your support to date. AsIam could not have the impact we do without the help of The Ireland Funds.

Autism facts

80%

of autistic adults are under or unemployed.



autistic people are at least

9 times

more likely to end their lives by suicide



access to basic public services such as education and healthcare remains a marked challenge

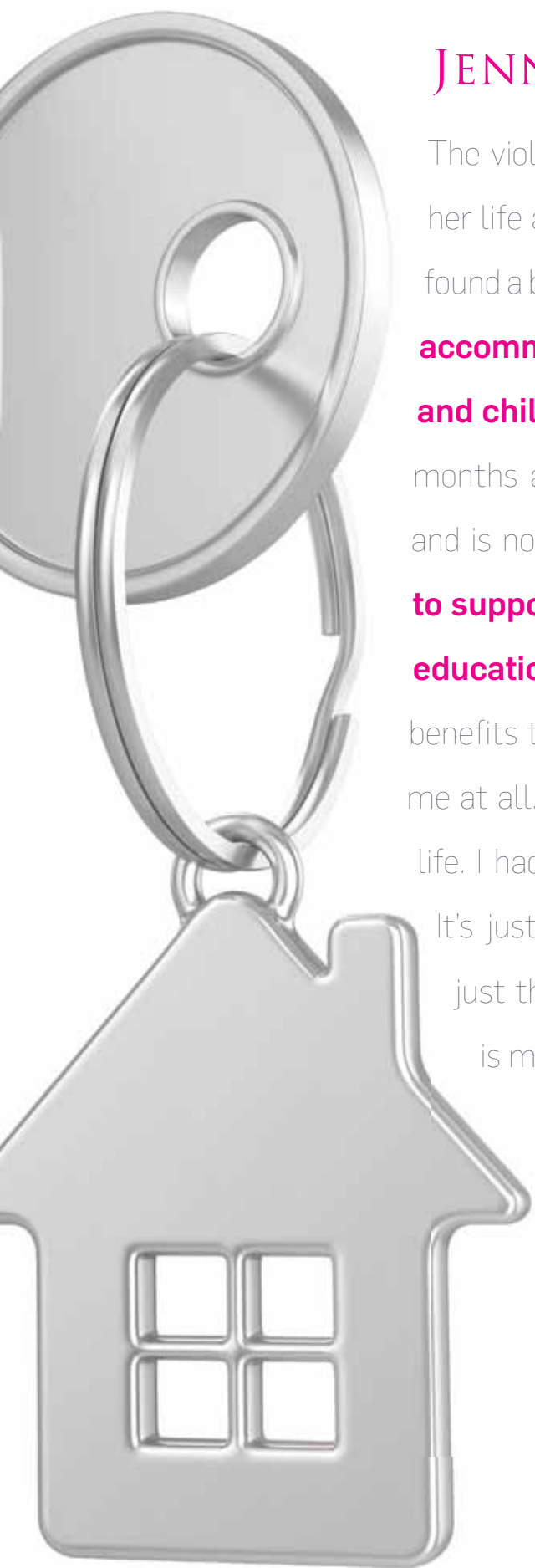


GOOD SHEPHERD CORK



First a Home, then Hope

The Ireland Funds is helping ensure no vulnerable woman or child is turned away.



JENNIFER KNEW SHE HAD TO LEAVE.

The violence in her home was at a point where she feared for her life and in her words, "I was gonna end up dead." • Jennifer found a bed at Good Shepherd Cork's Edel House, an **emergency accommodation which serves over 50 homeless women and children a night.** • Jennifer spent the next nine-and-a-half months at Edel House. She battled drug and alcohol addiction and is now in recovery. **Good Shepherd Cork has continued to support Jennifer's journey with housing, advocacy, and education.** • At first Jennifer was unsure, but soon saw the benefits to the education program. "I thought it might not be for me at all. It's really changed me, helped me to get routine in my life. I hadn't had it for such a long time. I forgot what life was. It's just shown me bit by bit. Computers, communications... just the people...everyone's caring! I realize that there really is more to life." • **Today, thanks to Good Shepherd Cork, Jennifer has found a new level of independence and is living in her own home.**

JENNIFER'S STORY

is not uncommon in Ireland. Good Shepherd Cork works with these women, children and families who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness. Good Shepherd Cork is the only agency in Cork that can admit and care for children who are homeless. Grounded in a belief in social justice and equality, it addresses the root causes of homelessness and social exclusion and aims to break the cycle of homelessness through generations. All backgrounds, ages and stages of life are welcomed and served.

Life in emergency accommodation is extremely stressful for children. Research shows that homelessness in childhood can lead to poor health, low self-esteem, problems in school, alienation, and ultimately, as an adult, high risk of future homelessness. But as the homelessness crisis increases, people are staying in emergency accommodation for longer periods, typically several months and sometimes over a year as it becomes increasingly difficult to find affordable housing.

In response to this crisis, Good Shepherd Cork is providing women, children and families with a safe place to stay and practical supports to find and move on to secure long-term housing; along with a wide range of educational, therapeutic and emotional supports to build the resilience and coping skills to best manage the many stresses of homelessness. Its services include:

EDEL HOUSE: *emergency accommodation:*

Edel House is emergency accommodation for women and children who find themselves homeless. Every night there are over 50 women and children in residence with a staff that works with women to help them to return to independent living as quickly as possible.

REDCLYFFE: *a family hub and support to families in Bed and Breakfast accommodation:*

In mid-2018 Redclyffe was opened. It is a 70-bed 'family hub' to provide temporary accommodation for families. Outreach Workers support a further 50 families in B&Bs who cannot be accommodated at Edel House or Redclyffe when the services are at full capacity.

RIVERVIEW: *residential care for teenage girls:*

Riverview helps girls ages 15 - 19 who are homeless achieve greater resilience and wellbeing. Key workers engage on a one-to-one basis with each girl to help them to resolve issues and to move on to independent living or to return to their families, whichever is most appropriate.

BAILE AN AOIRE: *longer-term supported and transitional housing:*

Baile An Aoire offers quality accommodation to single adult women in a safe and nurturing community. There are also two apartments which provide transitional housing for vulnerable families.

BRUAC: *education and development:*

Good Shepherd Cork's Education & Development program, based at Bruac, offers fresh educational opportunities to girls and women who are unable to access mainstream education. Students are often highly vulnerable and dealing with a range of issues which prevent them accessing mainstream services. The approach is to place an equal emphasis on personal as well as educational development.

SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY:

A Support and Advocacy team personalizes services to meet the individual needs of each woman and child as they progress to sustainable independent living. Support and Advocacy workers actively involve women in decision making and planning, providing practical and emotional support as well as links to other appropriate services.

HOW HAS THE IRELAND FUNDS HELPED?

Good Shepherd Cork received two grants through the Small Grants Round 2017 and 2018, totalling €7,000. These grants have enabled women to stay in emergency accommodation and receive therapeutic support as well as education and personal development. The grants have also allowed them to provide summer camp places for children staying in emergency accommodation.

The Ireland Funds is pleased in addition to benefiting from the Small Grants Round, our introduction of Good Shepherd's work to other funding sources opened additional opportunities to the value of €300,000 over 3 years.

"There is a crisis of family homelessness in Ireland," says Allison Aldred, CEO of Good Shepherd Cork. "Support from The Ireland Funds is helping us to break this tragic cycle by allowing us to develop and deliver educational and therapeutic supports to women and children in our services, encouraging them to learn, develop skills, improve health and build their self-esteem and resilience and so better cope with and move on from the trauma of homelessness. It is these additional supports that can really make a positive difference to the long-term well-being of our service users and we are extremely grateful to The Ireland Funds for their encouragement and assistance."

ONGOING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Good Shepherd Cork is seeking funds to be able to continue and expand these supports to families to include:

- A drop-in facility for families staying in B&Bs where they could do laundry and make a family meal (estimated cost €20,000 set up and one year running costs).
- More one-to-one and group therapeutic supports for vulnerable women and children—e.g. counselling, play or art therapy, parent and toddler program (cost approx. €16,000)
- A program of sports and physical activities for children living in emergency accommodation (cost approx. €7,500)
- Furniture, bedding, kitchen items etc. for the newly-expanded Edel House facility. (cost approx. €120,500 to fully equip the expanded and re-furnished shelter)



GOOD SHEPHERD CORK

I N N U M B E R S

- In **2018**, Good Shepherd Cork **worked with** over **800 women** and **children**
- Regrettably, in **2018**, Good Shepherd Cork's Edel House had to **turn away 232 women** and **230 children** because all beds were full
- Women and children account for over **60% of homeless people** in Cork
- In March of **2019**, the total number of **families who were homeless** in Cork City and County was **109**. This is a stark **increase of nearly 100%** in under a year
- The **109 homeless families include 245 children**. **55** of these children are currently **staying in emergency accommodation provided by Good Shepherd Cork** (Edel House or Redclyffe family hub) and the remainder are in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs or hotels).

SUSAN



"I feel a lot better now...calmer, more confident. I used to think it was the end of the world for me...I had to remember my confidences...where they were...the person I used to be. I've a lot of friends at Good Shepherd Cork."

JENNIFER

"You just have to believe and keep setting goals. Now I've got a house and my whole life has changed really. I'm so much more comfortable. I can sleep at night...I have my own key, my own shower. I'm still attending classes and looking into going into Further Education."



ROSALEEN

"Good Shepherd Cork has helped me plan for my future...it has taught me to never give up."



The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition 2019

Photos: Aengus McMahon

LILY DEVICES WINS €15,000

in the annual Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition

*The Ireland Funds Business Plan
Competition winner Aaron Hannon
of Lily Devices*



The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition 2019 finalists

The Ireland Funds has a long history of supporting excellence and addressing need in Ireland. Since 2012, and initially in response to the economic downturn, The Ireland Funds has run an annual Business Plan Competition that seeks to nurture creativity and hone entrepreneurial skills of Ireland's next generation of business leaders. By working in partnership with third-level institutions, innovation hubs and focusing on early stage entrepreneurs, the Business Plan Competition promotes the skills and resilience needed to develop indigenous industries, attract investors and, ultimately, to create jobs. Founded by San Francisco-based Board Director of The Ireland Funds America, Bill McKiernan of WSM Capital, LLC, The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition finalists have a chance to win cash prizes as well as additional supports and mentorship.

"I proposed the idea of a Business Plan Competition to The Ireland Funds in 2010 during the depths of the Irish recession," said Bill McKiernan. "The economic climate in Ireland was pretty bleak at the time and it was clear that the biggest contribution The Ireland Funds could make to Ireland was to help create jobs. Young people in Ireland should be encouraged to take risks. They need to be more comfortable with failure and the lessons learned from it. The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition hopes to do that."

In 2017, The Ireland Funds began partnering with Ireland's National Digital Research Centre (NDRC) to deliver the Business Plan Competition. Funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, NDRC finds, builds and invests in tech companies and start-up teams with the potential to grow internationally.

In June of 2019, after six weeks of rigorous mentorship at NDRC's start-up hub in Dublin, ten teams took part in the Business Plan Competition showcase at Ormeau Baths in Belfast where they pitched their ideas and fielded questions from the panel of stellar judges.

Lily Devices, led by NUI Galway student Aaron Hannon, won the top prize of €15,000 for their product that aims to prevent hair loss during chemotherapy using a unique headband device which offers patients a comfortable, dignified and portable treatment device for the prevention of hair loss during chemotherapy.

"The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition has been a fantastic opportunity for us to build our customer discovery skills and truly understand the problem we are working on," said Aaron Hannon. "Over the course of the program, we radically redefined our strategy for market access having understood our customers in a whole new light. We now feel that, having been through The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition process, we are in a much stronger position to accelerate our technical development and deliver maximum patient impact when we get to market."

Second runner up this year was NearBy. Team members, Merim Dzaferagic, Irene Macaluso, Conor Sexton were awarded €7,000 for their product, which helps telecom operators optimize the network configuration by using smart, automated and adaptive optimization approaches.

Third runner up, SeamlessCARE supports the continuity of care for people with intellectual disability and complex needs. Via their platform, carers can take photographs, record videos and make notes to communicate the needs and preferences of each individual. Unique data analytics provides insights into patterns of care and translates the sounds made by non-verbal people so that every care provider can understand their communications.

For this most recent competition, The Ireland Funds partnered with St Patrick's Mental Health Services (SPMHS) to award a special prize of €5,000 to kick start a mental health-focused business plan. Auxilio scooped the prize for their app that provides between-session support to clients who are currently attending a therapist for psychological difficulties. This easy to use tool complements structured therapeutic interventions during moments of distress.

"The quality of candidates this year was second to none," said Director Ireland, The Ireland Funds, Caitriona Fottrell. "When the competition's founder Bill McKiernan launched this competition eight years ago, none of us anticipated how vital it would become in supporting ambitious young entrepreneurs to kick start their business plans. We are also incredibly proud of our new partnership with SPMHS, as this highlights the growth of the competition and we hope to welcome new collaborations and partnerships as we continue to evolve."



AUXILIO:

The winners of the Mental Health Innovation Award with Orla Gogarty and Ronan Devins from St Patrick's Mental Health Services

"The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition has been a fantastic opportunity for us to build our customer discovery skills and truly understand the problem we are working on..." — Aaron Hannon, NUI Galway student




Judges L-R Bill McKiernan (Board Director of The Ireland Funds America and Founder of The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition), Tina McKenzie (CEO of Grafton Recruitment), Gareth Quinn (Co-Founder and COO of Kairos)



Second runner up: NearBy

A Conversation with

BILL MCKIERNAN

A portrait of Bill McKiernan, a middle-aged man with short brown hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a green patterned tie. He is standing in front of a large window with a view of a city. His right hand is resting on a wooden railing.

