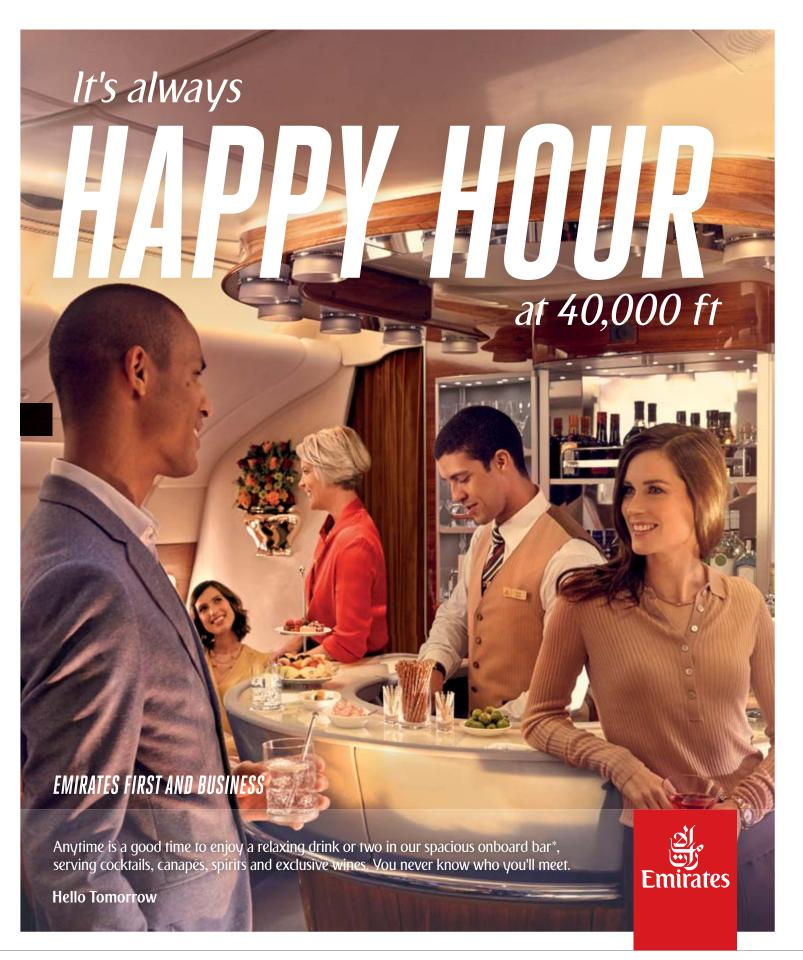


The Ireland Funds Small Grant Round Is Making a Big Impact

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- L Message from the Chairman
- 6 Your Philanthropic Impact Thank You!
- 10 Down Syndrome Ireland
- 14 Music Generation
- 18 Equine Enrichment
- 22 Holywell Stew
- 26 FoodCloud

- 32 The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition
- 38 Plastic Free Kinsale
- 42 The Derry Playhouse Street Talk
- 46 Barnardos
- 54 Cuan Mhuire
- 58 The Ireland Funds 2018 Flagship Awardees
- 60 The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society

contents

- 62 Golf
- 65 The Ireland Funds
 Young Leaders Society
- 81 Events Around the World
- 108 The Ireland Funds Heritage Society
- 110 The Ireland Funds America Board of Directors
- 112 Contacts

Read Connect magazine online at www.irelandfunds.org

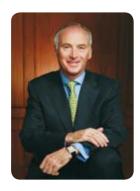






SPRING / SUMMER / 2019

Connect



Dear Fellow Donors,

Welcome to the latest edition of Connect Magazine. This edition will highlight some of the incredible events we have hosted around the world over the last number of months including a record-breaking gala in Chicago and the 30th Anniversary Celebration of The Ireland Funds Great Britain. But most importantly, you can read about the projects we support which are after all, the driving force behind what we do.

You can read about our latest Flagship Awardees on page 58. The purpose of these significant investments is to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of initiatives that are already having a positive impact. I know you will enjoy reading about their efforts and what your generosity will enable them to achieve. You will also read about projects like Barnardos, which is helping families and children in crisis, and Equine Enrichment, which is taking a truly innovative approach to mental health in Northern Ireland. These projects are just a few examples of the tangible difference your philanthropy is making for those in real need.

One of the highlights of 2019 will be our annual Worldwide Conference in June, which we are excited to be hosting in Belfast. As we hear every year from those who attend, it is a wonderful opportunity to connect on a much deeper level with The Ireland Funds' mission by seeing our impact on the ground at the project level itself. I would encourage you to join us and witness the results of your generosity, first-hand.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support. Your commitment makes such a difference to thousands of people across the island of Ireland and beyond.

Kind regards, John Fitzpatrick Chairman, The Ireland Funds America

Connect

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

Progress Through Philanthropy





www.irelandfunds.org



Every year, The Ireland Funds' Small Grant Round provides support to smaller community organizations and not-for-profit groups like Equine Enrichment, which you can read about on page 18, and Plastic Free Kinsale whose story appears on page 38. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, The Ireland Funds continues to make a big impact for outstanding organizations across the island of Ireland.

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.



thank you

Progress Through Philanthropy



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

"Each year our population is getting older so our programs are very important in keeping people engaged. The partnership we have with The Ireland Funds is so important. Without the support of our funding partners we simply could not deliver the services we do." — AGE CONCERN CAUSEWAY



"We sincerely thank The Ireland Funds' donors for their foresight, compassionate action and spirit of great generosity in supporting and investing in this life-changing intervention for children and the future generations of Ireland." — BLUE BOX CREATIVE ARTS THERAPY CENTRE

"Thanks to The Ireland Funds, we have been able to achieve successes which are rare or unmatched in environmental circles in Ireland. We dearly hope that these are just the beginning of the restoration of the grandeur, of Ireland's forests and that, through the generosity and vision of The Ireland Funds' donors, we can continue our crucial work."

— THE NATIVE WOODLAND TRUST

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

British-Irish Association

174 Trust Abbey School Ablevision Ireland The Abbey Theatre ACET (AIDS Care Education & Training) Ireland Adare Recreation & Community Complex Age Action Ireland Age Concern Causeway Age Concern Network Aisling Irish Community Center Aisling Return to Ireland Project Alcohol Forum Alliance Française Dublin Alzheimer Society of Ireland Amal Women's Association American Irish Historical Society An Taisce Anam Cara Angel Eyes NI ARC Healthy Living Centre Archbishop Marsh's Library Ardoyne Holycross Boxing Club AREMOJA Women's Group Sligo The Ark Arthritis Ireland Ashoka Athlone Institute of Technology Athlone Sub Aqua Club Atlantic Challenge Ireland Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland Avoca Community First Responders Baboró International Arts Festival for Children Backstage Theatre Ballina/Killaloe Sports & Community Facilities Development Co. Ballymun Adult Read & Banbridge Amateur Boxing Club Bantry Development and Tourist Association

Ballina/Killaloe Sports &
Community Facilities
Development Co.
Ballymun Adult Read &
Write Scheme
Banbridge Amateur Boxing Clu
Bantry Development and
Tourist Association
Bantry Hospice Project
Bantry Rowing Club
Barrardos
Barretstown
Baseball Ireland
Bedford Row Family Project
Behind the Stable Door
BeLonG To
Belvedere College S.J.
Belvedere Youth Club
Benefacts
Birdhill N.S.
Blackrock Castle Observatory
The Blue Box Creative

Burrenbeo Trust Business to Arts Butler Gallery Cabragh Wetlands Development Trust Cáirde Fundraising -Knocktemple N.S. Camara Ireland Camcor Community & Recreation Centre Camp Camilla Cancer Fund for Children Cancer Support Sanctuary LARCC Cappagh Hospital Trust Cara-Friend Care After Prison Carmichael Centre Carrickfergus YMCA Castlerea Community Arts Group Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York The Cavan Centre ChangeX Charities Institute Ireland Chernobyl Children's Project Chester Beatty Library Children in Crossfire Children, Adults, Parents and Autism (CAPAA) Children's Grief Centre Children's Law Centre Children's Medical Research Foundation ChildVision Cill Rialaig Project Cinemagic Citizens of Senior Years (COSY) Club Clara Family and Community Resource Centre Clare GAA Clarecare Clogherny Church Clonard Monastery Clonturk Community College Cloughjordan Circus Club Cnoc na Gaoithe Coláiste Chú Chulainn Comhlacht Tithe agus Forbairt an tSuláin Teo Common Ground N.I. C.I.C. Community Action Network Community Centre for Music and the Arts The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland Conamara Environmental **Educational and Cultural Centre** Conradh na Gaeilge Conary Community First Responders

Co-operation Ireland

Concern Worldwide

Connemara Therapeutic Riding Cork ARC Cancer Support House Cork Counselling Services Cork Foundation Cork Penny Dinners Corrymeela Community Crosscare Cuan Mhuire Cuan Modh Day Centre Cuisle Cancer Support Centre CyherSafelreland CyberSmarties Cystic Fibrosis Ireland Daisyhouse Damask Community Outreach Dance Ireland Dance Research Forum Ireland Dance Theatre of Ireland Darndale Belcamp Village Centre DCU Ryan Academy DePaul Ireland Dogs for the Disabled Dogs Trust Dolmen Clubhouse CLG Donegal Clinical Academy Trust Donegal Family Resource Centre Down Right Brilliant Down Syndrome Centre Down Syndrome Cork Down Syndrome Ireland Dr Crokes GAA Club **Druid Theatre Company** Dublin City University Dublin Institute of Technology **Dublin International** Piano Competition Dublin Jewish Board of Guardians **Dublin Simon Community** Dublin Talmud Torah Dublin/Wicklow Mountain Easi Access Transport Eastern Harps GAA Club Elemental Festival Team Emerald Isle Immigration Center of New York Emerald Warriors RFC Empowering People In Care (EPIC) Enable Ireland Enactus Ireland Enniscorthy Rugby Club Equine Enrichment CIC Extraordinary Bodies -Carlow Arts Festival The Festival of Curiosity Field Day Collective Fighting Words Fighting Words Belfast First Fortnight Flax Trust Focus Family Resource Centre Focus Ireland

FoodCloud

Foróige Donegal

Foróige Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship Foxford Community Garden Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) Friends of St Luke's Friends of the Cancer Centre Fund it (Business to Arts) Funky Fish Youth Café Future Voices Ireland Gaelic Players Association Gaelscoil na gCeithre Máistrí Gaisce - The President's Award Galway Autism Partnership Galway Community Circus Galway GAA Galway Hospice Foundation Galway Rape Crisis Centre The Gate Theatre Giving Northern Ireland GIY - Grow It Yourself Glasnevin Cemetery Museum Glenstal Abbey GOAL Gonzaga College S.J. Good Shepherd Cork Grace Park Educate Together N.S. Graffiti Theatre Company Greater Dublin Independent Living Grow in Ireland HADD-ADHD Ireland Haven Hawk's Well Theatre Helium Arts Hello World Foundation High Kirk Social Action in our Community Holy Family Boxing Club Holywell Trust Hope 4 Life NI The Hunt Museum Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland The Icon Walk Imaginosity, Dublin Children's Museum In Your Space NI Inner City Enterprise Institute of Cultural Studies Institute of Technology Tralee Integrated Education Fund International Charity Bazaar Ireland US Council Foundation Ireland's Great Hunger Museum IRFU Charitable Trust Irish America Business Chamber and Network Irish Ancestry Research Centre Irish Arts Center Irish Cancer Society Irish Chamber Orchestra Irish Children's Museum Irish Community Rapid Response Irish Cultural Centre Irish Culture Bay Area

Irish Deaf Society Irish Film Institute Irish Georgian Society Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind Irish Heritage Trust Irish Hospice Foundation Irish International Immigrant Center Irish Martial Arts Academy Irish Men's Sheds Association Irish Pages Irish Red Cross Irish Repertory Theatre Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Irish Traveller Movement Irish Wheelchair Association Irish Youth Foundation iScoil IT Sligo Jack and Jill Children's Foundation Jesuit Refugee Service Ireland Jewish Home of Ireland Kanturk Community Hospital Kenmare Carnegie Arts Centre Kenmare Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Kerry GAA Centre of Excellence Kerry Hospice Foundation Kerry Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre Kerry Writers' Museum Killaloe Community Development Co. Kinship Care Northern Ireland Lady Gregory Autumn Gathering The Lantern Community Project Laois Sports Partnership CLG L'Arche Belfast LASALLE College of the Arts Lauragh Community Council LauraLynn Ireland's Children's Hospice Learning Hub Limerick Leitrim Calling Letterkenny Institute of Technology Lewis Glucksman Gallery Lime Tree Theatre Limerick Autism Group Limerick Institute of Technology Little Castle Playgroup The Little Museum of Dublin Liverpool Hope University Foundation Lonaford GAA Longford Women's Link Lyric Theatre Mae Murray Foundation Make-A-Wish Ireland Making Connections Mallow Day Care Centre Maria Goretti Foundation Marie Curie - Belfast Marie Keating Foundation Marino Institute of Education

Mark Pollock Trust

Learning Centre

Brain Injury Matters NI

Blackrock College

Blackrock Hospice

Blossom Ireland

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 McCarthaigh'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 Píobairí Uilleann Narrative 4 Ireland

National College of Ireland -

National Gallery of Ireland

National Library of Ireland

The National Trust

Early Learning Initiative

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 McIlroy 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

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

Speedpak Group

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 Vinevard 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



READY FORWORK

Down Syndrome Ireland helps adults with Down syndrome prepare for unique employment opportunities.



National Leadership Local Support

Down Syndrome Ireland's Ability Programme is preparing adults with Down syndrome for meaningful employment.

With less than 5% adults with Down syndrome obtaining employment in Ireland, Down Syndrome Ireland is setting out to not only ensure that there are increased opportunities, but that this unique community is prepared for them.

"People need meaningful work," explains Gary Owens, CEO of Down Syndrome Ireland. "We all need to use our brains and we need social interaction. Without it, people with Down syndrome often see their peers achieving milestones which they themselves are not. What we are most interested in is working with adults with Down syndrome and asking them, 'What are you interested in? What would you enjoy doing? What can we help you become competent for?' So, we've developed the Ability Programme that focuses on key sectors such as hospitality, catering, retail, hairdressing, horticulture and business administration.

There is huge opportunity. What we are finding is they are truly adding value and their employers are really happy."

First, Listen.

The Ability Programme offers numerous options around training and skills. Beginning with first listening to the individual's interests and educating them on different jobs to the nuts and bolts of applying and interviewing. Lastly, work experience and hands-on

training prepares students for workplace life learning everything from practical skills to how to handle the inevitable stresses of a work day.

Companies participating in the program are recruited by Down Syndrome Ireland and the organization provides training for employers as well to ensure that all involved are supporting the key goals of meaningful work.

Beauty In All Its Forms

One particularly successful training and employment partner has been ALFAPARF Milano, a leading Italian hair salon and beauty product manufacturer with a strong presence in Ireland. Its "Beauty In All Its Forms" program gives adults with Down syndrome an opportunity to train as Hairdressing Assistants with a path to long-term employment.







THE ALFAPARF MILANO PROGRAM CONSISTS OF:

- 2 weeks of pre-employment course work
- 8 weeks in the ALFAPARF Milano salon where students learn the basics of a hair salon environment, product use, how to greet clients, how to wash hair, and basic cleaning and sterilizing tasks
- · 4 weeks of work placement where students work in salons, many in their local communities, for 6 hours a day, I day a week
- A final practical exam to assess their knowledge level which, upon passing, earns them an ALFAPARF Milano certified Hairdressing Assistance Certification

Thus far, it has shown an 80% success rate of employment after training.



THE Trinity COLLEGE DUBLIN BEADS STUDY

Thanks to support from The Ireland Funds, Down Syndrome Ireland partnered with Trinity College Dublin to undertake a groundbreaking study on cognitive training for adults with Down syndrome.

The BEADS Study (Brain Exercises for Adults with Down syndrome) was undertaken in light of the fact that adults with Down syndrome are at greater risk for developing dementia than the general population. By employing early intervention with cognitive training in the form of puzzles, games and specific brain challenges, the study sought to see if brain connections could be strengthened through

those activities and an effect could be seen on the adults' brain health and function.

40 people with Down syndrome took part. The study showed that strategic brain-training games helped people with Down syndrome with their memory, planning and attention skills. As a result, the BEADS program is currently a priority agenda item for the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies in Ireland. This program has the potential to be rolled out across 60 intellectual disability services around the country.





"THE TRAINING WAS GREAT. I LEARNED LOTS, HOW TO FOLD TOWELS, CLEANING AND WASHING HAIR. GETTING A JOB IN LLOYDS MADE ME HAPPY AND CONFIDENT. IT MAKES ME NORMAL." — John Mulligan, one of the first participants to secure employment after training

"I'VE SEEN HIS CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDENCE GROW SINCE BEGINNING THE PROGRAMME, MEETING PEOPLE AND BEING IN THE WORK ENVIRONMENT. I HOPE THIS PROGRAM SHOWS THAT WITH PROPER TRAINING, PEOPLE WITH DOWN SYNDROME CAN GAIN EMPLOYMENT." — Margaret Mulligan, John's mother



Also as a result of the study, people with Down syndrome are, for the first time, included on the agenda for the Global Brain Health Institute, with the lead researcher selected to join the Atlantic Fellowship program for Equity in Brain Health. This now ensures that people with Down syndrome are part of the mainstream agenda of global dementia research.

"Part of why this study is so key to us is it supports our objectives of bringing meaningful work to adults with Down syndrome," explains Gary Owens, CEO of Down Syndrome Ireland. "Meaningful work is also very much about using your brain, having physical activity, and enjoying social integration. Without meaningful work, people's mental health can be affected. Then you can see early dementia in their late 30s and early 40s if the brain hasn't been challenged. We are here to help prevent that from happening. It's an investment with great returns."





Celebrating the Power of Philanthropy

an International Award for Music Generation's Partnerships

Music Generation's partnership with U2 and The Ireland Funds was celebrated in September last year at the 27th Allianz Business to Arts Awards, a major annual event dedicated to recognizing and commending imaginative, innovative and effective partnerships between businesses and the arts in Ireland.

In one of the most prestigious and competitive categories at the event, Music Generation, U2, The Ireland Funds, Bank of America Merrill Lynch and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation were thrilled to win the Award for Best Long-Term Partnership. Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan T.D., made the presentation to Rosaleen Molloy (Music Generation National Director) and Siobhán Gallagher (Director of The Ireland Funds Young Leaders) before an audience of some 600 leading representatives from the cultural, corporate and philanthropic sectors at Dublin's Bord Gáis Energy Theatre.

'This was a big dream and it was always going to be a team effort. We can't thank our partners enough for their passion and commitment to our shared goal — an accessible music education for every young person in Ireland. We are all so proud of everything Music Generation has achieved thus far and we look forward to working together long into the future.'

—The Edge

'The journey and achievements of Music Generation are testament to the power of philanthropy, which has brought about unprecedented change for the music education landscape in Ireland.'

