



May 2018



Helena Byrne
Songstress/Storyteller

Friday May 4 @ 6PM

Coming to us for another amazing performance directly from Ireland the amazing Helena Byrne, you don't want to miss!

This program will be fun for all ages.

Admission:

Members- \$15

Non-Members- \$25

Irish American Heritage Museum

"Your Heritage...Pass it on."

370 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207

PH: 518-427-1916 -

Email: info@irish-us.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Irish American Heritage Museum at

(518) 427-1916



Elizabeth Stack, Ph.D., Appointed Executive Director of the Irish American Heritage Museum in Albany.

Albany, NY - The Board of Trustees of the Irish American Heritage Museum announces the appointment of Elizabeth Stack, Ph.D., as Museum Executive Director.

In her new position, Dr. Stack is responsible for all aspects of the Museum's operations, located at 370 Broadway in New York State's Capital City, Albany. Almost one-quarter of the Capital Region's population claims Irish heritage, making it the area's largest ethnic heritage group and one of the most concentrated Irish-metropolitan areas in the country. The Museum hosts many historical exhibits, as well as presenting lectures, music evenings, genealogy sessions and cultural, educational, stage and film events.

Elizabeth joins the museum from Fordham University, where she taught Irish and Irish-American History and was an Associate Director of the Institute of Irish Studies. She completed her Ph.D. at Fordham, writing about Irish and German immigrants in New York at the turn of the twentieth century, as they grappled with the immigration restriction movements of that time. She has a master's degree in Anglo-Irish Relations in the 20th Century from University College Dublin in Ireland and was a high school teacher in Ireland before moving to New York in 2009.

A native of Listowel, in Co. Kerry, Elizabeth sees a huge connection between her own experience as an immigrant and the important mission of the museum to preserve and share Irish heritage and culture. "I have learned that because emigration is part of the Irish story, and immigration part of the American, there is a reciprocity that exists between both countries that exceeds familial ties or time of arrival. I am very excited to be a part of an organization that collects and celebrates our common culture." The museum strives to build on that relationship, by encouraging members to share the stories of their ancestors and by helping preserve the culture to pass it on to their own descendants.

"We are delighted to have Elizabeth join us as the new Director of the Irish American Heritage Museum," said Mike Reilly, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum. "Her understanding of the mission of our museum, and her own expertise in immigration history, bring a distinctive perspective that will enable the museum to flourish and chart a new course in public programming."

Founded in 1986, the mission of the Museum is to share Irish American Heritage. The 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. It provides year-round access, especially by school groups, to its exhibits, the Paul O'Dwyer Library, lectures, and presentations. As such, the Museum is unique in America, where almost 36 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.



Seanachie Evenings
Second Friday of the month
370 Broadway, Albany, NY (518) 427-1916 irish-us.org



Stories of Spring Magic with Marni Gillard and Lawson
May 11, 7 pm

Marni Gillard is a well-known regional storyteller and former middle school teacher, recently completed a Masters in Pastoral Studies. In addition to her ongoing workshops and performances of life stories, myths, folktales and poems, she now offers storytelling education for faith-based groups of all ages, especially at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Schenectady. She is devoted to helping families and communities discover the transformative power of story-sharing. Her Irish-American upbringing, threaded with story and song, led her to develop a one-woman show about the life of Grace O'Malley, Connaught where she first collaborated with the Irish traditional duo, Lawson. www.marnigillard.com



Lawson - Eric Everson (bouzouki, banjo, vocals) and Hilary Schrauf (violin, concertina, bodhran, vocals) are talented traditional Irish musicians who have been playing traditional Irish music together for nearly 20 years. They formed the nucleus of the band for the production of *Granada* and look forward to performing with Marni again. In addition to performing as a duo locally and around the region, Eric and Hilary also perform in multiple trios (as Gaeltara, and with other musicians) and with Cúragh (a sextet that includes folklorists/luminaries George Ward and John Roberts). Hilary founded and leads the monthly Old Songs Irish Slow Session, and teaches traditional Irish fiddle to students of all ages. www.lawsonandmusic.com

\$5 Museum Members, \$10 others, \$25 family four pack

Seanachie Eves-

Featuring Marni Gillard & Lawson

May 11 @ 7PM

The combination of life stories, myths, folktales and poems along with the beautiful music of concertina, violin, bodhran mixed with some beautiful vocals make a wonderful evening.

This program will be fun for all ages.

Seanachie Eves is sponsored by Berkshire Bank.

Admission:

Members- \$5

Non-Members- \$10

Families- \$25

Check out our NEW website
www.info@irish-us.org

May Calendar of Local of Events

May 4 - 6PM - Irish Songstress ~ Helena Byrne - Irish American Heritage Museum 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207

May 11 - 7PM - Seanachie Eves ~ Featuring Marni Gillard & Lawson - Irish American Heritage Museum 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207

May 30 - 11AM-2PM ~ Open Genealogy Consultation - Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany, NY 12207.

