



THE
IRELAND
FUNDS
AUSTRALIA

Delivering Impact

*Driving Change
together*

ANNUAL GRANT ROUND 2026



Organisations we Support
Your Generosity at Work

—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—



Delivering for Ireland

Delivering for Ireland has always been at the heart of The Ireland Funds Australia. We are a dynamic philanthropic community dedicated to driving positive change and lasting impact across the island of Ireland and within Irish communities in Australia.

This year, The Ireland Funds celebrated its 50th anniversary globally—a significant milestone reflecting five decades of philanthropy and impact around the world. Next year, The Ireland Funds Australia proudly celebrates its 40th anniversary, a testament to the enduring generosity of our supporters and the strength of our mission. We are proud not only to have reached this milestone, but of the lasting difference we have made together.

Our mission remains clear: to connect people who care with causes that matter—supporting education, community development, culture, and peace and reconciliation. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our donors, we continue to invest in projects that create meaningful and lasting impact.

Impact where it is needed most

This Report highlights how your generosity made a difference throughout FY2026. In a world facing ongoing economic pressures and global uncertainty, your support has provided opportunity, stability and hope to the organisations and communities we serve.

Behind every grant is a story of resilience, innovation and lives changed. To our donors, supporters and our dedicated voluntary Board of Directors—thank you. Your generosity and commitment make this work possible, and together we continue to build a stronger future.

Kind regards,

Teresa Keating

Executive Director,
The Ireland Funds Australia

Yvonne Le Bas

Chair,
The Ireland Funds Australia



About The Ireland Funds



Our Founders

Our story began when visionary leaders Tony O'Reilly and Dan Rooney saw the power of bringing people together — not just to connect and celebrate, but to give back. That tradition continues today: people come for the connection and stay for the mission – celebrating 50 years in 2026 – what a legacy!



Our Global Impact



FUNDS
RAISED

US\$750 M+



PROJECTS
SUPPORTED

3500+



SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED

1000+



YEARS OF
IMPACT

50



About The Ireland Funds Australia

Founded in 1987, The Ireland Funds Australia is proud to be part of a global philanthropic network spanning 12 countries. United by a shared commitment to giving back, we mobilise generosity to support transformative programmes in education, community development, culture, and peace and reconciliation—creating opportunities and delivering lasting impact where it is needed most.



We nurture the next generation

Our commitment extends beyond today's grantmaking. Through our Young Leaders Network, we are cultivating the next generation of philanthropic leaders, ensuring that the spirit of generosity continues to thrive well into the future. Australia is proud to have one of the strongest Young Leader Committees across the global Ireland Funds network.

The Ireland Funds Australia continues to connect generosity with opportunity, transforming lives and building a legacy of philanthropy that will endure for generations.

Projects Supported

2025 — 2026

Community Development / Education in Ireland

- 174 Trust Northern Ireland
- Blackwater Valley Opera
- Cork Penny Dinners
- Dr Katriona O'Sullivan's STEM Passport
- Inner City Enterprise
- Learning Hub Limerick
- Phoenix Education Centre East Belfast
- Royal College of Surgeons Ireland
- Russborough House
- CBS James Street
- TCD Library
- Together Academy
- Trinity St James's Cancer Institute
- No Mind Left Behind

Community Development / Education Australia

- Community Development / Education Australia
- Australian Indigenous Education Foundation
- Cape York Girl Academy
- Go Foundation
- Irish Support Agency NSW
- Irish Australian Support Association of QLD
- Irish Australian Support & Resource Bureau VIC
- WNOW

Total Donations

2025-2026

Grants **\$2,307,384**

174 Trust	\$25,000
Blackwater Valley Opera	\$68,907
Cork Penny Dinners	\$16,666
Dr Katriona O'Sullivan's STEM Passport	\$11,000
Inner City Enterprise	\$50,000
Learning Hub Limerick	\$50,000
Phoenix Education Trust East Belfast	\$10,000
Royal College of Surgeons Ireland	\$28,659
Russborough House	\$68,907
TCD Library	\$2,000
Together Academy	\$5,370
Trinity St James's Cancer Institute	\$1,793,895
No Mind Left Behind	\$88,000
WNOW	\$15,000
Australian Indigenous Education Foundation	\$20,000
Cape York Girl Academy	\$5,370
Go Foundation	\$25,000
Irish Support Agencies NSW, VIC & QLD	\$23,610

IFA donations received vs funding allocated

June 16/17 to June 25/26



* Relates to the aggregated donations and funding allocations of The Australian Ireland Fund Limited.