—Caitriona Fottrell, Vice President and Director, Ireland of The Ireland Funds

Music Generation on the World Stage

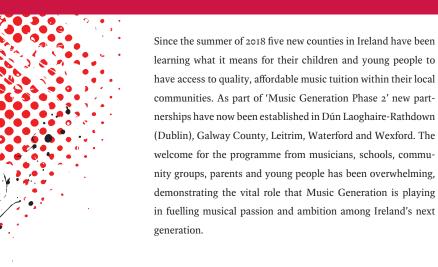
Four young musicians from Ireland's Midlands enjoyed the opportunity of a lifetime in October last year when they were invited to perform as part of The Ireland Funds Monaco Weekend Celebrations 2018. Joined on stage by their mentor, renowned Irish artist Zoë Conway, the Ensemble shared a set of traditional Irish music and song with distinguished guests including His Serene Highness Prince Albert II, Sovereign Prince of Monaco. The group was a small representation of some 3,500 children and young people currently accessing music tuition in all genres and styles as part of Music Generation in County Laois.

'As my first time in Monaco, it was amazing to experience the culture and meet the local people, including Prince Albert. Playing for him was the highlight.'

— Naoise, young musician



NEW COUNTIES WELCOME MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR IRELAND'S NEXT GENERATION





Highlights in these 5 new areas include:

- Access to music tuition for 3,330 additional children and young people, working with 34 musicians across
 63 new school and early years settings
- \cdot Establishment of a cross-border community music Peace Project for 65 teenagers in Leitrim and Fermanagh
- Premiere performance by Music Generation's first regional youth orchestra 'Symphonic Waves', with 60 members participating from 7 different counties in the west of Ireland
- Launch of new Youthreach partnerships, creating access to music for 20 early school leavers ages 15 to 18

During the first six months of 2019 a further four areas of the country will commence planning for the roll-out of new Music Generation partnership programmes. By the end of the year children and young people in Galway City, Kilkenny, Roscommon and both Cavan/Monaghan will have begun to gain access to performance music education with professional musicians in their localities, bringing the total number of areas in Ireland reached to 20!



STORIES OF IMPACT

'It is highly rewarding to see children and young people progress into programmes in years three, four and five and especially to see them getting involved in initiatives and ensembles outside of their genres and comfort zones...It is honestly transformative for the school and for the community at large.'

Ciarán, musician educator

'The positive benefits of music-making are well documented—learning music at a young age can bring about greater self-esteem, improved concentration, literacy, numeracy, and social skills...we're opening a door for a generation of children to a means of expression and imagination...I count myself lucky to have a job that can play a part in achieving those outcomes for children and young people.'

— Karl, musician educator





Who would think that an animal weighing over 1,000 pounds, at times both elegant and intimidating, could help people move beyond trauma, find safe space and foster healthy relationships? This is exactly what is happening at Equine Enrichment in the rural countryside just outside Derry/Londonderry in Northern Ireland.

THE WORK OF EQUINE ENRICHMENT IS UNIQUE. It is the only organization in Northern Ireland offering EAGALA (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association). Studies have shown that equine-assisted therapy lowers blood pressure, alleviates stress, and reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression. It has also been shown to help people struggling with addiction and mental health issues.

With support from The Ireland Funds, Equine Enrichment has assisted groups of young people between ages II-18. Over the course of 10 weeks, two groups of young people experiencing behavioral and/or emotional issues came to the stables to work on a range of topics from relationships to communication to leadership and resiliency. Working with a mental health specialist and an equine specialist, many of these children have experienced significant improvement in their behaviors and outlooks.

"We're working with children with very high levels of deprivation," explains Louise Moorhead, a trainer and administrator with Equine Enrichment. "These are children who have come from intergenerational trauma. For many, the trauma of the Troubles has been transferred on to them. This program is also about providing them with an alternative to hanging about the streets and being exposed to drugs and alcohol. We find II year olds who can chat to you quite openly about heroin and name every drug on the street. We are passionate that our generation has been affected but not defined by the Troubles. Our generation has been given a fresh start and Equine Enrichment is a fresh approach to creating change and moving forward."

The program is surprising to some people as it does not involve horseback riding. Participants interact with the horses on the ground. Caring for them, feeding them, grooming and leading them, even doing breathing exercises with them. "A lot of people say, 'why don't you go horseback riding?" says Louise. "Horses pick up our facial communication, our body language and energy, even our heartbeat.





"It took me about three sessions to feel comfortable," says Roisin, a participant in the EAGALA program. "The first time I came I could feel my heart beating when Buddy (the horse) came over. I was shaking like a leaf...."

stand up straight and give off vibes of confidence, that horse will fol-

low you.' It is instant bio-feedback. To see the difference that simple

Roisin and Caitlin shared that they see many of their peers struggling with mental health issues and trauma. "There's just not enough support out there, and there's trust issues too. You're constantly wondering 'are they judging me? Are they talking about me?" says Roisin. "And in some families you can still feel isolated. No one knows what happens behind closed doors. But here, you feel like someone understands your world."

change makes, is profound."



85%

OF YOUTH PARTICIPANTS
SHOWED SIGNIFICANT
IMPROVEMENT IN
MENTAL WELL-BEING
AND SELF-ESTEEM AFTER
COMING THROUGH
THE EAGALA PROGRAM.

IT MAKES ME FEEL HAPPY.

WHEN I COME OUT HERE
I CAN LEAVE ALL MY
TROUBLES AT HOME,
THINGS JUST DON'T
SEEM AS BAD."

— BOY, AGED 12



Stirring up The community in Derry/Londonderry

Imagine you work with a great organization with big ideas for expanding your reach or delivering your mission. You have four minutes to convince 60+ strangers that your idea is the best one in the room.... *Ready? Set? PITCH!*

This is the premise behind the Holywell STEW, a series of local community-based crowdfunding dinners held in Derry/Londonderry and supported by The Ireland Funds. Hosted by the Holywell Trust, an organization which for over 20 years has facilitated community development and peace-building work in Northern Ireland, the STEWS have provided local nonprofit organizations with visibility, a chance to network, and refine their message to the community.

"Holywell Trust is about building relationships and part-

nerships within the local community between agencies, organizations and individuals trying to help people to help themselves," explains Gerard Deane, Director of the Holywell Trust. "We're about improving lives. That is essential. We are in the heart of Derry/Londonderry and we are a place where difference is celebrated and shouldn't



The Me4Mental team learning of their organization's win

be feared. Everyone is welcome. There is never a closed door."

The model is simple: for a small fee of £10, members of the community come for dinner within the bright and cross-community welcoming space of the Holywell Trust. A meal is shared at communal tables and four projects take turns pitching their work for positive change. Questions are fielded. Ballots are cast by those attending and the winning organization takes home all the money collected at the door.

Just as important as the small sum won however, is the exposure each organization gets to the community. Attendees of the dinners often form relationships or pursue volunteer

opportunities well after the evening is over. In addition, long before the four-minute pitches are given, each organization is given training in how to present succinctly, confidently and without presentation materials.

Through the STEWS, the local community has been engaged to micro-finance several nonprofit initiatives ranging from La Dolce Vita: an arts projects aimed at those who have suffered from domestic abuse, to Me4Mental: a project supporting those with mental health issues. Grants from The

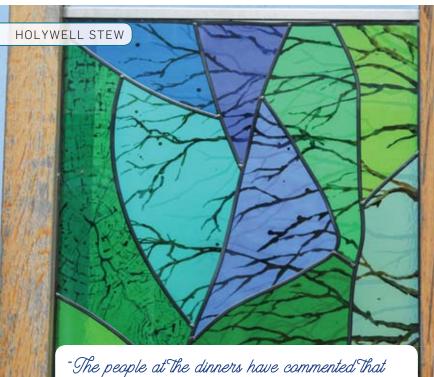
Ireland Funds have allowed the STEWS to cover all costs of running the events so that the entire sum collected can be given to support local nonprof-

"Presenting at the STEW was an amazing experience," says Patricia Flanagan from the winning Me4Mental project. "When they announced we won I swear I nearly had a stroke. The funding we took home helped with our first

year's rent and benefitted us in a big way. Over 3,000 people struggling with isolation and mental illness have come through our community center doors since we opened in April (of 2018) and the STEW gave us our first chance to reach more people in the community."

Success looks bright for future STEWS. There is a waiting list of organizations that have expressed an interest in pitching and the dinners are at-capacity with people sometimes being turned away at the door. With continued support, this initiative should grow small seeds into big, rich ideas serving the community of Derry/Londonderry and beyond.





Gerard Deane

Director of the Holywell Trust



"The people at the dinners have commented that this project is something we need to treasure and nourish. It was seen by those that came as a model of community enagement and an expression of Derry/Londonderry 'doing for itself-capturing the true spirit of the city."





The Holywell STEW: a new micro-financing project supported by The Ireland Funds

Pitchers from the Holywell STEW event in June 2018: Ciaran Murray (Your Derry), Michéal Stapleton (Soul Shakedown Festival), Stephanie English (Jigsaw Project) and Conor Doherty (Your Derry)













FIVE STAR HOSPITALITY IN NATURAL SPLENDOUR

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



SHEENFALLSLODGE.IE

SHEEN FALLS LODGE, KENMARE, CO. KERRY, IRELAND INFO@SHEENFALLSLODGE.IE | + 353 (0)64 6641600





What Is The Ireland Funds' Support Achieving?

By Aoibheann O'Brien, FoodCloud Hubs CEO

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.

We have also benefitted hugely from connecting with The Ireland Funds global philanthropic network in Ireland and internationally who have supported us with advice, guidance and introductions. The Ireland Funds also connected us with a corporate donor who provided additional funding of €63,200 in 2017.

We are very grateful for the support of The Ireland Funds and look forward to continuing to work with you over the coming years to achieve a vision for an Ireland and a world where no good food goes to waste.





FoodCloud and FoodCloud Hubs are social enterprises that connect businesses with surplus food to charities that need it

FoodCloud



FoodCloud Hubs



A retailer uploads details of the food using the FoodCloud app or a PDA scanner.



FoodCloud Hubs works with farms, manufacturers and distributors.



A local charity receives a text about the food. They simply text back to accept.



Once the food reaches the closest Hub in Cork, Galway or Dublin, it is segregated and stored.



The charity collects the food directly from the store.



Registered partner charities can order food for delivery or collection.



Our partner charities, from breakfast clubs to homeless hostels to family support services, get this food to people in need in the community.



over 7,500 charitable groups get surplus food in Ireland and the UK



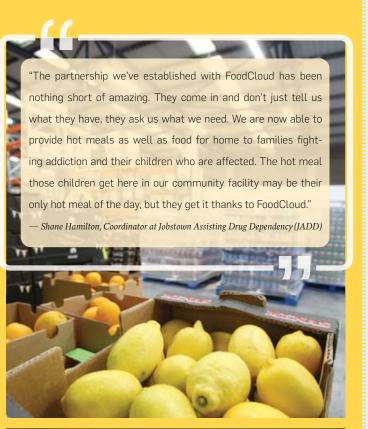
have gone to people



€61.5million!









Strength to Strength: Recent FoodCloud Highlights

FoodCloud announced a new partnership with Nestlé Ireland who have agreed to donate their surplus food and pay FoodCloud Hubs for every pallet of goods, which will cover the cost of managing, storing and redistributing any unforeseen food surplus

FoodCloud won the Community Recycling Project of the Year award from the Repak Recycling Pakman Awards for their work connecting businesses and charities in communities across Ireland, avoiding food waste

FoodCloud presented at the European Policy Centre in Brussels on Digitisation as an Enabler for the Circular Economy. FoodCloud Founder Iseult Ward presented at the Forbes 30 under 30 conference in Amsterdam with a focus on how its solutions support the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

FoodCloud launched its Galway Hub to further meet the needs to charities and communities in the West of Ireland, helping food producers and distributors get their surplus food to the people who need it most.

The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition

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 THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS OF IRELAND'S NEXT-GENERATION BUSINESS LEADERS. BY ENGAGING WITH THIRD-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS AND INNOVATION HUBS, AND FOCUSING ON EARLY-STAGE ENTREPRENEURS, THE COMPETITION PROMOTES THE SKILLS AND RESILIENCE NEEDED TO DEVELOP INDIGENOUS INDUSTRIES, ATTRACT INVESTORS AND, ULTIMATELY, TO CREATE JOBS.

THE IRELAND FUNDS BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION WAS FOUNDED BY SAN FRANCISCO-BASED IRELAND FUNDS AMERICA BOARD DIRECTOR, BILL MCKIERNAN OF WSM CAPITAL, LLC. PARTICIPANTS HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN CASH PRIZES AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS AND MENTORSHIP.



Where Are

UPDATES FROM

BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION ALUMNI



LUKAS DECKER 2012 WINNER WITH COINDRUM

"Coindrum was pitched to an audience for the very first time at The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition. The win was a key validation milestone in the company's development. One of the judges, Declan Ryan (formerly of Ryanair), became our founding investor shortly after the event. That, combined with the €10,000 prize, allowed me to start working full time on the business the day I graduated."

Coindrum provides airport self-service units that turn leftover coins into duty free vouchers worth 110% of deposits. This solves the foreign coin inconvenience for travellers and increases the percentage of people that shop in airports.

Passengers outspend their vouchers on average by a factor of ten, creating an enormous category growth opportunity. For example, a €5 deposit will yield a €5.50 voucher, which then leads to a €55 sale at

All major duty-free players have launched installations across 10 airports and 7 countries.

Coindrum has now turned its attention to the high street with successful launches of its innovation in partnership with grocery retailers as well as foreign exchange companies.

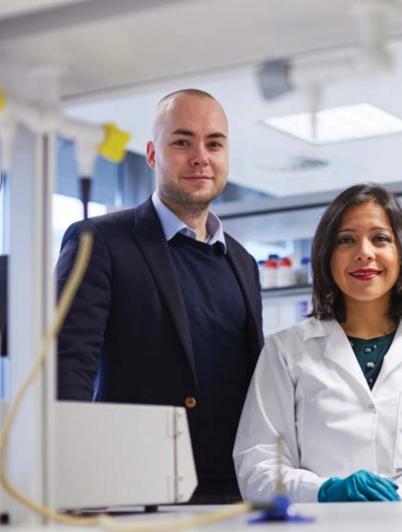
THE IRELAND FUNDS BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

"The Ireland Funds Business Plan competition was one of the most significant things I did while setting up Artfetch. Apart from the cash prize, which was very welcomed, what was most significant was how much I learned. I was able to refine my business proposition and pitch and I had the opportunity to present my ideas to real industry experts and successful business people, which was an invaluable experience."



a curated e-commerce platform for emerging contemporary art, was founded by Katie and Patricia Tsouros in 2012. Born out of a need for interested buyers to gain easy access to the work of emerging artists from around the world, and artists' inability to meet this interested market, Artfetch sought to find the rising art stars of tomorrow while offering a curated experience to its users. Traditionally, art is sold via galleries to a limited number of geographically restricted buyers, but Artfetch aimed to make it simple for people to search for, find and buy emerging art online. The company sold its first piece within an hour of launching.

In 2016 Artfetch was acquired by UK firm Rise Art and Katie joined the team there, where she led brand and marketing for two-and-a-half years. Katie recently left Rise Art and has just launched a new e-commerce business focussed on jewellery.



BLAINE DOYLE AND YENSI FLORES

2016 FIRST RUNNER-UP WITH GLOWDX

"Being a finalist in The Ireland Fund's Business Plan Competition gave us fundamental feedback and credibility which we used to sharpen our investor readiness and ultimately propel us through the success we've been having."

aims to make life-saving diagnostics accessible to those in the emerging markets; ultimately improving clinical outcomes and reducing economic burden. They do this by putting a molecular diagnostics laboratory into every innovative diagnostic cartridge they produce, enabling "Anywhere Diagnostics" from clinics to healthcare outposts; no laboratory needed.

As of December 2018, GlowDx were 6 weeks from launching their clinical services platform, ChektAhora, into Latin America. Through this early route to market they aim to liberate women's access to sexual health and women's health testing, while enabling them to build brand, revenue and hit specific commercial objectives. Recently GlowDx brought Rodrigo Cervantes on board as their VP of Marketing and Sales. Rodrigo previously held Director and General Manager positions at Abbott Molecular and Leica Biosystems respectively. Ahead of this launch GlowDx is closing a funding round and is currently 70% subscribed.

Connect the Dots

work with inquisitive brands and organizations to help deepen their connection with the audiences that matter most to them. Through their software and unique people-first process, Connect the Dots harness the power of data to optimize events—to create tailored experiences at scale—that enable meaningful engagement and tangible outcomes.

Before competing in the Business Plan Competition, Connect the Dots was implementing their process manually for clients including Accenture, Dublin City Council, Dogpatch Labs, Tara Building, the Oireachtas, Suas, and many more. They were gathering insights from attendees beforehand, analysing them by hand, and then connecting the results to the best-fit event design to enhance participation and impact.

Their services were in high demand—to the point that they needed to automate in order to meet it. The Business Plan Competition gave them the courage and the support to do just that.

Since the program ended, Connect the Dots has worked with developers to create a piece of software that helps to unleash the potential from events, internal or external, large or small. Some results Connect the Dots have achieved for their clients include: an 83% increase in attendance, a 95% increase in awareness, a 90% improved reputation, and a 65% reduction in cost per hire.

Connect the Dots is currently looking at expanding their team and is seeking new clients and investment. Thanks to The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition, they have an investor-ready pitch deck that showcases their ambition and vision for their company: a company that helps businesses tailor events and connect the dots globally.



"The Business Plan Competition was a huge turning point for Connect the Dots—it gave us the tools we needed to really share our message through developing a well-crafted investor deck. The mentors on the program encouraged us and gave us the resources needed to ensure we were ready to take the leap to develop our software."

Equine MediRecord

provides the first and only digital platform for the recording of veterinary regulatory documentation in the equine industry. There are increasing regulatory documentation requirements for race and sports horses with heavy fines and even criminal prosecution for non-compliance. The current system which Equine MediRecord is replacing is entirely paper-based. Every medication and the supporting information is recorded manually in a large book called a Medicines Register—vaccination dates are remembered by post-it notes in the trainer's office and there is no way of knowing which drugs or supplements are allowed for use in various domestic and foreign territories without asking regulators first. This means that regulators have to carry out spot inspections which can be very time consuming and disruptive. Equine MediRecord helps automate this process ensuring yards have a 100% compliance rate.

They launched in Ireland, the UK and France in 2018, after receiving regulatory approval from the various national regulators. Equine MediRecord currently has hundreds of trainers, assistant trainers and vets who use the system; for thousands of horses, on a daily basis.

"When we were a finalist in The Ireland Funds Business Plan Competition in 2017, we were still only in prototype stage. It taught us that constant testing with our customers was absolutely critical to success. It really helped us to ensure we had the right product-market fit before our launch. We were also introduced to one of our first advisors, who sits on our advisory board, who is critical in helping us with business planning and to talk with equine industry leaders outside of Ireland. One of the great benefits of the competition is working with other companies who are in the same position as you as you are able to share your experiences with people who are facing similar challenges and to hear how they resolved them."





For gorgeous getaways...

Ireland's Blue Book is a collection of Irish country house hotels, manor houses, castles and restaurants.

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PlasticFreeKinsale

A community comes together in support of sustainability



Kinsale is renowned as one of Ireland's most beautiful coastal towns. With its quaint harbor, colorful boats and flower-filled streets, it is a year-round highlight on the itinerary of many visitors to Ireland. Yet under the beauty, Kinsale faces the same environmental challenges as other communities. Use of unnecessary plastics, litter and beaches under siege from plastic waste are concerns which the town contends with on a daily basis.



