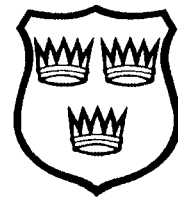




Foras Cultúir Gael Aontuighthe

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. 7
July 2022

2022
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BOARD MESSAGE

MUSIC, SPORTS & OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS AT THE CENTER THIS SUMMER



Liam Reidy

IRISH SUMMER CAMP PROVES TO BE A HIT! — The second annual summer camp has just ended after a three week run here at the Center. The camp built on last year's inaugural success, by attracting over fifty campers to sign up this year. Musical theatre, drama, music, singing, Irish language, art and sports were activities that the kids enjoyed on a daily basis. We added computer coding this year to the list of optional activities the kids had the opportunity to participate in. Many thanks to Camp leaders Michael Dillon, Eamonn Flynn, Katy Porter, Tim Moriarty, Mary Radonovich, Jennifer Corry, James Ward-Mallison, JT Hardiman, Patrick Williams, and Shane Reidy for keeping the kids busy for the three weeks.

The camp culminated in a wonderful stage show in the St. Patrick's room, on Friday July 1 called "Muirsheen Durkin: The Golden Years". The capacity crowd enjoyed the show immensely. Camp Director Michael Dillon said "we had a great three weeks with the kids, and to see them all perform so wonderfully on stage in the variety show was the icing on the cake. We are already looking forward to planning next year's camp!". A special word of thanks to the UICC members who supported the Annual Appeal last December and the Emigrant Support Program (Irish Government) who provided financial assistance for this year's summer camp.

FAREWELL TO SF CONSUL GENERAL — It is hard to believe that after a five year stay in the city by the bay, San Francisco's Irish Consul General Robert O'Driscoll's tenure is close to an end. The UICC and several community partners hosted a farewell party for the O'Driscoll family in the St. Francis room on June 11th. Irish violinist Gregory Harrington provided wonderful music during the afternoon. State Assemblyman Kevin Mullin attended and presented a certificate of recognition to Consul O'Driscoll from the California State Assembly.

I got to know Robert shortly after his arrival here in 2017 to San Francisco, as we were both part of a panel discussion and seminar on the history of the Gaelic Athletic Association in the SF area since 1854. The event was hosted by the Irish Historical and Literary Society. Fast forward to the last couple of years and Robert and I developed a close working relationship since I assumed the role of UICC President back in December 2020. During his time here in San Francisco, Robert has shown great support of all we are doing on a regular basis as a hub for the Irish American community and has wholeheartedly supported our aspirational dreams for the new Center. Robert has graciously advised the UICC on applications for grants for cultural programming and capital grant support for the 2025 Project. Robert has been very busy at the downtown Irish Consulate's Office during the last few years having overseen a major relocation and refurbishment of the Irish government's new hub at One Post Street, which now includes the Consulate, Enterprise Ireland and Tourism Ireland.

I want to extend my thanks to him on behalf of the entire UICC community for all he has done for us in the recent past. Robert and his family return to Ireland this August, and we wish him all the best in his diplomatic career.

HARRINGTON WOWS AUDIENCE — New York based Irish violinist Gregory Harrington wowed the audience at an intimate evening of chamber music in the St. Francis room on June 10th. Harrington who will play Carnegie Hall in New York for the fifth time next February gave an unforgettable virtuoso performance which will live long in the

(President's Message continued on page 2)

(President's Message continued)

memory of those who were in attendance. It is understandable that Harrington is one of Ireland's most recognized artists, having performed all over the world as a soloist.

WRESTLING NITE JULY 8TH — West Coast Pro Wrestling makes its debut at the Center on Saturday July 8th, with Motor City Machine Guns. This is another first time activity for the Center. Tickets at IrishCenterSF.org

MUSICAL EVENING JULY 9TH — Wawona Gates will host an Irish music Seisúin led by the Gas Men on Saturday July 9th starting at 6.30pm. All Irish musicians are encouraged to come along and play. Later at 9.30pm local native Seamus Lucey and his band Saving the Suburbs (based in Chicago) will play in the Emerald Room.

