

## **The American Ireland Fund 38<sup>th</sup> Annual New York Dinner Gala Raises \$3 Million, Daniel Day Lewis headlines**

*New York Gala Honors Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Chairman of The American Ireland Fund and James E. Quinn, Former President of Tiffany & Company*

*Manhattan, New York, May 9, 2013* – The 2013 American Ireland Fund Gala exceeded its target by \$500,000 and in total raised \$3 million in support of The Worldwide Ireland Funds' *Promising Ireland* Campaign to assist Irish not for profit bodies. Among those charities helped was the Wicklow Hospice whose patron, Oscar winning actor Daniel Day Lewis, made a rare appearance to acknowledge the Fund's support. He received a rapturous reception. "Having Daniel Day Lewis present was remarkable," said President & CEO of The Worldwide Funds Kieran McLoughlin, "We were delighted to have such a celebrated actor show his support and solidarity with Ireland."

Over 1,100 guests from the spheres of business, the arts and politics attended the 38th Annual Gala at the Grand Hyatt New York at Grand Central. It is the largest of the 100 global events hosted annually by The Worldwide Ireland Funds.

The 2013 Gala honored Loretta Brennan Glucksman, outgoing Chairman of The American Ireland Fund. Under her 18-year tenure, The American Ireland Fund has become one of the largest private funding sources for not-for-profits across the island of Ireland. The award also recognized Loretta's personal generosity in having contributed over \$27 million to The American Ireland Fund in support of numerous causes and institutions.

Also honored was James E. Quinn, former President of Tiffany & Company, in recognition of his corporate leadership, philanthropy and commitment to Ireland. Jim is a longtime supporter of The American Ireland Fund as well as the Michael Smurfit School of Business, Ireland's leading business school.

The 2013 American Ireland Fund New York Dinner Gala was chaired by John Fitzpatrick, CEO of Fitzpatrick Hotel Group NA and Adrian M. Jones, Managing Director of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Kieran McLoughlin, President & CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds said, "The generosity and commitment of our donors is the engine behind tonight's milestone event. Tonight brings the total amount raised since our inception in 1976 to over \$445 million, with almost one third of that total raised in just the past four and a half years alone. The *Promising Ireland* Campaign has now provided vital support to more than 350 outstanding charities in Ireland and around the world."

For more information on the *Promising Ireland* Campaign and a listing of organizations that have received support, visit [www.theirelandfunds.org](http://www.theirelandfunds.org)  
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Notes to Editors:

**About The Worldwide Ireland Funds:**

The Worldwide Ireland Funds is an international philanthropic network operating in 12 countries that has raised over \$445 million for worthy causes in Ireland and around the world. The mission of the Funds is to be the largest network of friends of Ireland dedicated to supporting programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland. Founded in 1976, The Ireland Funds have assisted over 1,200 organizations. The American Ireland Fund holds a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator in recognition of efficiency, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. It is among only 17% of Charity Navigator's rated charities that have received this top 4-star rating for two consecutive years.

In response to the severe downturn in the Irish economy, The Worldwide Ireland Funds launched the *Promising Ireland* Campaign in 2009 to raise \$100 million by the end of 2013 in support of charities that are experiencing an increased demand for their services at a time of a major reduction in resources. The initial campaign goal of \$100 million was reached 19 months early and the goal was revised to \$140 million, requiring the Funds to raise \$1 million a month until December 2013. The campaign's title, *Promising Ireland*, reflects the Funds' pledge to these groups as well as their belief in Ireland's future. Over 350 outstanding projects and organizations have received support from the *Promising Ireland* Campaign.

[www.theirelandfunds.org](http://www.theirelandfunds.org)

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