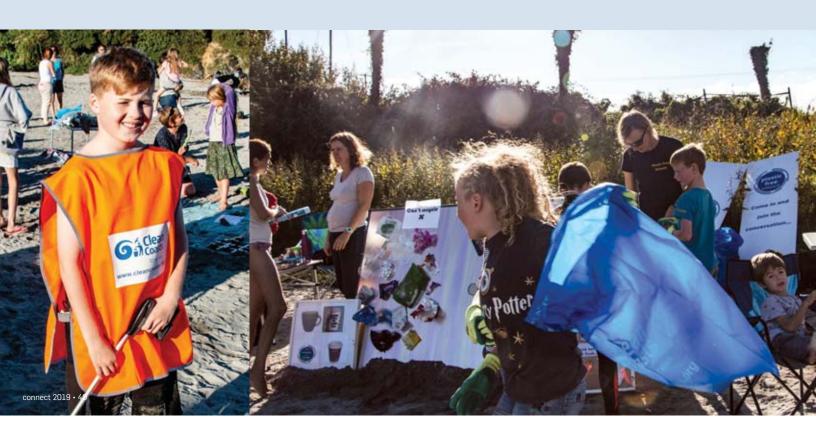


The aim of Plastic Free Kinsale is to reduce the amount of plastic in Kinsale and up recycling rates by giving practical, actionable advice.



"I definitely look at labels on packaging a lot more. I have looked up 'What goes in what bin' online - it is still somewhat confusing and it shouldn't be." —Audrey, Kinsale

"Definitely changes in how this house is run, much greater focus on recycling, energy use in the house, and started tuning in to the idea of an electric car." —Sarah, Kinsale





A community beach clean-up and education day supported by The Ireland Funds Photos: Cian Walsh



Plastic Free Kinsale began when two Kinsale residents, Environmental Scientist Dr. Tara Shine and Media Strategist Madeleine Murray, met while swimming in Kinsale's famous sea. "I had gone for a gorgeous swim one morning and was walking up the slipway," says Tara. "This woman I've never met before comes charging up to me and said she had heard what I did for a living and had a question for me..."

Madeleine laughs at the memory. "Kinsale is such a small community, everyone knows what everyone does. So, I guess my first introduction to Tara was driven by curiosity and frustration. I asked her why my child had all these resources at school for learning about the environment and recycling, but why parents, and mothers in particular, weren't getting the same information? We are the ones paying bills and shaping habits in the home."

That simple question led to Madeleine and Tara having coffee and brainstorming around how they could engage their community. That led to 20 women in Madeleine's home talking about big and small changes they could each make.

"We did an icebreaker which we thought would last 10 minutes but they could have done it all night long," says Madeleine. "We simply sorted household rubbish. And in doing that we realized how little people knew about what could and couldn't be recycled. We ended up talking about issues really specific to our community: our traffic, the climate change, and litter."

"It was a real animated discussion," recalls Tara. "At the end of it all these women were saying 'well what are you going to do about it?' which was a bit overwhelming. But out of that came Plastic Free Kinsale."

EDUCATION FIRST

The newly-formed initiative knew it was tackling an enormous issue but also refused to give in to the idea that individual actions are "too small" to make a difference. Their aim was simple: to reduce the amount of plastic in Kinsale and increase recycling rates by providing practical, actionable advice.

They targeted the places and institutions where people congregate and where impacts could be made. Homes, schools, local businesses, and social clubs within the community. Their approach was practical: don't just scare people with tales of an environmental collapse, offer them tangible and practical ways to make a cumulative difference.

THREE "ASKS" WERE DEVELOPED FOR EACH STAKEHOLDER:

Schools

- I Encourage reusable water bottles
- 2 Say no to plastic in lunchboxes
- 3 Say no to plastic straws

Retail Businesses

- Ask customers if they really need a bag
- 2 Increase recycling & reduce plastic packaging
- 3 Stock alternatives to plastic

Food & Beverage Businesses

- Offer to refill water bottles
- 2 Say no to plastic straws, cups and cutlery
- 3 Offer discounts to customers who bring "keep" cups

Home

- 1 Avoid non-recyclable plastic packaging when shopping
- 2 Pick up plastic when out walking
- 3 Use reusable water bottles, lunch boxes and containers

Clubs

- Avoid disposable cups, plates & cutlery at events
- 2 Encourage reusable water bottles only
- 3 Provide bins for recycling and show where things go

SMALL CHANGES, BIG RESULTS

"We rang schools up and said, 'we are Plastic Free Kinsale and we'd like to talk to families about what goes in lunch boxes,' says Tara. "Then we ended up creating an easy step-by-step online guide called PlasticFree4Schools that any primary school across Ireland can adopt and use to become a single-use plastic-free school."

Schools in Kinsale have become incubators for plasticfree ideas. "The 5th and 6th grade classes at my child's school wrote to Glanbia, the provider of the milk in their cafeteria, about the problematic plastic straws that come with every carton of milk. We're delighted that Glanbia is now reviewing the issue."

Support from The Ireland Funds has helped Plastic Free Kinsale bring these educational activities to schools, offer beach clean-up workshops, and inspire young people through competition that propose solutions to plastic pollution and plastic waste. "It's all about behavior-change," says Madeleine. "And the way you change behavior is neighbor-to-neighbor, person to-person."

The organization uses social media and video effectively. Keeping messages simple, easy to understand, and engaging. A video they posted chatting about recycling household trash and plastic after a typical family meal went viral in Ireland and received over 205,000 views. This is typical of the kind of practical, real-life messaging that Madeleine and Tara are so effective at.

Today, Plastic Free Kinsale has launched a new awardwinning enterprise called Change By Degrees which helps businesses and communities to create and tell their sustainability stories. "Thanks in part to The Ireland Funds, we were able to build the momentum needed to set up Change By Degrees," says Madeleine.

"It turns out that all people need is good information that they can understand, that isn't tediously boring, and then to feel good about the change they can make," says Tara. "It's that I-degree of change that begins the rest of the story."

AT THE BERRY PLAYHOUSE Helping the next generation

The Playhouse in Derry/Londonderry has been using the arts to engage in cross-community work in Northern Ireland for over 20 years. With help from The Ireland Funds, the Street Talk project brings together the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) with young people from segregated communities around Derry/Londonderry to demystify and familiarize them with one another.



To appreciate the need for a program like Street Talk, one needs to understand the complicated history of the police and the local communities. "Historically in Northern Ireland there were three communities: the Protestants, the Catholics, and the police," says Terry McKenna, a PSNI Inspector who is involved with the Street Talk project. "There are huge legacy issues here. Many people grew up with their grandparents and parents not accepting the police as a legitimate political force. Right through the Troubles, that was the perception, that the police were their own 'side'. Since the ceasefire we're now trying to get the police accepted as a normal part of society."

Through Street Talk, teens engage with police officers and other teens from communities that are not their own. The officers don't come in uniform, and often the teens don't initially know who is from a Catholic neighborhood and who is from a Protestant neighborhood.

Activities ranging from graffiti to video production to lightbox art, have provided creative outlets and opportunities for discussion. It takes time, but soon groups are mingling, eating pizza, and realizing they have a safe and neutral space to ask questions they might have never thought to ask before.

Today, the Playhouse is not only continuing the now-established Street Talk program with teens, but also working with younger children to combat sectarianism and develop trust.

Connect magazine sat down with Max Beer, Interim CEO of the Playhouse; Elaine Forde, Project Coordinator; Caroline Temple, Coordinator of the Street Talk Project; and Pauline Ross, Founder and Artistic Director of the Playhouse to learn about the challenges facing their community in Northern Ireland today and how the Street Talk project continues to make an impact.



THE PLAYHOUSE BRINGS TOGETHER CHILDREN AND TEENS FROM SEGREGATED COMMUNITIES FOR INTERVENTION FROM THE NUMEROUS CHALLENGES IN THEIR ENVIRONMENT



THE STREET TALK PROGRAM HAS BEEN ACTIVE FOR FIVE YEARS NOW. WHAT DIFFERENCE HAVE YOU SEEN IN THE YOUNG PEOPLE THAT HAVE COME THROUGH THAT PROGRAM?

(Max) The thing that really solidified our funding for two years and enabled us to really deliver the project was The Ireland Funds' Flagship support. It was a pilot project, and that two years of funding allowed us to prove that what we did works. It engages with the right young people, and it enables them to think about crime, justice and their community in a different way. From that two years of investment, we've now accessed money through the government's Fresh Start Agreement, and that has a strand of money which is for tackling paramilitarism.

We are now working in eight of the areas that are identified through that Agreement as being high-risk. Several of them are in and around the greater Belfast region, and one is here in Derry. So the Street Talk program has snowballed in a very good way.

(Elaine) One of the things that Street Talk does which is probably quite unique for young people, is that we create a safe, non-judgmental space for young people to talk about crime and to talk about their relationship with the police. Very often that relationship is not very good, as you can imagine, but we challenge that subtly and slowly, and we use artists who are role models for those young people. We create a space where a group of young people begin to self-govern. Very often in those group workshops the answers start to bubble to the surface.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE RECENT CHALLENGES YOU ARE FACING AS YOU RUN PROGRAMS FOR TEENS AND CHILBREN AT THE PLAYHOUSE?

(Elaine): Paramilitary activity has increased here, so that is a very sharp jump back into the past. Last year there was a massive increase in Derry and in Belfast of paramilitary-style shootings, so we made a short film with our teens called "Recruited," which talked about and underscored these kind of issues. It was fictional, but picked up threads of stories that young people had told us.

The children talk about paramilitaries in the street. The lights go out, and it is almost like ghosts at work in their community. So that's very much at the moment something in our community that we're trying to address.

WHAT IS BEHIND THAT INCREASE IN PARAMILITARY ACTIVITY?

(Elaine) I've had discussions around that with lots of different people. I don't know if Brexit has had indirect impact on that? There is a heightened threat of that kind of hard border coming back into Northern Ireland. That ties into people's relationships and their perception of the police and who governs communities. Very often when we ask young people, 'who do you see as being your police?' Who deals with issues of law and justice?' They would say, 'the paramilitaries.'

SO YOU SEE THIS YOUNGER GENERATION CONTINUING TO GRAPPLE WITH TRUST ISSUES? WITH THE POLICE? WITH PEOPLE FROM COMMUNITIES OTHER THAN THEIR OWN?

(Caroline) So we may be short on jobs and investments and prospects for the future, but one thing we are never short of is a huge generation of young people. We have one of the biggest and youngest populations of young people in Western Europe. There is always a new generation coming up. The 10 to 12-year-olds here still feel the legacy of the trauma, and the legacy of the violence of the Troubles.

(Elaine) Many of these children look up to the paramilitaries and gangs. They represent power to them. Through the new work that we are doing in Belfast and Derry, we are working with very vulnerable young people to address those issues.

IS THERE AN AWARENESS OF WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE TRYING TO BREAK THE CYCLE WITH THE NEXT GENERATION? IS THE REACTION OF PARAMILITARIES AND GANGS IN THE COMMUNITY SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT?

(Pauline) Yes, it's something that we worry about. If we didn't worry about it, our register would not be complete. Yet we think risks are worth taking for peace and for this younger generation coming up.

(Elaine) There's always that threat. Some of the young people here have parents who are active paramilitary, or their brothers and sisters have been involved. We always ensure that we're very honest with the parents or guardians about what we are doing, and there is an opt in/opt out for their young person to be part of the discussions. We ensure that we do everything with transparency, because those issues are very difficult.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE OTHER THINGS THE PLAYHOUSE TALKS ABOUT AND HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE WITH?

(Pauline) The suicide rate here is getting higher.

(Caroline) More young people have died since the Troubles, from suicide, then actually died during the Troubles. There is a culture, particularly with young men, they don't like to speak about it. Its the social and economic circumstances and the legacy of the conflict. We need to offer hope. Without hope, people die.

(Max) There is less investment in mental health in Northern Ireland than there is in England, Scotland or Wales. And the current lack of government does not help. So it's the community, the voluntary sector that tries to pick up and fill the gaps.

SO COMMUNITY WORK OF THE PLAYHOUSE IS VERY MUCH THIS BEACON HERE? HOW BO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE PLAYHOUSE'S MISSION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE NOW?

(Max) It's about survival at the moment, because our core funding is under threat from our Arts Council. And again, the lack of government does not help that. We are uncovering the unspoken stories from the Troubles, very raw and painful stories that some people have kept locked up. And just unlocking those on stage, using theater to tell the story, to try and provoke empathy and understanding, it's very difficult work.

(Elaine) There is a need and a purpose and I think there always will be. While we see that, we will continue to make it work.

(Pauline) We live in a segregated province: segregated social housing, segregated schools, people don't get the opportunity to meet the other community, and through the Playhouse and through our work across Northern Ireland, people meet.

WE WANT THESE YOUNG PEOPLE TO KNOW WE'VE BEEN THERE TOO AND THAT'S WHY WE RE HERE NOW TALKING TO YOU. BECAUSE YOUR FUTURE SHOULD BE MUCH BETTER THAN WHAT WE HAD. WE'RE NOT GOING BACK.

SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS FLAGSHIP GRANT ENABLED THE PLAYHOUSE TO ENGAGE WITH 161 YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH CRIME OR WHO ARE AT-RISK



BARNARDOS

Barnardos



Barnardos is Ireland's largest children's charity.

Since 1962 It has worked with families to assist children of all ages. With a goal of breaking through the cycle of disadvantage, it provides numerous direct services to families including breakfast clubs, early intervention, counseling for children who have witnessed violence, and practical home support.



At any moment in one of the 40+ centers they maintain across the island of Ireland, Barnardos is hard at work feeding children, helping homeless families in crisis, and advocating for the rights of children in the court system.

The Ireland Funds has been a longtime supporter of Barnardos' key programs and most recently provided a Flagship Grant of €40,000 euros 2017 to provide direct support to families experiencing homelessness in North Dublin.

What are some of the challenges facing Ireland's homeless families?

Families are being moved out of their communities, away from their families, schools and local supports to temporary homeless accommodation which is often hotels. Children are arriving into centers are often exhausted because their sleep has been disturbed due to other guests in these places. Sometimes children only have the space between their beds to play within the accommodation.

Families do not have access to cooking facilities. If they are lucky, they may have access to a microwave. Mostly families are forced to live off fast food which is detrimental to the family's health and children's development. Family meals are shared sitting on beds. Families often only have access to a washing machine for one hour per week.

Children are suffering low self-esteem, anxiety, confusion and helplessness as they try to cope with the insecurity of homelessness and the associated pressure on their parents. Children are falling behind in school or missing school days because of long commutes from homelessness accommodation and restricted space to do homework in the evening.

Flagship Grant support from
The Ireland Funds has been hugely
significant for families and has been
applied in very practical ways.

It has been used to support family functioning; to facilitate the continued attendance of children to Barnardos' daily services; to support daily family needs; and to enable family time to promote well-being and provide a sense of dignity to these families as they struggle to cope in an extremely difficult crisis situation.

Transport & Fuel

- Travel & petrol vouchers to access daily services
- Financial assistance to attend medical care and developmental appointments
- Household items, food vouchers to access healthy meals

Educational Support

- Financial support to access afterschool and homework clubs to support education
- Children are able to complete their homework and partake in sports activities

Family Time & Outings

- Cinema vouchers or play centers vouchers
- Trips to the zoo, aquatic center and a farm
- Financial support to facilitate children to attend mid-term and summer camps

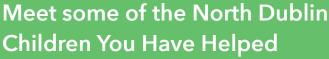




"The Ireland Funds Flagship Grant has been wonderful for Barnardos. It has made such a substantial difference to the lives of children and their families who are experiencing homelessness. Having this funding available has meant that a number of children were able to continue attending our early years care and education program which meant that their developmental needs continued to be monitored and addressed. It also meant that children living in chaotic home environments experienced safe, familiar and stimulating environments.

The Ireland Funds Flagship Grant has also been amazing for families who have finally been rehoused, these families had been living in temporary accommodation for some time and have no belongings to equip a house with. To be able to buy beds, bedding etc. for the children's bedrooms means that the transition out of homelessness and into a new home has been made much easier for children. Our families have been so grateful for this support, some cry with happiness when we have been able to help. Thank you so much, we could not have done this without The Ireland Funds."— Siobhan Greene, Barnardos Director of Children's Services





Need.





Aisling's family was referred to Barnardos due to domestic violence and addiction. Aisling was then referred by Barnardos for a full developmental

Aisling's overall development is quite delayed, and she needs one-to-one support in Barnardos. Her speech and language have improved during the year she has been attending Barnardos but she still requires a lot of support, especially around her social and emotional development.

assessment which began with the Assessment of

When families are homeless it is often very difficult for parents to keep on top of appointments in relation to their children. Letters from other agencies can get lost and appointments are easily missed. Barnardos was able to advocate for Aisling's assessment and assist her mother with following up on this. Without this direct support from Barnardos this child and family would have received an assessment much later, further compromising Aisling's development.

The Flagship funding has helped with the cost of transport. Funding was used towards petrol for the family car enabling her mother to drive Aisling to Barnardos daily and her older siblings to school. Without this, it is very likely that the children would have missed out on their schooling throughout the year. The funding was also used towards family trips out and food vouchers to support some quality family time and access to varied nutrition.

a 3-year old from a family of four

Simon's family became homeless in 2016. His family lived in rental accommodation, but the landlord decided to sell the home. The family was given adequate notice but rental rates in the area had become prohibitively expensive.

In addition, this family was not entitled to any social welfare support due to their legal status in Ireland. A considerable amount of work was done in relation to this and Barnardos advocated on behalf of this family with Fingal County Council and Focus Ireland (homelessness charity). As a result, Simon's family is for now provided with homeless accommodation and a free legal center is advocating for them to be placed on the housing list.

The Flagship funding has assisted with transport for Simon to attend the Barnardos pre-school daily and return to his temporary accommodation in a neighboring county afterwards. It has also enabled the purchase of public transport which helped Simon's three older sisters to remain in school in Co. Dublin. This funding has enabled Simon's mother to attend and complete her training and gain a new qualification. During his year with Barnardos, Simon's self-esteem and social skills have improved a great deal. He is now able to share and take turns and presents as a very happy little boy who is ready for primary school.



Suzanne Connolly was formerly the Director of Children's Services for Barnardos, a role which she held for 17 years. She became the CEO of Barnardos in late 2018. *Connect* Magazine sat down with her to learn about how The Ireland Funds is helping Barnardos bring hope to families facing adversity.

What brings children and families to Barnardos?

A. Parents can feel overwhelmed for a variety of reasons which brings them through our doors. There may be issues in the home around poor mental health, domestic abuse, addiction, parental separation or perhaps a bereavement. All of these issues are exacerbated by high levels of disadvantage and poverty. A child may be experiencing behavioural or emotional problems and the family is simply in need of additional supports with parenting or a more serious intervention depending on the situation.

What happens when a child is referred to a Barnardos centre? Can you share an anecdotal story around Barnardos impact on a particular child or family?

A. We often receive referrals from schools. A teacher may observe that a child is withdrawn or acting out in the classroom and refer the child and family onto Barnardos. Barnardos will meet with that child to determine what might be going on in his/her life that is causing them upset. We never work with a child without involving their parents and so we would meet with the parents as well to get

a full picture of the family's needs. We work with a lot of families where the 'toxic three' exist; mental health difficulties, domestic abuse and addiction. One of the most challenging issues we deal with is domestic abuse and the devastating impact it can have on families.

