



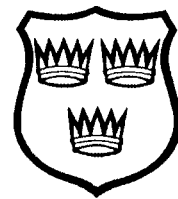
Foras Cultuir Gael Aontuighthe

United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.

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2020
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BOARD MESSAGE

Dear UICC Members,

My hope for you and your families is that you are all staying well and healthy. We, The Board, miss seeing you! Happy Mothers day to all the mothers near and far! We can all celebrate and toast from a distance.

At the Center, bringing people together and continuing to honor the immigrant's story is what we do. And when you are in the business to bring people together and are hindered from doing so there is much concern for when will "normal" return? In 2019, we started to define our new business structure: 501c3 cultural community center supporting local artists, promoting Irish culture and cross cultural programs and providing an event space on the west side of the city. In 2020 that all changed.

The UICC had to cancel all events and meetings for March, April and May. Cancelling March was a huge revenue loss to our overall budget and a loss to our Irish community as a whole. We missed out on the parade, our music, our block party, and all our best made plans. It will come as no surprise that we report a 70% decline in revenues in the first three months of 2020, compared to the first quarter of 2019.

Since the closure, the Board has met online weekly and sub-committees have met on separate other occasions-as its all hands on deck, to get through the lockdown and be prepared to hit the ground running at the other side, once restrictions are lifted. Our new treasurer Craig, prepares weekly finance reports and dives deep into all areas related to finance. Thank you Craig! Be mindful that all Board members have day jobs and the energy and ideas that they bring to our weekly meetings is incredible.

There is some positive news. Ongoing facilities costs are running 30% below what it cost to run the same 3 month period last year. Several upgrades and cost cutting measures initiated 12 months ago are now being reflected in overall reduced fixed monthly costs. Having our doors closed for the last three months, we have had to cut back further with payroll, water, heating, garbage and recycling pick ups. Board member Liam Reidy, who heads up the Facilities department and a recent team of volunteers Mike Bowler, John Cahalane and Shane O'Malley have done Trojan work to help the Center get back on its feet- by focusing on deferred maintenance in several areas of the building. Thank you to all for what you do. I greatly appreciate and applaud your help!

The proverb "Necessity is the mother of invention" is often credited with the Ancient Greek philosopher Plato. It has been used several times in Board meetings on-line and off-line these past few weeks as we try to develop creative ideas to offset the lack of operational income and recover our major loss

(continued)

with a closed March, April and May. Having started off the year on a high note after a great 2019 with steady events in January and February and landing here in May with closed doors for three months, it's as if we were playing a game of football and someone decided to move the goalposts midway through the first half of the game!

I want to thank my fellow Board member Mark Burke for getting the UICCs own online Irish Center Shoppe up and running. Mark has been ably assisted by Josephine Brogan and Molly Burke who help manage the inventory and get orders prepared for pick-up. We couldn't possibly do anything online without our Technology guru Tom McKeon- who makes it all so easy for us! In addition, Comhaltas is starting to provide Irish language classes and the library is creating a virtual setting for presentations. Stay tuned and check out our facebook and website for more information.

As you can see, the UICC is being challenged financially- without consistent revenue for the last three months (and more) there is great concern about the future of the Center. We need to flatten our own financial curve as we navigate the rest of 2020. Do you have any ideas you wish to share. Email me acarew@irishcentersf.org

The UICC was built on the premise of being a member of the Irish community. And as a member of the UICC we are calling to you for your inspiration, guidance and support. Because it will take more than an 10 person board to save the Center- it will take the Irish community as a whole to stand by the UICC.

How can you help us during this time?

Go online and purchase some of our beer, wine and spirits. Additionally, we have Irish themed T-shirts (Giants, UICC, Warriors, and 2020 St. Patrick's Day) available online for pur-

chase. We also have a selection of Irish goods for sale -Beans, peas, chocolates, Barry's Tea, Club orange, Irish biscuits, hard sweet candy and even Bisto gravy mix! Yummy! All of the on-line sales can provide us with much needed cash until we open our doors again soon.

Sign up for Membership- \$13 a month = one cocktail at a swanky bar

Sign up today to become a member, if you have lapsed - come back and rejoin at no extra cost. Cost is \$13/month and you can cancel anytime. www.IrishCenterSF.org

May 17th Fundraising Initiative Kick Off

We welcome a former member of the Board, John Ring back into the fold to help us kick off a fundraising campaign this May. We are going to make it fun, festive and hope that you will be a part of it and that you might tell others. Watch for the kick off online on May 17th.