Bill McKiernan is President of WSM Capital LLC and is a San Francisco-based Board Director of The Ireland Funds America. In 2012, Bill founded **THE IRELAND FUNDS BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION** which today has stimulated the growth of numerous young companies and initiatives across the island of Ireland. This past June, Bill helped judge the Competition held in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Rachel Alabiso, Editor of *Connect* Magazine, spoke with Bill to learn more about his motivations for establishing the Competition and his views on the importance of The Ireland Funds in Ireland, Northern Ireland, and beyond.

Rachel *Bill, how were you introduced to The Ireland Funds?*

Bill I was introduced to The Ireland Funds by its West Coast Director, Marjorie Muldowney. As I met people who were involved with The Ireland Funds and understood their passion and commitment to the Ireland, I started to become more involved. When I first got involved back in 2010 or so, Ireland was in a very difficult place. The Irish recession was in full force. Unemployment was very high. The economic climate in Ireland was pretty bleak. I felt the biggest contribution that we could make to Ireland was to help create jobs, because a job is the best philanthropy that anyone can provide.

Rachel *So, you established The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition?*

Bill Yes. Back then we talked about the fact that every job starts with an entrepreneur. My belief was that entrepreneurship is critical to the long-term success of Ireland, just like it's critical to every country. When I looked at Ireland, to me, the big difference between Ireland and California, in terms of entrepreneurship, was the appetite for risk among young people.

Rachel *Isn't that something you've spoken about at the Business Plan Competition, the idea that young people need to be more comfortable with risk and with failure?*

Bill Exactly. It's clear to me that the Irish are intellectually gifted. They're well-trained, and as innovative and creative as anyone, but from my experience, particularly the young people, they seem to be more risk-averse than the young people in the U.S.

Rachel *What do you think is behind that?*

Bill I think it's a cultural thing, and it's a function of their exposure to risk taking. In Northern California, if you walk into any Starbucks, you see business plan pitches going on at virtually every table. That's a function of the culture of Northern California. It was my belief that by exposing the young people in Ireland to the entrepreneurial process and to entrepreneurs, that they would be more comfortable with entrepreneurship, with failure and with the lessons that they can learn from that. That's really what the Business Plan Competition is all about. It's exposing young people in Ireland to entrepreneurs and to entrepreneurship in the hope that they become more comfortable starting their own businesses.

Rachel *The Business Plan Competition has grown over the years to be so much more than that one day in June. We'd like to think that early-stage business ideas are really being identified and nurtured, and not just the first-place winners. Do you agree?*

Bill There's no question. The Competition is much less about finding a business plan that can become a billion-dollar company and much more about education. It's about getting the young people comfortable with the entrepreneurial process and thinking about entrepreneurship and thinking about what it takes to start a successful business. That may result in them pursuing the business they describe in the Business Plan Competition or it may be a business they develop at a future date because of the lessons they learned at the Business Plan Competition.

Rachel *Have you stayed in touch with any of these teams going forward? Do you keep an eye on them as they grow?*

Bill Yes, I occasionally get calls from some of the folks and they'll provide me with updates. The quality of the business plans has really improved over the years.

Rachel *Tell us a bit more about that.*

Bill I think that's a function of a few things. I think that the Competition has become more widely known, so we're getting applicants from a broader population. I think the collaboration with the National Digital Research Centre (NDRC) has really been a positive development in the Business Plan Competition. NDRC provides ongoing mentorship. They run a bootcamp for the competitors before the final competition, and they allow them to refine their business plans and refine their pitches, and so they've been instrumental in making the pitches much more compelling. Then, afterward, they provide an incubation facility so that teams can pursue their dreams. NDRC has really been a positive development for the Competition.

Rachel *Where do you see the Business Plan Competition going in the next few years? Are there areas that can be improved?*

Bill I think one thing I would like to see is a tighter collaboration with the nine universities in Ireland. We work with the professors of entrepreneurship or engineering or economics, and educate them about the nature of the competition, encourage them to encourage their students to think about entrepreneurship and think about the Business Plan Competition and submit plans. I do think that a tighter collaboration with the universities would expand the impact of the Competition, because then within each university there will be some momentum around entrepreneurship that continues throughout the year.

Rachel *How do you feel about the growing social entrepreneurship movement in Ireland?*

Bill I think that's a function of young peoples' awareness about social responsibility today versus past generations. I'm very encouraged by that. In many ways, a lot of what The Ireland Funds does is about social entrepreneurship. It's about encouraging people to solve problems in creative ways.

Rachel *Bill, you're a National Board Director of The Ireland Funds America. Has all of that helped you stay connected to Ireland?*

Bill Even though San Francisco's pretty far away from Ireland, the Irish have a rich history in San Francisco. I feel The Ireland Funds, and Marjorie in particular, do a great job of celebrating that rich history. We have an Irish consulate in San Francisco, and they do a lot of things as well, but also, the economic climate in San Francisco attracts a lot of Irish business interests.

I think The Ireland Funds acts as a sort of force multiplier there in generating more interest in Ireland and celebrating Irish culture in San Francisco. That's in large part thanks to Marjorie. She does a great job.

Rachel *Bill, here's a big picture question: Why Ireland? Why is it important for members of the Irish diaspora to continue to have that relationship with Ireland and Northern Ireland? People can focus their philanthropy in so many places.*

Bill In some respects, this is a watershed moment in Irish history. Brexit is creating a lot of uncertainty in the Republic and Northern Ireland. I also think it's creating a lot of opportunity for both countries, but the important thing is that you don't go backwards to the Troubles, and I believe the diaspora can help by staying engaged and supporting causes for which they have some passion.

Rachel *What was it like for you to be at The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference in Belfast last June? Did it feel like people connected with what's going on in Northern Ireland?*

Bill Yes. It was great to be back in Belfast. I've had some experiences over the years in Northern Ireland and going back this year for the Conference showed us the vibrancy of the Belfast community. The evidence of that is everywhere, the construction, the energy in the streets. It's really gratifying to see that. But as I said, we're in a moment in history where a lot of things are going to change, and so it's important that we continue that momentum.

Rachel *Would you say it's a vibrancy and a fragility?*

Bill Yes. That fragility is there and unfortunately it creates a sort of a vacuum. We know what happened with that vacuum during the Troubles. It's really important that we help continue the positive momentum of the last 20 years.

Rachel *What do you see the role of The Ireland Funds being as we go forward?*

Bill I think in terms of The Ireland Funds, that just being in Belfast this past June was a positive thing. I think also staying involved is key. We saw several projects while we were there that encourage reconciliation and peace. I went to see PeacePlayers. It's a grassroots effort to encourage positive interactions between communities.

Another donor at the Conference had an opportunity to see the Derry Playhouse. They told me it was one of the most emotional days they have ever had. It's those kinds of efforts at a grassroots level that can produce positive change.

Rachel *The Ireland Funds do persist. It's been an unrelenting commitment to every single generation to show them that we're still going to be there, and we're going to keep supporting initiatives that build cross-community strength.*

Bill It's not unlike what I describe to entrepreneurs. They'll often ask, 'what's the thing you did to finally make the business successful?' It's no single thing. It's like pushing a flywheel, and you just keep pushing the flywheel until eventually the flywheel gets momentum and sustains itself.

Rachel *That's a great metaphor.*

Bill That's true in business. It's true in the peace process. You just keep doing lots of little things that eventually result in the momentum swinging in the right direction.

■



2019: Bill McKiernan addresses
The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition.



2015: Bill McKiernan with winners from Ivea Labs:
Andrew Boyd, Victoria Potts, Adam Whiteside,
Alex Caskey and Neil O'Herlihy of Google.



2018: Bill McKiernan with winners Shona D'Arcy
and Celine de Looze of Kids Speech Labs.

The Ireland Funds Monaco Welcomes **Guadalupe Smurfit** as its new President

Guadalupe Smurfit was born in Mexico and lived in the USA and Spain before settling in Monaco with husband Alan and daughter Ann, six years ago. She is a keen golf player and particularly enjoys playing at the K Club course in Kildare. The Smurfit family has philanthropy at the very heart of their being and they have been particularly generous supporters of The Ireland Funds over the years providing vital support for its charitable causes. Guadalupe's brother-in-law, Sir Michael, Honorary Consul for Ireland in Monaco, received The Ireland Funds Monaco Princess Grace Humanitarian Award in 2018.

Guadalupe is the patron of the Monaco Police basketball team. She and her daughter Ann recently attended a tournament which saw their team win gold medals in the Monaco basketball challenge. She also supports the Monaco police fund for orphans and sick children and said, "I believe it is important to help the people who help and protect us. The police do a wonderful job keeping us safe in Monaco and it is good to be able to give back to them and their families."

Guadalupe is passionate about supporting her local community and in particular, projects involving youth and sports. Talking about her new role as President of The Ireland Funds Monaco, Guadalupe said, "I am really looking forward to working on some new Irish and local community projects to support young people and help them develop and gain valuable life skills. I have some ideas that I hope will strengthen the bond between Monaco and Ireland and open up some new opportunities for children from both countries."



THE IRELAND FUNDS



REPRESENTATIVES FROM ACROSS THE IRELAND FUNDS' **12 INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS** ATTENDED THE IRELAND FUNDS 34TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE BASED AT THE CULLODEN HOTEL IN BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND.

CONFERENCE 2019



The four-day conference included close to 200 supporters from cities across the world including the US, Ireland, the UK, Europe, Singapore and Australia.

Over the weekend, the group paid visits to various peace and reconciliation projects supported by The Ireland Funds in Northern Ireland including 174 Trust, Cinemagic and PeacePlayers International.

A key event of the international gathering was The Ireland Funds AWB Vincent Literary Award which was presented posthumously to Lyra McKee to honor the significant contribution that she made to Ireland through her writing.

President and CEO of The Ireland Funds America, David Cronin, said: "Through her writing, Lyra McKee inspired and challenged us with her insightful work as a journalist and author. Lyra's talent and ability to connect across generations, prejudice and sectarianism was exceptional. With our own roots and deep connections in Northern Ireland, it is most appropriate that The Ireland Funds AWB Vincent Literary Award this year honors Lyra McKee."

The award was presented to Lyra's partner, Sara Canning, with her family and friends in attendance. In her memory, the accompanying award funding (\$25,000) will be presented to Fighting Words, a creative writing charity for children and young people in Northern Ireland.

The conference also included sessions that discussed the ongoing investment and long-range plans of The Ireland Funds within Northern Ireland. Former President of Ireland Mary McAleese and Prof. Monica McWilliams, Chairperson of Interpeace (Geneva) were guest speakers. Other speakers included Martin O'Brien (Director of Social Change Initiative), The Baroness May Blood MBE, Peter Sheridan (CEO of Co-operation Ireland) and members of The Ireland Funds Young Leaders: Conor Houston, Gareth Quinn and Richard Willis. Panels were moderated by Dearbhail McDonald (journalist, author, broadcaster and Eisenhower Fellow) and Jonathan Ireland (Co-Founder & Partner, Lanyon Communications).

Chairman of The Ireland Funds America, John Fitzpatrick said: "Established during the conflict in Northern Ireland, The Ireland Funds is deeply connected to the North. Through the Good Friday Agreement, the bridge to peace has been built but we must work hard to cement this peace. It is truly a process that continues to require all of our energy, commitment and support. This year's Ireland Funds conference in Belfast has been an important and productive one, and we are returning to the various geographies around the world with renewed purpose."

The event was an opportunity to thank donors and friends from around the world for their ongoing commitment to the philanthropic mission of The Ireland Funds.

The Ireland Funds **CONFERENCE**



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“This year’s Ireland Funds conference in Belfast has been an important and productive one, and we are returning to the various geographies around the world with renewed purpose.”

— John Fitzpatrick

The Ireland Funds CONFERENCE





The Ireland Funds **CONFERENCE**



The Ireland Funds **CONFERENCE**



65

- 1 David Cronin, Sara Canning, Glenn Patterson, John Fitzpatrick
- 2 Bart Murphy, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs, David Cronin, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Tom Meagher
- 3 Fiona Lowe, Christopher Beltran, Denise Melone, Sinead Creaner, Cheryl Ziemba, Kathleen Weber, Fiona Cameron
- 4 Caoimhe Connolly, Marcus Walsh, Victoria Wallace
- 5 Gary McGann, Mary McAleese
- 6 St. Anne's Cathedral
- 7 Steve Greeley, Shaun Kelly, David Cronin, Elmar Conrads-Hassel
- 8 Capt. Kevin Mac Donnell, Sue & Brian Dickie, Joe Quinlan
- 9 The Lord and Lady Dunleath, John Fitzpatrick
- 10 Patrick Tuttle, Ted Johnson, Morgan O'Driscoll
- 11 Siobhán Gallagher, Bill McNally, Denise Melone, Bill McKiernan
- 12 Sabine Hochbaum, Teresa Keating, Sile Jackson, Yvonne LeBas
- 13 Kevin Curley, Loretta Brennan Glucksman
- 14 Michael Donnell, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs, Noreen Louthan, Tom Quick
- 15 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, David Cronin
- 16 David & Renate Cronin, Oliver Murray
- 17 Gene & Peggy McQuade, Dr. Stanley Quek
- 18 The Lady Dunleath, John Fitzpatrick
- 19 Yvonne LeBas, Nicole Patterson
- 20 John Fitzpatrick, Shaun Kelly
- 21 David Cronin
- 22 The Lady Dunleath, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, The Lord Dunleath
- 23 The Baroness May Blood MBE, Conor Houston
- 24 Ballywalter Park
- 25 Dearbhail McDonald
- 26 Group visiting Game of Thrones
- 27 Sue & Brian Dickie
- 28 John Fitzpatrick, Gene McQuade
- 29 Suzanne Corcoran, Dennis Early
- 30 John Fitzpatrick, Dolores McCall, Abbot Christopher Dillon
- 31 Dinner at Queen's University
- 32 Dinner at Queen's University
- 33 David Cronin, Professor Monica McWilliams, Mary McAleese, John Fitzpatrick
- 34 Donal Boylan, Capt. Kevin Mac Donnell, Zachary Webb
- 35 Gareth Quinn, Caitriona Fottrell, Rory Cameron
- 36 Trevor Ringland
- 37 Plenary Session Panel
- 38 Conor Houston, Kyle Clifford, Alan Foy
- 39 Hugo MacNeill & Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, Colleen & Trevor Ringland
- 40 Shaun & Mary Kelly
- 41 Professor Brian MacCraith, Loretta Brennan Glucksman
- 42 MaryAnn McGrath, Kyle Clifford, Bill McGrath
- 43 Colin MacDonald, Gillian Lim MacDonald, Pamela Spreckley, Brian Hutton
- 44 Richard Willie
- 45 Derry Playhouse at 174 Trust
- 46 Renate Cronin, Peter Rooney
- 47 Angela Moore, Bill McKiernan at Ulster University
- 48 Ted Johnson at the Integrated Education Fund
- 49 Sara Canning
- 50 PeacePlayers International NI
- 51 Caitriona Fottrell
- 52 John Fitzpatrick at the Integrated Education Fund
- 53 Donal & Mary Boylan, Dr. Stanley Quek
- 54 Tom Codd, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs
- 55 Jim & Heather Murren
- 56 Abbot Christopher Dillon, Dolores McCall
- 57 Joe & Mary Lou Quinlan, Mary & Shaun Kelly
- 58 Michael and Oliver Murray
- 59 Angela Moore, Guest, Shane Naughton, Guest, Helen Lambert
- 60 Sue & Brian Dickie
- 61 Grainne Barron, David Delahunt
- 62 Colin Davidson, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Professor Ian Greer
- 63 PeacePlayers International NI
- 64 Integrated Education Fund
- 65 Cinemagic