Last September we began working with a six year old boy in our project in West Dublin. Finn* was a very quiet and tense child that presented as having high levels of anxiety. He was living in a home where violence and addiction were present and Barnardos was working with him and his mother through our family support and after school service. Finn was finding it difficult to concentrate at school and his mind used to wander to the thoughts of what might be happening at home. He hardly ever spoke a word and was silent much of the time. He found it difficult to make friends and was a very nervous and jumpy child. Domestic abuse is present in many of the families we work with. Its effects on children are often overlooked or underestimated, but they can suffer profound and longlasting consequences. Finn has slowly begun to tell his story and my colleagues are working with him to help him make sense of his experiences and feelings. As we have a very low turnover of frontline staff in Barnardos, he can return to us if he needs to in the future and feel a sense of connection and safety, this is hugely important in bringing about positive outcomes for a family.

Once isolated, scared, distracted and withdrawn, Finn now has a chance now to make friends with other children in his after-school group. He has a place to play with them without fear and space to forget his worries and be a child again.

*Finn is not his real name.

The Ireland Funds Flagship Grant Support:
Individuals and Families supported from March 2017–December 2018

62 families / 152 individuals

What would you say is the biggest issue facing children and families in Ireland right now?
Has that changed in recent years?

A. Ireland has become very consumerist and children are now under immense pressure from social media and wider society. There is a real gap in understanding of what children actually need to be both emotionally and mentally heathy and how damaging this focus on presentation and consumption is to their sense of self-worth and development. The Growing Up in Ireland survey now finds that I in 5 children in Ireland is in need of social and emotional support. Some families are very good at seeking this out, whereas many are not, particularly those living in disadvantage. We need accessible community-based services to meet this need. In Barnardos, a child and parent will always find a warm, nurturing environment. There is always an understanding voice on the end of phone or a welcoming face at the door of one of our centres and this is essential to the impact of our work.

You've recently taken up the role of CEO at Barnardos.
What motivates you?
And what do you hope to achieve now you're at the helm?

A. AS CEO of Barnardos I want to bring a trauma-informed approach to all of our services and in our work with other agencies

using the most up-to-date research into human development. I want us to take a whole person perspective when we work with a child, to acknowledge how trauma first presents within the body, before manifesting in the mind and is then communicated through our behaviours. In Barnardos, we are working with future generations of adults, early intervention and a deep understanding of the lifetime consequences of trauma is key to creating change and positive impact for children. I also believe that we really need to examine how is it that we are guiding our children to have connection and meaning in their lives as they develop within an increasingly consumerist and digital society.

How has The Ireland Funds' support made a difference to Barnardos?

A. The support Barnardos receives from The Ireland Funds is truly fantastic. The Flagship funding we were granted in 2017 to support families experiencing homeless in North Dublin made a huge difference to the lives of almost 300 children and parents. It enabled us to support the social and emotional health of over 60 families going through the chaos of homelessness. It really helped these families to cope and to maintain some sense of normalcy and balance in their lives in the midst of a crisis. The funding was used for very practical needs and items and for parents to spend quality time with their children, which is hugely important for their relationships and for a child's healthy development. We are extremely grateful to The Ireland Funds for all of their support and for their belief in the value of our work with children and families.

In June 2018, donors attending The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference were able to see firsthand the impact of The Ireland Funds' support of Barnardos as they visited a local breakfast program for children in need.

Cuan Mhuire



Conquering Addiction With a New Direction



With help from The Ireland Funds, Cuan Mhuire is restoring hope across Ireland and Northern Ireland. Since its formation in 1966, Cuan Mhuire has compassionately treated over 100,000 people with drug, gambling, and alcohol addictions. It is now the largest program of its kind on the island of Ireland.

At any one time, Cuan Mhuire is overseeing 600 people in treatment at centres in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Life skills and personal development are emphasized in their residential program of total abstinence from substances as Residents restore their self-confidence, self-respect and a sense of responsibility. Cuan Mhuire believes there are no hopeless cases.

All faiths, cultures and traditions are warmly welcomed. 12-week and 20-week programs are offered and support encompasses families as well. After-treatment for up to two years is regarded as vital and the program encourages Residents to embrace their uniqueness, inherent goodness and purpose in life.

Stories of Recovery:

Gráinne

Day one was horrific. I was coming crashing down after drinking as much as I could before I arrived. However, I felt straight away that I was in the right place. I was relieved to know that there was somewhere that I could go and that there were people willing to help someone like me. That's a huge thing when you're as far down as I was the day I came through those gates."

"I came from a family where my father was an alcoholic and I started drinking in my teens. In my 20s it went from every now-and-again to drinking socially but eventually I ended up here at Cuan Mhuire in a bad state. I'm married and I have four children. It was devastating and really tough for my family. I didn't think I was doing any harm, but it's amazing then when you come in here, work the program, and look at yourself. You finally see what's really going on

When I got to Cuan Mhuire, I didn't really care whether I lived or died. I was taken care of. I was looked after. I was treated like a decent human being when, to be honest, I wasn't feeling like one. But every day after the first day was a little bit better even though sometimes there was only a tiny improvement. It wasn't easy. The hope started, something that I hadn't felt for a long time."

Mark

"I completed the Cuan Mhuire 20-week drug program. I came from an alcoholic family so I had a lot of fear growing up. There was a lot of violence in the house. I was 15 when I started stealing my parents' sleeping pills and taking tablets to cope. I was 18 when I started to drink and I was taking a lot of drugs as well. Nobody knew. I kept my addiction very hidden for a lot of years.

I remember going into town and saying, 'is it worth it?' I was about to collect two weeks of pay knowing I could have a few good days and then I'm back to square number one. Do I really want that kind of life? I lost everything. I was seeing doctors. I lost the job, I lost the car, and I lost my flat. I was more or less homeless. In the height of depression, I saw no way out. It was my moment of acceptance that change had to be made.

I did the 20-week program here at Cuan Mhuire and that was two and a half years ago. I haven't used since."



THE IMPACT OF THE IRELAND FUNDS' SUPPORT

THIS IMPACT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY DONORS OF THE IRELAND FUNDS WHO ARE DEDICATED TO MISSION OF CUAN MHUIRE. MANY OF THESE DONORS HAVE FAMILY OR CLOSE FRIENDS WHO HAVE BEEN TOUCHED BY THE CHALLENGES OF ADDICTION AND THEREFORE HAVE A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE VALUE AND WORK OF THIS UNIQUE ORGANIZATION.

Cuan Mhuire, **Bruree** a grant of €76,296 from The Ireland Funds was used towards the **upgrade of facilities** for Residents in the Drug Rehabilitation Unit and it built a conservatory for Residents. In addition, Cuan Mhuire, Bruree was able to refurbish an old cottage from 1882 to provide **accommodation for homeless persons**.

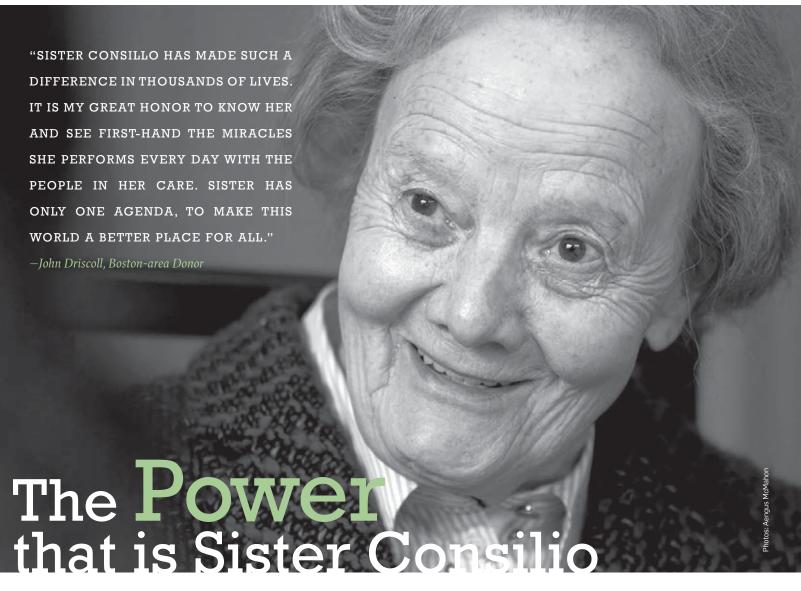
Cuan Mhuire, Ballybay a grant of €5,000 from The Ireland Funds provided work therapy and training facilities in the field of horticulture for those in recovery.

Cuan Mhuire, Newry a grant of €22,000 from The Ireland Funds enabled them to develop work therapy and training units for Residents, including poly tunnels, recycling facilities and a wood workshop. These facilities provide skills training to Residents which is part of a skill-building pathway for those who are marginalized or unemployed.

Cuan Mhuire, Gardiner St. a grant of €15,183 from The Ireland Funds enabled them to refurbish their much-needed kitchen and dining facilities.

Cuan Mhuire, Athy a long-held goal of Cuan Mhuire, Athy has been the establishment of a **40-bed female treatment and rehabilitation unit.** The Ireland Funds has given a grant of €227,148 towards this much needed facility. Total cost of the project is estimated at €2 million. Planning permission has been obtained and work will commence in 2019.





"I never intended on starting a place like this. It wasn't advisable, but it happened anyway."

Such is the faith of Sister Consilio, founder of Cuan Mhuire. Initially as a young nurse in Cork and later as a nun with the Sisters of Mercy in Co. Kildare, she continually came across people with struggles who gravitated to her and her ability to love and listen.

"I trained as a nurse before joining the Sisters of Mercy," explains Sr. Consilio. "I was at St. Vincent's Hospital which was more or less a county home as well. Men would come in off the road with alcohol problems and we looked after them. I always found myself thinking, 'how would my mother feel if this was my brother?"

Her reputation as a caregiver preceded her as she became a novitiate with the Sisters of Mercy. People struggling with addictions started coming to the convent, seeking her compassion and care. Family members often came as well, seeking advice. Suddenly it seemed, she was running a recovery program.

"I had families and folks arriving for help. I had them in the garden and in parlors throughout the convent, trying to hide them from 64 nuns!" laughs Sr. Consilio. "When the Mother was waking up and coming downstairs, I was going up the stairs to bed!"

The needs grew too large to hide from 64 nuns and so her mission was embraced. The program expanded to a dairy on the grounds of the convent and later, with the help of her brother John, expanded to five full residential centers and three transitional houses. To this day, Agnes, Sister Consilio's biological sister as well as a fellow Sister of Mercy, also assists with the work of the centers.

"People come here thinking they're no good," Sr. Consilio says quietly. "but I say, 'let us look at what is beautiful and good in you.' God never made you wrong. Not everyone can hear what's in their soul...so we help them listen."

What's Next? Friends of Cuan Mhuire As Cuan Mhuire graduates people back to

their communities, support is needed as local as possible. Their after-care program for Residents and their families lasts for two years and the ability to travel for that care can be a challenge. Cuan Mhuire has established "Friends of Cuan Mhuire" centers in towns across Ireland for this support and it is the hope of Sr. Consilio and her team that every town in Ireland someday will offer this network of support.

The Ireland Funds Flagship Awardees 2018

The Ireland Funds Flagship Investments program provides grants for core funding, capacity building or program costs for non-profit organizations working within one of our key program areas of Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education and Peace & Reconciliation. Our aim is to improve the quality and sustainability of existing program, or to help scale initiatives that are already having an impact. The Ireland Funds is delighted to announce our support of these outstanding organizations who collectively will receive a total of a €465,000 Flagship Grants Investment over 2 years.



Dogs for the Disabled €40,000 x 2 years

Dogs for the Disabled improves the lives of children and adults living with physical disabilities in Ireland. Over the last eleven years, Dogs for the Disabled placed 160 highly trained Assistance Dogs in Partnerships nationally. Demand for their services is increasing and they currently have a 5-year waiting list. The Ireland Funds Flagship Grant will allow Dogs for the Disabled to scale up and increase their assistance/therapy dog program by up to 30% over the next two years. The grant will support the breeding of an additional two litters of puppies each year, as well as help Dogs for the Disabled identify and grow their external program to assist in the delivery of this expansion.

Abbey Theatre €32,500 x 2 years

The Abbey Theatre is the national theatre of Ireland whose mission is to imaginatively engage with all of Irish society through the production of ambitious, courageous and new theatre in all its forms. The Ireland Funds Flagship investment will support the Abbey Theatre's 5×5 Initiative for the next two years. Each year, The Abbey Theatre will invite citizens from all communities, particularly those who feel underrepresented on the Irish stage, to submit an idea or project that they want to develop. From these applications, they will choose 5 projects and provide them with 5 days' worth of space, technical assistance and €5,000 to explore their ideas. Five projects from diverse communities and interests will be given the opportunity for their voice to be heard on Ireland's national stage. As of diversity on national stages.

Children in Crossfire €40,000 x 2 years

Children in Crossfire was founded in 1996 by Richard Moore and its' mission is to support children who are caught up in the crossfire of violence, poverty and injustice through development education. In 1972, as a 10-year-old child, Richard was blinded by a rubber bullet fired by a British soldier during the Troubles in Northern Ireland. Amazingly from childhood to the present day, he has accepted the loss of his sight without any feelings of resentment. The Ireland Funds Flagship Grant will be supporting the 'Educating the Heart' program, instilling compassion, emotional awareness, critical thinking and reduced bias in 60,000 young people across Ireland.







Sensational Kids €40,000 x 2 years

Sensational Kids was founded by Karen Leigh and was inspired by her son who was 1 in 4 children with additional needs in Ireland. He was put on waiting lists for basic services like speech & language therapy and occupational therapy. And so, Sensational Kids was established to provide subsidized early intervention services for young people with special educational needs. Ten years on, the problem persists as there are now 30,000 children in Ireland waiting for speech & language therapy and another 15,000 waiting for occupational therapy. To date over 5,000 children with additional needs, from all over Ireland, have benefited from Sensational Kids vital early intervention services based at their Leinster Centre in Kildare Town. Support from The Ireland Funds, will enable Sensational Kids to provide early intervention services to an additional 500-600 children per year in two new centers in Clonakilty and Claremorris, allowing them to triple their social impact.

CyberSafeIreland €40,000 x 2 years

CyberSafeIreland is the Irish children's charity for online safety. Since 2016, they have conducted workshops with over 14,000 children aged between 8 and 13 and thousands of parents and teachers, educating them on online safety and empowering them to use it safely and responsibly. CyberSafeIreland have collected data from over 5,000 children aged 8 – 13 over the last year and alarming results have shown that that children are getting online at an increasingly young age.

- 68% of pre-teens had a smartphone
- 70% were already signed up to social media or messaging apps
- 10% of the 8-year olds were online for more than 4 hours a day
- 41% of 8-9-year-old boys are playing games intended for over 18s

allow CyberSafeIreland to hire an Education Officer for the next 2 years. Through increased education programs, awareness raising initiatives and online resources, CyberSafeIreland aim to reach 500,000 families across Ireland and teach them to be stronger, smarter and safer online.

Support from The Ireland Funds will



Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities €40,000 x 2 years

Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities (TCPID) aims to promote the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in education and society. TCPID provides people who have intellectual disabilities with the opportunity to participate in a higher education program designed to enhance their capacity to fully participate in society as independent adults.

Flagship support from The Ireland Funds will allow TCPID to develop a Graduate Internship Programme, extending on the two-year certificate (Level 5, QQI) in Arts, Science and Inclusive Applied Practice in TCD to include a third year of employment internship experiences. This will ultimately enable people with intellectual disabilities to compete for employment on a more equal level to their non-disabled peers and, as a result, to lead more independent lives.







ABOUT THE IRELAND FUNDS WINEGEESE SOCIETY

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

THE IRELAND FUNDS WINEGEESE SOCIETY TRIP TO NEW YORK'S FINGER LAKES | SEPTEMBER 2018

The WineGeese 2018 tour took place in New York's Finger Lakes region. The trip was the first under the new WineGeese Society Chairmanship of **Kevin Curley** and also marked the expansion of the Society as a number of Young Leaders attended for the first time. The area is the largest and most acclaimed winemaking region in the Eastern United States. While local wineries produce many wines, with the cool climate grape, Riesling, has become the signature Finger Lakes varietal wine known the world over.

WEDNESDAY

The trip began with a dinner in one of New York City's most unique settings, **The River Café**. Nestled riverside under the Brooklyn Bridge with sweeping views of the New York skyline and the **Statue of Liberty**. Here guests enjoyed a 4-course dinner with wine pairings from the Finger Lakes region. Kevin Curley paid tribute to the late **John Sharkey** who was a co-founder of the WineGeese Society and was represented on the night by his wife **Helen** and children **Maria** and **Jacqueline**. Guest speaker on the evening was **Kimberly Guilfoyle** who spoke of her connection to Ireland through her father and her time as a student there.

THURSDAY

The following morning the group departed New York City for the Finger Lakes. They stopped en route for lunch and a tour of **Scranton University** kindly hosted by The Ireland Funds America Board Member, **Kip Condron** before continuing on Ithaca, New York. Following check in at Hotel Ithaca, the first stop in the Finger Lakes was **Sheldrake Point Winery**, a beautiful lakeside winery on the shores of **Cayuga Lake**. Here everyone enjoyed a private tour with owner **Chuck Taught** followed by a tasting of their award-winning ice wine which was paired with local cheese. Last stop on day one was **Good Life Farm** and the **Finger Lakes Cider House** for a tour of this diverse ecological farm and the traditional cidermaking process. Following the tour everyone enjoyed a cider pairing dinner made with local ingredients from the farm and its neighbors.

FRIDAY

On Friday morning, the first winery stop of the day was Silver Thread Vineyard, a sustainable boutique winery that has one of the oldest vineyard sites on Seneca Lake. Owned by Shannon and Paul Brock since 2011, their premium-crafted, single vineyard Rieslings have been annually recognized by Wine Spectator as some of the best in the region. Guests then experienced a private Irish-inspired wine-pairing lunch at Suzanne Fine Regional Cuisine. On the eastern shore of Seneca Lake, Suzanne prides herself on local farm-to table Finger Lakes cuisine crafted at the most elegant level in the region. Following lunch the next visit was to Damiani Wine Cellars for a Sommelier-led wine tasting paired with locally-crafted chocolates. Damiani has an unparalleled dedication in the region to crafting quality red wines. They have received more accolades for their red wines than any other winery in the Finger Lakes. That evening, the WineGeese walked to Simeons Restaurant on Ithaca Commons for a specially-prepared dinner with wine pairings and Sommelier service.

SATURDAY

Saturday morning was an early start as the WineGeese headed to the Corning Museum of Glass. This is a world-renowned museum, home to the world's largest collection of glass, showcasing 3500 years of glass art and history. Here, everyone took part in glass blowing as they crafted their own pieces and enjoyed a tour of the museum highlighting some of the Irish pieces in the museum. Following lunch at the museum, it was back to the vineyards as the WineGeese visited Lakewood Vineyards for a private tasting. With over 80 acres of vines, they have cultivated amazing grapes for over three generations. That afternoon, a private sailing on Seneca Lake took place aboard the historic Schooner True Love. Built in 1926 as a racing sailboat, her beauty caught the eye of Hollywood. Her featured role came in High Society, where Bing Crosby serenades Grace Kelly with the song "True Love" aboard her actual deck.

Dinner on the last evening was at **Coltivare Farm** to **Bistro Culinary Center** where guests enjoyed a four-course demonstration dinner with regional Finger Lakes chef, **Brud Holland** in center's cooking amphitheater.