ROCK THE GATES — We are launching a new initiative here at the Center this August as we announce an all day music festival - Rock the Gates - Summer Fleadh 2022. The event will be held on Saturday, August 27 at the Center on multiple stages. This festival will showcase a variety of bands from tribute bands, the Irish favorites, and will also include some Irish Dancing from some of our local dance schools. The line-up includes: License to Chill (Jimmy Buffet tribute); The Shams (Irish rock); Mangobus (SF reggae); The Pinball Wizards (The Who tribute); The Hooks (Alternative Rock); Fret & Fiddle (Celtic); Savage Craic (Irish trad); The Gas Men (Irish trad); Lucky ol' Bones (Celtic folk/punk); Tommy & the Brothers (Clancy Brothers/Tommy Makem tribute); Irish Dancers and more.

FIGHT NITE #2 SUCCESS — Another capacity crowd attended the fight night #2 on June 25th. Hats off to Jimmy Ford and Fire in the Ring Boxing Club and UICC Board VP Mark Burke for driving the promotion and execution of another successful boxing card.

SUMMER VACATION — Next month's message will be written while on vacation in the Emerald Isle. For the first time in four years, I will get the chance to visit my family in Co. Limerick, having last vacationed in Ireland in 2018. My family are super excited about the proposed trip, seeing their grandparents and cousins again. I am hoping to get the chance to see Limerick in an All-Ireland hurling final on July 17th at Croke Park, the National GAA Headquarters. I have watched the 2018, 2020 and 2021 All-Ireland victories stateside, so with a little luck I may make it to Dublin to see Limerick in the flesh.

ALL-IRELAND FINAL BROADCAST — The UICC will broadcast the All-Ireland hurling and football finals on July 17th and 24th at 7.00am. 16 Foot screen and full Irish Breakfast. Tickets at IrishCenterSF.org

SAFE TRAVELS — It is great to see so many people taking long awaited vacations this summer (including several of the hard working Board) so if you are traveling, please do take care, and we look forward to hearing about your trip and catching up at the Center when you return!

Happy 4th of July to Everyone in the Community!

Liam Reidy
lreidy@irishcentersf.org



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JULY CALENDAR

■ JULY 8, FRIDAY

- **West Coast Pro Wrestling Cruel Summer 2022**
7:00pm-10:00pm ~ St. Patrick's Room
The Motor City Machine Guns
Jacob Fatu, Titus Alexander, Vinnie Massaro,
and Levi Shapiro

■ JULY 9, SATURDAY

- **Irish Music Seisúin ~ 6:00pm**
Under the Tent at Wawona Gates
The Gas Men lead the lively session in Traditional Irish Music. All local musicians encouraged to come along and play
- **Seamus Lucey and his band "Saving the Suburbs"**
Emerald Room ~ 9:00pm
Full Bar/Bar grub/Dance floor
- **Irish Genealogy Club - Zoom Meeting**
11:00am-1:00pm (US and Canada)
Sean Conly returns as our guest speaker, sharing his in-depth knowledge of genealogical research.
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=aEFPbGIWamluOW80dGM4MzJEelAzUT09>
- **Irish Marvels, Past and Present ~ 2:30-4:30pm**
"Distant Relations, Chicano Irish Mexican art and critical writing"
Book review and presentation by Ardie McDermott
Contact: Lisa Hilmoe, hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com
- JULY 17, SUNDAY
- **2022 All-Ireland Hurling Final ~ 7:00am**
16 foot screen and full Irish breakfast
- JULY 21, THURSDAY
- **Biscuits & Books, Live! ~ 4:00 - 4:45pm**
Grab a cuppa and join the conversation. We'll look at some of the new additions to the Book Sale and to the collection. This episode will find the library open to patrons as well. Anything may happen.
Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/89007236093?pwd=aEFPbGIWamluOW80dGM4MzJEelAzUT09>
- JULY 24, SUNDAY
- **2022 All-Ireland Football Final ~ 7:00am**
16 foot screen and full Irish breakfast

SAVE THE DATE 2022

Saturday August 27

"Tommy and the Brothers"

A tribute to the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem.
<http://www.tommyandthebrothers.com>

•

Saturday August 27

Rock the Gates - Music Festival

•

Friday September 9

UICC Dinner Honoring
Mary Lou McDonald, President of Sinn Féin



For Tickets Contact:

Seamus Canning 415-310-9103
Ciarán Scally 510-333-2677

•

Saturday September 10 ~ 8pm

Ardal O'Hanlon

Comedian (Fr. Ted Fame)

•

Saturday September 24 - Sunday September 25

Murphy Irish Dance School Feis

•

Saturday October 15

Octoberfest

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August 27th, 2022

**TOMMY &
THE
BROTHERS**

A Tribute to The Clancy Brothers
and Tommy Makem




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is July 15**

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

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PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY

Greetings from the Library...