† Donations received represent the donation element of ticket receipts, tax-deductible donations and event sponsorship. It excludes receipts from auction and raffle events.

Your Generosity at Work!

Your generosity helps us to support organisations doing vital work in communities on the island of Ireland and here in Australia. These organisations cannot do it all themselves, here is a snapshot of what services those organisations are making possible with the help of philanthropy.



No Mind Left Behind

Across the island of Ireland there are promising and talented young people who need an opportunity to access and thrive in third-level education. No Mind Left Behind, an initiative created by the Ireland Funds provides financial support so they can attend college — and stay there.

Your Generosity has helped this programme support **456 students** this academic year

Learning Hub Limerick

The Learning Hub welcomed more than **36,800 visits** in 2025 supported over **1,000 children, young people and families** every week.

Our assistance will help provide educational programmes to children most in need and some overhead costs.



174 Trust

Building a Strong, Just & Peaceful Society

Since their creation in 1983, 174 has sought to serve the local community of North Belfast, as well as the whole city, through the provision of a safe, shared space where difficult conversations can occur and people of all ages and backgrounds can access a range of programmes and activities. Our support helps towards heat and lighting and compliance costs.

20,000 people in the community avail of 174 Trust services each year.

Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute

The first of its kind in Ireland, builds on the long tradition of outstanding comprehensive cancer care delivered at Ireland's largest academic health campus at St James's Hospital in central Dublin, with the research and educational excellence of Trinity College Dublin, Ireland's leading university.

1st Irish cancer institute accredited by the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI).

Ireland Funds Australia is also proud to support **2 inaugural global fellowships** with TSJCI and the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre, Peter MacCallum Centre in Melbourne.



Inner City Enterprise

A not for profit helping unemployed individuals, social enterprises and youth entrepreneurs to set up their own business in Dublin's inner city. Our support will help as many marginalised young people as possible to participate in ICE's Young Entrepreneurs Training Programme, which assists **100 young people** a year.

Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF)

The **(AIEF)** empowers Indigenous children with access to top-quality education and career opportunities nationwide.

Over the past 15 years, **Ireland Funds Australia** and **AIEF** have partnered to co-funded **80+ Indigenous scholarship places** across leading schools—Marist College Ashgrove, St Peter's Lutheran College in QLD, St Catherine's School, Kincoppal Girls School in NSW and Peninsula Grammar in Mount Eliza Vic

—investing **\$900,000+** in brighter futures.



Cork Penny Dinners

Has been providing homeless supports in Cork for over 137 years. Their purpose is simple but vital – to provide nutritious meals in a warm welcoming space where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. Our support will help towards the increasing cost of food, hygiene and operating costs.

500 people every day,

200,000 hot meals a year

Blackwater Valley Opera

Founded as the Lismore Opera Festival in 2010, Blackwater Valley Opera Festival (BVOF) has developed into a significant annual cultural event in County Waterford. It contributes to a wider resurgence of interest in opera in Ireland while maintaining a strong commitment to community engagement, through free school performances, education and outreach programmes, bursary initiatives, and free public events,

4,500 attendees

5,500+ participants



Russborough House

Russborough is at the heart of the West Wicklow community, it is a vibrant public recreation hub, a community gathering space, and a major regional economic anchor. Our support will help towards talent pathways and bursary awards for emerging Irish artists.

Royal College of Surgeons Ireland

Founded as the national training body for surgery in Ireland, RCSI has been at the forefront of healthcare education and research since 1784. Educating Undergraduate and Postgraduate students Trainees, surgeons, and clinical professionals pursuing specialist medical training, fellowships, and continuous professional development.

Our donors, graduates of RCSI, are generously giving back and providing funding for scholarships.



STEM Passport for Inclusion

Led by Professor Katriona O'Sullivan at Maynooth University, the STEM Passport for Inclusion is an award-winning initiative connecting young women from disadvantaged communities across Ireland with a Level 6 NFQ educational qualification, industry mentoring, and direct pathways into STEM careers

Together Academy Ireland

A unique training and employment initiative aimed at providing young adults with Down syndrome specialised and individually tailored training. They support approx. 15 young adults a year with both certified and vocational training, practical work experience, employment opportunities and a critical social and support network.



