

**Feb.  
2016**

***Frederick Douglass and the Irish***  
***February 6 , 2 PM***

Join the Irish American Heritage Museum and Professor Tim Madigan for an interesting look into one of America's most famous historical figures.



This talk will discuss the life of the great social reformer, statesman and orator Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), with an emphasis on his lecture trip to Ireland as a young man in 1845 and how this influenced his later views on abolition and human rights. In particular, Dr. Madigan will talk about the role which meeting the Irish Emancipator Daniel O'Connell played in his commitment to the cause of human freedom. Dr. Madigan also will

examine how Douglass remains a powerful figure for reconciliation in modern-day Ireland and Northern Ireland, with plaques commemorating him in Cork and Waterford, murals honoring him in Belfast and a statue to him in Dublin -- all cities he spoke at during his lecture series. In the words of President Obama, when he visited Dublin in 2011: "His time here, Frederick Douglass said, defined him not as a color but as a man. And it strengthened the non-violent campaign he would return home to wage."

Tim Madigan is the Director of Irish Studies at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York, the city where Douglass lived for over 20 years after his return to America from his trip to Ireland.

***Seanachie Evenings***

***Stories with the Sound of Love: Marni Gillard and Lawson***

***February 12, 7 PM***

Marni Gillard, is a well-known regional storyteller and author of *Storyteller*, *Storyteacher* (Ann Izard Storytellers' Choice Award winner). She is a former English teacher and presently is a Chaplain at St Kateri Tekatawisha School in Schenectady. She is devoted to sharing tales and helping listeners find the power of stories within themselves. In 2010 she premiered a one-woman show and cantata, *Granuaile* (Grace O'Malley) the 16th century "Pirate Queen" who challenged the British incursion.

Lawson (Eric Everson (bouzouki) and Hilary Schrauf (Violin) are talented traditional Irish session musicians, who have been playing together for over 15 years. They formed the nucleus of the band for the production of *Granuaile* and look forward to performing with Marni again. In addition to performing Hilary founded and leads the Old Songs Irish Slow Session and co-leads a monthly session in Albany with Eric and friend Fritz Stafford.

Seanachie Eves will run from January through May on the second Friday of each month. The admission cost is as follows: for Members of IAHM \$5/person \$12/Family; Non Members \$10/person, \$25 family-Reservations suggested please call [\(518\) 427-1916](tel:5184271916). All performances will take place in the Museum's Trustco Bank Gallery and Hogarty Family Exhibition Hall. Seanachie Eves at the Irish American Heritage Museum is sponsored by Berkshire Bank.



### ***The Rising of the Moon*** ***February 19 & 20, 7 PM***

The Irish American Heritage Museum and the Ard Ri Players present Lady Augusta Gregory's short drama, *The Rising of the Moon*. The play is about the conflicting loyalties of an Irish policeman in the service of the British government searching for an escaped rebel. The time of the events of the piece take place shortly before the 1916 Easter Uprising.



*The Rising of the Moon*, a one act play by Lady Gregory was composed in about 1904. It was included in her book, *Seven Short Plays* (1909). It was first produced at the Abbey Theatre on March, 1907.

*The Rising of the Moon* has a great symbolic meaning. The play is about the Irish freedom movement. *The Rising of the Moon* signifies the rising of the moon of Irish freedom. The dramatist hopes for the freedom of her countrymen from the tyranny of the British rule. The poor Irish people will regain

their liberty. The Britishers will have a mighty down fall. "When the small rise up and big falls down".....then we all change places at the "The Rising of the Moon".

This performance is directed and produced by Steven and Diane O'Connor, with direction assistance by Sheila O'Shea. The cast includes local actors Tony Pallone, Ken McBain, Brian McBride Land and Alex Benson. The performance will be preceded by a short lecture about the play's author, Lady Gregory, given by IAHM Board member, Margaret Lasch Carroll. A

question and answer period with cast and crew will conclude the evening. Admission is \$5 for members and \$10 for not-yet members.

### ***Cooking Irish February 23, 7 PM***

The Irish American Heritage Museum, with the support of the Irish government, is having a year-long Cooking Irish project in 2016 that focuses on the preservation of Irish culture, heritage, and identity through food.

Bob Reilly of the American Kerry Cattle Society will be discussing the Kerry Cow at the

Museum on February 23 at 7PM. Kerry cattle are indigenous to Ireland and are one of the oldest European breeds of cattle. The breed gets its name from the county of Kerry where it was widely popular. The Kerry descends from the ancient, fine-boned, black Celtic cattle that occupied this area at the time of Caesar's invasion of Britain.



The American Kerry Cattle Society is a group of dedicated breeders of purebred, registered Kerry Cattle. All of the animals are direct, recorded descendants of Kerry Cattle imported into Canada in the 1970s. They are part of a larger scheme to conserve Kerry Cattle worldwide.

### ***Open Sessions at the Museum February 26, 7 PM***

Anyone who's traveled to Ireland knows the magic of joining in an impromptu session at a pub. Or, if you grew up in a music- and story loving family, you know the joy that comes from getting

#### **Painting by Kevin McKrell**

to create a warm and happy evening.

The IAHM is happy to offer its own sessions. Starting at 7PM, everyone is welcome. No professional musical or storytelling experience required (although pros are certainly welcome!). All you need is a song you're willing to sing - here's betting we'll all join in - a story to tell, a joke to share, a guitar to strum, a tin whistle to play, or a step to dance. What better way to spend a chilly evening than in the warmth of a shared session? We hope you'll join us!

together and making your own fun. Everyone knows a song, a story or a joke - and with no false modesty, and no shyness, everybody shares their "party piece"

## **CALENDAR**

**Note : For events at the [Museum](#), free street parking after 5 PM on weekdays and all day on weekends. Please do not park in the private lots behind the Museum.**

**SAVE THE DATE- March 4-5- The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Maureen Farrell Irish Soda Bread Competition. March 4- Professional Division. March 5- Amateur Division!**



**Schedule of Irish Events in the Capital District:**

February 6- 2PM - Frederick Douglass and the Irish- Presented by Dr. Tim Madigan. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207.

February 7 - 11AM - LAOH St. Bridgette's Brunch at Wolferts Roost Country Club.

February 12 -7PM - Seanachie Evenings Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207.

February 16 - 7PM - Cooking Irish- Kerry Cattle- Presented by Bob Reilly. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207.

February 19- 7PM - Performance of *The Rising of the Moon* by Lady Gregory and produced by Stephen and Diane O'Connor. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207.

February 20 - 7PM - Performance of *The Rising of the Moon* by Lady Gregory and produced by Stephen and Diane O'Connor. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207.

February 20 - St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal's Dinner. Capital District Irish American Association. 375 Ontario St. Albany, NY.

February 26 - 7PM - Sessions at the Museum. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207

February 28- 1PM - Viewing of Mise Eire. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207

## About Us

The Irish American Heritage Museum is a permanently chartered 501(c)3 non-profit with an educational mission: To preserve and tell the story of the contributions of the Irish people and their culture in America, inspiring individuals to examine the importance of their own heritage as part of the American cultural mosaic.

As such, the Museum is unique in America, where almost 40 million individuals claim Irish ancestry. It is committed to the basic tenet that preserving one's heritage is vital to providing a cultural and historical foundation to future generations of Americans.

Our museum in Albany, New York, provides year-round access, especially by school groups, to our exhibits, our Paul O'Dwyer Library, lectures, presentations, film screenings, book signings and other special programs.

To contact us, email [here](#) or call [518-427-1916](tel:518-427-1916).

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