Local Food Bank Drive

On Sunday May 3rd and May 10th we will accept donations of non-perishable food items for the San Francisco and Marin Food Bank and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. These items can be dropped off in the back parking lot between 3-6pm each Sunday. Food banks are under a lot of pressure to provide food at this time to those that need it desperately and we want to make an effort to help those less fortunate than ourselves where we can.

What will the new normal look like for our great Center, our great City, our great Nation and Mother Earth? Do we no longer shake hands, embrace each other with hugs or share an excited high five? Answers to come...

Stay safe and healthy. Wishing you all the best.

UICC Board Members —Anne, Patty, Craig, Brian, Josephine, Liam, Maggie, Mark, Shannon, Tom

The Irish Center Shoppe is open NOW: IrishCenterSF.org



The United Irish Cultural Center is now a reseller for Irish goods! Shop for Barry's Tea, other Irish delights, and Irish Bread. The Shoppe is also selling Dinners To-Go on designated pick-up dates, T-Shirts, Beer, Wine, Liquor (for a limited time only), and more. Open 24/7 with an opportunity to pick up goods at The Irish Center on scheduled days in the future. Enjoy shopping at home for all your Favorites - with pickup at The Irish Center.

Support YOUR Irish Center NOW!

For any questions or suggestions of items we should carry contact:

store@IrishCenterSF.org



Sunday, May 3rd ~ Food Bank Drive ~ 3:00-6:00pm

Parking Lot Drop Off - benefiting the SF and Marin Food Bank and Saint Vincent DePaul Society

Sunday, May 10th ~ Food Bank Drive ~ 3:00-6:00pm

Parking Lot Drop Off - benefiting the SF and Marin Food Bank and Saint Vincent DePaul Society

Thursday, May 28th ~ Virtual Members Meeting ~ 7:30pm

Check the UICC website or call the Center for information

Monday - Friday, June 8th - 12th ~ Irish Summer Camp ~ See Ad

Saturday, June 27th ~ The Young Dubliners

Saturday October 3rd ~ Sharon Shannon

Friday October 16th ~ Helena Byrne Storytelling

Saturday October 17th ~ 2nd Annual Otoberfest — Music by The Internationals

Saturday & Sunday, November 14th & 15th ~ Derek Warfield & the Young Wolfe Tones

Saturday, December 5th ~ Great Irish & American Christmas Sing-Along

Saturday, December 12th ~ Rebel Cork Dinner Dance

Saturday, December 19th ~ Great Irish & American Christmas Sing-Along



Just a reminder:

Stay home — it saves lives.

Wear a mask, if you have to leave the house.

Wash your hands thoroughly.

PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY

*Greetings from the Library of Solitude,
known in the wider world as the Patrick J. Dowling Library at the United Irish Cultural Center.*

I hope this message finds you and yours healthy and safe. As we move into our second month of the Shelter in Place, we may certainly still be united, just not under one roof yet. While not being able to welcome you through our doors, the library has begun branching out into Social Media and Zoom worlds with the hopes of still offering an interesting space to discover, enjoy, and gather.

For Father Peter Yorke Day this past Palm Sunday, our Valerie McGrew produced a wonderful presentation which is available to all on the library's fledgling YouTube channel.

The Irish Genealogy Club held its first virtual meeting on April 11, welcoming Sean Conley, who was originally to speak here at the center on March 29. He spoke on *Irish Genealogy: Names, Place Names & Townlands*.

Snippets from The Leader, brief tours of the library and notes from the collection are being posted to Instagram. Information on other speakers and presentations will post here as well as on the library's page on the UICC's website.

If any of the clubs which would normally meet at the UICC would like to meet using the library's Zoom capabilities, please get in touch: librarian@irishcentersf.org.

Note: the next Irish Genealogy Club Zoom meeting is May 9, 11:00am. We have just confirmed the speaker, Kevin Cassidy, a member of the Greater Omaha Genealogical Society, presenting "Female Connections are the Best Road to Research Success" If anyone outside of the UICC's Irish Genealogy Club would like to attend, please email me at librarian@irishcentersf.org with your name and best email address for Zoom by May 7. I'll add you to the meeting invitation.

