



Foras Cultúir Gael Aontuighthe

United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.

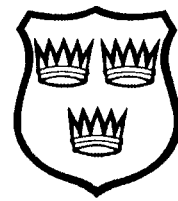
2700 - 45th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116

Tel: 415-661-2700

Fax: 415-661-8620

E-mail: info@irishcentersf.org

www.irishcentersf.org



Volume XLVII No. 4
April 2022

2022

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BOARD MESSAGE



Liam Reidy

2022 ST. PATRICK'S SEASON IS A HUGE SUCCESS

The 2022 Saint Patrick's celebratory season was a wonderful success at the Center. Our doors were fully open over several days as we welcomed and entertained a large number of our members (from near and far), their guests and local community residents with the finest musicians, dancers, songsters, and Irish artists. We even found time to host students from San Domenico elementary school in Marin County in the lead up to March 17th.

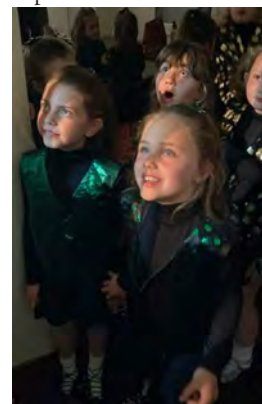
It was great to be back gathering again, after the abrupt cancellation of all the 2020 St. Patrick's events and the muted 2021 activities. The energy and buzz around the Center was great, and people were so happy to be out and about again connecting with old friends. There were a lot of compliments on the quality of the Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner that was offered during March. Hats off to Mark Burke and the St. Patrick's Week Committee, UICC staff, and volunteers for a job well done.

IRISH MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA — New York based International Fiddle sensation Eileen Ivers and her band kicked off the celebration of Irish music this year with a virtuoso performance on March 11th before a gathering of musical aficionados. A standing ovation upon the completion of her performance was well deserved. We had almost every available local Irish musician play at the Center between parade day, the Sunday GreenFest Block party and on Thursday March 17th. Thanks to all those who contributed to the musical program.

IRISH STEP DANCING — While looking through the many photos that were posted online on the various UICC social media channels for the Saint Patrick's season, I came across a photo that immediately struck me one that sums up why we work so hard on the UICC Board to make sure the Center remains open in our current space and aspire for greater things in our future new home.

The photograph taken by Eileen Mize (part of the UICC Marketing team) features four young dancers from the Boyle Academy of Irish Dance as they listened to their dance teacher (Noreen Boyle) give them a pep talk before they performed for the first time on the Main Stage in the St. Patrick's room on March 17th.

The photo captures excitement, fear, interpretation, wonderment and awe in the girls faces as they await their debut on the stage to a packed audience. Irish Step dancing is steeped in Bay Area Irish American social history, and we should always strive to have a place where all the Irish dancers can practice and perform for their families and patrons of Irish arts. There are thousands of boys and girls that have danced locally over the years, and each and every one of them have at one time danced at the UICC. May that tradition continue for many years to come.



Olivia Moriarty, Emma Moylan,
Lyla Meskin, Ellie McDonald.

(President's Message continued on page 2)

(President's Message continued)

LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE — We hosted several local TV stations on March 17th (ABC7, KPIX, Channel 2, and NBC) at the Center. The NBC broadcast (California Live) went live across the state between 11am and 12 noon and featured the Sunset Céilí Band (Kathleen Smith, Kevin Roche and Eamonn Flynn) playing a selection of jigs and reels while Aoibhínn, Fintan and Roisín Reidy performed a selection of Irish steps.

KCBS radio host Melissa Culross also stopped by the Center to record a piece for her Bay Currents Podcast. It was great to be able to share with the wider Bay Area community all that is great about Irish arts and culture on the west coast.

SCHOOL TOUR MARCH 15 — We hosted our first school tour of the year on Tuesday March 15th as we welcomed the Second Grade class from San Domenico School, San Anselmo. We organized instruction in the Tin Whistle, Bodhrán, Singing, Irish Step dancing and hurling for the kids. Overall a great day which ended with Josephine Brogan opening the Irish Shoppe for the kids who loaded up on Irish crisps and chocolate for the trip home to Marin County. Thanks to Cork native Claire O'Donnell -a teacher at the school for getting in contact to organize the visit. The success of this visit could see more regular school tours being part of the new building down the road.