Looking back for a moment, it was a pleasure to welcome Gregory Harrington and his talented accompanists into the library. They used it as their green room during their two performances on Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11, and even found time to look through some of our sheet music. Gregory was very enthusiastic about the items I pulled for them from our collection of sheet music, including a folio of traditional Irish music arranged for the violin, the 1907 edition of O'Neill's *Dance Music of Ireland*, and *Set Dances of Ireland* by Larry Lynch. He also donated two of his CDs to the library's collection, inscribed no less, so they are in the collection for all to enjoy going forward.

On into July, the library's focus is on organizing its burgeoning digital collection and cataloguing the wonderful book donations we have received recently. There is so much to review and absorb. It's wonderful. Watch for highlights in the next bulletin and on our social media.

Library Hours: July

Thursday, Friday, Saturday July: 1:30 - 4:30 pm.

Closed Saturday, July 2 - Happy Independence Day weekend!

PLEASE NOTE: Through mid July the library will be attended by volunteers only. Every effort will be made to open during the days/hours above. Adjustments will be announced on the library's social media as far in advance as possible.

Please make arrangements for any physical donations via email; drop-off dates will be mid July or later.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

Irish Genealogy Club - Zoom Meeting

Saturday, July 9, 2022, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (US and Canada)

Sean Conly returns as our guest speaker, sharing his in-depth knowledge of genealogical research.

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

Saturday, July 9, 2022, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

"*Distant Relations, Chicano Irish Mexican art and critical writing*"

Book review and presentation by Ardie McDermott

Contact: Lisa Hilmoie, hilmoie.gleason@gmail.com



Biscuits & Books, Live!

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

Grab a cuppa and join the conversation. We'll look at some of the new additions to the Book Sale and to the collection.

This episode will find the library open to patrons as well. Anything may happen.

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

Children of the Free State & Keepers of the Steps exhibition panels

Did you miss either of these events earlier in the year? Or were you so intrigued you'd like to study them further? You are welcome in to see them anytime the center is open and there are no private events in the space/s they are hanging in.

Children of the Free State is hanging in the Member's Room

Keepers of the Steps panels are in the 2nd floor elevator lobby and along the St. Patrick's Room hallway.

Slainte!

Jennifer Drennan, Librarian

librarian@irishcentersf.org — 415/661-2700 ext 106 [Th, F, Sat]



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- Jaqueline K.

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IRISH CENTER
2025 PROJECT

www.IrishCenterSF.org | 2700 45TH AVE @ WAWONA

UICC FAREWELL PARTY FOR CONSUL GENERAL ROBERT O'DRISCOLL

Thanks to all who joined us for a fond farewell reception for Consul General Robert O'Driscoll and his family in June 11, 2022. It was a wonderful afternoon in the St. Francis Room where guests were treated to a wonderful performance from violinist Gregory Harrington. Remarks made by various individuals could be summed up with gratitude, pride, appreciation, partnerships, and community—and for all of that, the #IrishCenterSF Family is strong!

As the O'Driscoll family begins to wind up their residency in San Francisco, with their two young native San Franciscans in tow, we bid them Slán Abhaile and safe home until we meet again!



Cillian, Robert, Caoimbe, and Cúan O'Driscoll.



UICC Board member Shannon McAuliffe, with Maureen and Jim Byrne.



Consul General Robert O'Driscoll accepts a farewell gift from the UICC, with UICC President Liam Reidy and Dowling Librarian Jennifer Drennan.



James Quinn, Mark Gorman and Con Lyons.



Gregory Harrington and Eileen Mize.



UICC President Liam Reidy, Martin Falvey, Gregory Harrington, Michael Barnacle, and Diarmuid Philpott.



Past UICC Board member Caitie O'Shea and former President Michael Barnacle.



Eileen Mize, Danny Guiney, President, RCBA and UICC President, Liam Reidy.



John O'Riordan with Consul General O'Driscoll and son Cillian O'Driscoll.



Maggie Overbay with Tom Sleekman.



John McCormack, SF Glens, with Consul General O'Driscoll.



Celine Kennelly with Caoimbe and Cúan O'Driscoll.



State Assemblyman Kevin Mullin presents Consul General O'Driscoll with a certificate of recognition from the California State Assembly.

GREGORY HARRINGTON SHOW MESMERIZES AUDIENCE

On June 10th, Irish violinist Gregory Harrington, provided an intimate evening of Chamber music in the St. Francis room. It was a virtuoso performance by the very talented Harrington, along with SF Conservatory of Music players Julian Bennett and Kyle Stachnik on cellos. It was a global musical journey that enthralled the audience from start to finish.