Save the Date

JUNE 24 – 27
THE IRELAND FUNDS
WORLDWIDE
CONFERENCE
2020

THE EUROPE HOTEL & RESORT
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The Eithne & Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Fund Celebrates the 26th Annual Golf Tournament

The 26th Annual Eithne & Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Golf Tournament took place on Monday, May 13th, 2019 at the Sleepy Hollow Country Club, one of the country's most prestigious and attractive golf courses, located in Scarborough, NY. The Eithne & Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Fund was created in 1993 in honor of the late parents of John Fitzpatrick, The Ireland Funds America Chairman. Its mission was – and still is – to help deserving charities and service projects back home in Ireland and here in the United States. The Memorial Fund works closely with The Ireland Funds to support a diverse group of worthy organizations 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. Some of the projects supported are, Barretstown Camp, the Integrated Education Fund, the New York Irish Center, the O'Hanlon Park Boxing Club in Dundalk, Barnardos, the Irish Arts Center and many more. Irish Golf Pro Eamonn Darcy, a four-time winner on the European Tour, attended the event, along with notable Irish football manager Mick McCarthy and Irish football legend, Robbie Keane. During this year's event, the amount raised was record breaking, bringing the total amount raised to date to over **\$4.5 million dollars**.



Mick McCarthy, Eamonn Darcy, Robbie Keane, John Fitzpatrick



Irish Golf Pro Eamonn Darcy, a four-time winner on the European Tour



Caroline Regan, Conor McCoy, Sarah Fitzpatrick, Patrick Murphy



Eamonn Coghlan, David Evans, Tom Goodwin



Conor Gilligan, Peter Quinn, Harry Fehily, David Cronin



David Scott-Lennon, Mark Scott-Lennon, John Fitzpatrick, Neil Hennessy, Jacqueline Hurley



Hole-in-One prizes for the tournament included an Aston Martin

Photos: Nuala Purcell



May, 2019 Over 900 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. The night raised over \$2.3 million in support of Irish charities and causes. Three-time Oscar nominee **Saoirse Ronan** was honored by The Ireland Funds with its **2019 Performing Arts Award** in recognition of her prolific work on stage and in films such as *Atonement*, *Lady Bird*, *Brooklyn*, *The Grand Budapest Hotel* and most recently, *Mary Queen of Scots*. Also recognized on the evening was **Ronan Dunne**, Executive Vice President and President of **Verizon Consumer Group**. He received the **2019 Corporate Leadership Award** in recognition of his leadership in business and philanthropy. **Eileen K. Murray**,

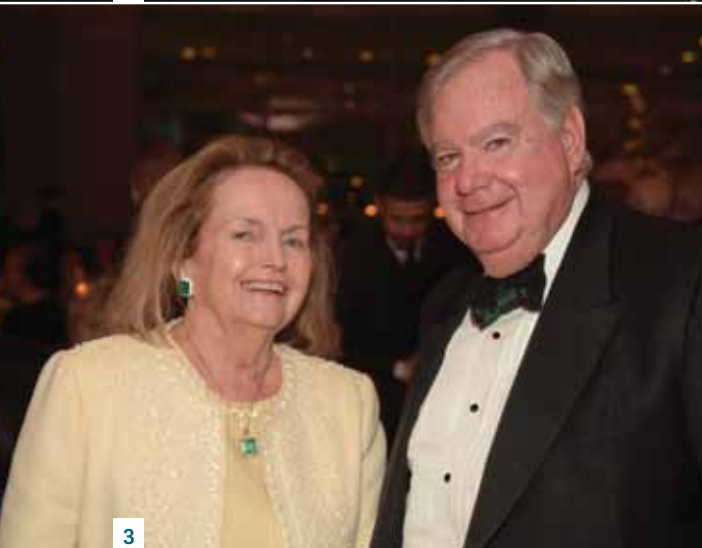
Co-CEO of **Bridgewater Associates LP**, received the **2019 Leslie C. Quick Jr. Leadership Award** which annually recognizes a person of outstanding character and business acumen and she is the first woman to receive the Award. Messages of support praising the work of The Ireland Funds were sent by **Michael D. Higgins**, President of Ireland and An Taoiseach **Leo Varadkar**, Prime Minister of Ireland. Notable guests at the 2019 Gala included **Ciarán Madden**, Ireland's Consul General; Ambassador **Geraldine Byrne Nason**, Ireland's Permanent Representative to the United Nations; and **Norman Houston**, Director of the Northern Ireland Bureau.

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- 1 Kyle Clifford, Caitriona Fottrell, Eileen K. Murray, Ronan Dunne, Saoirse Ronan, John Fitzpatrick
- 2 New York Gala Committee
- 3 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Gene McQuade
- 4 Eileen Murray with family and friends
- 5 Minister Katherine Zappone, Consul General Ciaran Madden
- 6 Timothy Kelly, Mary & Shaun Kelly
- 7 Guests
- 8 John Fitzpatrick
- 9 Saoirse Ronan
- 10 Sharon & Bob Prince
- 11 Kate Pico, Chris Cooney, Jim Blumenfeld
- 12 Kyle Clifford
- 13 Eileen K. Murray, Ronan Dunne, Saoirse Ronan, John Fitzpatrick
- 14 Amb. Geraldine Byrne Nason, Saoirse Ronan
- 15 Young Leaders
- 16 Ann Murtagh, Erin Fitzsimmons, Pat Tully, Vonnice Quinn, Harry & Susan Hartford
- 17 Princess Beatrice of York with Afiniti guests

Photos: Michael Nagle, Jim Higgins, Sasha Gitin



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The San Francisco Gala Dinner

March, 2019 The 2019 Gala was the most successful San Francisco Gala in its almost 40-year history. **Colin J. Ryan**, Co-head of Mergers & Acquisitions Americas at **Goldman Sachs** received **The Ireland Funds Distinguished Leadership Award** at the **St. Francis Hotel**. Renowned philanthropist **Chuck Feeney**, who was honored by The Ireland Funds in 2016, attended with his wife **Helga**. The Ireland Funds Vice President **Marjorie Muldowney** paid tribute to Colin Ryan describing him as “an outstanding example of Ireland at its best.” Colin & **Nikki Ryan** have generously supported Ireland Funds’ programs like the **Early Learning Initiative**, **Social Entrepreneurs Ireland**, **Daisyhouse**, **The Ireland Funds Women in Leadership program** and **The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition**. **John Fitzpatrick**, The Ireland Funds America Chairman, thanked Board Directors **Bart Murphy**, **Harry Hartford**, and longtime supporters **Maureen Sullivan**, the **McKiernan family** and Board Director **EJ Tracy**. Over 400 guests attended including Consul General **Robert O’Driscoll**, **Nick**

Giovanni of **Goldman Sachs**, **Catherine & John Kilroy** of **Kilroy Realty Corporation**, **George Davis** of **Qualcomm**, **John Flynn** of **Kennedy Wilson**, **DCU President Brian McCraith**, **Paraic Hayes** of the **IDA**. Also present were teams from **Google, Inc.**, **Sullivan & Cromwell LLP**, **Paul Weiss LLP** and **Sard Verbinnen & Co**. Other special guests included **Kathleen Ryan**, **Erin Doyle Ebeling** of **Alice Phelan Sullivan Corporation**, **Mary & Tom Hunt**, **Ann King & Steve Murphy**, **Kerri Murphy**, **Nancy & Bill Murphy**, **Mary & Steve Almassy**, **Sally Ann Flood & Michael Kenny**, the **UCD Foundation** and **UCSF**. The Gala was generously sponsored by: **The Koret Foundation—Dr. Anita Friedman**, **Joan & Dave O’Reilly**, **Bill McMorrow** of **Kennedy Wilson**, **Declan Kelly** of **Teneo**, **Jenny & Michael Caulfield**, **Betsy & Bill McKiernan**, and **First Republic Bank**. Special thanks to the Auction & Drawing supporters: **Ashford Castle**, **Dromoland Castle**, **The Merrion**, **Sheen Falls Lodge**, **Fitzpatrick Manhattan Hotel**, **Cinta Salon**, **St. Francis Hotel**, **Momo’s Restaurant**, **San Francisco Giants**.

- 1 Colin J. Ryan
- 2 Barry O’Brien, Colin J. Ryan, John Fitzpatrick
- 3 Chuck & Helga Feeney
- 4 Emmie McKiernan (3rd right), Brielle Kuhn, Maddison White, Grainne Boyle
- 5 Marjorie Muldowney
- 6 Colin & Nikki Ryan, Susan & Harry Hartford
- 7 Nick Giovanni
- 8 Anne-Marie Farrell and Google guests
- 9 John Kilroy, Rick & Lillian Buziak
- 10 Claire Moore, Bart Murphy, Kelly Berry

Photos: Elaine Lee





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- 1 Dok O'Caoimh, Linda Thomas, Jonathan Loughran, Michelle Loughran, Dawn O'Porter, Chris O'Dowd, Ciaran Foy
- 2 Harry Hartford, Catherine Shalloe, Susan Hartford
- 3 Victoria Hay, Jason O'Mara, Victoria Smurfit
- 4 Dawn O'Porter, Paul Young, Ed Guiney

Photos: Elaine Lee

Oscar Week Reception

February, 2019 An evening of celebration and conversation was hosted by The Ireland Funds as supporters gathered in West Hollywood to toast Ireland's nominees at the **2019 Academy Awards**. Los Angeles star power came out in force including Golden Globe-nominated actress **Caitriona Balfe** of *Outlander*, **Chris O'Dowd** of *Bridesmaids* and *Get Shorty*, **Victoria Smurfit** of *Once Upon A Time*, **Jason O'Mara** of *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, **Ciaran Foy** of *Sinister 2* and *Eli*, **Nick Murphy** of *Moone Boy*, comedian **Tara Flynn**, **Amy Shiels** of *Twin Peaks*, **Elan Mastai** of *What If?* and **Mike Dowse** of *Goon*, *What If?* and *It's All Gone Pete Tong*. *Sunday Times* bestselling

author **Dawn O'Porter** hosted the evening at **Ysabel** restaurant along with **Ed Guiney**, Irish producer of *The Favourite* nominated for 10 Oscars, and **Cartoon Saloon's** co-founder, Oscar-nominated producer **Paul Young** whose company was up for its 4th Academy Award® nomination for Best Animated Short for *Late Afternoon*. Special thanks to sponsors **Screen Ireland**, **IDA Ireland**, **Colin McCafferty** of **McCafferty & Co.**, **Drew Buckley** of **Electus**, **Brian Carmody** of **Smuggler**, **Michael Feeley** of **Latham Watkins**, **Dan & Linda Kiely** of **Voxpro**, **Kaitlyn Kyle Cafferky** and **Don Morgan**.



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- 1 Alan Hearty, Minister Harris, Susan & Harry Hartford
- 2 Catherine Shalloe, Marjorie Muldowney, Jack McVey, Mark Rooney
- 3 Niall Cooney
- 4 Eve Noone & guest

Photos: Elaine Lee

Leadership Series Reception with Simon Harris, Ireland's Minister for Health

March, 2019 The Ireland Funds hosted a special **St. Patrick's Day Leadership Series** reception in the offices of **Vice Media**. Guest speaker was **Simon Harris** T.D., Minister for Health, who was joined by **Robert O'Driscoll**, Consul General of Ireland to the Western U.S. The theme of the evening was St. Patrick's Day as an opportunity to celebrate Ireland's diaspora and its achievements, as well as the important contribution of The Ireland Funds to peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland. Minister Harris spoke of the new progressive Ireland and the ongoing Brexit developments. There was an insightful Q&A discussion

with the Minister and assembled supporters of The Ireland Funds, including National Board Director **Harry Hartford**, Regional Advisory Committee members **Kaitlyn Kyle Cafferkey** and **Alan Hearty**, The Ireland Funds Vice President **Marjorie Muldowney**; **James Corr**; **Kieran Hannon**; **Una & Ian Fox**; **Deirdre O'Neill**; **Eoin Egan**; **Dermot, Anne & Mark Tuohy**, and many others. The Ireland Funds thanks supporter **Niall Cooney** at Vice Media for his help arranging the gathering, and the **Irish Consulate in San Francisco**.