KIDS MUSIC PROGRAM — There has been great feedback from the kids and parents on the Kids music, singing and drama program which has filled the halls of the Center since the first week of January. There were two showcase events on Feb 26th and

March 26th, where the kids participated in a show produced by Eamonn Flynn. Sign ups are still ongoing, and you are never too late to start learning!

2025 PROJECT UPDATE — Now that our plans for the new building have been submitted to the San Francisco Planning Department, the work on the interior finishes, design and lighting components is ongoing on a weekly basis with the Building Group. We have applied for various capital grants recently, the most notable being grants at the State of California and Irish government through the Emigrant Support Program. We should know by the end of July if our applications will result in future funding.

FIGHT NIGHT RETURNS — The UICC has teamed up with Fire in the Ring boxing club to bring a Fight Night back to the Center on Easter Saturday April 16th. Tickets for the event sold briskly upon release to the public and is expected to be a sell out by show-time.

LOVE HARDER PROJECT FUNDRAISER — Tim Flannery & The Lunatic Fringe play their first appearance at #WawonaGates on Saturday April 30th. Tim promises an evening of music, storytelling, and good-natured fun, all in the name of The Love Harder Project, which strives to put an end to bullying and violence.

Happy Easter

Warmest thoughts to you and your family this Easter.

Liam Reidy, President

lreidy@irishcentersf.org



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Celebrations of Life



Please contact our Pre-Planning Department for your **FREE** Personal Planning Guide

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Wendy Storch | 415.519.6091

APRIL CALENDAR

■ APRIL 9, SATURDAY

- **Irish Genealogy Club - Zoom Meeting**
11:00-1:00pm Pacific Time
This month's focus is on Griffith's Valuation.
Questions? Contact Contact 2022 club leads:
Pati Traktman patitraktman@gmail.com
& Nancy Sanchez nmsanchez86@yahoo.com.
Pre-register on Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGlWamluOW80dGM4MzJEeIAzUT09>

- **Irish Marvels Past & Present - Zoom Meeting**
2:30 - 4:30pm
Ardie McDermott presents "*Distant Relations*, the book about Chicano/Irish Mexican Art and Critical thinking"
Contact Jennifer Drennan at: librarian@irishcentersf.org

■ APRIL 16, SATURDAY

- **UICC Amateur Boxing Night**
In Partnership with Fire in the Ring Boxing
Doors Open 4:30 pm — Event runs until 10:00pm
Standing Room only. Tickets available at the UICC website
www.IrishCenterSF.org
- Music with Thomas Power ~ Wawona Gates at 4.30pm

■ APRIL 21, THURSDAY

- **Biscuits & Books, Live! ~ 2:30 - 4:30pm**
Special guest Sarah Lawlor, San Francisco's Mary, joins us to talk about her focus here in the City, recent trip to Ireland, and her road to this summer's Mary from Dungloe International Arts Festival. We'll high light books in our collection and in the Book Sale related to her journey. Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGlWamluOW80dGM4MzJEeIAzUT09>

■ APRIL 30, SATURDAY

- **Tim Flannery and The Lunatic Fringe**
"Love Harder Project" 4:00 - 8:00pm
An evening of music, storytelling, and good-natured fun, all in the name of The Love Harder Project, which strives to put an end to bullying and violence



SAVE THE DATE 2022

Friday May 13
"Steps Of Freedom"

Irish Step Dancing documentary
Brava Theatre
2781 24th St, San Francisco, CA 94110
The United Irish Cultural Center
is Co-Presenter of the film.
www.sfdancefilmfest.org

Friday-Saturday May 20-21
Save the Planet Feis

hosted by the Dillon School of Irish Dancing

Monday May 30 - Tuesday June 14
Irish Veterans Exhibition

UICC ~ St. Francis Room

Friday June 10
Gregory Harrington

June 13-July 1
Irish Summer Camp

Ages 6-20 years

St. Cecilia's School, 660 Vicente Street, SF, CA 94116

Kids Variety Show Friday July 1
featuring kids from the Summer Camp

July
Professional Boxing

featuring Callum Walsh

Sunday July 17 ~ 7:00am
2022 All-Ireland Hurling Final

16 foot screen and full Irish Breakfast

Sunday July 24 ~ 7:00am
2022 All-Ireland Football Final

16 foot screen and full Irish Breakfast

Saturday September 10
Ardal O'Hanlon
Comedian (Fr. Ted Fame)



Redefining possible.™

UCSF Health and UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals forge many partnerships throughout our community and beyond to further our mission of redefining what's possible for the patients we serve.