SUNDAY

On the final morning in the Finger Lakes, breakfast was al fresco and lake-side at The **Ithaca Farmers Market**. The last stop on the trip was a unique and special wine and port experience at **Ports of New York** where the group was met by owner **Frederic' Bouche** before returning to New York City.



The Ireland Funds GOLF

New Jersey Annual Golf Classic

October, 2018

Supporters gathered at Bayonne Golf Club for the 16th annual NJ Golf Classic. This year's honoree was Bob Garrett, New York Office Managing Partner, KPMG LLP. After a great brunch, The Ireland Funds America VP of Development, Pat Tully welcomed the guests, went over the rules for the day and sent the golfers out on to the challenging links of Bayonne. Later that evening, The Ireland Funds America Vice President of Development, Kyle Clifford, opened the formal dinner program, thanked the committee, co-chairs and sponsors and welcomed honoree Bob Garrett to the podium to accept his award. The Ireland Funds America Chairman, John Fitzpatrick, then addressed the supporters and announced that the event raised over \$250,000 for The Ireland Funds grant round. Pat Tully followed John with a spirited live auction including a VIP trip to the All-Ireland Football Final in Dublin in September 2019. Following the live auction, Ireland Funds America Chairman Emeritus, Loretta Brennan Glucksman thanked John Fitzpatrick and congratulated the committee on another successful NJ Golf Classic. Co-chairs, Pat Leahy and Matthew McBride then gave out the golf awards, with the winning team going to George Stoll and GMS partners with a -19 Net score. Special thanks to KPMG and Broadridge for sponsoring the event and to Ott Miller Chevrolet for sponsoring the hole-in-one prize.



The 2018 NJ Golf Classic Committee with Honoree, Bob Garrett Kyle Clifford, Anthony Callaghan, Eddie Dowling, Michael Higgins, Bob Garrett, John Fitzpatrick, Martin Kehoe, Angus Miller, Pat Leahy, Matthew McBride, George Stoll, Michael Hurley and Pat Tully



Kyle Clifford, Bob Garrett, John Fitzpatrick



Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Bob Garrett, Gerry Boyle

THE IRELAND

Gerry Cuddy, Michael Kelly.

17th Annual Philadelphia Golf Classic

October, 2018

The Philadelphia chapter hosted their 17th annual Philadelphia Golf Classic at Llanerch Country Club. After guests enjoyed breakfast and a morning on the driving range, they were welcomed by Vice President of Development Pat Tully who thanked the sponsors and donors and the golfers went out for a challenging day on the course. Later that evening, The Ireland Funds Vice President of Development, Kyle Clifford began the evening program by thanking the sponsors: Beneficial Bank, Duane Morris LLP, Icona Resorts and Sandler O'Neill. Kyle then introduced the honoree, the President and CEO of Beneficial Bank, Gerry Cuddy. Gerry thanked Kyle, the Co-Chairs Michael Gallagher, Matt Taylor, Sean Rooney and Pat Ward and The Ireland Funds and spoke warmly about all four of his grandparents emigrating from Ireland and how proud he was of not only being an Irish-American, but a "Delco Irish-American" (Delaware County, PA). Gerry then handed the mic over to Pat Tully who led the live auction with surprise special guest and Philadelphia native, actor Michael Kelly AKA Doug Stamper of Netflix hit series House of Cards. Pat auctioned off a private House of Cards viewing party in the highest bidder's home, hosted by Michael Kelly.



The Ireland Funds GOLF

Thank you, Kevin Curley

Ireland Benefits from 25 Years of the Shamrock Shootout

Twenty five years ago the Shamrock Shootout Golf Invitational was founded by Kevin Curley (an Ireland Funds America Board member) to support the Downtown Dallas St Patrick's Parade and its beneficiary the Ronald McDonald House. No suitable venue was available for the after party, so honoree John Gary, a former television host and Grammy nominee, along with famous actor Dale Roberson, entertained the golfers in the golf cart barn!

Kevin Curley (center) visits Cranmore Integrated Primary School.

Just one of the many organizations that has benefitted over the
years from the Shamrock Shootout









The Shamrock Shootout – 25 Years of Giving Back to Ireland and Beyond

From those humble beginnings the Shamrock Shootout has continued for 25 years and generated over \$1,500,000 in donations to its many beneficiaries including Safer Dallas, Housing Crises Center, Autism for Ireland, and many more. One Irish beneficiary the past 15 years has been the Cranmore Integrated school located in West Belfast, Northern Ireland. Prior to the support from the Shamrock Shootout, Integrated schools were little known in America. The Ireland Funds and many of its donors subsequently became great supporters of the Integrated Education movement which in the early days was focused on bringing Catholic and Protestant children together. Kevin has visited the school many times and his son Conor, a Young Leader, visited the school in 2018 to present a donation.

Through the individual support of Kevin Curley and the Shamrock Shootout, the Cranmore School build a Sensory Room for children on the autism spectrum. That was then complemented by the construction of a preschool facility named in honor of Kevin Curley and his family.

The focus of the Shamrock Shootout has always been to both fundraise and fun raise. Many of the golfers have known each other for over 30 years. A number of the Shamrock golfers have taken the time to travel to Belfast and visit the Cranmore School. Thus a wonderful long distance and long lasting relationship between Dallas and Belfast was established. Baroness Blood, a member of the House of Lords attended a dinner in her honor at the Curley estate to honor her long-standing support for Integrated Education.

The Shootout has been supported many of the leaders of the Dallas Irish community including Frank Dunigan, Dan O'Neal, Mike Buckley, Mike Corboy, Randy Greene, John and Joe Padian, Greg Boots, and Jim Sheets.

Another beneficiary was Safer Dallas, an organization that benefits the Dallas Police Department. Kevin's father is a retired member of the NYPD and supporting the Dallas Police Department was natural fit for the Shamrock Shootout

For Kevin it was a true family and friends affair. His dad Tom attended almost every Shamrock Shootout and son Conor managed the Shamrock Shootout pub, a cross roads pop up bar with food and drinks located right on the street leading into the golf course.

After 25 years the Shamrock Shootout is merging with The Ireland Funds Texas Irish American Golf Invitational. Kevin believes strongly in The Ireland Funds mission to support worthy charities on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and looks forward to continuing the cause.

As Kevin reflects on the past 25 years one quote from his Latin class stands out, Non Vox Sed Votum, "not words but deeds", says Kevin. "We started the Shamrock Shootout with the goal to provide concrete and substantial financial assistance to many deserving charities in Ireland, Northern Ireland and the USA, after 25 years we consider it mission accomplished."





The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society

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

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



Complimentary and discounted admission to exclusive Irish cultural and philanthropic events throughout the year

Invitation, and for preferred levels—discounted admission, to The Ireland Funds Conference in Ireland and complimentary admission to The Global Young Leaders Summit

Exclusive networking opportunities with global leaders in the fields of finance, government, the arts and technology







THE IRISH RUN THE WORLD

Global 5k · 22 September 2018

Sydney
Brisbane
Tokyo
Hong Kong
London
Belfast
Dublin
Toronto
Boston
New York
Washington DC
Philadelphia
Chicago

Dallas Los Angeles San Francisco

Melbourne

THE IRELAND FUNDS YOUNG LEADERS FIFTH ANNUAL GLOBAL 5K TOOK PLACE ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND 2018 IN 17 CITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

 $\cdots \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \cdots$

The race began in Brisbane, Australia and from there the baton was passed to Sydney, Melbourne, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Dublin, London, Belfast, New York, Boston, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Toronto, Dallas, Chicago, Los Angeles before the baton was finally handed over to San Francisco to mark the end of the race.

The Young Leaders in Melbourne were delighted to be joined by Irish Olympian, Sonia O'Sullivan. Sonia has been a great global ambassador for the run over the past 5 years. Sonia was joined by her daughter Sophie O'Sullivan, who enjoyed huge success at the European under-18 Athletics championships earlier in 2018.

With over 1,000 runners covering over 5000kms the event was a great success with proceeds from the worldwide run going to support worthy Irish charities across the island of Ireland and Irish causes around the world.

BRISBANE..



SYDNEY.



MELBOURNE



HONG KONG •



TOKYO.



DUBLIN



BELFAST



LONDON ··



NEW YORK · ·



BOSTON ·



PHILADELPHIA •







TORONTO...



DALLAS…



CHICAGO…



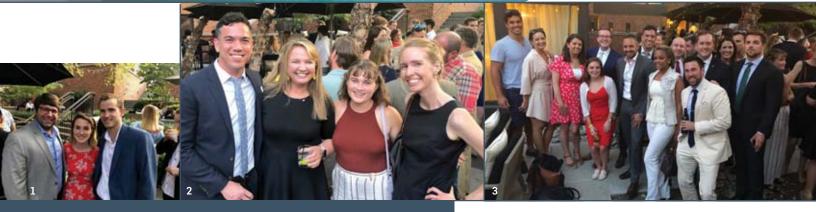
LOS ANGELES ••



SAN FRANCISCO • •







Washington DC Young Leaders Summer Social

JULY, 2018 The Washington DC Young Leaders gathered for their summer social, held at the Yard at the Ritz Carlton in Georgetown. It was a casual and enjoyable evening, of which the DC Young Leaders hope to host more in the coming year. Special thanks to Chair of the DC Young Leaders, John McCarthy and the host committee; Benny Johnson, Bobby Hamill, Charles Paret, Conor Gallagher, Eileen Blessinger, Elizabeth Murray, Eric Silva, Heather O'Shea, Hon. Andrew Platt, John McCarthy,

Kaitlin Schiele, Kaitlin Sullivan, Kevin Walling, Lauren Gaydos, Mary Kate Cunningham, Matt Hanrahan, Megan Cloherty, Megan Molloy, Nathan Smith, Phil Campbell, Reilly O'Connor, Riley Kilburg, Shane Greer and Trevor Falk.

- 1 Nate Smith, Ashley O'Sullivan, Conor Gallagher
- 2 Neil Grace, Heather O'Shea, Sarah Rooney, Guest
- 3 Young Leaders at the Ritz Carlton

Photos: John McCarthy and John McShane



Washington DC Leadership Forum with Ed O'Keefe

JULY, 2018 The Washington DC Young Leaders gathered at the Northern Ireland Bureau to hear from CBS Political Correspondent, Ed O'Keefe. Norman Houston, Director of the Northern Ireland Bureau opened the event by welcoming guests. John McCarthy, Chair of the DC Young Leaders, also welcomed guests and introduced Ed O'Keefe. Ed spoke of his Irish heritage, hailing from Cork and Kerry, his own personal career story and the perceptions of media today. It was a terrific opportunity for those gathered

to hear key insights from a veteran media figure in both print and broadcast. **Cliona Doyle,** Director of the Young Leaders, closed the program by thanking guests for coming and sharing updates on the work of The Ireland Funds and important role of the Young Leaders in supporting its mission.

- Young Leaders with Ed O'Keefe and Norman Houston
- 2 Ed O'Keefe, Elizabeth Murray
- 3 Christine Brennan, Bridget Brennan, Fiona Tomlin

 Photos: John McCarthy





Washington DC Halfway to St Patrick's Day

SEPTEMBER, 2018 The Washington, DC Young Leaders gathered for their annual Halfway to St. Patrick's Celebration kindly hosted by Entertainment Software Association (ESA). Chair of the DC Young Leaders, John McCarthy introduced the Honorees: Emmy Award-Winning actor Richard Schiff (Toby Ziegler on The West Wing & Dr. Glassman on The Good Doctor) who was presented with The Ireland Funds Irish Spirit Award and actor/activist Melissa Fitzgerald (Carol on The West Wing) who was recognized with The Ireland Funds Community Service Award for her work as Director of Advancing Justice Initiative. Special guests on the evening were Amb. Dan Mulhall, Ireland's Ambassador to the US; Norman Houston OBE, Director of The Northern Ireland Bureau and Congressional

Co-Chair, Congressman Brendan Boyle. Erik Huey, Senior VP of Government Affairs at ESA, kicked of the speaking program by welcoming everyone to Entertainment Software Association. Special thanks to the event committee, Chair of the DC Young Leaders, John McCarthy and sponsors: The Northern Ireland Bureau, Entertainment Software Association, the Dupont Circle Hotel, Toyota Alexandria and Murlarkey Distilled Spirits.

- Norman Houston, Jennifer Boyle, Congressman Brendan Boyle,
 Amb. Dan Mulhall, Erik Huey, Melissa Fitzgerald, Richard Schiff
- 2 John McCarthy, Melissa Fitzgerald, Richard Schiff
- 3 2018 DC Young Leaders Halfway to St Patrick's Day Committee
- 4 Matt Ogren, Mary Kate Cunningham, Nate Smith, Brittney Kohler, Trevor Falk

 Photos: Erika Lane



Washington DC Irish Halloween at the Irish Embassy

OCTOBER, 2018 The Ireland Funds Washington, DC Young Leaders gathered for their annual "Samhain" Irish Halloween at the Embassy of Ireland. Over 70 guests made their way to the Embassy to mark the occasion. Siobhan Miley officially welcomed the Young Leaders and thanked them for their support of the work of The Ireland Funds. Cliona Doyle, Director of Young Leaders and Special Projects at The Ireland Funds updated attendees on the latest news and projects supported by The Ireland Funds. DC Steering Committee

Chair, **John McCarthy**, encouraged those gathered to attend the upcoming Young Leaders Summit taking place in January, 2019 in New York City. He also thanked the Young Leaders for their recent support of the Washington DC Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

- 1 Ellen Feeney, Kathleen Feeney, Carissa & John Gaine
- 2 John McCarthy, Chris Hale, Heather O'Shea
- 3 Pat & Alison Martin

Photos: Erika Lane



New York Young Leaders Summer in the City

JULY, 2018 The New York Young Leaders gathered for their annual summer fundraiser, Summer in The City. The event took place at Haven Rooftop at the Sanctuary Hotel and was attended by Young Leaders and friends of The Ireland Funds, including many new faces. Cliona Doyle, Director of the Young Leaders and Special Projects, welcomed guests and thanked them for coming and supporting the work of The Ireland Funds. Pat Tully, Vice President of Development, then conducted an energetic live auction which included an owner's experience with West Point Thoroughbreds and an

upcoming trip to The Ireland Funds Monaco Weekend Celebration in October. It was a terrific opportunity to enjoy a summer evening while learning more about the work of The Ireland Funds. Special thanks to event sponsors; **Delta Airlines, West Point Thoroughbreds, Jameson** and **AnyExcuse**.

- 1 Kristina Conley, Ian Casey, Kerri Rauchbauch, Kaylee Conley
- 2 Shannon O'Connor, Kaitlin O'Riely, Mary O'Connor, Megan O'Connor
- 3 Guest, Amy Coghlan, Niall McArdle, Barry Field

Photos: James Higgins



New York Young Leaders Celtic Christmas Celebration

DECEMBER, 2018 The New York Young Leaders gathered for their annual Celtic Christmas tradition at **Cromptons Ale House** in Chelsea to celebrate a great year and recognize our New York Young Leader of the Year, **Sinead Faughnan**. As guests arrived, they enjoyed some great Irish music by the **Basket House Band**. Director of Young Leaders and Special Projects, **Cliona Doyle** welcomed guests. She thanked those gathered for another successful year for the New York Young Leaders and spoke of the 2019 plans including the 2019 St. Patrick's Day event which will be Co-Chaired by **Conor McCoy**, **Patrick Murphy** and **Allison Kehoe**. 2017 Young Leader of the Year,

Dan Flynn introduced 2018 New York Young Leader of the Year, **Sinead Faughnan**. Dan spoke of Sinead's Irish family and her commitment to The Ireland Funds throughout 2018, making her a truly deserving honoree. Pat Tully then led a spirited live auction which included tickets to **Watch What Happens Live** with **Andy Cohen**, a VIP Evening to see the **New York Rangers** and a trip to Ireland. Special thanks to **AnyExcuse** and **Jameson** as the evening's sponsors.

- 1 Helen Comerford, Sinead Faughnan, Ann Murtagh, Suzanne O'Sullivan
- Ashelv & Dan Healy, Sinead Faughnan, Stephen Faughnan
- 3 Sinead Faughnan, John Fitzpatrick

Photos: James Higgins





Boston Young Leaders Christmas Social

Public House to celebrate the holidays, toast the many successes and fundraising records of 2018, and talk about what's in store for 2019. The festive venue and spirited group made for another terrific opportunity to thank all those who helped to make 2018 another memorable year for Boston's Young Leaders. **Steve Greeley**, New England Director of The Ireland Funds, thanked all those gathered for their continued support of The Ireland Funds and positive involvement throughout the year and congratulated some Young Leaders newlyweds and expectant couples. He then recognized the Boston 5K Co-Chairs **Sean Hannigan** and **John Flaherty** and their Commit-

tee for delivering a record-breaking turnout for The Irish Run the World 5K in September and announced the date of the upcoming Young Leaders St. Patrick's Celebration on March 14, 2019. Steve concluded in noting the impact Ireland Funds' Young Leaders are having on many charities in Ireland. Thank you to the Christmas Social Committee for gathering another enthusiastic group to close out the year!

- 1 Mike Halloran, Kevin Schaeffer, Jack Greeley, Jay Driscoll, Patrick Burek, Tommy Greeley, Taylor Burek
- 2 Rory Cohoon, Shannon McAllister, Zaidee & Matt Gaughan, Aengus McAllister
- 3 Holly Foster, Mary Kate Cruise, Rachel Hayes
 - Connor Smith, Matthew Murphy

Photos: Gerald Kahari

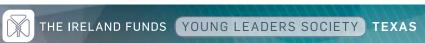


Cocktails and Camaraderie

AUGUST, 2018 The Ireland Funds Chicago Young Leaders gathered at Bar Cargo, River North's new restaurant for a fun evening meeting new friends and greeting old ones. The Young Leaders Chair and Co-Chair, Abbey Canning and James Keeley, welcomed the group; encouraged people to join or renew their Young Leaders Society memberships and invited all to attend the upcoming 34th Annual Chicago Dinner Gala to be held in November honoring Thomas Meagher, Jr., Gerald Beeson and Medtronic. In addition to enjoying a beautiful summer night with other Young Leaders, guests were

also encouraged by the Chicago Global 5k Co-Chairs-Quinn McCarthy, Dan O'Keefe and Kathleen Weber, to take part in the upcoming race, The Irish Run the World which was held in September.

- 1 Guest, Kathleen Weber, Nick Parrish, Bridget Monahan, Andrew Hartford, Dan O'Keefe, Quinn McCarthy
- 2 Guest, Nick Parrish, James Keeley, Andrew Hartford, Abbey Canning, Dan O'Keefe, Jack O'Meara, Quinn McCarthy / Front Row: Kathleen Weber, Hannah Stewart, Maddy Lynch
- 3 Jack Walsh, Maddy Lynch, Matt Gebert





Texas Young Leaders Fall Gathering

NOVEMBER, 2018 The Texas Chapter of The Ireland Funds Young Leaders Society gathered at **Kincaid Stringer'**s beautiful home where his sister, **Arden**, welcomed those gathered with delicious appetizers. There were long-time friends and new friends in attendance – all interested in networking with each other and learning about The Ireland Funds' upcoming events. There was a special tasting of **Bertha's Revenge**, a new Irish distilled milk gin

from **Ballyvolane House** in **Co. Cork**. Director **Darina Padian** promoted the Texas Emerald Ball coming up in March of 2019; as well as the Global Young Leaders Summit taking place in New York in January, 2019.