Newport Beach Film Festival Reception

April, 2019 A gathering of friends old and new came together in the beautiful **Balboa Bay Club** to celebrate the Irish film-making talent visiting California for the **Newport Beach Film Festival's Irish Spotlight**. Hosted by **Catherine Thyen**, attendees included noted actor, director, photographer and writer **Hugh O'Connor** whose film *Metal Heart* was screening. Long-time supporters of The Ireland Funds in attendance included National Board Director **Harry Hartford** and his wife **Susan**, **Capt. Kevin Mac Donnell**, **Ed Gaffney**, **Sean & Jane Browne**, **Eileen Weatherbee**, **Deirdre O'Neill**, **Eamonn & Sylvia Fitzgerald**, **Andrew Nagle**, **Oisin O'Sullivan**, **David & Nikki Brody** and **Mark Rooney**.



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- 1 Guest, Capt. Kevin Mac Donnell, Harry Hartford
- 2 Deirdre O'Neill and Guest
- 3 Catherine Thyen and Guest

Photos: John Watkins



February, 2019 Love was in the air at **An Irish Valentine Celebration, the 29th Annual Emerald Isle Palm Beach Dinner Dance at The Breakers**. The black-tie gala, Co-Chaired by **Lore Dodge, Michele Kessler, Hillie Mahoney, Sheila O'Malley Fuchs** and **Thomas C. Quick**, drew nearly 200 friends and supporters. The Ireland Funds honored longtime supporters **Paula** and **Bob Butler** with its 2019 Philanthropic Leadership Award. **Kyle Clifford**, Vice President of Development of The Ireland Funds America, welcomed the guests and thanked them for their support and generosity. Chairman of The Ireland

Funds America, **John Fitzpatrick** acknowledged the dignitaries in attendance that included the Honorable **Elizabeth Frawley Bagley**; Irish Ambassador to the United States, **Dan Mulhall**; Consul General of Ireland **Shane Stephens**, and **Brian Stack** and **David O'Sullivan** from the Ireland US Council. **Caitriona Fottrell**, The Ireland Funds Vice President and Director of Ireland, presented the **Philanthropic Leadership Award** to the Butlers, which Paula Butler accepted as she gave words of thanks, along with praise for The Ireland Funds' support of so many vital programs that serve the island of Ireland.

- 1 Hillie Mahoney, Tom Quick, Lore Moran Dodge
- 2 Sheila O'Malley Fuchs & Joe Fuchs, Maura O'Rourke
- 3 Pepper & Michael Jackson
- 4 Susan Keenan, Michele Kessler, Jean Van Sinderen Law
- 5 Alan Foy, Angela Moore
- 6 Kyle Clifford
- 7 Bob Crowe, Amb. Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Amb. Dan Mulhall, Greta Mulhall
- 8 Caitriona Fottrell, Bob & Paula Butler, John Fitzpatrick

Photos: Capehart Photography

Washington D.C. National Gala

March, 2019 The Ireland Funds hosted its 27th Annual National Gala at **The National Building Museum** in Washington, D.C. An Taoiseach, **Leo Varadkar**, TD Prime Minister of Ireland, addressed the 700+ guests attending The Ireland Funds' event as part of his multi-stop St. Patrick's Day visit to the United States. The Gala's theme was **A Celebration of Visionary Women** and honored four business, government and media leaders. Senator **Jeanne Shaheen** (D, NH) received the **Leadership in Government and Public Service Award**; **Sarah Friar**, CEO of **Nextdoor** received the **Business Leadership Award**; **Norah O'Donnell**, Co-Host of **CBS This Morning** received the **Leadership in Media Award** and the Hon. **Abigail Slater**, Special Assistant to The President for Technology, Telecommunications & Cyber Security Policy, National Economic Council received the **Leadership in Government Award**. The evening was a gathering of Gala Chairs, Irish and Irish American leaders, in business, government, the media and the arts. Emceed by Board Directors of The Ireland Funds America **Susan**

Davis and Amb. **Elizabeth Frawley Bagley**, the event celebrated Irish culture and heritage and generated support for the work of The Ireland Funds. Guests of note included H.E. **Daniel Mulhall**, Irish Ambassador to the U.S; Sir **Kim Darroch**, then British Ambassador to the US; and Representative **Richard E. Neal** (D-MA-1) Chairman of **Friends of Ireland** in Congress.

- 1 John Fitzpatrick, Amb. Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Susan Davis, Sarah Friar, An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Norah O'Donnell, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, Caitriona Fottrell
- 2 Amb. Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Susan Davis
- 3 An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar
- 4 Norah O'Donnell receives the Leadership in Media Award
- 5 Sen. Jeanne Shaheen receives the Leadership in Government and Public Service Award
- 6 Sarah Friar receives the Business Leadership Award
- 7 Gail Slater receives the Leadership in Government Award
- 8 Rep. Richard Neal
- 9 John Fitzpatrick
- 10 Lorraine, Tom & Claudia Corcoran
- 11 The National Building Museum
- 12 Guest, Gail Slater, Guest, John Feehery

Photos: Erika Layne and Caitlin Myler

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- 1 Shelly & Tom Codd, Kaitlin Codd, Bishop Edward Burns, Michael Codd
- 2 Deborah Webb, Camilla Ballard
- 3 Marianne & Roger Staubach
- 4 Darina Padian, Tom & Linda McCarthy, John Fitzpatrick
- 5 Darina Padian, Michelle & Richard Anderson, John Fitzpatrick
- 6 John Fitzpatrick, Dolores McCall
- 7 Connor Curley, Eddie Geraghty, Kevin Curley, Davey Devlin
- 8 Darina Padian, John Fitzpatrick, Claire Murray, Billy O'Dowd, Moya O'Dowd, Brian Shaw, Kyra Donworth

Photos: Can Turkyilmaz

Texas Emerald Ball

March, 2019 More than 220 guests gathered for The Ireland Funds Texas Emerald Ball at the **Fairmont Hotel** Dallas. The event Co-Chairs were **Camilla Ballard** and **Deborah Webb** and Masters of Ceremony were Camilla Ballard and **Brian Shaw**. The Ladies Committee included: **Netta Blanchard, Kelley Burks, April Bosworth, Diana Eppard, Maureen Kelly Cooper, Ann Levell, Lacy McGough, Serafina Otten, Page Tucker, Bobbie Sue Williams** and **Maureen Womack**. The evening kicked off with a reception where guests enjoyed **Guinness** and champagne "black velvet" cocktails. **Darina Padian**, Texas Director of The Ireland Funds America, welcomed the audience and then introduced **Catholic Diocese of Dallas** Bishop **Edward J. Burns**, who gave the invocation. Honorees **Linda & Tom McCarthy**, longtime supporters of The Ireland Funds in Dallas for the past 20 years, were celebrated. **Michelle & Richard**

Anderson, M.D. were the Honorary Chairs and were recognized for their years of support of The Ireland Funds and the greater Dallas community. **Dolores McCall**, Board Director of The Ireland Funds America, was honored with the **Corboy Anam Cara Award** (Gaelic for "soul friend"). Her special recognition was topped off with a personal letter of congratulations from actor **Liam Neeson** read by **John Fitzpatrick**, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America. Notable guests included **Adrian Farrell**, Ireland's first Consul General to represent Ireland in 6 southwest states and Dallas City Council Rep, **Adam McGough** who presented the Dallas chapter of the **Assist the Officer Foundation** with the **Community of Spirit Award** for its outstanding dedication to serve and protect the citizens of Dallas.



Tommy Gallagher's Chairman's Dinner

May, 2019 **Tommy Gallagher**, one of the original founders of the **Texas Irish American Cup Challenge** and longtime friend of The Ireland Funds, hosted his recurring Chairman's Dinner at the **Dallas Country Club**. More than 35 guests comprised of past Chairmen, visiting Irish golfers and special guests attended the event. Tommy welcomed and thanked **John** and **Joe Tillotson** for Co-Chairing; **Sylvia Tillotson** for Chairing the Ladies Committee and all

Advisory Committee members. His special mentions also included **June & Archie Bennett**, **Lou Ann & Mike Corboy**; and a special toast in memory of "our great friend, **Jack Sistrunk**" who recently had passed.

- 1 Mike Corboy, Eamonn Cregan, Tommy Gallagher, Waymon Levell, Cliff Miercort
- 2 Tom McCarthy, Daryl Johnston, John Grimes
- 3 Tommy Gallagher, Archie Bennett, Joe Tillotson, John Tillotson

Photos: Can Turkylmaz



Texas Irish Welcome

May, 2019 Platinum Sponsors **Lou Ann & Mike Corboy** graciously opened their home for a Welcome Reception honoring the visiting Irish golfers in town for the **Texas Irish American Cup Challenge**. Mike Corboy was one of the original founders of the Tournament and he and his wife continue to be very involved and supportive of The Ireland Funds and its mission. The evening provided a great opportunity for old friends and new friends to connect. The

Irish golfers who traveled to participate in the Tournament included **Tommy Gallagher**, **Paddy Shanahan**, **John Kennedy**, **Brian Kennedy**, **Declan Butler**, **John Kane**, **David O'Donovan**, **John Cantrell**, **Eamonn Cregan**, **Kyra Donworth**, **Alan Kerins**, **Tadgh McCarthy**, and **David Newman**.

- 1 John & Sylvia Tillotson, Lou Ann & Mike Corboy
- 2 John Grimes, Cliff Miercort, Ellen Grimes
- 3 Mirabelle & Tony Powell, Maureen & David Newman, Chris Carrie, Eamonn Cregan

Photos: Can Turkylmaz



Bennett Estate Reception

May, 2019 Emerald Sponsors of the **Texas Irish American Cup Challenge**, **June & Archie Bennett**, hosted the Irish golfers who had travelled to Texas for the Challenge. Also in attendance were committee members, sponsors and guests. Their warm hospitality and Texas charm provided the perfect atmosphere for a fun gathering enjoyed by more than 90 guests. Texas Director **Darina Padian** presented June with a Texas-sized orchid and a signed copy of **Seamus Heaney's 100 Poems** and presented Archie with **Barr an Uisce** Wicklow blended Irish Whiskey.

- 1 John Kane, Archie Bennett, John Cantrell
- 2 Tommy Gallagher, Kingsley Aikins, John Tillotson
- 3 Kyra Donworth, Netta Blanchard, Anne McCarthy

Photos: Can Turkylmaz



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- 1 Mike Corboy, Archie Bennett, John Tillotson
- 2 Paula Benson, Caryl Cherry, Lisa Engels, Julia Kim
- 3 John Tillotson, Tommy Gallagher
- 4 Mary McCarthy, Lou Ann Corboy, Anne McCarthy
- 5 Marc Lyons, Don Hanratty, Page Tucker, Ryan Hanratty
- 6 Jim Duda, Michael Duda, Brian Coe, Kevin Youngblood
- 7 Andy Welch, Don Hanratty, Marc Lyons, Ryan Hanratty, John Tillotson
- 8 Joe and Sylvia Tillotson

Photos: Can Turkyilmaz

Texas Irish American Cup Challenge

May, 2019 This year's showdown between the 124 American and Irish golfers was held at the beautiful **TPC Four Seasons Las Colinas** in Irving, Texas. The **Texas Irish American Cup Challenge** has been a growing tradition in The Ireland Funds Texas Chapter for more than two decades. It was founded by **Mike Corboy**, **Tommy Gallagher**, **Jack Sistrunk**, and **Tom Tierney** as a friendly competition between American and Irish friends in 1997. On the American side, team **Ryan Hanratty** and **Marc Lyons** won the American Shootout with a par on #17. The last time the Americans won was 2015. The Shootout was accompanied by bagpipers and a solo drummer marching from the 18th fairway to the 18th hole playing traditional Irish music marking the end of the Tournament and the beginning of the Harp Trophy Ceremony and Cocktail Reception

around the 18th hole. After Ryan Hanratty and Marc Lyons were awarded the **Waterford Crystal Harp Trophy**, Co-Chair **John Tillotson** presented the pair with their green jackets. John also recognized Honorees **Archie Bennett** and Tommy Gallagher for their commitment and dedication to the Tournament. Texas Director **Darina Padian** welcomed guests and **Tom Codd**, Board Director of The Ireland Funds America, recognized key organizers and discussed the role The Ireland Funds plays in the lives of so many around the world. John and Don Hanratty presented the Founders' Award to **Deborah Sistrunk-Hill** and **Noreen Tierney** – both daughters of the late Jack Sistrunk and Tom Tierney respectively. **John** and **Sam Chantillis**, M.D., presented the **Hall of Fame Award** to **Paddy Shanahan** for attending all 21 Cup Challenges.



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Hong Kong Rugby Sevens Lunch

- 1 IRFU tour management, Irish & British consular and VIP guests
- 2 Anthony Eddy presents Ireland Sevens signed jersey to Donal Boylan for future auction
- 3 IRFU team management, Team Building Asia guests hosted by their CEO and Ireland Funds China executive committee member David Simpson

Photos: Col Sim Photography

April, 2019 Together with the **Irish Chamber of Commerce**, The Ireland Funds China hosted an inaugural lunch at Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club for the full **Ireland Men's Rugby Sevens team** and management, to celebrate their participation in the 2019 Hong Kong qualifying event for the **2020 World Series**, and to lend support to **Darkness Into Light Hong Kong**. **Anthony Eddy**, IRFU Director Sevens and Women's Rugby gave 160 guests keen insight on how these segments of the game are

developing. Team member **John O'Donnell** presented a new initiative **"Going4Gold"** where the Irish Sevens squad is bringing Rugby Sevens participation to the teenagers of six disadvantaged areas in Dublin, a community initiative supported by The Ireland Funds China. Later in the week, there was great cause for celebration as the Irish team emerged as outright winners in Hong Kong, and now qualify for the 2020 World Series.