UCSF Health

IRISH SHOPPE



**at the
UICC**

Open each Saturday in
April from 1-3pm
Longer Hours on
April 16th

Online 24/7 @
IrishCenterSF.org
415-264-8856



Josephine Brogan
2021 Citizen of the Year

Support YOUR UICC and
the BUSINESSES that
Support YOUR UICC

**DEADLINE for May 2022 BULLETIN
is April 15**

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

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PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY

From the Library... in Aibreán [April, unless Google Translate has led me astray]

Whew! March was fun. It was lovely to have so many of our traditional St. Patrick's Day season events back and to see so many new and familiar faces at them. Thank you to all who supported the library's tables at the Green Fest block party. We're thrilled to have had so many good books find new homes.

Annie & Kathleen Holland's photography and jewellery exhibition was a success. The creative, fun energy the sisters brought to their craft and any room they were in was truly inspiring. My gratitude to Valerie McGrew for her time and efforts up to and during the exhibition's run; Cormac Gannon, and Kenny Somerville for the lovely music at the opening; Anne Cassidy Carew and Liam Reidy for their opening remarks; Renée Lazear for her steady hand behind the bar; Ursa Vineyards for the wine; the Wonder family for the beer; Nancy Sanchez, Sheila Rutz and my own husband for acting as barkeeps and docents over the St. Patrick's weekend. We welcomed over 200 attendees in those 5 days.

A special thank you to Annie Holland herself for her generous donation of the works to our permanent collection. The people and their stories she's shown us through her camera lens with us will continue to be shared here for the generations to come.

Meanwhile we have more in the works! Special events with the Irish Veterans Association, Sunnyvale's Heritage Park Museum, authors and genealogy partners are all being planned, so stay tuned!

Irish Genealogy Club - Zoom Meeting

Saturday, April 9, 2022, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pacific Time

This month's focus is on Griffith's Valuation.

Questions? Contact Contact 2022 club leads: Pati Traktman patitraktman@gmail.com

& Nancy Sanchez nmsanchez86@yahoo.com.

Pre-register on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGlWamluOW80dGM4MzJEelAzUT09>

Irish Marvels Past & Present - Zoom Meeting

Saturday, April 9, 2:30 - 4:30 PM Pacific Time

Ardie McDermott presents "*Distant Relations*, the book about Chicano/Irish/Mexican Art and Critical thinking"

Questions? Contact Jennifer Drennan at: librarian@irishcentersf.org

Pre-register on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkf-qgrzgvGdaenGKpG8k4v1Y7qRaBiONO>

Biscuits & Books, Live!

Thursday, April 21, 4:00 - 4:45 PM

Special guest Sarah Lawlor, San Francisco's Mary, joins us to talk about her focus here in the City, recent trip to Ireland, and her road to this summer's Mary from Dungloe International Arts Festival. We'll highlight books in our collection and in the Book Sale related to her journey.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qc-6qrjgiGdS-rTdd8T6-8DTFhpdQfMcL>



Housekeeping for the Keepers: We're so grateful to all who donated and/or loaned their treasures to make the exhibition such a smashing success. And thank you now to everyone who has reclaimed their treasures so far. If you have not already done so, please email the library to make arrangements to pick up your loaned items.

Slainte!

Jennifer Drennan, Librarian

librarian@irishcentersf.org — 415/661-2700 ext 106

The Social Library

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

YouTube: Librarian P.J. Dowling Library

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

THE CELTIC TEA SHOPPE

Home of Artisan Candies

We are excited to announce a new Drop-Off Service at the United Irish Cultural Center! Once a month, on a Saturday, Kristen and Dean Scott will bring pre-orders of their house-made meat pies, sausage rolls, Irish soda breads, fresh scones, liquor cakes and more to the center for pickup. Check out the Drop-Off Service page on their website for all the details.