WNOW (When No One's Watching)

Founded in Sydney with two friends looking out for one another. It's now turned into a global movement, where every Wednesday over **3000** men from around the world show up for each other. **WNOW** is creating a community where men are proud to be men; comfortable to take their 'armour' off and be their authentic selves, feeling supported and safe in a community of like-minded men. Our support will help establish 3 new chapters this year.



Go Foundation

As proud Aboriginal men, Adam Goodes and Michael O'Loughlin have both benefited from their strong connection to culture, which has also taught them about resilience.

The love, care and guidance of incredible Aboriginal women have deeply impacted their lives, especially their mothers who instilled the importance of education, working hard and family and culture.

Working with partners the **GO Foundation** has now provided more than **2,300 scholarships** for Indigenous primary, secondary and tertiary students in Sydney, Adelaide and Canberra. We are delighted to provide this years donation together with Dermot Kennedy.

Cape York Girl Academy FNQ

As a campus of Djarragun College, Cape York Girl Academy is Australia's first boarding high school designed for young Indigenous mothers and their babies to live and learn together. They also have a cohort of young women who are at risk of disengaging with their education. The women are supported by qualified trauma-informed staff and graduate with the confidence to be future leaders of their community.

35

STUDENTS
ENROLLED 2025

3

YEAR 12
GRADUATES

94%

ATTENDANCE
RATE



CAPE YORK
GIRL ACADEMY



Irish Support Agencies

Across New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria, the Irish Support Agencies care for the Irish community in Australia—offering crisis help, mental health support, housing assistance, and welfare guidance. They also combat isolation with outreach, social activities, and befriending programs, ensuring Irish people feel **connected, supported, and never alone**. In 2024, 2025 and 2026 we are proud to have supported the Agencies through our Young Leaders Plus a Mental Health programme in NSW together with Club Hibernia.

Snapshot of Events 2025/2026

Our events are about far more than fundraising. They bring together a community of generous, like-minded people who value connection, friendship and giving back. In an increasingly uncertain world, these opportunities to come together in a warm and welcoming environment have never been more important. Year after year, our supporters are united by a shared purpose—to create opportunities, strengthen communities and improve the lives of others. It is this enduring spirit of generosity and belonging that defines The Ireland Funds Australia and continues to inspire our work.

Our Events Include:

Dermot Kennedy Misneach Concert, Sydney
MARCH 2025



Black Tie Dinner at the Art Gallery of NSW
NOVEMBER 2025



Women in Leadership and Philanthropy Lunches

2026
Robyn Denholm
Global Chair, Tesla



2025
Beverley McGarvey
President, Network 10 and Paramount



2024
Geraldine Slattery
President, BHP



Global 5K
SEPTEMBER 2025



Young Leader Kick Off Drinks, FEBRUARY 2026



Melbourne Race Day, Caulfield
MAY 2026



Young Leader Network

The Ireland Funds' Young Leader Network is a unique platform for rising leaders and philanthropists. From 25 upwards, we nurture a generation ready to lead, give, and inspire positive change.

Our National Committee, co-chaired by Máirtín O'Rabhartaigh and Eva Mahon for the last few years, drives this mission through events in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, with membership fees supporting projects selected by Young Leaders each year.

Join us — build your network, shape the future, and make a difference.

Contact lfisher@irelandfunds.org



How you can help

Giving Programmes

The Governor Programme was created to boost support for flagship projects beyond event fundraising. With new giving tiers, supporters can make a one-off or annual tax-deductible gift to help us expand this vital work.

Supporters can help us to further our vital work by making a one off, or annual, tax-deductible contribution to become a member of:

GIVING PROGRAMME	ANNUAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION
Platinum Governor Programme	\$25,000
Governor Programme	\$15,000
Associate Programme	\$5,000
Benefactor Programme	\$1,000

Corporate Partner

Your company can become a Partner Sponsor of The Ireland Funds Australia by contributing a nominated amount for a 3-year period. This would allow us to meet some or all overheads and underwrite the cost of day-to-day operations freeing us to focus on fundraising for the recommended and worthy projects we would like to support.

Event Sponsor

We are very lucky to have many companies donate items to us for our Live and Silent Auctions at our 3 annual fundraisers in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. If you can help we would love to hear from you.