*Julian Bennett, Gregory Harrington
and Kyle Stachnik.*



*James and Bonnie Quinn
with David Harrington (Kronos Quartet).*



Michael and Kathleen Kraus.



Anne Torres, Gregory Harrington and Meta Baxter.



John and Mary Smith.

The United Irish Cultural Center is proud to announce their latest music festival Rock the Gates — Summer Fleadh 2022

To be held on Saturday, August 27 at the Irish Center on multiple stages, this festival will showcase a variety of bands from tribute bands, the Irish favorites, and will also include some Irish Dancing from some of our local dance schools.

Rock the Gates has an exciting line-up including License to Chill (Jimmy Buffet tribute); The Shams (Irish rock); The Hooks (Irish punk rock); Mangobus (SF reggae); The Pinball Wizards (The Who tribute); Fret & Fiddle (Celtic); Savage Craic (Irish trad); The Gas Men (Irish trad); Lucky ol' Bones (Celtic folk/punk); Tommy & the Brothers (Clancy Brothers/Tommy Makem tribute); Irish Dancers and more. Join us on August 27 for a rockin' good time!

**Irish Center SF**
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multiple bands
and
WAWONA GATES



ROCK THE GATES

20 • Summer Fleadh • 22
SAT, AUGUST 27 | 2-10 pm

The Shams ♦ License to Chill ♦ The Hooks
♦ Mangobus ♦ The Pinball Wizards ♦
Fret & Fiddle ♦ Savage Craic ♦ The Gas Men
♦ Lucky ol' Bones ♦ Tommy & the Brothers
♦ Irish Dancers ♦ and more ...

TICKETS/DETAILS: www.IrishCenterSF.org

[@IrishCenterSF](https://www.IrishCenterSF.org)

2700 45th Avenue | San Francisco, CA 94116

**IRISH CENTER**
2025 PROJECT

SECOND ANNUAL IRISH SUMMER CAMP IS COMMUNITY SUCCESS

Over fifty kids attended the second annual Irish summer camp for three weeks during the month of June at the Center. The camp featured drama, hip-hop, musical theatre, art, music, Irish language, and sports. Kids were also given the opportunity to do computer coding, using the Scratch language-which is a high level block-based visual programming language.

The camp culminated with an excellent drama production of “Muirsheen Durkin: The Golden Years” on Friday July 1. We will have photos next month!



Musical Director Eamonn Flynn leads the kids in song during camp week.



Camp leaders Patrick Williams and JT Hardiman, with Cillian Cudden, Fintan Reidy.



Musical theatre camp Instructor Katy Porter leads the kids in song during the camp.



Kathy Kell, Saoirse and Mary Keaveney.



Nora Robinson with Aoibhinn Reidy.



Aidan Chin and Cillian Cudden being instructed in computer coding (Scratch) by camp leader Shane Reidy.



Campers Brian, Ashlyn and Patrick Cunningham.



Kids enjoyed Art classes most days during the camp led by Mary Radonovich.

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CALL IIPC FOR MORE INFORMATION

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shannon@sfiipc.org

Having a tough day?
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prioritize what your body and mind might need!

Share your lived experience.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

11:00 A.M.

ZOOM LINK @ [LINKTR.EE/SFIIPC](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc)



ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB OUTREACH PROGRAM

** SPECIAL EVENT ** MASS & LUNCHEON

We are SO excited to be hopping on a bus and heading back to see Fr. Aidan McAleenan at St. Columba Parish in Oakland!

The bus will depart the UICC at 10:00 a.m., to arrive at St. Columba for 11:00 a.m. Mass celebrated by Fr. Aidan. Following Mass, we will gather in the beautiful garden at St. Columba for lunch and to spend time together. The bus will return to the UICC at approximately 4:00 p.m.

As part of our COVID safety protocols, masks will be required on the bus.

Thursday, August 11, 2022

10:00 a.m. Bus departs UICC

11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Columba
followed by buffet luncheon

4:00 p.m. Bus returns to UICC

Tickets \$40 (inc. bus)

Advance registration required at linktr.ee/sfiipc or contact
Shannon at 415.432.2552 or shannon@sfiipc.org



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme
An tAon Chathair Eagraíochas na Tríoblá
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Brendan Patrick O'Connor passed away June 1, 2022. Brendan is survived by his mother, Elizabeth O'Connor; father & step-mother, John Kenneth & Sheila O'Connor; sister, Bridget Frances O'Connor; maternal grandparents Alphonse & Marinel Wilunowski, nee Price; and aunts, uncles & cousins in Ireland. Brendan is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Benjamin & Maureen O'Connor, nee Burke of Meelin, Co. Cork, Ireland.