QR Code for
our website



Irish Whiskey Cake



Scones



Meat Pies and Sausage Rolls

The Celtic Tea Shoppe is San Francisco Bay Area's source for locally-made cultural foods of Ireland, Scotland and England. Owned and operated by Dean and Kristen Scott of San Jose, California, they use traditional family recipes as well as create new ones for all the foods they make and sell at the shop. You can order for pickup at the shop, or you can have most items shipped anywhere in the country.

4432 Pearl Avenue, San Jose CA USA 95136
celticteashoppe.com • 408.267.7090 • info@celticteashoppe.com



SAN FRANCISCO COOLEY-KEEGAN
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INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE
2022 NORTH AMERICAN
COMHALTAS CONVENTION
April 21st - 24th, 2022

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1221 Chess Drive, Foster City

The excitement is building!

The long awaited CCE North American 2022 Convention is almost here!

Check out our website for more information:

www.cceconvention2022.com

We are welcoming Comhaltas members and friends from all across the United States, Canada, Ireland and England and are assured that they will have an amazing experience visiting the San Francisco Bay Area. Our Convention will be a memorable event not only for the music, language, song and dance, but also for the hospitality of our branch. We look forward to providing a wonderful Convention weekend! Come join us for a night or two to dance, listen to or join in a session, take a workshop during the day, join us for Mass on Sunday with Irish Choir, Cór Radharc an Chnoic, from Mountain View, at 10:00 am, or spend the entire weekend with us and experience all we have to offer.

Email us with any questions: chair@sccooleykeegancce.org
Everybody is welcome with proof of vaccination, including booster.



GREGORY
HARRINGTON

~ FRIDAY, JUNE 10 ~

Gregory Harrington is one of Ireland's most recognized artists, and has performed all over the world to critical acclaim in concert halls from Carnegie Hall to the Royal Festival Hall,

on radio and TV across the globe, for Presidents, Vice Presidents, the UN, with iconic artists and his collaborations go as far afield to Anthem performances in Lambeau Field for the NFL and in Soldier Field for Irish Rugby in their iconic win against the NZ All Blacks.



CONGRATULATIONS TO MAEVE!

Maeve O'Reilly was the winner of the UICC St. Patrick's Day parade photograph competition organized by the Marketing team at the Center. Maeve is seen here with UICC President Liam Reidy accepting a hamper full of Irish goodies from the Irish Center Shoppe.

IRISH CONSULATE - IRELAND HOUSE

The Irish Consulate General of San Francisco held the official opening of their new offices “Ireland House” on the 23rd floor of One Pine Street on March 14th last. Ireland House is also home to Enterprise Ireland USA, and Tourism Ireland.

Irish Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform Michael McGrath was the guest of honor for the evening, and spoke eloquently of the history and strong ties that exist between Ireland and the US west coast, especially the Bay Area and Silicon Valley. Minister McGrath also noted the robust modern day connections between his home county of Cork and San Francisco, and acknowledged the business, educational and cultural connections between the two cities since 1983, through the Cork - San Francisco Sister Committee.

District 2 San Francisco Supervisor Catherine Stefani, former Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White and California Assemblyman Kevin Mullin also spoke during the evening.



*Noleen Pattison presents
Minister Michael McGrath with a San
Francisco-Cork Sister City lapel pin.*



Leo Cassidy, Joanne Hayes-White, and Liam Reidy.

Former Chief Hayes congratulated Robert O'Driscoll and his staff on opening their new facility. She also noted the enthusiastic energy within the Irish American community for the proposed rebuild of the United Irish Cultural Center, and wished the UICC Board and Building Group the best of luck as the project moves through the planning process.

State Assemblyman Kevin Mullin spoke about the long history of civic and public service by the Irish American community in California, which continues today, and hoped it would continue well into the future. Kevin also spoke encouragingly about the rebuild of the Irish Center and the great progress that had been made during the year developing the ambitious plans for Project 2025.

Consul General Robert O'Driscoll is in the final few months of his post here in San Francisco, and returns to Ireland later this year. Congratulations to Robert and wife Caoimhe on the birth of a baby boy named Cillian last month, an older brother for Cúan.