Meanwhile, you're welcome to follow us and join in on our progress:

Facebook: [@dowlinglibraryattheuicc](https://www.facebook.com/dowlinglibraryattheuicc)

Instagram: [pjdowlinglibrarysf](https://www.instagram.com/pjdowlinglibrarysf)

YouTube: Librarian P.J. Dowling Library

Sláinte!

Jennifer Drennan, *Librarian*



Dear Irish Center Members,

There is still time to participate in the 2020 Census! The census is a count of **EVERYONE living in the United States**, including the very young and the very old, citizens and non-citizens, the housed and the unhoused. There's a lot at stake: data from the census determine how many representatives we have in Congress and has an impact on how much federal money comes into San Francisco for schools, hospitals, roads, social services and more.

We should all do the census. You can do it in about 10 minutes without leaving home! In March, most people received a letter from the Census Bureau with instructions on how to do the census online at my2020census.gov (available in 13 languages) or over the phone at 844-330-2020 (available in 15 languages). **However, no letter, pin or ID number is required - anyone can and should do the census online or by phone between mid-March and October 2020.** The questionnaire is just nine simple questions and does NOT ask about citizenship. Data provided is safe and secure and the U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to keep responses confidential.

Tell all of your friends and neighbors to do the census so that San Francisco gets our fair share! Learn more at sfcounts.org.

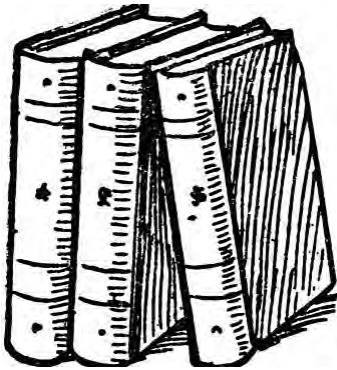
The UICC Center Board

United Irish Cultural Center

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Mail this form with your payment to:

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To donate online: <https://irishcentersf.org/scholarships/>

For further information email: scholarship@irishcentersf.org



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ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB OUTREACH PROGRAM



How are you doing?

Have you recently had a phone call from one of our ARC Volunteers?

In April IIPC Volunteers began making welfare check-in calls with our 'cocooning' ARC members. We miss seeing you at our events and although we are not able to be with each other, we still want to be there for you.

If you or someone you know might like to receive a friendly call, please contact **Joan at 415-432-2551** to leave a message.

Do you know that Mass celebrated by Fr Brendan is livestreamed every Sunday morning?

Join Fr. Brendan every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m., by visiting the IIPC's YouTube Channel at this link- <https://bit.ly/2R3qOKi>

Fr Brendan will continue to celebrate Mass each Sunday as long as we are unable to gather in person.

If you cannot tune in at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays, Masses will all remain on the Irish Immigration's PastoralCenter's YouTube channel at the above link.

Have you heard about the Essential Trip Card (ECT) ?

Last week San Francisco Mayor London Breed and SFMTA announced a new temporary program to assist seniors and adults with disabilities who need to make essential trips for the duration of the Stay Home Order.

The ECT program will provide cost-reduced taxi trips for older adults and people with disabilities who must travel for essential needs.

California Department of Aging (CDA) has partnered with The Institute on Aging to expand the Friendship Line's ability to accept calls from older Californians from any county! The Friendship Line is the only accredited crisis line in the country for older adults, adults living with disabilities, and their caregivers.

The phone line is staffed with specialists who provide emotional support, grief support, active suicide intervention, information and referrals.

Sometimes the road to happiness begins by simply saying hello to someone who cares. If you, or a loved one, could benefit from a friendly conversation, dial **1-888-670-1360**.

If you want more information about any program above, please contact Joan at 415-432-2551

"And then the whole world walked inside and shut their doors and said we will stop it all. Everything, to protect our weaker ones, our sicker ones. Our older ones. And nothing, nothing in the history of mankind ever felt more like love than this." - CD

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Please call Bridget Kelly - Administrator to arrange a tour of the facility and enjoy a complimentary lunch.

Lic. #415600306

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Mitzi Samson & Maureen Hickey

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Att: Maureen Hickey/Mitzi Samson

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Questions? Contact: Adrienne Verreos
415/468-4130 or email: falconassoc@earthlink.net