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

May, 2019 For the third year in Hong Kong, The Ireland Funds China supported the annual **Darkness Into Light 5K Hong Kong Walk**. Over 500 participants awoke and walked at 4.30 am beginning at **Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park**. They joined over 200 other walks happening around the globe in demonstrating support for the cause. Proceeds raised were donated to **Pieta House Ireland** and **Samarian Befrienders Hong Kong (SBHK)**, along with new 2019 partners **KELY Support Group** and **Mind Hong Kong**, all working to preventing suicide and self-harm.

- 1 The Ireland Funds China Darkness Into Light Walk Committee
- 2 Messages of hope
- 3 Walkers in Hong Kong

Photos: Ami Gallagher



- 1 Pre-reception VIP Lounge, sponsored by BMO Bank of Montreal
- 2 Dancers from Micheal Patrick Farrell Irish Dancing school
- 3 Min. Richard Bruton, Min. Catherine McKenna, Ambassador Jim Kelly, Oliver Murray
- 4 Traditional Musicians
- 5 British Consul General and Director General Kevin McGurgan, Mary-Margaret McMahon, William Peat
- 6 Joanne Kearney and guests
- 7 Royal Irish Tours and team

Photos: Wandering Eye Photography

The Ireland Funds Canada Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

March, 2019 The Ireland Funds Canada celebrated their Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at the **Metro Convention Centre** in Toronto. This event is the largest and longest St. Patrick's Day Lunch in the world. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all things Irish while supporting a compelling cause that recognizes the contribution Irish immigration has made to Canada. Once again, the Annual Luncheon was an outstanding success, with over 800 guests in attendance representing corporate Canada from the legal profession,

financial sector, real estate development and travel industries. The Ireland Funds Canada welcomed dignitaries from Canada, Ireland and the UK: The Honorable **Catherine McKenna**, Minister of Environment and Climate Change; **Richard Bruton** TD, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment and **Kevin McGurgan** OBE, British Consul General and Director General International Trade.

The Ireland Funds Canada Annual Day at the Races

June, 2019 The Ireland Funds Canada Annual Day at the Races was held at **Woodbine Race Track** in support of the **Celtic Studies Programme at the University of Toronto**. The horses were running well, the weather was glorious, the style was stunning, and the auction items were in great demand. Race sponsors got to watch the race from the finish line and to meet the owner

and the jockey of the winning horse. An exceptional committee and group of dedicated volunteers and The Ireland Funds Young Leaders ensured that everyone had a brilliant time. The Celtic Studies Programme is an extremely popular programme and The Ireland Funds was delighted to hold this fundraiser to support its ongoing work.



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Photo: Michael Burns

Woodbine
PINK LLOYD
GREENWOOD STAKES Purse \$125,000
Owner: Robert F. Taylor
Jockey: Robert F. Taylor
Trainer: Michael Latta
The Ireland Fund of Canada, Presentation by Bridgeworks Real Menegoni
Group of Celtic Studies, St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto

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- 1 Oliver Murray with his Guests
- 2 Eithne Heffernan, Catherine O'Connell, Tara Murphy
- 3 Maureen, Jacquelyn and German Neglia and Guests
- 4 Al Pace with his Guests
- 5 The O'Brien Family
- 6 Guest, Sarah Clair
- 7 Colleen Donnelly in the Winner's Circle
- 8 Avery McDonald, Eithne Heffernan

Photos: Can O'Connell



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- 1 David Murray, Gerri Binns, Yvonne Le Bas, Teresa Keating
- 2 H.E. Breandán Ó Caollaí
- 3 David Kelly, Tim Harrowell

Photos: Kristy McVay Photography

Sydney Supporters Reception

March, 2019 The Ireland Funds Australia celebrated the start of the week of St Patrick's Day festivities with a reception for our wonderful supporters hosted in the corporate offices of **Deloitte**. Chairman **Yvonne Le Bas** welcomed guests, fellow Governors and major sponsors and provided an overview of significant impacts over the last two years, including our largest-ever grant round in 2018 of more than \$1.8 million which was donated to worthwhile projects in Ireland and Australia. Yvonne also spoke of the partnership formed

with **Trinity College Business School** to support 20 scholarship places in their MBA Programme. With four scholarships a year over five years, it is a wonderful opportunity for Australian residents to earn their MBA at Ireland's leading university. Irish Ambassador **Breandán Ó Caollaí** spoke, endorsing the work of The Ireland Funds Australia, the connections made both here and across Ireland and how significant our help is to people in need.

Melbourne Supporters Reception



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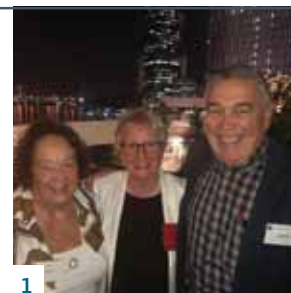
April, 2019 The Ireland Funds Australia thanked its supporters with a Friday evening reception co-hosted with **Science Gallery Melbourne** at Melbourne University. Chairman **Yvonne Le Bas** provided an overview of our activity over the last two years including celebrating our 30th Anniversary and hosting the President of Ireland in Sydney in 2017. Yvonne was thrilled to advise guests that since our inception 32 years ago, The Ireland Funds Australia has donated more than \$12.3 million to 115 projects across the island of Ireland and in Aus-

tralia and over the last 5 years 88.4% of tax-deductible gifts received by us have been directly allocated to our projects. **Rose Hiscock**, Director of SGM spoke of the hugely successful **Perfection Exhibition** last September, a powerful collision of art and science. Science Gallery Melbourne is part of the award-winning **Science Gallery International Network** founded at **Trinity College Dublin**. Rose was delighted to work with The Ireland Funds which enabled children from disadvantaged areas in Melbourne and Dublin to visit their respective exhibitions.

- 1 Fergus Ryan AO, Prof. Philomena Murray, Yvonne Le Bas, James Dunne
- 2 Harriet Auld, Rose Hiscock, Martin Carlson, Ciaran Horgan
- 3 Ryan Jefferies, Jeffrey Robinson

Brisbane Supporters Reception

June, 2019 On a balmy night at **Blackbird** in Brisbane, friends and supporters of The Ireland Funds Australia came together to connect, have some fun and provide an opportunity for people to give back. Executive Director **Teresa Keating** congratulated Board Member **Dr. Tom Moore** whose son **Stephen**, former Captain of the **Wallabies** was acknowledged in the **Queens Honour List** the week before. It was also great to have Former Board Member **Sallyanne Atkinson AO** join on the night and our Brisbane Young Leader Committee were also in attendance headed up by **Jude Bolger**. Teresa gave an update of the work of The Ireland Funds Australia and was thrilled to advise attendees that in 2018 the largest-ever grant round of more than \$1.8 million was donated to projects such as **Science Gallery Melbourne**, **Integrate My School** and the **Trinity St James's Cancer Institute** and that since its inception 32 years ago, The Ireland Funds Australia has donated more than \$12.3 million to 115 projects across the island of Ireland and in Australia.



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- 1 Vicky Bolger, Teresa Keating, John Jeffrey
- 2 Brendan McGuckin, Amanda Donoghue, Angela Sheehan

Melbourne Dinner

May, 2019 The Ireland Funds Australia celebrated in style for our annual Melbourne fundraiser, an evening affair at the beautiful **Glasshouse at Olympic Park** where more than 170 guests gathered for a celebration of the work that we do. AIEF Scholarship graduate **Gabrielle Ebsworth** gave a wonderful acknowledgement of country and speech to open the occasion, **Clare O'Neil MP** joined as a special guest, and the Irish Ambassador **Breandán Ó Caollaí** thanked guests for supporting the work of The Ireland Funds Australia. Chairman **Yvonne Le Bas** welcomed guests including fellow Board Members, Major Sponsors, Supporters and the Melbourne Young Leader Committee. Yvonne gave an overview of activities of The Ireland Funds Australia over the past year including support of **Science Gallery Melbourne, Soar** and **Trinity Business School**.

Executive Director **Teresa Keating** spoke of our ongoing work supporting the people of Northern Ireland for the last 30 years, through projects of Community Development, Peace and Reconciliation and Integrated Education. Guests present rose to the challenge, donating \$40,000 to projects across Northern Ireland. Auctioneer **Chris McKearney** from EBM Insurance expertly conducted our live auction. A huge thank you to major sponsors, **Melbourne Rebels, Coolmore Stud, Sydney Yachts, Mrs Jones at the Orient, NAB, Victoria Racing Club** and **Australian Radio Network**. We were entertained by **Zeon** and our guests also enjoyed some interactive **Riverdance** fun with the **Christine Ayers Irish School of Dance**, who invited guests to the dance floor to learn some steps of Irish dancing themselves.



- 1 Ross Xenos, Eoin Toolan, Clare O'Neil MP, Sinead Diver, Sonia O'Sullivan, Jenny Owen, Carmel Callan, H.E. Breandán Ó Caollaí, Yvonne Le Bas
- 2 Mara Galbally, Eva Volpe, Francis Loughran, Laurie Auer, Chris McKearney, Mary Gearin, Teresa Keating
- 3 Paul O'Brien, Marie O'Brien, Ted Johnson
- 4 Helene McNamara, Carmel Callan, H.E. Breandán Ó Caollaí, Deirdre Gillespie, James Dunne
- 5 Sonia O'Sullivan, Yvonne Le Bas, Sandra Booth, David Woodward, Lanta Woodward
- 6 Carmel Callan, H.E. Breandán Ó Caollaí, Professor Karen Day, Rose Hiscock
- 7 Harriet Auld, Ryan Jefferies, Lee Casey, Lisa Watts
- 8 Jeffery Robinson, Seamus & Chris Molougney, Marina & Brian Devitt, Lisa & Declan Murphy

Photos: Matto Lucas Photography

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

RECENT PROJECTS SUPPORTED
BY THE IRELAND FUNDS AUSTRALIA



Inner City Enterprise (ICE) was established to advise and assist unemployed people in Dublin's inner city to set up their own businesses or create their own self-employment. Over the last 7 years, ICE has helped 2,000 people establish over 1,000 for-profit and social enterprises in Ireland.

The support of The Ireland Funds Australia in 2019 will enable ICE to:

- Hold 28 training and networking workshops and events
- Establish a formal mentoring program
- Organize a Corporate Social Enterprise Adoption Program involving the adoption of seven social enterprise programs by private sector companies

In County Limerick, **Learning Hub Limerick (LHL)** is a place where art, science, music, health, stories and digital learning for children all come together. In disadvantaged areas of Limerick only 6% of young people progress to a university education, so instilling a love of learning is key. With our help LHL can achieve their 2019 goals of:

- Creating an active learning environment that extends beyond the traditional
- Creatively embedding technology and the core skills of literacy and numeracy into active learning projects across all curriculum areas
- Preventing early school leaving and raise the educational aspirations of families, schools and the wider community



can
Placing People at the
Heart of Change

Community Action Network (CAN) supports communities facing a range of socio-economic challenges in the south inner-city neighborhoods of Dublin. The support of The Ireland Funds Australia will provide core funding to strengthen and develop 8 of CAN's initiatives in the challenging areas of:

- Threats to community safety from the drug-economy
- Having to support a large number of community members who are distant from the labor market
- Poor housing conditions

Shoulder to shoulder, the **Irish Men's Sheds Association** is improving the health and well-being of men across Ireland. Originally an Australian initiative, Men's Sheds creates a community space for men of all ages to gather in a safe, friendly environment where they can work on interesting projects. There are currently 422 Men's Sheds in Ireland and an estimated 10,000 men use Men's Sheds each week across the country. This wonderful initiative is supported by the Australian Young Leaders.





Inspired by Jim Stynes' Reach Foundation of Melbourne, **Soar** is a collective movement which believes that there is greatness within all young people. The foundation delivers early intervention-preventative, wellness workshops for young people aged 12 – 18 years from all backgrounds. With programs that aim to help young people fulfil their true potential, since 2012 Soar has worked with more than 30,000 young people in Ireland. Since 2015 The Ireland Funds Australia has contributed more than \$195,000 in grants to Soar.

Proudly supported by the Australian Young Leaders, **CaraCare** provides innovative and unique group work programs for children who have been abused in the Greater Sydney area. Trained trauma therapists assist children in overcoming trauma by harnessing the innate healing potential of music, dance, movement and creative art forms. "Cara" is the Irish word for friend and there can be no more fitting name for a program that exists to promote resilience and recovery through the power of community and creativity.



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, with 75% of future jobs requiring STEM qualifications. The Ireland Funds Australia are proud to be in the 3rd year of partnership with SGM, including funding which assisted:

- Launch of the first exhibition BLOOD
- Indigenous Cadetship
- Regional Schools Outreach

Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF)

is a private sector led non-profit organization 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.

In 2018 the AIEF scholarship students achieved

- a 92% retention and Year 12 completion rate
- 97% tertiary retention and completion rate
- 95% of AIEF Alumni were productively engaged in career pathways such as tertiary study and full-time employment



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

Trinity College Business School and The Ireland Funds Australia Partnership will enable:

- 20 places by 2023
- 4 scholarships per year for Australian residents to earn their MBA at Ireland's leading university



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The Ireland Funds Rugby Lunch

February, 2019 Over 350 guests attended **The Ireland Funds Rugby Lunch** in Dublin's **Shelbourne Hotel**. The lunch honored Irish Rugby legend, **Tommy Bowe**. Vice President and Director Ireland, **Caitriona Fottrell**, thanked guests and highlighted the fact that the capacity room sold out almost immediately thanks to returning, loyal supporters. Caitriona then spoke about the impact of the Flagship Grants of The Ireland Funds. She then introduced a short video highlighting the work and impact of Flagship Awardee, **Move4Parkinson's**. The Ireland Funds Chairman, **Alan Foy**, then took the stage and thanked Corporate Partners, **ICON, Blueface, Cpl, Mason Hayes & Curran** and **KPMG**. Alan introduced the second Flagship Awardee video highlighting **Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities (TCPID)** which featured a program graduate who has now gained meaningful employment with the corporate community. Sports Broadcaster **Evanne Ní Chuilinn**, emceed the event and conducted a lively Q&A with honoree Tommy Bowe whose stellar rugby career has seen him play professionally for Ulster and Ospreys, have Grand Slam success with

Ireland, two tours with the British & Irish Lions in 2009 and 2013 and was voted 2010 Six Nations Player of the Championship. In attendance were Chairman of The Ireland Funds America **John Fitzpatrick**, Chairman of The Ireland Funds Great Britain **Rory Godson** and Chairman of The Ireland Funds Canada **Oliver Murray**. The Ireland Funds Board of Directors was represented by Alan Foy, **Tommy Gallagher, Emer Gilvarry, Caroline Kennedy, Gerard Ryan**, and **Trevor Ringland**. Special thanks to all our lunch Partners: **AIB, Brandes Investment Partners, Land Rover, William Fry** and guests for their wonderful support.