*Stephanie Reidy with Consul General of
San Francisco, Robert O'Driscoll.*



*Leo Cassidy and California
Assemblyman Kevin Mullin.*



*UICC President Liam Reidy with Irish
Minister Michael McGrath.*

**The
Future
Is Now**



**IRISH CENTER
2025 PROJECT**
S A N F R A N C I S C O

Eileen Ivers Concert Kicks Off St. Patrick's Season!

The Grammy®-Awarded and Emmy-nominated Irish Fiddle player Eileen Ivers and her band kicked off the St. Patrick's season with a concert in the St. Patrick's room on Friday March 11th before an appreciative crowd. Ivers pushes fiddling tradition boundaries from a folk music staple to a fiercely fresh, powerfully beautiful, intensely driving world stage experience and we were happy to host her as we launched our 2020 St. Patrick's festivities.

Below are some of the attendees.



Majella Burns, Pauline Cassidy and Rita Kelly.



Joe McFadden with Eileen Ivers.



Tom Smith, PJ Curtin, Joanne Hartnett and Priscilla Murphy.



Kevin Buckley and Jacob Hoertkorn.



Eileen Ivers with Fintan and Roisin Reidy.



Kathleen and Brendan McKeon with Kathleen McDonough.



Coleman and Michael McDonough with Denise LaPointe.



Eamonn Flynn, Eileen Ivers and Vince Keenan.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT THE IRISH CENTER!



Erin Burke, Melissa Kelleher Lewis, Caroline King Lalosh, Blythe Hurley, Jessica O'Reilly.



Kathleen Smith with Sharon Whelan McSweeney.



Board member Kathleen McKeon with Val Kirwan.



Jimmy, Terry, Eileen and Mary McHugh.



PJ McGee and Joanne Hayes-White.



Nora O'Sullivan and Board Secretary Molly Burke.



Melissa Culross, KCBS Radio interviewing President Liam Reidy on March 17th at Wawona Gates.



UICCVI Mark Burke with Marie Woods.



Don Braten and Tom Smith.



Marina Roche with grand kids Ailisha and Finbarr Palladino.



Former UICCVI board member Rebecca Moran, Michael Barnacle (past UICCVI President) with current UICCVI President Liam Reidy.



Kathleen Manning and Peggy Nevin.



Kerry Kingham and Rose Sherazi.

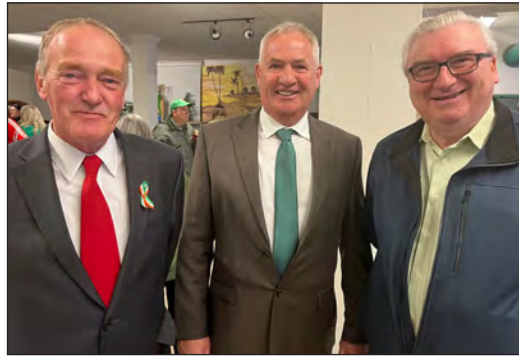


Musicians Pat and Sean O'Donnell with Josephine Brogan.

ST. PATRICK'S 171ST PARADE



Máire McEnhill and
Consul General Robert O'Driscoll.



Con Lyons, John Buckley, and John Hinchion.



2022 Grand Marshal Jim Byrne
with John O'Flynn.



Tess Campbell and Josephine O'Flynn.



Peter and Patricia Quirke..



Gerry Blanchfield.



Fintan Reidy.



John Montague and Derry Philpott, SFPD.



Officers Kevin Lynch and John Hallisy, SFPD.



Sean, Olivia, and Ryan Elsbernd.



Bill and Steve Welch.



The UICC Double Decker Bus.



Chloe Lucey and Aoibhinn Reidy.