Brendan was born on January 13, 1997 in San Francisco California, growing up in the West Portal neighborhood. He enjoyed a loving and rigorous education at St. Brendan School. Moving to Illinois in 2011, he graduated from Highland Park High School in 2015. Following graduation he returned to the San Francisco Bay Area to live and work, where he followed in his father's footsteps as a welder. Brendan had a gentle soul with a quiet demeanor and a kind heart. He will be dearly missed.

Services were held for Brendan at St. Brendan's Church 29 Rockaway Avenue, San Francisco on June 25th.

Our darling boy Brendan. Forever in our hearts.



EXPIRED PASSPORT??



We are experiencing a large number of calls from community members seeking last minute assistance with passport renewals and are urging everyone to check their passport expiration dates TODAY!

If your passport has expired, please contact Celine at 415.432.2550 or celine@sfiipc.org and we will do what we can to assist.

IIPC is generously funded by:



Government of Ireland
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and Innovation



SPECIAL ARC EVENT!

Visit to Ireland House, San Francisco



Áras na hÉireann | San Francisco
Ireland House | San Francisco

Consul General Robert O'Driscoll and the Ireland House team look forward to welcoming you for morning coffee at the newly opened Ireland House in downtown San Francisco!

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022



10:00 a.m. Bus departs UICC
11:00 a.m. Morning Coffee
1:00 p.m. Bus returns to UICC

COST: \$20
(inc. bus)

Advance registration required.
Register at linktr.ee/sfiipc or contact
Shannon at 415.432.2552 or
shannon@sfiipc.org



WELLNESS IN NATURE

A Community Outreach Program of the Irish
Immigration Pastoral Center Wellness Program

Join us in the great outdoors - walk, breathe, rejuvenate, connect.

WALK IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Mount Sutro, San Francisco

Wednesday, July 6 | 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 20 | 5:00 p.m.

HIKE IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Devil's Slide Trail, Half Moon Bay

Saturday, July 16 | 10:00 a.m.

Register at linktr.ee/sfiipc or contact Shannon at 415.432.2552 or shannon@sfiipc.org

The outdoors is calling.

IIPC is generously funded by:



Government of Ireland
Immigrant Support Programme
In partnership with the Department of Justice, Equality and Trade



UICC AMATEUR FIGHT NIGHT #2 IS ANOTHER KNOCKOUT!

Once again they came from all over the state for the second fight night of 2022. Some people even drove down from Oregon for the event while others came by plane and car from the LA area. A total of thirteen amateur bouts took place on the night. Many of the boxers were appearing for the first time in front of the large boisterous UICC crowd (over 800 attended), which no doubt gives them the motivation and experience to keep with the sport. Hats off to Fire in the Ring boxing club, Jimmy Ford and Robert Fernandez who worked hard behind the scenes to make the night such a great success.

Several professional boxers, attended included Charlie Sheehy (Epiphany Parish), Callum Walsh (Cobh, Co. Cork) and Oakland native David Lopez.

By the end of the evening the United Irish Cultural Center made International sports headlines as the top billing on the fight card saw local San Francisco native Chris Smith (Third Street Gym Boxing) upset undefeated Emmanuel Pacquiao Jr. (Wild Card Boxing, Los Angeles).

It is hoped to have UICC Fight Night #3 on Saturday September 17th, 2022



Mike Stiles, 360 Promotions, Jimmy Ford, Fire in the Ring Boxing club with Callum Walsh (Pro-Boxer).



Miguel and Charlie Sheehy, with Jimmy Ford, Fire in the Ring.



Local boxer Chris Smith (Third Street Boxing) punches the air in delight after his victory over Emmanuel Pacquiao Jr. (Wild Card Boxing) with David Hartman.



Gabriel Manzanarez (Fire in the Ring) lost to Leo Ochoa (Truth Boxing Club) with referee Patrick McTiernan.



Emmanuel Pacquiao Jr. gets ready to box in the Members Room.



Front (left to right) Coach Stanley Godinez, Coach Marvin Somodio, Emmanuel Pacquiao Jr., Geoff "Kali" Sopenasky. Back (left to right) Mel Hernandez, Sean Gibbons (MP Promotions), Jay Tan.

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