- 1 Arden Stringer, Valerie McDonough
- 2 Kincaid Stringer, Andy Wirtner

DUBLIN YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY



Dublin Global Leadership Series with Annalise Murphy

NOVEMBER, 2018 On a wet and blustery November morning, the Dublin Young Leaders turned out in numbers to hear from Olympic sailor **Annalise Murphy**. Annalise, a silver medal winner in the **2016 Rio Olympics**, European champion, and World Cup medal winner, wowed the Young Leaders with her story of sheer determination, grit, and resilience. She spoke of the challenges she experienced in the **London Olympics**, how they powered her to success in the Rio Olympics, and helped her to compete in the difficult nine-month **Volvo Ocean Race**. Annalise was an inspiration to the Young Leaders as she

encouraged them to pursue goals, and to tackle adversity head-on. The Dublin Young Leaders will certainly be cheering her on in the **Tokyo 2020 Olympics**. Many thanks to Annalise for taking the time to speak to the Young Leaders and to our kind host **KPMG Dublin**.

- 1 Young Leaders meet with Annalise Murphy
- 2 Annalise Murphy

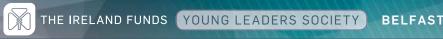


Dublin Young Leaders Visit to Men's Sheds

DECEMBER, 2018 To mark the beginning of the season of goodwill, the Dublin Young Leaders visited the **Kilcock Branch of the Men's Sheds Association**. The Young Leaders were greeted with exceptional warmth by the men of the Kilcock shed. A fire was lit, the kettle was on, and the tin of biscuits was open. The Young Leaders and the men chatted and toured the shed, including their gardens, woodwork room and the planting tunnel. As an additional surprise, they were treated to a song written and sung by the men themselves. The Young Leaders were incredibly

impressed by the space and the individual stories of its members on how it is rejuvenating and keeping them from isolation. The Dublin Young leaders created a video of the day, so they could share the experience with their fellow Young Leaders at the Summit in New York in January, 2019.

1, 2, 3 The Dublin Young Leaders and members of the Kilcock Men's Shed





Belfast Global Leadership Series with Pete Boyle

NOVEMBER, 2018 From his beginnings as a street trader to CEO and founder of the **Argento Jewellery** empire with 31 stores, and 450 staff, Pete Boyle has done things his way. He is a true entrepreneur, who learned quickly to iterate and pivot his businesses direction to meet the market. His advice to the Belfast Young Leaders, delivered in a compelling and witty tale, was of the value of hard work and sheer determination. After his talk there was a steady queue of Young Leaders asking Pete for commercial advice, which he kindly readily gave. Thanks to Pete and to our kind host, **Glandore Networks**.

1, 2 Pete Boyle meets with the Belfast Young Leaders

Photos: Neil Harrison



Belfast Young Leaders Annual Thanksgiving Celebration

NOVEMBER, 2018 The third annual Belfast Thanksgiving Celebration took place in the sublime Michelin-starred restaurant Ox with special guests, celebrated actor, James Nesbitt and Founder of Children in Crossfire, Richard Moore. Richard spoke of his past, the work of Children in Crossfire, and in particular the Educating the Heart programme, supported by The Ireland Funds. He passionately spoke of the necessity to educate our next generation on all fronts, and specifically on how to have and practice empathy and compassion. James Nesbitt, celebrated actor and Chancellor of Ulster University, spoke about the importance to him of identifying as Northern Irish,

and how immensely proud he is of that. He spoke of the past, and the need to create a future, while noting the work of The Ireland Funds is invaluable in shaping that future in Belfast and beyond. It was an evening to give thanks, and **Emma Hunt**, Belfast steering committee member, concluded the evening by thanking the committee for all their hard work during the year.

- 1 Richard Willis, James Nesbitt, Emma Hunt, Siobhán Gallagher, Conor Houston, Gareth Quinn
- 2 James Nesbitt, Richard Moore, Caroline Murphy
 - The Belfast Young Leaders

Photos: Neil Harrison

GREAT BRITAIN

YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY





Great Britain Global Leadership Series with Angela Brady OBE

NOVEMBER, 2018 Against the stunning backdrop of the city of London from the offices of our host **DWF LLP** on the 31st floor of 30 Fenchurch Street, **Angela Brady** OBE educated and entertained the London Young Leaders with her talk in the Global Leadership Series. Angela gave her top ten lessons for life and challenged the London Young Leaders to learn to campaign, promote equality, be leaders, meet new people, collaborate, be charitable, and to

always be creative in their approach to life. It was a mesmerizing talk and the audience was captivated by Angela's success and how simple she made it seem.

- 1 Catherina Casey, Tom Mungovern, Angela Brady OBE, Siobhán Gallagher
- 2 Sinead Ryan and Guest
- 3 Guest, Catherina Casey, Cathy Tennyson, Cathy Basquel

JAPAN YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY



THE IRELAND FUNDS



Japan Global Leadership Series with Dr. Greg Story

JULY, 2018 The Ireland Funds Japan held their inaugural Young Leaders Global Leadership Series at Pembroke's offices in the beautifully designed Tri-Seven Roppongi building in Tokyo. Dr. Greg Story, President of Dale Carnegie and #1 best-selling author of Japan Sales Mastery on Amazon spoke to a group of 20 professionals on The Future of Leadership in Japan. Greg spoke about how leading teams in Japan has always been challenging and it is about to get a lot worse in the current shrinking domestic market. The group had a lively question and answer session where Greg shared some more insights he has gained throughout his career moving from the academic world,

to consulting, investments, trade representation, international diplomacy, retail banking and now people development.

- 1 (in window) Matthew Connolly, Gordon Hatton, (head of table) Greg Story, (table facing) Jamie Curtis, Jonathan Patchell, Conor Canavan, Fiachra Martin, Eamonn Murphy, (table facing away) Paul Nugent, Ayumi Miyano, Brendan Jennings, Lauren Kerr
- 2 Emmett Duffy, Greg Story
- 3 (in window) Matthew Connolly, Gordon Hatton, (head of table) Dr Greg Story, (table facing) Jamie Curtis, Jonathan Patchell, Conor Canavan, Fiachra Martin, Eamonn Murphy, (table facing away) Paul Nugent, Ayumi Miyano, Brendan Jennings, Lauren Kerr, (table end) Sayo Kuroda, Teppei Serizawa, Lorcan Brophy, Stephen Dempsey, Emmett Duffy, Mari Ozaki



Melbourne Young Leaders Carvery & Craic

JULY, 2018 On a sunny Sunday afternoon, attendees made their way to **Ludlow Bar** in Melbourne's Southbank precinct for the Melbourne Young Leaders' mid-winter Carvery & Craic event. Just before the delicious roast was served, Young Leader **Rob Loughnane** welcomed everyone on behalf of the Committee, delighted to see old friends and new faces. After lunch, Young Leader **Nóirín McKeon** spoke to the crowd, explaining the long history and achievements of The Ireland Funds, giving special mention to the Young

Leaders' chosen projects for 2018, namely **Suas** and the **GO Foundation**. Guests enjoyed the rest of the afternoon with festive spirit and plenty of craic.

- 1 Laura O'Sullivan, Sabrina Assigall
- Noirin McKeon, Robert Loughnane, Laura O'Sullivan
- 3 Alina Fiona Lee, Nigel Jackson, Margaret Burton, Toni Coppollilo, Barbara O' Donnell



Sydney Young Leaders Annual Corporate Breakfast

OCTOBER, 2018 With a fantastic city-center venue at LinkedIn Sydney, guests heard from four leaders within the tech sector giving their thoughts on the theme: "Technology as a force for change or chaos". Guests included Grainne Kearns, CIO at Lion, Fiona Bones, Senior Finance Director at Google, Paul McCrory, Group Industry Director, Facebook and Letrecia Tippett, Head of Sales Solutions (ANZ) at LinkedIn. Our panelists were generous with their time and their insights, taking us through the journey to their current roles and giving a real insider's perspective on working within these respected technology giants. After the event attendees were treated to some

expert advice on how to maximize their LinkedIn profiles, by a team of LinkedIn volunteers who answered a range of questions and provided some great tips. Thanks to our panelists, all attendees, and sponsors **LinkedIn** and **Lifestyle Solutions**.

- 1 Paul McCrory, Letrecia Tippett, Fiona Bones, Grainne Kearns
- 2 Sydney Young Leaders Committee with the panel
- 3 The panel presents





- 1 Gavan Duffy, Paul Taylor, Tony Griffin
- 2 Adrian Hanley, Louise Lysaght, Libby Bourke
- Robert Loughnane, Chris Moloughney, Karen Crofton, Tas Osianlis



Melbourne Young Leaders Soar into Better Health and Wellbeing

DECEMBER, 2018 The Melbourne Young Leaders delved into health and wellness with a panel of experts, featuring **Tony Griffin** from **Soar, Gavan Duffy** from **Movember** and **Paul Taylor** from the **Body-Brain Performance Institute**, providing guests with inspiration and insights to take home. Soar is a collective movement which delivers early intervention-preventative, wellness workshops to help young people fulfil their true potential and has worked with more than 30,000 young people in Ireland. Soar founder Tony Griffin said his foundation wouldn't exist if it wasn't for the support of The Ireland Funds.

The Ireland Funds Australia has contributed more than \$185,000 in grants to Soar between 2015 and 2018. Griffin said the foundation's new program for teenage girls was a direct result of this funding. The 'Stripped' program provides a space where girls can explore their identity and challenge the status quo of female stereotypes and societal expectations. The event, kindly hosted by **Deloitte**, was an opportunity to say thank you to all those who supported the Ireland Funds Australia events during 2018.



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Texas Appreciation Reception

September, 2018 The Ireland Funds hosted an Appreciation Reception at The Fairmont Hotel Dallas to thank and publicly acknowledge supporters and friends of The Ireland Funds. John Fitzpatrick, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America, expressed his gratitude for the support and encouragement guests graciously offered throughout the past two decades. He then introduced Darina Padian, the new Texas Director, who acknowledged past and current board members, chairs, committee members and loyal volunteers who have generously given of themselves to help The Ireland Funds succeed in Texas and beyond. Darina announced the dates of the upcoming 2019 fundraising events: the Texas Emerald Ball, Saturday, March 9 and the 21st Texas Irish American Cup Challenge, Monday, May 13. American Airlines' Scott Sirianni,

VP of Regional Sales, took the opportunity to announce plans for American Airlines to start a seasonal direct flight from Dallas to Dublin beginning June 6, 2019. The program ended with John Tillotson, long-time supporter and Chair of the 2019 Texas Irish American Cup Challenge, generating excitement for the upcoming golf tournament and its new location at TPC Four Seasons Las Colinas. It was an extraordinary coming-together of friends old and new to celebrate the philanthropic impact the Texas chapter had made for Ireland and beyond. The commitment to The Ireland Funds' mission was renewed as those attending looked forward to a fresh roster of events and the bright future of The Ireland Funds in Texas.



Ann Levell

Richard & Michelle Anderson, Linda & Tom McCarthy, Barbara & Ed Garahan Cliff Miercourt, Darina Padian, Maureen Kelly Cooper, Debbi Tierney Webb Photos: Can Turkyilmaz



Nantucket Celebration

July, 2018 The Ireland Funds welcomed over 160 supporters and friends to its 29th annual Nantucket Celebration hosted by Bill & Beth Scannell. Despite a good dose of wet Irish weather, the party went on and guests were welcomed into a beautiful backyard tent. The night had new and old friends enjoying the Scannell's hospitality in the ambience of their beautiful summer home. Steve Greeley, The Ireland Funds' New England Director and Vice President of Development, welcomed all who attended and thanked the event Chairmen Bob & Laura Reynolds, Bob & Paula Butler, and George Albrecht. He also thanked the guests for their generosity, and National Board Directors Ambassador Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Anne Finucane, Leslie King Grenier, Jack Manning, Bill McKiernan and Bob Reynolds for their leadership and

service as members of the Board. Steve then introduced hosts Bill & Beth Scannell who welcomed the crowd to their home. The Ireland Funds America National Board Director **Anne Finucane** introduced the event's Honorees: **Bart Grenier** & Leslie King Grenier. Anne lauded Bart and Leslie for their ongoing support of The Ireland Funds' mission. Leslie then thanked Anne on their behalf and spoke to those gathered saying, "It has succeeded beyond our wildest dreams...so many amazing personalities who have attended and supported this event. During my years at The Ireland Funds I have met Princes, Presidents, Princesses, movie stars and moguls...but the most important thing to me is that The Ireland Funds is and will always be, a family."

- 1 Summer home of Bill & Beth Scannell
- 2 Bob Reynolds, Beth Scannell, Laura Reynolds, Bill Scannell
- John Heaps, Liz Mcdermott, Ben Barnes, Jim Geraghty
- 4 Liam Burbage, Susan Burbage, Cole Burbage

Photos: Cary Tozer Photography

Boston Irish Night on Cape Cod

July, 2018 The Ireland Funds held its ninth annual Irish Night on Cape Cod on the Ocean Terrace at Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club in Brewster, MA. The Ireland Funds America National Board Director and longtime supporter Joe Corcoran and his family were once again the gracious hosts at their resort to over 170 supporters of The Ireland Funds. The setting of the beautiful Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club, with its panoramic vistas of Cape Cod Bay stretching from Sandwich to Provincetown, provided the perfect setting. The Cape-famous hors d'oeuvres and raw bar of Ocean Edge coupled with Corcoran hospitality made for a special night. In keeping with tradition, the Celebration continued well past sundown. The Ireland Funds' New England Director and VP of Development Steve Greeley thanked everyone gathered. He spoke about the strong Irish bond shared by those present and The Ireland Funds' long tradition of nurturing that bond while delivering real support to so many vital Irish nonprofit projects. On behalf of Joe Corcoran and his family, Suzanne Corcoran extended a warm welcome and spoke of the long friendship between the Corcoran family and The Ireland Funds' family. The event's Chairs Tom & Gina Flannery, Kevin & Rita Gill, and Ed & Jenn Murphy led a hard-charging Committee who delivered a most successful night. Committee Members included: Jack & Trish Brennan, Jay Calnan, Kip & Peggy Condron, Joe Corcoran, John & Kathy Drew, Sean & Cheryl Farley, Ryan & Maura Fitzpatrick, Jay & Linda Hooley, John & Tracee Hynes, Jim & Mary Judge, Paul Kingston, Andrew & Amanda Maher, Tom & Shelly O'Neill, Matt & Margaret Power, Scott & Nancy Powers and Paul & Mary Beth Sandman.

- Irish Night on Cape Cod Event Committee
- Joe Corcoran, Mike Corcoran
- Amanda & Andrew Maher
- Tyler O'Neill, Haley Brown, Carolyn Jepsen, John Drew, Helene Drew, Katherine & Brian Cingel Photos: Sandie Allen



Boston Gala

November 2018 850 guests gathered for The Ireland Funds' 37th Annual Boston Gala at the Westin Boston Waterfront. Over \$2.2 million was raised to support non-profit organizations across the island of Ireland and around the world. The Annual Boston Gala is one of the largest of The Ireland Funds' 150+ international events. The 2018 Boston Gala was chaired by Roger W. Crandall, Chairman, President & CEO of MassMutual. Vice Chairs of the event were Amy Koch Flynn, CEO of xBK LLC and James J. Murren, Chairman and CEO of MGM Resorts International. The Gala honored Auveen Bell, Co-founder and CEO of Blossom Ireland, an organization providing life and social skills programs for children with intellectual disabilities. Steve Greeley, Vice President of Development and New England Director of The Ireland Funds America welcomed the audience of donors and guests and introduced Monsignor Liam Bergin, who gave the invocation. Roger Crandall asked the Boston Gala Committee members to stand and be recognized. John Fitzpatrick, Chairman of the Ireland Funds America, thanked the Co-Chairmen, the Committee, and spoke of the roots of his involvement with The Ireland

Funds as it guided his personal philanthropy. After dinner, Caitriona Fottrell, acting-CEO of The Ireland Funds spoke of the historic role Boston has always played in The Ireland Funds' development and a primary source of funding for Irish non-profits. Honoree, Auveen Bell, spoke of being inspired by her own child's challenges to establish Blossom Ireland to serve the development needs of children and teenagers with intellectual disabilities. She thanked The Ireland Funds for its support of her organization and thanked all of those gathered for their commitment to the work of The Ireland Funds and earned a warm and sustained standing ovation from the audience. Always an Ireland Funds Boston Gala tradition, 16-year old Hanna Matthews accompanied by musical director Richard Travers, sang her rendition of "Rare Auld Times", Auveen Bell's favorite Irish song, and was rewarded with the second rousing standing ovation of the evening. Steve Greeley closed the evening by expressing The Ireland Funds' deep appreciation to its donors, guests and Honoree and encouraged everyone to join popular local Irish band Devri for the post-Gala celebration.



BOSTON

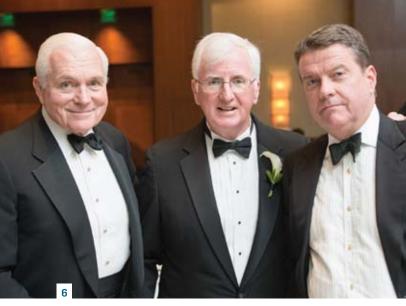




















- Back Row: Tony Bell, Mike Mathis, Monsignor Liam Bergin, John Fitzpatrick, Steve Greeley, Jim Murren, Miceal Chamberlain Front Row: Auveen Bell, Kiki Walker, Roger Crandall, Jan Greeley, Shelby Chamberlain
- 2 Roger Crandall, Bob Reynolds
- Tom Byrne, Rob Mahoney, Mike & Julie Mahoney, Mary Beth Moynihan, Jenny Lee, Steve & Edith Gardner

- 4 Jim Nolan, KC & Andy Arnott 5 Steve Flynn & Amy Koch Flynn 6 Dennis Burns, Steve Greeley, Colm Kelleher
- John & Sandra Farina, Mary & Jim Judge
- 8 Back Row: Michael Corcoran, Colin Egan, Richard & Claire Fullam, Mari Corcoran Front Row: Dennis & Suzanne Early, Joe Corcoran, Tricia Chapple, Linda Corcoran

 Marianne & Dave Harrison

 Auveen Bell, Miceal Chamberlain
- 11 Jim Murren, Dick Connolly, Bob Popeo
- 12 Nat Evarts, Chris Rice, Kerrie & Jim Coughlin,
- Terrence Faherty 13 Mary Rolman, Declan Lee, Darren Donovan,
- Carrie Casciani, Vince Raso 14 Roger Crandall, Steve Greeley, John Fitzpatrick, Mike Roberge
- 15 Steve Burbage, Mark Lund
 - Photos: Sandie Allen and Maura Wayman

San Francisco Women in Leadership Luncheon

November 2018 Sarah Friar, former CFO at Square and now CEO of Nextdoor, was the Honorary Speaker at the Women in Leadership Luncheon. The event was attended by over 400 guests at the Four Seasons Hotel and included an interview with Janet Reilly, former broadcaster and co-owner of the Nob Hill Gazette. Presenting Sponsor of the Luncheon was Goldman Sachs. Honorary Chairs of the event were Maureen O'Brien Sullivan, Erin Doyle Ebeling and EJ Tracy and guests were welcomed by Ireland Funds VP Marjorie Muldowney. The Luncheon was attended by The Ireland Funds America Board Director Bart Murphy, Consul General Robert O'Driscoll, and San Francisco Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White. Other VIP guests included Colin & Nikki Ryan, Victoria & Vijay Culas of Matthews South, Carl Kawaja of Capital Group, Meagan Levitan, John O'Farrell of Andreesen Horowitz, and members of the leadership teams at American Express, Mastercard, Slack and Visa. The event was generously supported by Eileen Moore, Elizabeth

Ferrari, First Republic Bank, HouseCanary, Hudson Pacific Properties, Marqeta, Alice Phelan Sullivan Corporation and Kathleen Ryan, along with Jeannie Sangiacomo, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, UCSF Medical Center and Walmart. Other top supporters included Nextdoor, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, Eileen D'Arcy, Sally Ann Flood, Friends of Sarah Friar at Spark, Friends of St. Philip's School, Hood & Strong LLP, INBA, Helen Hartnett of the ITLG, KPMG, Ginny Kavanaugh, Orla MacLean, McKinsey, Cinta Murphy of Cinta Salon, Ann Papale & Mary Driscoll Toboni. Sincere thanks to Mary Hunt, Suzi Tinsley, Cushman & Wakefield and Eventbrite for their generosity. Special thanks to our Drawing sponsors: The Merrion Hotel, Dromoland Castle, and Sheen Falls Lodge Hotel. Other sponsors included Neiman Marcus, Cinta Salon, MoMo's Restaurant, Fitzpatrick Hotel Group, Butler's Irish Chocolates, and the Four Seasons Hotel.