- 1 Rory Godson, Michael Flatley, Tommy Bowe
- 2 Caitriona Fottrell, Alan Foy, Evanne Ni Chuilinn, Tommy Bowe
- 3 Hugo MacNeill, Tommy Bowe, Trevor Ringland
- 4 Caitriona Fottrell
- 5 Tommy Bowe, Evanne Ni Chuilinn
- 6 Melanie McCourt, Gerardine Connolly
- 7 Rugby Lunch 2019
- 8 Alan Foy

Photos: Mark Stedman and Sean Curtis



The Ireland Funds Women's Lunch

May, 2019 **The Ireland Funds Women's Lunch** took place in the **Garden Room** at **The Merrion** and was attended by a capacity crowd of 105 women representing the business and philanthropy sectors. Vice President and Director Ireland, **Caitriona Fottrell**, welcomed guests and thanked them for their support. She gave an overview of The Ireland Funds and highlighted two outstanding organizations it supports for their important work in the non-profit sector: **CyberSafe Ireland**, an organization that empowers children, parents and teachers to navigate the online world in a safe and responsible manner and **Daisyhouse Housing Association**, an organization that provides homeless women with the skills and confidence to live independently through the provision of secure, affordable, high quality housing. After lunch, guests enjoyed a fascinating discussion between guest of honor **Rosaleen Blair** CBE, Founder

and CEO of **Alexander Mann Solutions**, and **Kathy Sheridan**, writer with **The Irish Times**. Ms. Blair described her early days in business, how she grew the hugely successful Alexander Mann Solutions and the resilience it requires to be an entrepreneur. She also spoke about her passion for supporting and investing in fellow female entrepreneurs. The event was chaired once again by **Louise Kennedy** and The Ireland Funds Board Directors, **Caroline Kennedy** and **Emer Gilvarry**.

- 1 Claire Byrne
- 2 Deirdre Kelly, Katherine Juhas
- 3 Dee Forbes, Carolan Lennon
- 4 Fionnuala Kenny, Frances Fitzgerald TD
- 5 Kathy Sheridan, Rosaleen Blair CBE
- 6 Kathy Sheridan, Rosaleen Blair CBE, Caitriona Fottrell
- 7 Louise Kennedy, Caitriona Fottrell, Caroline Kennedy, Emer Gilvarry
- 8 Lucinda Creighton, Dearbhail McDonald

Photos: Mark Stedman

The Ireland Funds Spring Gala

May, 2019 The Ireland Funds Sixth Annual Spring Gala was held in Dublin's **InterContinental Hotel, Ballsbridge**. **Aengus Kelly**, CEO of **AerCap**, was honored for his outstanding business contributions. Aengus attended with his family and colleagues. He spoke of his experience growing up in Northern Ireland and the role of The Ireland Funds support of initiatives like **Integrated Education** being as important now as it ever was. As is now a Spring Gala tradition, guests entered the Diamond Draw to win a diamond kindly sponsored by **Cullen & Co. Jewellers**. A special thanks to our Presenting Sponsors: **AerCap**, **Boeing** and **Embraer** and our Table Sponsors: **AIB Private Banking**, **Airbus**, **Bank of America Merrill Lynch**, **Barclays**, **Citi**, **KPMG**, **Morgan Stanley**, **PwC**, **RiverRock**. Huge thanks to all who attended for supporting the work of The Ireland Funds and making it a memorable night.

- 1 Alan Foy, Ciaran Murray, Aengus Kelly, Caitriona Fottrell
- 2 Francesca Shields
- 3 Guests
- 4 Dareth Newton, Katherine Juhas
- 5 Guests
- 6 Niamh Davies-Betancourt, Daniela Bills-Everett
- 7 Aengus Kelly, Siobhán Gallagher
- 8 Faye Walsh-Drouillard & Guests
- 9 Kinsale Capital and Guests
- 10 Ciaran Murray, Aengus Kelly
- 11 Andrew Hehir, Ioleska Moreno
- 12 Suzanne Gilhooly, Cullen & Co. with diamond draw winner and Gala committee.
- 13 Aengus Kelly & Family
- 14 L-R: Catherine Hughes, Caroline Feeney, Gareth Queen, Siobhán Gallagher, Caoimhe Connolly, Richard Willis, Fiona Cameron, Emma Hunt, Bláthnaid Evans, Lisa Quinn, Clare McIntyre, Front: Ryan Feeney, Conor Houston, John Turley, Caitriona Fottrell, Angela Moore
- 15 Aengus Kelly
- 16 John Fitzpatrick, Harry Hartford and Cullen & Co. Guests

Photos: Mark Stedman



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- 1 Susan Whelan, Rory Godson
- 2 Kirsty Baldock, Sir Andrew Parmley, Emily Bohill
- 3 An Tánaiste Simon Coveney TD, Sir Andrew Parmley, Amb. Adrian O'Neill with London City Lunch committee members
- 4 An Tánaiste Simon Coveney TD, Rory Godson, Amb. Adrian O'Neill
- 5 Conor O'Beirne, Byron Fry, Edward O'Hare
- 6 Barry Devereux
- 7 An Tánaiste Simon Coveney TD
- 8 Gerard & Tonya Casey, Alison Manley, Darren Ryan

Photos: Malcolm McNally Photography

London City Lunch

May, 2019 The **Mansion House** provided a superb setting for the **London City Lunch**, which was attended by Irish, British and international members of the business community in London and special VIP guests Sir **Andrew Parmley**; Ambassador **Adrian O'Neill** and An Tánaiste, **Simon Coveney** TD. The event began with a champagne and Guinness reception before guests were called to their seats by Toastmaster John Hollingsworth. The Lord Mayor was represented by Sir Andrew Parmley who gave a warm welcome and spoke about the City of London's long history of philanthropy. Vice President of The Ireland Funds, **Caitriona Fottrell** then took to the podium and spoke about the work of The Ireland Funds in supporting communities across Great Britain and on the island of Ireland. The highlight of the afternoon was a speech by Simon Coveney TD, An Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade. He acknowledged

the extraordinary work of The Ireland Funds and the difference that it makes to communities in Ireland and abroad. In the context of Brexit, he spoke about the importance of British-Irish relations and the importance of protecting a relationship that sustains close to half a million jobs between the two islands, preserving the peace process and avoiding a hard border. He referenced the number of Irish nationals, including himself, that have been deeply impacted by time spent living, studying or working in Great Britain. Following An Tánaiste's speech, IFGB Board Member **Emily Bohill** took to the podium to speak about the work of The Ireland Funds and the purpose of the event. The London City Lunch was sponsored by **McCann Fitzgerald LLP**.



- 1 Noelette Hanley, Eilish Byrne-Whelehan, Anthony Harte, Katie Jemmett
- 2 Anthony Harte, Seamus McGarry, John McIvor
- 3 Eilish Byrne-Whelehan presents

Photos: The Ireland Fund Great Britain

Impact Breakfast

May, 2019 The Ireland Funds Great Britain hosted its first **Impact Breakfast** where guests were invited to meet three organizations that have received funding through the annual IFGB Grant Round thanks to their donations and support. Over a light breakfast kindly provided by event sponsor **Bank of America Merrill Lynch**, guests heard presentations from **Catherine Hennessy**, CEO of **icap (Immigration Counselling and Psychotherapy)**; **Noelette Hanley**, Chief Officer of **Luton Irish Forum** and **Eilish Byrne-Whelehan**, Musical Director of **Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Music**. **Katie Jemmett**, Director of The Ireland Funds Great Britain, opened the event and introduced the host, **John McIvor**, who spoke briefly about his and Bank of America Merrill Lynch's connection to Ireland and the philanthropic support they provide to projects in

Ireland. Catherine Hennessy then began the session, explaining to the group how icap has been successful in tackling the stigma around mental health among the older Irish community through its culturally sensitive therapeutic approach coupled with strong partnerships with Irish welfare organizations, alcohol and mental health services for nearly 20 years. Noelette Hanley outlined to the group how Luton Irish Forum is a truly representative community organization that serves Luton's diverse, vulnerable and socially excluded people before showing how the IFGB's support has made a difference to this work. Eilish Byrne-Whelehan concluded the Impact Breakfast by giving an overview of the teaching done by Feith an Cheoil, the contribution this has had to the local Irish community and beyond and how the IFGB's donations have fed into this.



Photos: Ros Kavanagh

CitySong with The Abbey Theatre

June, 2019 On a balmy summer's eve in June, donors and supporters joined us for a night of sublime theatre, good food and lively discussions. The evening began with a reception at Quo Vadis where The Ireland Funds Great Britain Treasurer, **Ruairi Conneely**, welcomed guests and updated them on the recent activities of the chapter. As guests sat down to a private dinner, Director of the **Abbey Theatre**, **Neil Murray** introduced himself, the award-winning play of the evening, **CitySong**, and traced the Abbey Theatre's relationship with The Ireland Funds.

The group then moved on to **Soho Theatre** where they saw a performance of the Abbey Theatre's production of **CitySong**. Dubliner playwright **Dylan Coburn-Gray** showed the three generations of a Dublin family on one epic day through poetry and a chorus of voices. The night was rounded off with dessert and drinks back at Quo Vadis which Dylan Coburn-Gray and the cast joined for. It was a wonderful evening that underlined the strength of support The Ireland Funds Great Britain for arts and culture.

NEWS

The Ireland Funds Great Britain has had a busy year with outstanding events, the addition of new Trustees and £155,000 awarded to 37 community organizations. We will work to refine our offer to supporters so that there is a deeper understanding of our twin tracks: raising money directly for good causes and also helping our supporters to direct their support to their chosen causes through Donor Advised Grants. For example, in the final quarter of the year to March 31, eight Donor Advised Grants totally £215,000 were made through the IFGB. Total grants made in the last financial year were in excess of £1.2m. — *Rory Godson, Chair of The Ireland Funds Great Britain*

The Ireland Funds Great Britain awards £155,000 to community organizations

The Ireland Funds Great Britain (IFGB) has announced the recipients of its 2018 Grant Round. The IFGB has awarded £155,000 to 37 deserving organizations working with and for the Irish community in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The objective of the Grant Round is to contribute much needed funds to organizations across Great Britain and the island of Ireland with projects supporting: community development, culture, peace and reconciliation, and education.

Over 100 applications were received when the grant round opened in October of 2018, double the number of applications in the previous year. Chair of the IFGB Grants Committee, Seamus McGarry, said: “the increase in the number of applications received this year demonstrates the real need that still exists in the Irish community today. The Ireland Funds is proud to support many grassroots organizations and the vital work that they do to help the vulnerable in our communities and to promote Ireland and Irish culture.”

Director Katie Jemmett said: “the purpose of the IFGB is to create a positive social impact and to make a real difference to those working and living in our communities. It is our aim to grow our Grant Round year on year and increase our impact and reach, and we are grateful to all of our donors and supporters who fund our work and make it possible for us to assist these excellent organizations.”

In addition to the Grant Round, The Ireland Funds Great Britain distributed over half a million pounds to charities through its Donor Advised Grants program in 2018.

The IFGB Grant Round awardees demonstrate the breadth of work carried out by community organizations across Great Britain and the island of Ireland. Projects supported this year include: creative podcasts which look at Irish identity; the establishment of a men's shed; a cross-community filmmaking project for young people aged 11-19; engaging Travelers in suitable training, education and work experience; the provision of day services to elderly Irish people; a music bursary for composition of classical music on Irish themes; development of an IT education course for older Irish community members; educational resources for Irish speakers in London; and the provision of group therapy for carers and socially isolated adults.



THE 37 ORGANIZATIONS AWARDED GRANTS ARE:

#IamIrish
174 Trust
Anam Cara Parental & Sibling Bereavement Support
Birmingham Irish Associations
Brent Irish Advisory Service
CINEMAGIC
Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú
Conradh na Gaeilge i Londain
Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music
Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation
Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy (icap)
Irish Chaplaincy
Irish Community Care
Irish Community Services in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham
Irish Cultural Centre
Irish Elderly Advice Network
Irish Film London
Irish Heritage

Irish Music and Dance in London (IMDL)
Irish Pensioners Choir
Irish Repertory Theatre Company UK
Leeds Irish Arts Foundation (IAF)
Leeds Irish Health & Homes
Leicestershire GATE
Lewisham Irish Community Centre
Liverpool Irish Centre
London Ladies Gaelic Football
Luton Irish Forum
Northampton Irish Support Group
ReCreate Ireland
Southwark Irish Pensioners Project
space charity
Sticky Fingers Arts
The Aisling Project
The Haringey Irish Cultural & Community Centre
The London Irish Centre Charity
Tyneside Irish Cultural Society
Void Art Centre

Welcome

John Feeney, Brian Dickie, Conor Hillery, Rachel Naughton, Dr. Declan Tiernan
join the Board of The Ireland Funds Great Britain



John Feeney Tyrus Capital

Commenting on his appointment to the Board of Trustees, John said: "I am honored to take up this appointment to an organization that provides such remarkable support to so many great causes. At this moment of evolution in the Anglo-Irish relationship, it is important the Irish community in Great Britain presents a most positive and constructive voice for Ireland and I hope to represent this in full."