WINNERS – 171ST ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2022

Elementary School Band

1st – M.U.S.E.
2nd – Music Matters

High School Band

1st – Archbishop Riordan High School
2nd - Sacred Heart Cathedral

College Band

1st – Humboldt State University

Civilian Band

1st - Tian Guo Marching Band
2nd - Los Trancos Wood

Float (Open Class)

1st – Carpenters Local 22
2nd – Elevation Real Estate

Sr. Drum & Bell/Bugle Corps

1st – Lowell High School JROTC
2nd – George Washington JROTC
3rd – Galileo High Scholl JROTC

Jr. Drum & Bell/Bugle Corps

1st – Troop 12 Boy Scouts of America

Jr. Baton Corps

1st – Redwood City Twirlers

Jr. Boys Drill Team

1st – Lowell High School JROTC
2nd – Balboa High School

Jr. Girls Drill Team

1st – Balboa High School
2nd – Lowell High School JROTC

Sr. Drum Major

1st – Archbishop Riordan High School
2nd – Los Trancos Woods

Sr. Marching Unit

1st – Irish Northern Aid
2nd – International Brotherhood of Sheet Metal

Novelty Unit

1st – Kerry Blue Terrier Club
2nd – Girl Scouts of America
3rd – Ironworkers Local 377

Best Fife Band

1st – Pearse and Connolly Fife Band

Pipe Band

1st – Silicon Valley Pipe Band
2nd – Irish Pipers Band of SF

Flag Team

1st – George Washington JROTC
2nd - Lowell High School JROTC
3rd - ASIYA Shriners

Antique Car

1st –SF Native 1930 Ford Model A
2nd - Blarney Fire Department

Bus/Cable Car

1st –Carpenter Local 22
2nd - Ancient Order of Hibernians

Irish Float

1st – Comhaltas Ceoltoire Eireann
2nd - East Bay Fleadhachol
3rd - Irish Football Youth League

Irish Marching Unit

1st – Irish Literary & Historical Society
2nd - United Irish Cultural Center
3rd - Irish Football Youth League

Irish Dance Group

1st – Whelan Academy of Irish Dance
2nd - Kennelly School of Irish Dance
3rd - Murphy School of Irish Dance

Irish Unit - Other

1st – Northern California Irish Wolfhounds
2nd - United Irish Societies of San Francisco

Irish Decorated Cable Car/Bus

1st –United Irish Cultural Center
2nd - Rebel Cork Associations
3rd - ASIYA Shriners

Equestrian - Best Costume Rider

Green Valley Riders

*A huge thank you to all participants
for a wonderful parade!*

Annie Holland Photographic Exhibition: Children of the Free State

Canceled in 2020 and postponed in 2021, the Annie Holland Photographic exhibition made its long awaited debut at the United Irish Cultural Center on March 10th, 2022. The exhibit ran during the St. Patrick's season in the St. Francis room.

The exhibition focuses on older people from rural County Laois born before or just after 1922, taking portraits of them and having conversations about the past and the present.

These conversations created the framework for her exhibition 'Children of the Free State'. Using photography and video, Annie focuses on how the process of documentation and storytelling can itself create space, physically and emotionally, for real dialogue and the narration of personal stories – past and present. In creating this body of work she visited the homes of 13 elderly participants, taking portraits of them and having conversations about their past and present life. She incorporated old family photos, dating back generations into the exhibition, as a tangible bridge that connects the past with the present, and the exhibition of portraits connected current and future generations. Below are some of the attendees from Opening Night.



Sophia and Karen Eggert with their cousin Irish Artist Annie Holland.



Ann Torres and Meta Baxter.



Jack and Theresa Kavanagh, Margaret O'Neill and Sophia Eggert.



Maureen Barry and Breda Courtney.



UICC Librarian Jennifer Drennan, Jamie O'Keefe and Randy Dodson.



Maureen Barry and Breda Courtney.



Kathleen Manning and Valerie McGrew.



Richard and Ann O'Neill.



Jimmy and Julie O'Keefe.

AMATEUR FIGHT NITE RETURNS TO THE CENTER APRIL 16, 2022

An amateur boxing extravaganza returns to the Center on Easter Saturday April 16th starting at 5.15pm. The event is a partnership between Fire in the Ring boxing in Brisbane and the United Irish Cultural Center. Professional boxers Charlie Sheehy and Callum Walsh are confirmed to attend for a meet and greet with all local boxing fans. The event is expected to Sell Out.



Pro-fighter Charlie Sheehy will make an appearance at the amateur fight night on Saturday April 16, 2022.