SAN FRANCISCO



















- Sarah Friar
 Sarah Friar, Janet Reilly
 Bart Murphy, Colin & Nikki Ryan
- Sarah Friar, Cotin & Nikki Ryan
 Victoria & Vijay Culas,
 Sarah Friar, Chris Ericksen
 Marjorie Muldowney, Sarah Friar
 Anre Williams, Sarah Friar,
 Colin Ryan, Tyler Vaughey
 Madeline Moore, Theresa Moore
 Nabali Macare, Terriki Macare,

- Natalie Moore, Emily Moore, Erin Akel
 Nirav Tolia, Sarah Leary, David Riley, Sarah Friar
 Katie McMahon,
 - Marjorie Muldowney, Yvonne French, Helen Hartnett
- 11 Bart Murphy, Joanne Hayes-White

Photos: Elaine Lee Photography

Los Angeles Beach Party

September, 2018 The Ireland Funds America Board Director Harry Hartford and his wife Susan hosted The Beach Party at one of Los Angeles most stylish venues, The Beach Club in Santa Monica. This exclusive spot enjoys a fabulous setting on the sand, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The cocktail hour was abuzz with over 100 guests mingling and enjoying live music during a welcome reception on the terrace before dinner. It was wonderful to see so many families together, catching up with stories of summer fun, while children enjoyed crafts and a special magic show performance. It was also an opportunity for supporters to hear more about the work of The Ireland Funds and upcoming events. It was most pleasing to see so many new faces join the growing group

of supporters in Los Angeles. Before dinner, the Hartfords were welcomed by The Ireland Funds America VP for Development, Jonathan Loughran. They were joined by San Francisco-based VP for Development Marjorie Muldowney and Los Angeles Regional Advisory Committee members, Peter Culhane, Alan Hearty, Kaitlyn Kyle, and Conor Shalloe. Longtime supporters of The Ireland Funds included Adrienne Fontanella, Michele Shalloe, Anne Murphy and the Tuohy family. From the world of entertainment, we were joined by Vice Media's Niall Cooney, Olivia Tracey as well as Vanessa & Greg Schwenk of the Newport Beach Film Festival. Special thanks to Susan and Harry Hartford for a marvelous evening!





Los Angeles Leadership Series Luncheon for Ambassador Mulhall

October, 2018 The Ireland Funds hosted a special Leadership Series Luncheon to welcome back H.E. Dan Mulhall and his wife Greta to Los Angeles, as well as Consul General to the Western United States Robert O'Driscoll and his wife Caoimhe Ní Chonchoille. The Ireland Funds VP Jonathan Loughran greeted the guests which included long-time supporters of The Ireland Funds as well as several new friends. H.E. Dan Mulhall addressed the group on the ongoing political impasse in Northern Ireland along with the Irish Government's stance on Brexit and discussed the importance of The Ireland Funds and its genesis to help bring peace to the island of Ireland. He emphasized the role of Irish America in advancing Ireland's interests and engaged in an enlightening group discussion with guests, including the con-

firmation that Los Angeles will have its own Consulate of Ireland in 2019 with the appointment of a new Consul General and Vice Consul General. The lunch was attended by Marjorie Muldowney, The Ireland Funds VP along with National Board Director Harry Hartford, members of the LA Regional Advisory Committee Alan Hearty, Drew Buckley and Mark Mullen, supporters of The Ireland Funds, and many of Los Angeles' business and cultural leaders such as award-winning actress and producer Roma Downey, and actress, philanthropist and entrepreneur Danielle Ryan. We were particularly pleased to have Gavin O'Reilly, son of The Ireland Funds co-founder Sir Anthony O'Reilly, also in attendance.

- 1 Jonathan Loughran, Roma Downey, Amb. Mulhall
- 2 Roma Downey, Amb. Mulhall, Greta Mulhall, Harry Hartford
- 3 Consul General Robert O'Driscoll, Michael Feeley
- Danielle Ryan, Jonathan Loughran, Roma Downey.
 Amb. Mulhall, Greta Mulhall

Photos: Elaine Lee



Chicago Regional Advisory Committee Dinner

July, 2018 The Ireland Funds Chicago Regional Advisory Committee hosted its 2018 Chicago Dinner Kick Off Event and Summer Gathering. It was a unique, private dinner held at The Richard H. Driehaus Museum. The evening began with a meeting led by Committee Chair, Michael O'Halleran. Co-Chair, Devon Bruce, spoke about the recently concluded Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference. He reflected that one is able to best experience the impact of The Ireland Funds by attending the annual event and interacting with projects and initiatives, first-hand. He also spoke about the opportunity to meet with fellow colleagues from 12 different countries. He encouraged all to attend in 2019 to experience the impact of The Ireland Funds. It was a lovely evening of camaraderie and the committee was imbued with a renewed commitment to the dinner knowing its importance to the life of The Ireland Funds and its ability to positively impact so many worthy causes.

- Karen and Mick O'Rourke, Eamonn Byrne and Consul General Brian O'Brien
- 2 Marianne O'Shea, Michael O'Halleran, Yvonne Derrig
- 3 John and Susan Gibbons, Terry Brady, Bob and Deb Lanigan, Cindy Brady

34th Annual Chicago Dinner

November, 2018 Over 500 friends of Ireland gathered to celebrate The Ireland Funds 34th Annual Chicago Dinner Gala held at the Four Seasons Chicago. John Fitzpatrick, Chairman of The Ireland Funds America and Kyle Clifford, Vice President of Development of The Ireland Funds America, spoke about the mission and impact of The Ireland Funds' work with hundreds of charitable causes and thanked the supporters of the dinner. The Ireland Funds 2018 Corporate Social Responsibility Award was presented to Medtronic. Medtronic chose The Ireland Funds as one of their philanthropic partners and have supported a diverse range of organizations across Ireland that provide services for those with dementia and Alzheimer's; increase access to healthcare; promote women's' leadership initiatives and advance climate justice. Liz Lund, the Global Philanthropy Strategic Operations Director of Medtronic accepted the award. Michael O'Halleran, Chairman of The Ireland Funds Chicago Regional Advisory Committee, then presented The Ireland Funds 2018

Leadership Award to Mr. **Gerald Beeson**, COO of **Citadel**. The Ireland Funds Leadership Award is presented annually to a visionary leader and philanthropist whose individual excellence is demonstrated by outstanding initiative, impact of work, and inspiration to others. The final award of the evening—an inaugural award—was **The Ireland Funds 2018 Chairman's Award**. It was presented to **Thomas F. Meagher**, **Jr**. by his wife **Diane** who spoke of his tireless commitment to The Ireland Funds. Tom joined the leadership of the Ireland Funds Chicago in 2006, established the Regional Advisory Committee and served as its Chair for ten years. Tom also established the Young Leaders presence in Chicago and led Chicago to be one of the fastest growing chapters in The Ireland Funds. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of The Ireland Funds America. The outcome of the night was outstanding. It was the most financially successful dinner in the event's 34-year history ensuring initiatives and projects would receive the critical financial support.



- 7
- 1 Thomas E. O'Neill,
- Avis Jason, Kyle Clifford 2 Tom Meagher, Mayor Rahm
- Emanuel, Diane Meagher
- 3 Ed Luce, Niamh King
- 4 John Fitzpatrick, Sean Conroy
- 5 Michael Sacks
- 6 Harry and Andrew Hartford7 Michael O'Halleran, Gerald Beeson,
- John Fitzpatrick, Kyle Clifford 8 Tom O'Neill, Ann David,
- Kenzie Ungar, Tom O'Neill, Jr.

Photos: Dean Battaglia

The Ireland Funds Inaugural Flagship Awardee Dinner

November, 2018 The Ireland Funds inaugural Flagship Awardee Dinner took place in the wonderful surroundings of The Little Museum of Dublin. The event marked the announcement of Flagship funding totaling €465,000 over two years for six wonderful organizations: The Abbey Theatre, Children in Crossfire, CyberSafeIreland, Dogs for the Disabled, Sensational Kids and the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities. The Ireland Funds Chairman Alan Foy, welcomed the 60 guests and members from each Flagship organization. He spoke about the importance of the work of The Ireland Funds and thanked its Corporate Partners and Board Directors for their dedication and involvement, particularly Caroline Kennedy and Shaun Murphy who sat on the judging panel during the Flagship finale presentation day in September. Caitriona Fottrell, Director Ireland, thanked guests for their continued sup-

port before describing the wonderful work undertaken by each organization during the competitive selection process, where 283 applications were whittled down to six Flagship Awardees. Throughout the course of the evening, Caitriona introduced each organization and invited a representative to speak about the importance and impact of their work. Guests included Ireland Funds Board Directors: Jim Barry, Alan Foy, Tommy Gallagher, Caroline Kennedy, Brendan McDonagh, Shaun Murphy, Mary McAleese, Gary McGann, Trevor Ringland, Peter Rooney and Gerard Ryan. Also in attendance were The Ireland Funds America Chairman John Fitzpatrick, Chairman Emeritus Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Chair of The Ireland Funds Great Britain Rory Godson, Paul Carroll of Cpl, and members of the Young Leaders Dublin and Belfast steering committees.









- Kate Falconer
- Henry & Betty Au. Donal Boylan
- Sally & Malcolm Begbie, Donal Boylan
- David Costello, The Crossroads Foundation team, Donal Boylan
- 5 Ben Cooper, David Begbie, Abby & Derek Kenny, Jay Primo Solmiano
- Andrew Chung with the Compass Offices & Plum Foods team
- Bharat Ahir, Adam Funnell, David Simpson. Paul McGarrity, Bruce Aitken, Jed Thian
- 8 Celtic Bauhinia Irish

Photos: Fuyang Duluca

The Ireland Funds China

October, 2018 The Ireland Funds China 3rd Annual Gala Dinner hosted over 180 guests at the Hong Kong Shangri-La ballroom. Proceeds from the evening were in aid of Crossroads Foundation. The evening's entertainment included two roof-raising sessions from the locally-based Echoes of Erin Celtic Bauhinia troupe of Irish dancers, following a welcoming jazz trio, wonderful solo Broadway musical and opera vocal renditions. The work of Crossroads Foundation was introduced by David Begbie who provided their heartfelt history and development in connecting with people in need in Hong Kong, wider Asia and Africa. Ivy Pui See Wong, a resident of former Hong Kong fishing village Tai O, shared the community's story with Crossroads volunteer Kate Falconer on stage. In addition to a successful silent auction, the night's inspiring MC Andrew Work handled the main live auction with aplomb to send truckloads of essential goods for Crossroads Community Impact Fund programs in Hong Kong.

The Ireland Funds Great Britain 30th Anniversary

November, 2018 The Ireland Funds Great Britain celebrated its 30th anniversary with a gala dinner at One Great George Street in Westminster. The event marked 30 years of philanthropy and support for Ireland and the Irish community in Great Britain. Awards honoring "an outstanding contribution to Ireland and the Irish community in Great Britain" were presented by IFGB Chair Rory Godson to three honorees: Sir Anthony O'Reilly, businessman and co-founder of The Ireland Funds (award collected by his son Tony O'Reilly Jr.); Sean Mulryan, Founder and Group Chief Executive of Ballymore; and Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland. Delivering a keynote address, Mrs. Robinson spoke of the innate generosity of the Irish people and how it is in our DNA to "sit down and give back." Quoting a favorite Irish saying "Ar scáth a

chéile a mhaireann na daoine" (translation: "People live in each other's shadows"), Mrs. Robinson spoke of how the Irish have supported and sheltered each other through good times and bad. Mrs. Robinson recalled her time as President of Ireland and the importance connecting the global diaspora; she famously put a light in the window of Áras an Uachtaráin to welcome the diaspora to their homeland. Guests at the sell-out event included former Taoiseach Brian Cowen, Michael & Niamh Flatley, television presenter and broadcaster Angela Scanlon and husband Roy Horgan, and Chair of Ireland Funds America John Fitzpatrick. Entertainment was provided by Sir James and Lady Galway, accompanied by pianist Michael McHale.



- Sean Mulryan, Mary Robinson, Tony O'Reilly Jr. Angela Scanlon, Mary Robinson, Tonya Meli
- John Fitzpatrick, Mary Robinson, Bernadine Mulryan
- Brian Cowen, Annette McGarry, Seamus McGarry Awards by DesignYard Awards, Dublin
- Fireside chat with MC Maggie Doyle
- Tony O'Reilly Jr., Sean Mulryan
- Mary Robinson
- 9 Sir James & Lady Galway, Michael & Niamh Flatley
- 10 30th Anniversary Committee with honorees

Photos: Danny Fitzpatrick/DF photography co.uk



The Ireland Funds Germany Charity Dinner

September, 2018 The Ireland Funds Germany held its annual Charity Dinner in Dublin. The event took place at the invitation of the German Ambassador to Ireland, H.E. Deike Potzel at the German Ambassador's residence. The event was arranged in conjunction with close partner, the German-Irish Lawyers and Business Association (GILBA). Event highlights included a guided tour of the Four Courts and a talk with The Honorable Justice Liam McKechnie, judge at the Irish Supreme Court, a discussion about "Digitalisation/Digital Transformation" with business and legal experts from Germany and Ireland at the Honorable Society of King's Inns and an evening reception at Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place with the Presidents/Chairman of the Irish Law Society, the Association of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys in Ireland

and the Bar Council of Ireland, all held on the Friday before the dinner. The Secretary General of the EU-Commission, Professor Martin Selmayr attended, amongst others. Former Chief of Cabinet of EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, was Guest of Honor and speaker at this special evening, the 25th Anniversary of The Ireland Funds Germany. The Ireland Funds Germany Chair and Vice-Chair Elmar Conrads-Hassel and Dr. Ursula Hassel hosted the event. They were delighted to welcome Guests of Honor Irish Ambassador to Germany Michael Collins and his wife Marie as well as Caitriona Fottrell, Vice President and Director Ireland of The Ireland Funds.

- 1 Dr. Ursula Hassel, Amb. Michael Collins, Martin Selmayr
- 2 Martin Selmayr
- 3 Ursula Leslie, Amb. Michael Collins, Dr. Ursula Hassel
- 5 Marie Collins, Caitriona Fottrell
- 6 Dr. Ursula Hassel, Elmar Conrads-Hassel, Jill Donoghue
- 7 Acknowledgement and thanks to longstanding members and supporters of The Ireland Funds Germany
- 8 Sabrina Bauer, Joshua Grodozki, Lara Piesch, John Curran

The Ireland Funds Singapore 10th Anniversary Emerald Ball

November, 2018 More than 300 people attended The Ireland Funds Singapore's 10th Emerald Ball where more than SGD\$650,000 was raised to fund causes in Singapore which honor the common Asian and Irish values of education, the arts and culture, community development, and sport. The theme of the event was "An Irish Culinary Experience", with Chef Andrew Walsh of Cure serving up an Irish inspired menu. Two pipers accompanied the new Irish Ambassador, Patrick Bourne, his wife Sonali and guests into the ballroom to commence the evening. Emcee, local DJ Shan Wee, opened the event by welcoming guests followed by a performance of traditional Irish dance by Irish Inspirational Dancers, and guests were treated to entertainment throughout dinner with a musical accompaniment from the The Appeggione Quartet and later from the Singapore Trad Collective. To celebrate the 10th Emerald Ball, Chairman Dr. Stanley Quek introduced a video showcasing activities and beneficiary

organizations that The Ireland Funds Singapore has supported over the last 9 years, with representatives of all organizations present at the event. Peter Tierney, Chair of the Causes Committee, spoke passionately on the night about the causes which The Ireland Funds Singapore supports. This was reinforced by the wonderful Mary Low who articulated how the contribution to the Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore has allowed her to become more independent and set up her own business. The primary beneficiaries of this year's ball included the Alzheimer's Disease Association, the Cerebral Palsy Association Singapore and the Singapore Institute of Technology, with Paul Hung, Assoc. Professor Kevin Lim and Prof. Thiam Soon Tan respectively receiving checks on the night. Ball Committee Chairwoman Sheila Lim once again put together a fantastic event with guests enjoying the festivities until the early hours. It was a night to remember, and the impact of the donations will live long beyond it.







- Dr. Stanley Quek, Josie Lyons, Brendan Lyons
- 2 Dr. Kevin Lim, Giem Hong, Prof. Thiam Soon Tham, Melvyn Sirisena
- 3 Dr. Stanley Quek, Sheila Lim
- 4 Dr. Stanley Quek, Bebe Quek, Dr. Mary Ann Tsao, Tracy McMahon, Seamus McMahon, Amb. Patrick Bourne
- 5 Dr. Leslie Lam,
- Dr. Patrick Prendergast
- 6 Mary Low, Colin MacDonald 7 Dr. and Mrs. Colum Nolan,
- guests
 3 Amb. Patrick Bourne,
 Prof. Thiam Soon Tan,
 Dr. Stanley Quek,
 Colin MacDonald

Photos: Stellar Events Photo







God Has No Country—Donal Courtney Comes to Singapore

Photos: Ciaran Mulally

September, 2018 The Ireland Funds Singapore was instrumental in bringing the one-man show "God Has No Country" by renowned writer, teacher and actor Donal Courtney, to Singapore. The play tells the amazing and little known story of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty who heroically saved 6,500 Jews and Allied POWs during the second world war through what became known as the "Rome escape line". The audiences in Singapore were educated and entertained for three nights with this amazing story of valor which Donal brought to life with energy and his engaging Q&A after each performance. Thanks to a great collaboration with three of the major Arts schools in Singapore, namely LASALLE College of the Arts, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, and Intercultural Theatre Institute, Donal delivered workshops for their students in writing, acting and the Irish storytelling tradition. Students and faculty members found Donal's workshops incredibly valuable with his unique take on acting and connecting with audiences.