Brian Dickie Senior Advisor, Investcorp

Brian was attracted to The Ireland Funds "as a way to reconnect with Ireland while supporting causes that I believe in." He and his wife Sue, a Harvard classmate, are passionate supporters of Integrated Education in Northern Ireland which he calls "a fundamental prerequisite for lasting peace and a healthy society," and they support arts and education organizations on both sides of the Atlantic.



Conor Hillery Co-Head of J.P Morgan's financial services business globally

Commenting on his appointment, Conor said: "I got involved with The Ireland Funds Great Britain because I wanted to help a cause with strong Irish connections. The Ireland Funds does very special work supporting Irish communities and causes but it's also a great network for the diaspora and friends of Ireland overseas to keep in touch. I'm really looking forward to being part of it."



Rachel Naughton Head of Division - AIB (GB)

Commenting on her appointment to the Board of Trustees, Rachel said, "I have travelled across Great Britain a lot over the last 10 years and have seen many Irish who have come over and do very well but I have also seen many who have struggled. With help from some of the great charities The Ireland Funds has supported, these people now have food, a bed and clothes. I think the work the IFGB does is essential for all those in need across Great Britain and Ireland and I am delighted to play a role in broadening its reach further."



Dr. Declan Tiernan Co-Head of Europe and Partner Oak Hill Advisors

Commenting on his appointment, Declan said: "I'm delighted to join the board of The Ireland Funds Great Britain, and, thinking of the generations of Irish people, including many of my own family, who left Ireland to build a life in Britain, it is with an immense sense of pride that I look forward to spending time working with the many worthy organizations and individuals supported by The Ireland Funds, who play such an important role within the Irish community in Britain."

Padraig O'Connor
is appointed Chair of
the London Young Leaders
Steering Committee

Padraig has been a member of the London Young Leaders Committee since 2015 and has been involved with The Ireland Funds since 2013. He currently is a Vice President in the Goldman Sachs FICC sales & trading business in London.

On his appointment, Padraig said "it is an honor to be nominated as chair of the London Young Leaders and represent such a wide group of young people in the UK getting involved in philanthropy. I look forward to working with the many deserving charities and volunteer organizations which The Ireland Funds supports and continuing to grow the member base of the Young Leaders network."



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The Ireland Funds Singapore Red Dot Green Dot

May, 2019 Now an annual and established event in its third year, **LASALLE College of the Arts** hosted **Red Dot Green Dot 2019** with The Ireland Funds Singapore in May. The event featured an assortment of cultural entertainment from traditional Irish music, musical theatre, improvised jazz, poetry and of course traditional Irish story telling. The performers, LASALLE students and enthusiastic members of the Irish community in Singapore, were exemplary in their level of commitment, with love of their pieces adding power and emotion to the performances, which included some fantastic original student compositions. Virtuoso Singaporean **James Chan** was an audience favorite with jigs and reels on the flute. Ambassador **Pat Bourne**'s fabulous recital of *Ulysses by the Merlion* by Singaporean poet **Edwin Thumboo** delightfully encompassed

the Singapore / Ireland theme of the evening, and **Frankie Meehan**'s hilarious portrayal of **Seamus O'Rourke**'s *The Hard Border* had the audience in tears of laughter. This fun evening and collaboration, with funds raised supporting The McNally Legacy at LASALLE, was a wonderful tribute to LASALLE's founder, the late Brother **Joseph McNally**. Special thanks to the **Embassy of Ireland** for supporting the event. Congratulations to all involved for such a successful night, in particular **Alvan Loo** and the LASALLE production and technical teams, and Frankie Meehan and **Tim O'Dwyer**, the Artistic Directors.

- 1 Audience Members
- 2 LASALLE students
- 3 James Chan, Gerry Fox

- 4 Ambassador Bourne
- 5 Frankie Meehan

Photos: Isabel Lim



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The Ireland Funds Singapore bids a fond farewell to **Sheila Lim**, whose dedication as Emerald Ball organizer for all ten events has been instrumental to the success of fundraising efforts in Singapore. Sheila, who hails originally from Dublin and is married to a Singaporean, continually brought a unique perspective to the ball informed by her extensive experience of living in Singapore for many years. Under her guidance, the Emerald Ball, which celebrates a different theme every year (from *The Great Gatsby*, to *A Wilde Night* and the 10th Emerald Ball last year) has succeeded in raising substantial funds for The Ireland Funds Singapore's affiliated charities, demonstrating

the altruistic spirit of the Irish diaspora and generous Singaporeans in support. The Ireland Funds Singapore is grateful and very appreciative of Sheila's dedication and invaluable contributions over the last ten years and for her meaningful legacy of bringing people together to give back to society. Indeed, her remarkable insights and unfailing passion and devotion, as well as her warm smile and cheerful disposition will be greatly missed as she steps down from her role to spend more time with her family, grandchildren and hobbies. We do however look forward to Sheila relaxing and enjoying this year's **Cabaret Emerald Ball** as a guest.

- 1 Dr. Stanley Quek and Sheila Lim
- 2 Sheila Lim, Colin MacDonald, Mrs. Noor Quek

Friend of the Arts Award 2019

July, 2019 The Ireland Funds Singapore was delighted to be awarded **Friend of the Arts Award** by the **National Arts Council Singapore** at their annual awards ceremony and dinner. The award, which recognizes The Ireland Funds Singapore's continued contribution to the arts in Singapore, was presented by **Grace Fu**, Minister for Culture, Community & Youth to Mrs. **Noor Quek**, a Director of The Ireland Funds Singapore.





The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society

The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society attracts professionals interested in learning more about philanthropy.

Visit: www.irelandfunds.org/young-leaders

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



- Exclusive networking opportunities with global leaders in the fields of finance, government, the arts and technology, as part of the Global Leadership Series

- Invitation, and preferred rate to The Ireland Funds Conference in Ireland and the Global Young Leaders Summit in New York in January

- Access to exclusive Irish cultural and philanthropic events throughout the year





THE IRELAND FUNDS

#YLS8

Over 150 Young Leaders from across the US, Canada, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Great Britain gathered in New York City for The Ireland Funds 8th Annual Global Young Leaders Summit. Attendees had a chance to network, hear of the impact of their philanthropy on the work of The Ireland Funds and connect with guest speakers ranging from Former Director of the CIA, John O. Brennan to Ireland's Ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason.





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- 1 Young Leaders gathered at Apella
- 2 Mairead O'Brien, Johnathan Ireland
- 3 Jen Barry Joyce, Aubrie Valois, Erin Moran, Ian Casey
- 4 Ambassador Dan Mulhall
- 5 Jack Drea, Jack O'Meara, Jack Cantillon, Padraig Sherry

- 6 Lynda Barry, Suzanne Donnelly, Fiona Tomlin
- 7 Catherine Hughes, Colleen Gallagher
- 8 Caitriona Fottrell
- 9 Young Leaders at Apella
- 10 John Fitzpatrick

- 11 Siobhan Gallagher, Aedhmar Hynes, Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason, John Fitzpatrick, Cliona Doyle
- 12 Susan Davis, John O. Brennan
- 13 Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason, Aedhmar Hynes

- 14 Belfast Young Leaders
- 15 Orla Tinsley
- 16 Mary Davis
- 17 Kathleen Weber, Sinead Faughnan, Monica McCartan, Tara McElligott
- 18 Young Leaders bowling



- 1 Rowan McFeely, Jen Corcoran, Steve Greeley, Shannon McAllister
- 2 Cristine Gill, Kathryn Keenan, Jamie Zikos, Francesca Giovanucci, Tess Montague
- 3 Rachel Hayes, Holly Foster, Blake McLaughlin
- 4 Steve Greeley, Tommy Greeley, Frank Powell
- 5 Jonathan Byrne, Colleen Connolly
- 6 Colin Champagne, Kevin Schaeffer, Patrick Burek, Jack Greeley
- 7 Shannon McAllister, Jen Corcoran, Rowan McFeely
- 8 The celebration

Photos: Maura Wayman

Boston Young Leaders St Patrick's Celebration

MARCH, 2019 The Ireland Funds Boston Young Leaders hosted an exuberant crowd of 450 at their annual **St. Patrick's Celebration**. The Young Leaders, their friends and The Ireland Funds' supporters were welcomed to the **Wharf Room at the Boston Harbor Hotel**, overlooking Boston Harbor, appropriately up-lit in green. Popular Boston-based, Irish band **Devri** kept the night upbeat. **Steve Greeley**, The Ireland Funds New England Director and Vice President of Development, opened the program by describing The Ireland Funds' mission of supporting critical Irish-based non-profits. Steve highlighted the work of **Blossom Ireland**, a Dublin-based non-profit assisting intellectually-challenged young adults as they strive for independence and critical life-skills, followed by a video that told the story of The Ireland Funds' support of the organization's work. **Seán Kyne** TD, who represents **Galway West & Mayo South** and who serves as the Government's Chief Whip and Minister

of State at the **Department for Culture, Heritage, the Gaeltacht and the Islands**, spoke of the many nonprofit initiatives supported by The Ireland Funds. Steve then thanked the event's Committee members for surpassing their goal and asked the leadership team of Co-Chairs **Shannon McAllister** of **J.P. Morgan**, **Clancy Galgay** of **Mintz Levin**, **Rowan McFeely** of **STAG Industrial**, and **Jen Corcoran** of **Joseph J. Corcoran Company**, to join him at the podium where they each shared their reflections on the importance of The Ireland Funds' mission. Thank you to all our sponsors and supporters, particularly Patron Sponsors **Newmark Knight Frank**, **State Street Corporation**, and **Suffolk Cares** as well as Benefactor Sponsors **The Claremont Companies**, **Eversource Energy**, **Goldman, Sachs & Co.**, **Grand Coast Capital Group**, **The Mac Intyre Family**, **Optum**, and **Putnam Investments**.



Boston Young Leaders Summer Social

JUNE, 2019 130 of Boston's spirited Young Leaders celebrated the arrival of summer at the beautiful **Bostonia Public House**, owned by The Ireland Funds' supporter and 2017 Boston Gala Co-Chairman, **Dave Greaney**. **Steve Greeley**, The Ireland Funds' New England Director and VP of Development, led a toast to another successful St. Patrick's Celebration and shared highlights from The Ireland Funds' Worldwide Conference held recently in Belfast. Thank you to the Summer Social Committee: **Paul Archibald, Patrick & Taylor Burek, Michael Cobb, Timothy Cobb,**

Cathleen Connors, Martin Connors III, Shane Early, Matthew Gaughan, Annie Geraghty, Christine Gill, Megan Greeley, Anne Grenham, Michael Griffin, Sean & Carson Judge, Blacke McLaughlin, Shannon McNamara, Michael Muldowney, Matthew Nelligan, Caitlin Power, Michael Prendergast, Stephanie & Chris Steele, Alex Wayman, and Lia Wayman.

- 1 Shannon McNamara and Guests
- 2 Chris Hagan and Guests
- 3 Mike Griffin and Guests



San Francisco Giants Irish Heritage Night

APRIL, 2019 San Francisco Young Leaders gathered for a "tailgate" reception at **Momo's** for the **San Francisco Giants Irish Heritage Night**, a fun and festive annual baseball event at the newly-named **Oracle Park**. Supporters were welcomed to the pre-game by **Marjorie Muldowney**, Vice President at The Ireland Funds. The **Colorado Rockies** were in town and the luck of the Irish prevailed as the Young Leaders cheered the San Francisco Giants on to a 1-0 victory. The team from **Matheson** was there, led by **Mark Sullivan, Grainne Boyle** and **Niamh McLoughlin**. They were joined by **Hazel & Gearoid Collins, Meghan McEvoy, Lauren Czorniak, Max McQuillan** and

Mark Muldowney of **Snap**. Guests included **Jack McVey** of the **IDA**, along with **Elizabeth & Patrick Carter** and **Jackie O'Mara**, while **Regina Moore** brought along longtime friends **Rosie Huddleston** and **Kelly Kennedy**. **Daniel & Rebecca Stapleton** and **Lisa McCarthy** of **LinkedIn** attended with **Aisling O'Reilly** and were joined by **Mark Leonard** and **David Grehan**. Thanks to all our supporters including **Ciaran Byrne, Kerri Murphy** and **Suzie Rogers**.

- 1 San Francisco Young Leaders Tailgate Reception at Momo's
- 2 Mark Sullivan, Grainne Boyle, Niamh McLoughlin, Matheson Guests
- 3 Rebecca Stapleton, Lisa McCarthy, Aisling O'Reilly, Niamh McLoughlin, Jack McVey
- 4 Jackie O'Mara, Meghan McEvoy, Lauren Czorniak



Dublin Global Leadership Series with Kingsley Aikins

MAY, 2019 The Ireland Funds Dublin Young Leaders were privileged to hear from the wonderfully funny and warm **Kingsley Aikins**, CEO **The Networking Institute**, as part of the **Global Leadership Series**, hosted in the offices of **Duff & Phelps**. Kingsley regaled the Young Leaders with stories of his experience and gave practical advice on building personal and professional networks, public speaking, philanthropy, and beyond. Many thanks to Kingsley and our kind host **Niall Cribben** of Duff & Phelps.

- 1 Kingsley Aikins
- 2 Niall Cribben



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Belfast Global Leadership Series with Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau

APRIL, 2019 The beautiful **Duncairn** arts center was the setting for a private evening with US Consul General **Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau** as part of the **Global Leadership Series**. Dr. **Bill Shaw** OBE welcomed the Young Leaders to the Duncairn, and explained it is a shared space providing support for disadvantaged communities in **North Belfast**, owned by **174 Trust**, a long-standing grantee of The Ireland Funds. Dr Shaw spoke of the support the 174 Trust receives from The Ireland Funds, and the difference it makes. Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, who assumed her duties in Belfast in September

2018, spoke of her connection to Ireland and Northern Ireland. In conversation with **Jonathan Ireland**, a member of the Belfast Young Leaders chapter, she touched on her career, the lessons she's learnt, and her ambition for positive change. She advised the Young Leaders to get involved in making a difference, to be part of something that is growing, and in organizations like The Ireland Funds working to make a change. Many thanks to Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau and Dr Bill Shaw OBE and The Duncairn for hosting the event.