WILP 100 Club

Launched in 2023 our Women in Leadership & Philanthropy series unites women passionate about Ireland to inspire leadership, empower others, and give back.

Join our 100 Club with a monthly gift of \$100—directly supporting the No Mind Left Behind Scholarship Programme. Every dollar makes a lasting impact, and all donations are tax deductible.

Become a Young Leader

The Young Leader Network is a key Ireland Funds Programme for the emerging generation of philanthropist connecting the global Irish community inspiring positive change. Membership costs \$200 annually, of which \$150 is tax-deductible.

Donor Advised Grants

Enable donors to recommend projects they are passionate about and wish to support. This is a wonderful way to work with donors and ultimately match them with specific projects. Ask us about pledges and bequests.

Other ways

If you have a particular skill and some time you can donate to us, we would love to talk to you. If you like what we do please promote the work of The Ireland Funds Australia to your friends.

Bequests

Consider leaving a bequest to The Ireland Funds Australia in your will. Your legacy will help us continue supporting vital education, community, and cultural projects for generations to come.

For more information on any of the above activities please contact Teresa Keating, Executive Director:

☎ 0410 633 598

✉ tkeating@irelandfunds.org



Thank you

Every donation to The Ireland Funds Australia has the power to change lives. The impact you will see throughout this report is a direct reflection of the generosity, compassion and commitment of our supporters.

As we look ahead to celebrating our **40th anniversary in 2027**, we do so with immense pride in what we have achieved together and great optimism for what lies ahead. Every grant awarded strengthens communities, creates opportunity and builds a lasting legacy of philanthropy.

To our Private and Corporate Donors, Platinum Governors, Governors, Associates, Benefactors, members of our Women in Leadership & Philanthropy initiative, Young Leaders, event sponsors and guests—thank you. Your generosity makes this work possible, and together we are creating brighter futures for generations to come.



Make a difference with us by clicking [here](#) or scanning our QR code

Acknowledgements

The Ireland Funds Australia extends our sincere gratitude to our major sponsors for their continued generosity and support.

The following organisations & people make valuable contributions that enable us to continue our work.



Dermot Kennedy

Dr. Stanley Quek

Miriam Innes

The Ireland Funds Australia

Board of Directors

Yvonne Le Bas

(Chair)

Group CFO

Acenda Group

Patrick Tuttle

(Treasurer)

Executive Director, Azora Finance

Teresa Keating

Executive Director,

Ireland Funds Australia

Will Creedon

Founder, Alloggio

Ciaran Davis

CEO and Board Director

H.E. Fiona Flood

Ambassador of Ireland to Australia

John Gallagher

Legal Counsel and Compliance Officer,

AXA

Helen Waldron

Head - Member Relations and Head

- NSW at Australian Industry Group

Ray Wilson

Non-Executive Director, Plenary Group

David Woodward

CEO, Glen Dimplex Australia

Former Chairs

Anthony McGrath

1987 - 1991

**Cameron O'Reilly
& Peter Cosgrove**

1991 - 1993

John O'Neill AO

1993 - 1999

Charles Curran AC

1999 - 2010

Alan Joyce AC

2010 - 2012

John O'Neill AO

2012 - 2016

Our Mission Statement

The Ireland Funds' mission is to harness the power of a global philanthropic network of friends of Ireland to promote and support peace, culture, education and community development across the island of Ireland and among Irish communities around the world.

Teresa Keating

Executive Director

The Ireland Funds Australia

1/64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010

M: 0410 633 598

E: tkeating@irelandfunds.org

w: irelandfunds.org

Progress Through Philanthropy



History of Projects Supported

174 Trust

A

AIEF
Australia House
Ainsworth Community Association
All Children's Integrated Primary School
All Hallows
All Saints Youth Club
Ardoyne Youth Club
Armagh Integrated College

B

Ballyfermot It's a Knock Out
Ballymena Drop-in Centre
Ballymun Youth Action Group
Ballynafeigh Community Development Assoc.
Ballycastle Controlled Integrated Primary School
Banbridge Combine Community
Barnardos Loughlinstown
Be Your Best Foundation Rock Challenge
Belvedere Youth Club
Benburb Youth & Resource Centre
Beyond Blue
Blackwater Integrated College
Blackwater Valley Opera
Blossom Ireland
Brisbane Writers Festival