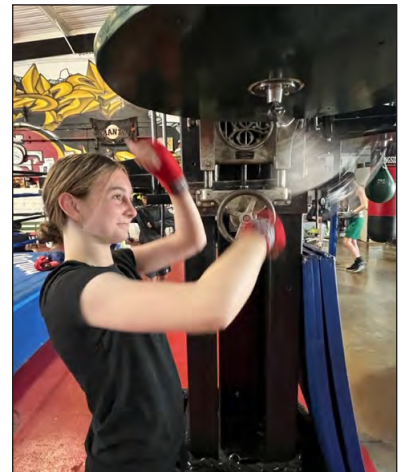
Irish boxer Kevin McLaughlin and Jimmy Ford discuss tactics ringside at Fire in the Ring Boxing Club on March 16th, 2022.



Bailey and John O'Shea.



Jake Hubbard, Paul Hackett, Rob Hernandez and Kevin McLaughlin.



Bailey O'Shea.



John O'Shea and Danny Duran.



*Jimmy Ford, Dennis Hearne
Rain Daugherty, Aniya Suafai and David Rodriguez.*



Jimmy Ford and Jake Hubbard.

SAN DOMENICO SCHOOL VISITS THE UICC

The Center hosted its first post-covid School Tour on March 15th as we welcomed the Second Grade class from San Domenico school in San Anselmo-California's oldest independent school. It was the first ever time the school visited the United Irish Cultural Center. Cork born Claire O'Donnell who teaches in the school reached out to the Center earlier this spring to see if we would host the Marin County school. Together we organized a fun day of activities drawing on the resources currently available to local children in our Irish Arts and Culture programming department. Claire and

her colleague Carla Harris were very gracious for the program of activities we developed for the day. The kids got to play the Bodhrán, Tin Whistle, Sing Irish songs, play hurling and learn some Irish Steph Dancing. At the end of the program of events, the kids were treated to all the goodies available in the Irish Shoppe.



The San Domenico Second Grade class with teachers Claire O'Donnell and Carla Harris.



Josephine Brogan had a big rush of kids at lunchtime in the Irish Shoppe.



Noreen Boyle instructing the kids in Irish Step Dancing.



Eamonn Flynn teaches the kids "Molly Malone."



Tim Hill instructing the young students on how to play the Bodhrán.



Autumn Rhodes teaching Tin Whistle.

KIDS SPRING MUSIC PROGRAM CORNER

The spring music classes continue each week with several local musicians providing instruction to the younger members of the UICC community. Irish fiddle player Darcy Noonan has been busy since January teaching fiddle. Here are photos of some of the students with Darcy.



Rex Lamar Moore with Fiddle instructor Darcy Noonan.



Fintan Reidy, Seamus Standard with Darcy Noonan.



Kameron Bilbao, Seamus Standard, Drum instructor Kathleen Smith and Roisin Reidy performed as part of the event on March 26th at Wawona Gates.

“STEPS OF FREEDOM: THE STORY OF IRISH DANCE”

The San Francisco Dance Film Festival is presenting the documentary “Steps of Freedom: The Story of Irish Dance” on Friday, May 13, 2022 at the Brava Theater in San Francisco at 7:30 p.m. Following the film there will be a special performance by a local Irish Dance group. Tickets will be available through www.sfdancefilmfest.org, and links from IrishCenterSF.org

“Steps Of Freedom” documentary tells for the first time the extraordinary story of how Irish dance developed over centuries from a traditional dance of the Irish people to become the global phenomenon it is today attracting millions of viewers and dancers throughout the world.

The documentary features stunning original performances by some of the greatest Irish dance practitioners of the present day and a wealth of archive materials including films, photographs and witness accounts revealing how Irish dance has been practiced through history. There is a strong American current running throughout the story as we show how the Irish diaspora played a pivotal part in shaping the form particularly during the last century.

The United Irish Cultural Center is Co-Presenter of the film.





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Hello,

Want to renew your membership or purchase a membership for someone? Want to make a donation to the Irish Center on behalf of yourself or in memory of someone? Want to support the Library or Cultural Programming? The Irish Center relies on dues and participation from its Members so that it can continue to grow and help connect current and future generations with their Irish heritage.

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The term for annual dues is 365 days from the date your dues are recorded. Dues are regulated by the UICC Board of Directors.

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