1 Emma Hunt, Chair of the Belfast Young Leaders welcomes guests

2 US Consul General Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, Dr. Bill Shaw

3 Jonathan Ireland in conversation with US Consul General Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau



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Belfast Global Leadership Series with John Healy

JUNE, 2019 **Digital DNA**, Northern Ireland's largest tech summit, once again welcomed the Belfast chapter to **St. George's Market** and hosted a marvelous Global Leadership Series event featuring **John Healy**, Managing Director of **Allstate NI**. **Jonathan Ireland**, member of the Belfast Young Leaders chapter and Partner in **Lanyon Communications**, interviewed John on his journey from graduating from **Queen's University Belfast** to becoming Managing Director of Allstate NI. He inspired and engaged the audience with his 10 Life Lessons, and his belief in the value of creating and maintaining peer networks. He spoke of his role as President of **Northern Ireland Chamber**

of Commerce and his commitment to driving economic stability in Northern Ireland. After the Leadership event, Young Leaders were treated to complimentary passes to the Digital DNA and joined record crowds attending. Many thanks to John Healy and to Digital DNA for sponsoring and hosting the event.

1 John Healy

2 Belfast Young Leaders

3 Katie Norris, Richard Willis, Conor Houston, Trevor Ringland



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Chicago Young Leaders Green Gala

MARCH, 2019 Chicago Young Leaders and friends celebrated the beginning of St. Patrick's Day season in style at the 9th Annual Green Gala at **Chez**. This marquee event for the Chicago Young Leaders kicked off with live Irish music from **Paddy Homan** and **Johnny Williams**, delicious food by **Premier Catering**, donated beverages from **Breakthru Beverages** and a special tasting from The **Connacht Whiskey Company**. **Cliona Doyle**, Director of The Ireland Funds Young Leaders, highlighted the work of The Ireland Funds, followed by **Abbey Canning** and **James Keeley**, Green Gala Chairs, who encouraged involvement in the Chicago chapter. A trip to Ireland was auctioned off and, following a video about The Ireland Funds' support of the **Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities**, the generosity to The Ireland Funds continued with strong support for the donation appeal. The silent auction featured items such as **Chicago Bears** and **Chicago Cubs** tickets, sports memorabilia, and trips to Bali, Cancun and Sonoma. The last

stop of the evening was the after party at **Timothy O'Toole's Pub** next door. Thank you to the Chicago Young Leaders Steering Committee and to sponsors: **Chicago Cut Steakhouse**, **The O'Halleran Family**, **DLA Piper**, **GCM Grosvenor**, **Breakthru Beverage**, **United**, **Bimeda**, **Patrick & Betsy Canning**, **Chez**, **Ernst & Young**, **Fifth Third Bank**, **Mayo Steel Erectors**, **Signature Bank**, **Terry & Roseann LeFevour**, and **The Big Dog Fund**.

- 1 First Row L to R: Andrew Hartford, Tristia Barrett, Abbey Canning, Patrick Zahren
- 2 Second Row L to R: James Keeley, Kenzie Ungar, Jack Gordon, Kathleen Weber, Meghan Lee, Cliona Doyle, Tom O'Neill, Kate and Dan Gibbons, Bridget Monahan
- 3 Sharon Curran, Lorraine Cronin, Ronan Keary, Louise Barry, Amy Moore, Shelby Lunte
- 4 Andrew McKeon, Hugh McMahon, Iseult McMahon, Abbey Canning
- 5 Quinn McCarthy, Marc Vanpuymbrouck, Patrick Canning
- 6 Bridget Monahan, Peyton Conlin
- 7 Front row L to R: Chris Wehmer, Meghan Tomaszewski, Maura Carr, Tom Wickey
Back row L to R: Cole Michalek, Willy Palivos, Connor Person, Jeb Brault, Theresa McDermott, Madeline Mitchell, Madeleine Sherrier, Jack Gordon, Matt Saletta, Scott Suhey
- 7 Michael, Margaret, Kathleen and Murphy LeFevour; Emily Flom; Andrew and Mark LeFevour

Photos: Datu Ramel Photography



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Chicago Leadership Series on Cyber-security and Data Privacy

MAY, 2019 Abbey Canning and James Keeley Chairs of the Chicago Young Leaders, hosted a **Leadership Series** for guests from The Ireland Funds Chicago Regional Advisory Committee and the Young Leaders on cyber-security and data privacy. It was a fascinating talk about national security, cyber-crimes, theft of trade secrets, fraud, digital footprints, the explosion of unregulated apps and the extent of data theft. Our thanks to Abbey Canning, James Keeley, **Matt Hiller**, and **DLA Piper** for this enlightening evening.

- 1 Matt Hiller, Andy Weil
- 2 Patrick Canning, guest, Ronan Keary
- 3 Quinn McCarthy, Andrew Hartford, James Keeley



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Chicago Young Leaders Cubs Baseball Night

JUNE, 2019 The Chicago Young Leaders gathered at iconic **Wrigley Field** to watch the **Chicago Cubs** vs. the **Colorado Rockies**. In an exciting game, **David Bote** clubbed a three-run homer, a three-run double and an RBI single to lead the Cubs to a 9-8 win. The lovely summer evening was hosted by the Chicago Young Leaders Chairs **Abbey Canning** and **James Keeley**. Guests began the night at the **Old Crow Smokehouse** with a pre-game, rooftop reception. They were able to enjoy some of the best views of the city while connecting with old friends and meeting new ones.

- 1 Andrew Hartford, Greg Reintjes, Nick Ngo, Tom O'Neill, Pat Ryan
- 2 James Keeley, Abbey Canning
- 3 James Keeley, Kenzie Ungar, Danny O'Keefe, Tom O'Neill



1 Philadelphia Young Leaders Steering Committee
2 Shelly D'Aleo, Michael Shea, Kate Cashman

Philadelphia Young Leaders Winter Social

JANUARY, 2019 The Philadelphia Young Leaders gathered at **Sassafra** to kick off their 2019 calendar of events. Guests enjoyed great cocktails, traditional Irish music and networking with fellow supporters. **Cliona Doyle**, Director of the Young Leaders, welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. She told the group about the work of The Ireland Funds and the Young Leaders around the world. **John McCarthy**, Chair of the DC Young

Leaders, also attended to share his involvement with The Ireland Funds and experience as a Young Leader over the last several years. Huge thanks to the Philadelphia Young Leaders Co-Charis, **Aaron Steffy** and **Julia Nolan** along with the committee; **Dan Rooney**, **Sarah Notebaert**, **Niamh O'Connor** and **Edward O'Hare** for all their work in making the first event of the year in Philadelphia a great success.



Philadelphia Global Leadership Series with Eileen McDonnell

APRIL, 2019 The Philadelphia Young Leaders gathered at the **Union League** to hear from **Eileen McDonnell**, Chairman & CEO, **Penn Mutual**. A proud Irish American, Eileen is the first woman to hold both these positions in the history of the company. Eileen spoke about her own career and her path to her current position emphasizing the importance of doing something you love

and the value of a work-life balance along with being a woman in a male-dominated industry. She talked warmly about her Irish heritage with all four of her grandparents emigrating from Ireland and how that has helped shaped her. Many thanks to Eileen for taking the time to speak to the group and to **Aaron Steffy** for hosting the group at the Union League.

1 Aaron Steffy, Cliona Doyle, Eileen McDonnell, Julia Nolan
2 Eileen McDonnell speaking with Young Leaders
3 Young Leaders listening to Eileen McDonnell



Philadelphia Young Leaders Kickoff to Summer Celebration

MAY, 2019 Over 100 guests gathered in **Philadelphia's Fairmount Boathouse** for The Ireland Funds Philadelphia Young Leaders Kickoff to **Summer Celebration**. Guests were welcomed to a tasting station hosted by **Tipperary Whiskey**. **Cliona Doyle**, Director of the Young Leaders, thanked those gathered for their support. **Tom Owston** as a member of **Fairmount Boathouse** spoke about the venue's Irish connections. Co-Chairs of the Philadelphia Young Leaders, **Julia Nolan** and **Aaron Steffy**

spoke of the Young Leaders and encouraged all those gathered to get more involved. **John Scanlon** conducted a spirited live auction which included VIP tickets to the **Philadelphia Eagles**, a trip to New York City, and a bottle of **Midleton Very Rare Barry Crockett**. Huge thanks to the committee, Co-Chairs Aaron Steffy & Julia Nolan, Tom Owston, **Dan Rooney** and sponsors: **the Sean Rooney Family**, **Steffy Hatoway Insurance Aramark**, **Buchanan Ingersoll Rooney** and **Citizens Bank**.

1 Philadelphia Young Leaders Kickoff to Summer Celebration Committee
2 Erin Brookes and friends
3 Dan, Mary, Casey, Molly and Haley Rooney

Photos: Perfect Day Photography



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New York Young Leaders St Patrick's Celebration

MARCH, 2019 The Ireland Funds New York Young Leaders hosted their 14th annual signature fundraiser, **The St. Patrick's Celebration at the Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers**. The event was attended by more than 400 friends and supporters of The Ireland Funds and honored **Brian Sullivan** of **CNBC** with the **Irish Spirit Award**. **Cliona Doyle**, Director of the Young Leaders thanked those gathered and introduced Co-Chair of the event, **Allison Kehoe**. Allison spoke warmly about her family's longstanding relationship with The Ireland Funds before introducing her fellow Co-Chair, **Conor McCoy**. Conor spoke about Honoree Brian Sullivan's impressive journalism career. Currently Brian is the anchor of **CNBC's Worldwide Exchange**. He has reported from five continents and has been twice nominated for the prestigious **Loeb Award**. Event Co-Chair, **Patrick Murphy** then took to the stage to present the Irish Spirit Award which is presented each year to an individual of Irish heritage in recognition of their career and philanthropic achievements. Brian thanked The Ireland Funds for the work it does and encouraged the Young

Leaders to get more involved with The Ireland Funds in support of its mission. The live auction included a luxury trip to Ireland, a VIP experience with Irish fashion designer **Don O'Neill & THEIA** and an ownership stake in a racehorse. The fundraising continued with a special appeal for the **Origin Theatre**. Thank you to our Co-Chairs; **Allison Kehoe, Conor McCoy, Patrick Murphy**, the event committee, sponsors; **Jameson, Oil Brokerage, BFloral, MasterCard, Northern Litho, Allied Irish Bank, Trident, Grant Thornton, Spring Lake Asset Management, CIBC, Cassin, the Kehoe Family** and **Dingle Distillery**.

1 Jeff Curley, Sinead Faughnan

2 Patrick Murphy, Allison Kehoe, Brian Sullivan, Conor McCoy

3 Christina & Patrick Murphy

4 Dane Wright Band

5 Conor McCoy, Cliona Doyle, Jack Flanagan, Brian Sullivan, Allison Kehoe, Patrick Murphy

6 Ryan Finley, Alison Rutishauser

7 Lynda Barry, Niamh Parker, Guest, Rory Mulcahy, Guest

8 2019 St Patrick's Celebration Committee

Photos: James Higgins



- 1 The Sydney Young Leader Committee
- 2 Tim Barnard, Carla Wilson, Jenny Eggiman, Cliff Wilson
- 3 Kathy O'Leary, Ciaran Gribbin, David O'Leary, Teresa Keating, Aaron Heavey

Photos: Kristy McVay Photography

Sydney Young Leaders Summer Drinks

FEBRUARY, 2019 The Sydney Young Leaders kicked off their first event of 2019 at the iconic **Opera Bar**. **The Young Leaders' Sydney Summer Drinks** was a complimentary event to thank members and friends for their support in 2018. It was also a great opportunity for supporters to reflect on highlights from a successful year and to hear the exciting plans for events taking place later this year, such as the Global 5k, which would take place later September of 2019. 120 friends of The Ireland Funds, both old and new basked in the sunshine and enjoyed the stunning views of the harbor. Guests were also

treated to some delicious canapé courtesy of the Opera Bar. Young Leader, **Donna Campbell** addressed the crowd thanking them for their support and generosity in 2018, which raised funds for nominated charities, **Suas**, who deliver literacy support to 8-14 year olds and the **GO Foundation**, an organization that empowers Indigenous young people in Australia with scholarships and mentoring. The event was proudly sponsored by **Wilson Select** and **Lifestyle Solutions**.



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- 1 Eanna Drury, Laura Tynan, Ashleigh Carr, John Griffin
- 2 Tom O'Sullivan, Byron Fry, Declan Cole, Conor O'Beirne
- 3 Leadership discussion with John Griffin

Photos: The Ireland Funds Great Britain

London Global Leadership Series with John Griffin

APRIL, 2019 Straight-talking businessman **John Griffin**, founder of **Addison Lee**, a company he grew to become one of London's most identifiable brands, joined The Ireland Funds Great Britain at the **Lansdowne Club** in **Mayfair** to share his story and insights with the Young Leaders. Mr. Griffin, 76, started his business with one car in 1975 and sold it in 2013 for £300 million. During the course of the one-hour session, he repeated his belief in hard work, being alert to opportunities to win business, being self-disciplined, believing in one's self and the benefits of loving what you do, as being key components in achieving long-term success. However, Mr. Griffin also cautioned the Young Leaders to keep family as a priority in life. An active philanthropist,

he explained that **The John Griffin Foundation** has committed £10 million to building an extension to the **Northwick Park Institute for Medical Research** in north London. The center is leading the way in regenerative medicine, specifically around the development of natural tissue scaffolds to replace surgically removed or traumatized tissues. In addition, he is an Investor in the **Royal Mint Gardens Development** in London.

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