Amb. Patrick Bourne

- Performances
- Performances

Photos: Photos: Isabelle Lim

Red Dot Green Dot

September, 2018 Red Dot Green Dot is a series funded by The Ireland Funds Singapore in support of the McNally Legacy Project which commemorates the artistic and educational contributions of Brother Joseph McNally, the founder of LASALLE College of the Arts. The series returned in September with a rousing showcase of talent from both the Irish and Singapore communities in a wonderful evening of culture, music and craic hosted once again at LASALLE College of the Arts. The program of music, poetry, prose and drama ranged from beautifully haunting to riotous hilarity and included a talent from the LASALLE student body and from the Irish community. Notable among the performers was a Sebastian Barry piece by LASAL-LE's Prof. Michael Early, and we were delighted to welcome the new Irish Ambassador Patrick Bourne to Singapore and to his impressive debut on stage at the event with W B Yeats's "The Stolen Child". The atmospheric jazz café set up combined with the Irish traditional music skills of Gerry Cox and James Chan, made for a truly memorable night.



Monaco Weekend Celebrations

October, 2018 The Ireland Funds Monaco gathered the weekend of October 12 for their bi-annual celebration. Over 30 guests travelled from the US and Ireland to take part in the weekend's events. The weekend started with a train ride through Monte Carlo to the Palace of Monaco. Upon arriving at the Palace guests witnessed the changing of the guard before entering the Palace for a private tour. Following the tour of the Palace guests crossed the square to Castle Roc restaurant for lunch. John Fitzpatrick, Chairman, The Ireland Funds America, officially welcomed guests to Monaco and paid tribute to the late Billy Vincent who founded The Ireland Funds Monaco. That evening guests were joined by many local Monegasques and Irish residing in Monaco for the central activity of the weekend, the Gala Dinner with His Serine Highness, Prince Albert of Monaco. Sir Michael Smurfit was the 2018 recipient of the Princess Grace Humanitarian Award in recognition of his business and philanthropic contributions to Ireland. Emcee for the night was Ronan Collins who welcomed guests and introduced John Fitzpatrick. John highlighted the important work of The Ireland Funds and introduced Prince Albert who has strong ties to Ireland through his mother, Grace Kelly. H.S.H. Prince Albert spoke warmly about the evening's honoree and his good friend, Sir Michael, thanking him for all he has done for relations between Monaco and Ireland in his role as Honorary Irish

Consul to Monaco. Sir Michael was presented with a 3,000 year-old Irish bog oak award. His acceptance remarks focused on the attributes that he built his business, Smurfit Kappa, on and the successes the company enjoyed as a result. Following dinner, Ronan Collins introduced the evening's entertainment, Music Generation. Music Generation is one of the hundreds of organizations funded annually by The Ireland Funds. The initiative promotes access to music training and tuition among young people across Ireland. Representatives from Laois Trad Orchestra of Music Generation preformed three lively pieces before local band Monte Carlo Connection took over the evening's entertainment and filled the dance floor. Saturday morning took the guests out of Monaco for a visit to the Eileen Gray E-1027 Villa. Eileen Gray, born in Co. Wexford, Ireland, was an architect in the 1920s. The villa, which she built with her partner, was currently being restored. Guests had a private tour of the villa learning about Eileen Gray's legacy and work. Lunch was then served on the terrace of the villa with beautiful views overlooking the Mediterranean Ocean. Dinner's guest speaker was Declan Kiberd, the Writer in Residence at the Princess Grace Irish Library, a bursary supported by The Ireland Funds. The last official event of the weekend was a farewell brunch at the Monte Carlo Beach Club after which guests began to make their way home after a wonderful weekend in Monaco.

- John Fitzpatrick, HSH Prince Albert of Monaco, Amb. Patricia O'Brien, Anne-Marie Boisbouvier
- Sir Michael Smurfit, HSH Prince Albert of Monaco, John Fitzpatrick HSH Prince Albert of Monaco, Amb. Elizabeth Frawley Bagley
- Michael Donnell, Tom Quick, Nancy & Craig Gibson
- John Fitzpatrick
- 6 Guests at the Prince's Palace of Monaco
- Bruce Neal, Angela Moore, HSH Prince Albert of Monaco, Amb. Elizabeth Frawley Bagley
- 8 Saturday night dinner
- Angela Moore, Ambassador Patricia O'Brien, Helen Lambert
- 10 Una & Bill Murphy

Photos: Ed Wright Images



The Ireland Funds Monaco Residential Bursaries

Awarded biannually, The Ireland Funds Monaco Residential Bursaries were established to enable writers born or living in Ireland to pursue a current project during a one-month residency at the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco. We are pleased to present these personal reflections written by authors Caoilinn Hughes and Declan Kiberd on their experiences in Monaco.



Caoilinn Hughes

Capilinn Hughes' debut novel Orchid & the Wasp (Oneworld, 2018) was described by The New Yorker as 'a winning debut novel and by the Times Literary Supplement as 'a remarkable, propulsive novel.' It was shortlisted for the 2018 Butler Literary Award. Her poetry collection Gathering Evidence won the Irish Times Shine/Strong Award and was shortlisted for four other prizes. She won The Moth International Short Story Prize 2018. Her BA and MA degrees are from Queen's University of Belfast. Her PhD is from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. A fellow of the James Merrill House, the Bogliasco Foundation, Siena Art Institute, Faber and La Napoule Art Foundation, she has been awarded a Literature Bursary Award from the Arts Council of Ireland and The Ireland Funds Monaco Award. Her writing has appeared in Granta, Tin House, POETRY, The Stinging Fly, BBC Radio 3 and elsewhere.

My first week in Monaco was a dizzying experience, not only because of the singular, spectacular landscape and infrastructure, and the discombobulation of being financially supported to make art in Monaco(!), but also because of a rotten flu I'd picked up on some plane or other. My residency was to be four weeks-the month of March—and looming in my calendar on April 1st was: 'Send MS to Bill' (MS=finished manuscript; Bill=my agent). The flu would take me out for one whole week of my precious four! I was so sick that I slept with my apartment door open, so that I'd be discovered if I died in the night. Dramatic, but true. The note in my calendar suddenly looked like an April Fools' joke. And yet ... the miracle of a residency-importantly, one with almost no obligatory distractions—is that one can pull off two months' worth of work in two weeks.

I won't detail the project I was working on at the Princess Grace Irish Library, as I'm superstitious about discussing yet-to-be-published work ... but suffice it to say it was a tricky section from my next novel, which will appear in 2020. I had no idea if I could pull off what I was trying to pull off, but I knew that there would be no in-between outcome. It would either work or it wouldn't. It's hard to overstate how much was at stake for me in the work—the whole novel would ideally come into relief through this chapter—but the staff at the library and those associated with The Ireland Funds soon got a sense of that. I was working non-stop: all day at the library and all evening in my apartment in Beausoleil, on the French border above Monte Carlo. Some friends of the library would phone or email, inviting me to social outings (some of which I did attend—the theatre, a Patrick's Day evening, meals), sure that I was having a dreadful time, working so hard! On the contrary, I only work manically when things are going well. And I'm a very slow writer, so I have to put in all the hours. Towards the end of the month, I rewarded myself by taking the train to Eze to hike the Nietzsche trail, and hiring a road bike to cycle to Italy for a cappuccino!

Géraldine Lance was the unique, wondrous Administrative Assistant there with me every day, and her positive presence enriched my time immeasurably. She arranged a brilliant evening with refreshments and nibbles (the Monegasque mandarincello!), where I read from my then-forthcoming novel, Orchid & the Wasp (Oneworld, June 2018), alongside some poems. I also gave a talk about writing as discovery, which hopefully caused just the right amount of controversy! It was heartening to see so many literature-enthusiasts in the region.

The library is an incredible resource and I could very happily have spent the month reading. It was a dangerous temptation. But, thankfully, I found a Beckett novel that was not characteristically brilliant just when I needed such encouragement (that even literary legends have off days)! Then I found an Edna O'Brien story collection that was so good I had to stop reading lest I never write another word. I hauled myself from the window-side reading chair to the writing desk chair, and got to work. What a privilege. With huge gratitude to The Ireland Funds.

Declan Kiberd

Declan Kiberd is a faculty member at English Department and Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies as the Donald and Marilyn Keough Professor of Irish Studies and Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame. A leading international authority on the literature of Ireland, both in English and Irish, Kiberd has authored scores of articles and many books, including *Synge and the Irish Language*, *Men and Feminism in Irish Literature*, *Irish Classics*, *The Irish Writer and the World*, *Inventing Ireland*, and, most recently, *Ulysses and Us: The Art of Everyday Life in Joyce's Masterpiece* (2009). He has recently co-edited with PJ Mathews *Handbook of the Irish Revival 1891-1922*, a five-hundred-page anthology of cultural and political writings with commentaries and introductions, published by Abbey Theatre Press in June 2015.

I very much enjoyed spending October 2018 as The Ireland Fund Monaco academic-in-residence, and the opportunity it afforded to study at the Princess Grace Irish Library (PGIL) in Monaco. I am especially grateful to Judith Gantley and Géraldine Lance for the warm welcome they gave me--and much kind care to me and my family members.

The self-catering apartment provided by The Ireland Funds Monaco was very pleasant. Situated 20 minutes from the PGIL by direct bus, my daily commute through Monte-Carlo and around Hercules Harbour was most enjoyable.

It was a pleasure to meet international supporters of The Ireland Funds at various social events during their 2018 Monaco Weekend Celebrations. I was very struck by the Irish-American visitors and by the wonderful dinner in which we participated—it reminded me of a good country wedding.

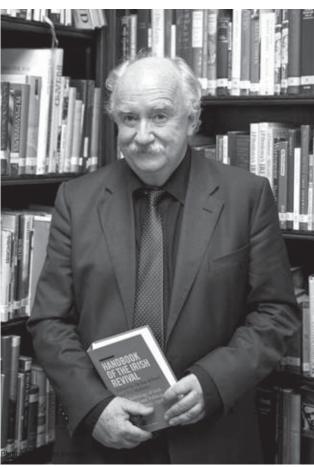
I also enjoyed the response to my lecture on my recent book After Ireland, given to Friends of PGIL—the questions were sharp yet fully empathetic and I learned a lot from all our exchanges.

Later in the month, I took part in the PGIL's biennial two-day symposium sponsored by my own University of Notre Dame. The subject was "Eighteenth-Century Ireland" and my paper on Gulliver's Travels as a precursor of modern children's literature was titled "Honey, he Shrunk the Kids".

My main work, however, through the month was to develop my long-standing research on the prose and plays of Samuel Beckett. For this I found the resources of the PGIL immensely helpful, not only on Beckett but also on Yeats, Joyce and other writers whose work influenced Beckett. I am committed to a book for Harvard University Press, which argued that Beckett was a mystic without God. He wrote from a position of unknowing, seeking a needlepoint in the self which might also have an equivalent point in some sort of deity out there in the universe. My title is Beckett Unknown: Mysticism Without God—and I contend that many great mystics, who have had a ravishing vision of a divine experience, often feel themselves to be without God. My conclusion is that Beckett gets mad with God, whilst saying he isn't there, or insufficiently interventionist. He feels a very Irish grudge against God which the merely godless could never feel. He wills some kind of

god into fragile being by the power of his anger with him—and then in the second half of the Unnamable allows that God (who is neither perfect nor happy) to speak. How a perfect God could create a flawed universe through which to realise a divine plan is a paradox not unlike that which faces the Beckett writer, who knows he'll leave just a stain on the silence but feels impelled to do so.

I thank everyone in Monaco and The Ireland Funds for the chance to work on this.



AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA







Sydney Supporters Lunch at PwC

July 2018 Many friends of The Ireland Funds Australia attended the annual supporters' lunch kindly hosted by David Kelly and PricewaterhouseCoopers at their new state-of-theart offices in Barangaroo. David welcomed guests and said PricewaterhouseCoopers were proud to continue to support the work of The Ireland Funds as they have done for more than 15 years. Chairman Yvonne Le Bas welcomed all and provided an

update on the work of The Ireland Funds Australia, including a record-breaking grant round of over \$1.8 million commencing in June, 2018 and she thanked guests for all their support as without them our work would not be possible. H.E. Breandán Ó Caollaí, Ambassador of Ireland to Australia, thanked guests on Ireland's behalf, not only for their financial support but for their friendship and care for the people of Ireland.

- 1 Yvonne Le Bas, David Kelly
- 2 Amb. Breandán Ó Caollaí
- 3 Bob Kelly, Yvonne Le Bas

Photos: Kristy McVay Photography







Supporters Dinner at Olio

September, 2018 In celebration of the launch of the new Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute in Dublin, friends of The Ireland Funds Australia attended an exclusive dinner hosted by Dr. Stanley Quek at Olio with acclaimed chefs Irishman Andrew Walsh and Sicilian Lino Sauro. Guests were also entertained by the Australian Youth Orchestra. Chairman Yvonne Le Bas spoke about the partnerships between Trinity and The Ireland Funds

including the support of the exciting new Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute which is setting a new standard for cancer treatment in Ireland by providing a dedicated facility to consolidate cancer activities and expertise within the next 5-7 years. The event provided an opportunity for guests to pledge their support to assist in the delivery of this unique project.

- 1 Yvonne Le Bas, Dr. Stanley Quek
- 2 Patrick Tuttle, Nicole Patterson
- 3 Victoria Stoddard, Charles Curran AC

Photos Kristy McVay Photography



Brisbane Luncheon

August 2018 Many friends and new faces gathered at the annual Brisbane lunch at Hillstone St. Lucia. St. Peters Lutheran graduate Jemmason Power performed the Acknowledgement of Country to start off proceedings. Chairman Yvonne Le Bas officially opened the lunch and welcomed the opportunity to thank guests for their continued generosity to the Fund and the projects we support. A special mention to the major sponsors on the day, Australian Radio Network, Emirates, Charles Curran AC, Coolmore Stud and the Magnier Family, and Star Entertainment Group. Yvonne also acknowledged the Board Members, Governors, Associates, Benefactors and Young Leaders who help us to continue the important work of The Ireland Funds Australia as it looks to the next 10—20 years and the next generation of Philanthropists. Ben Davis,

Australian sports reporter and presenter, kept the day on track as our MC, and did a wonderful job interviewing **Stephen Moore**, former Captain of the **Wallabies**; an entertaining and insightful segment. Jack and the boys and girls from **Munsterbucks** were delightful entertainers giving a very Irish traditional musical and dance performance. Huge thank you to Auctioneer **Chris McKearney** of **EBM Insurance** for travelling interstate for the day.

- 1 Yvonne Le Bas
- 2 Drs. Frank & Ailbhe Cunningham, Michael White, Barbara O'Rourke
- 3 Jeff O'Sullivan, Anthony Travers, Amber Teagle, Adam Bird
- 4 Chris McKearney, Teresa Keating, Ben Davis
- 5 Mark McCormack, Carmel McCormack, Dr. Tom Cuddihy
- 6 Stephen Moore, Maggie Silva
- 7 Dr. Andy O'Neill, Roisin O'Neill, Anne Maree O'Neill, Aishlinn O'Neill, Oscar Hernandez
- 8 Bill & Bernadette Grace, John & Rory Quinn, Stephen Moore, Valerie Simons

Photos: About Time Co.

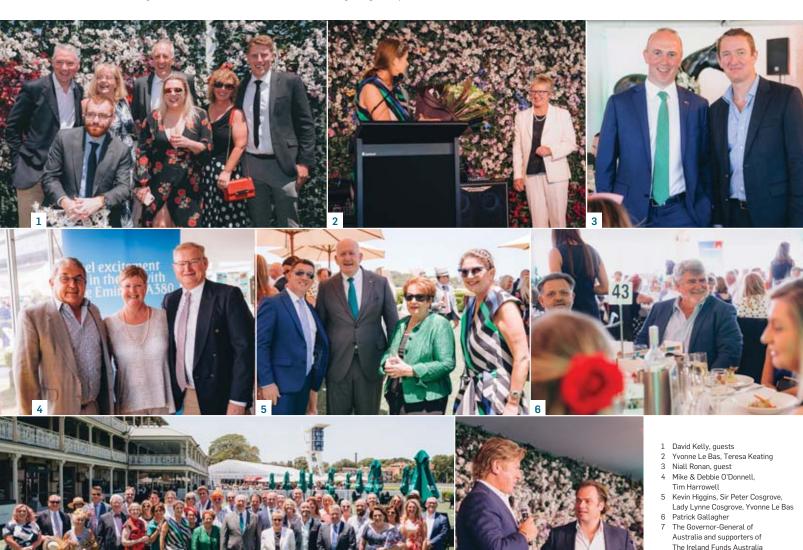
Sydney Garden Party

November, 2018 The Ireland Funds inaugural Coolmore Garden Party took place at Randwick Racecourse and it was an honor to have the Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove and Lady Lynne Cosgrove join us at the beginning of the day. The Governor-General acknowledged the strong bond between Ireland and Australia and the important contribution the Irish community has made here. He complimented The Ireland Funds on the invaluable work it does, together with all our supporters, providing hope and educational opportunities to people in need, not only in Ireland but in Australia as well. Chairman Yvonne Le Bas welcomed distinguished guests and was thrilled to announce the largest grant round ever this year of over \$1.8 million supporting activities such as Soar, Integrated Education, our partnership with Trinity College to provide scholarships in their MBA programme, Australian Indigenous Education Foundation and Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute, to name a few. Tom Magnier then took to the stage with our MC Richard Wilkins AM. Tom spoke proudly

of the history of Coolmore in Ireland and of his father John Magnier, Vincent O'Brien and Robert Sangster taking over a small agricultural farm in 1975 and creating a world-class thoroughbred stallion operation, now operational in Ireland, America and Australia. Ciaran Gribbin and his Ireland Rocks Band provided wonderful entertainment, bringing all the guests to their feet. Thank you to everyone who participated in the live auction conducted by the charismatic Chris McKearney of EBM. The auction included Business Class tickets thanks to Tim Harrowell and Emirates, a Toyota Yaris thanks to Patrick Gallagher of Gallagher Hotels, fabulous packages from Coolmore Australia to Melbourne Cup 2019, to their Stud at the Hunter Valley and to Villiers Cup Day thanks to Tom and Sophie Magnier. Having all that fun allowed us to raise over \$200,000 profit on the day and we are extremely grateful to every single person that came out to support us at Randwick for this event, in particular our Table Captains and major sponsors.

Richard Wilkins AM, Tom Magnier

Photos: Matt Teague



Brisbane Christmas Networking Drinks

December, 2018 On a beautiful night at **Blackbird Bar**, The Ireland Funds Australia hosted their second annual Brisbane Christmas Networking Drinks. With stunning views along the Brisbane River, friends and supporters gathered together to reflect on a successful year and raise awareness of The Ireland Funds and the worthy projects we support. Brisbane Young Leader **Jude Bolger** was happy to share with guests that our Grant Round in 2018 was over \$1.8 million enabling The Ireland Funds Australia to support 11 projects both in Ireland and in Australia, a very proud achievement and one that was only possible through the ongoing generosity of our supporters.



- Guests at the Brisbane Christmas Networking Drinks
- 2 Jude Bolger & Amanda Donoghue
- 3 Angela Sheehy & Brian McGlennon







The Ireland Funds America can help you identify the best options to fulfill your philanthropic vision. Bequests are the most popular and flexible planned gifts. It is a simple matter to include a bequest to The Ireland Funds America directly in your will or in a codicil to your will. In addition to bequests, there are many other tax-efficient options to choose from:

- GIFT OF SECURITIES
- . REAL ESTATE
- GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE
- . LIFE INCOME GIFTS
- GIFTS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, SUCH AS ART WORK, RARE BOOKS, ETC.

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

Your Legacy

CAN REFLECT ALL THAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

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

The Heritage Society

ENSURES THAT YOUR LOVE OF IRELAND BRINGS BENEFITS TODAY AND FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

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