C

Cape York Girl Academy
Cappagh House
CaraCare
Carbon Positive Australia
CBS James Street
Centre for Neighbourhood Development
Chair of Modern Irish Studies - UNSW
Clanrye
Clongowes Wood School
Community Action Network
Community Photographic Initiative
Community Relations in Schools
Comoradh 98
Conway Youth Centre
Cork Penny Dinners

D

Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare
Daughters of Charity
De Paul Ireland - Rendu Apartments
Derry Women's Aid
Disaster Relief Fund
Down Academy Controlled Integrated High School

Drumcree Community Education Project
Drumlins Integrated Primary School, Playground and Resource Unit
Drumragh Integrated College Omagh
Dublin Simon Community
Dungiven Community Resource Centre

E

ECF Links Lurgan and Craigavon
Enniskillen Together
Extern

F

Faith Healer O'Punsky's Theatre
Farset Youth & Community
Fighting Words
Forge Integrated Primary School
Fort Hill IPS

G

Glencraig Integrated Primary, Seahill
Glencree
Glengormley Integrated Primary School
GO Foundation
Groarty
Groomsport Integrated Primary

H

Habitat for Humanity
Hazlewood Integrated Primary School
Heart of the Community Fund
Holiday Project West
Home Tree Ireland

I

Inner City Enterprise
Integrate My School - IEF
Integrated Conference
Irish Association - Cultural, Economic & Social Relations
Irish Dancing
Irish Shrine
Irish Support NSW
Irish Support Agency QLD
Irish Support Agency VIC

J

Jigsaw - Youth Mental Health
Journey of Reconciliation / Irish Round Tower at Messines
Junior Achievement Ireland
Entrepreneurship Ireland

K

Kabosh
Kincoppal Girls School, Rose Bay

L

Learning Hub Limerick
Lir Integrated Primary School, Ballycastle

M

Marist College Ashgrove Brisbane
Maydown Youth Training Project
Men's Sheds
Moyraverty Youth Club
MyMind

N

Newbuildings Community and Environmental Assoc
Northern Ireland Children's Enterprise
NICI (Indigenous Chefs to Cork)
No Minds Left Behind Scholarships
Nubia Youth Centre

O

Omagh Integrated School

P

Peninsula Grammar School, Mount Eliza
Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation
Phoenix Education Centre in East Belfast
Phoenix Integrated Primary, Cookstown
Portadown IPS
Portaferry

Q

Queensland Flood Appeal

R

Reach Foundation
REACT
Roe Valley Integrated Primary, Limavady
Rowallane Integrated College
Rowandale Integrated Primary School
Royal College of Surgeons
Russborough House

S

Saints and Scholars Integrated Primary School Armagh
Science Gallery Melbourne
Secondary Pupil Support Service
Sensational Kids
SHARE - Students Harness Aid Relief of Elderly
Soar Foundation
Solas Project Dublin
Soundhouse Outreach Kits
South Down Educational Society

Special Olympics Australian Team in Ireland
Speedwell Trust Environmental Education
Springboard
St Catherine's Anglican Girls, Waverly
St Columba's Project
St Joseph's
St Martin's Youth Centre
St Peter's Lutheran College Brisbane
STEM Passport for Inclusion
Strabane
Suas Education Development

T

Tara Counselling & Personal Development Centre
The Family Resource Centre, St Michael's Estate
The Great Famine Memorial
The Irish Australian Welfare Bureau
The Star ABC
Together Academy
Trinity Access Programmes
Trinity College Tarlo Scholarships
Trinity College Library
Ireland Funds Australia Trinity St James's Global Fellowships
Trinity Law School Building
Trinity Provost Scholarship
Trinity St James's Cancer Institute

U

Music Generation
Ukraine - Australia Support via Rotary
Ukrainian Relief Fund - De Paul in Ireland
Ulster Historical Foundation
University College Cork
University College Dublin Wong Scholarships
University of Ulster

W

Wave
When No One's Watching (WNOW)
Winegeese Society
Women's Tec
Workforce Training Services
World Wide Ireland Funds Development Fund
World Wildlife Fund Australia

Y

Youth Action Leadership Programme



THE
IRELAND
FUNDS
AUSTRALIA

Progress
Through
Philanthropy

www.irelandfunds.org