



April 2017 Newsletter

The Orphan Trains and the Irish Famine April 12 @ 6:30PM

Writer and photographer Tom Riley will discuss the Orphan Train Riders, a group of an estimated 273,000 children who were transported from New York City to live with families in rural America, at 6:30 PM on April 12th at the Irish American Heritage Museum. Riley will be presenting on the Orphan Trains and the Irish Famine and also will be screening a 45 minute film on the Orphan Trains.



Riley said few records were kept regarding these trains, but some estimate that from 1854 to 1929 between 400,000 and 600,000 children, including many who were Irish, were transported in the largest mass relocation of children in American history.

For 20 years, Riley has been speaking publicly about the Orphan Trains, which he calls the greatest American story never told. Riley said he stumbled across the topic while researching a book on a home for children that he grew up in. He found 26 boxes of records in a hayloft dating back as far as 1832. He has written two books on the Orphan Train Riders.

Free to members

\$5 non-members

Songs of Freedom: Concert & Reading of James Connolly



**Songbook- Performed by Mat Callahan and Yvonne Moore
April 19 @ 7PM**



Songs of Freedom is a celebration of the life and work of James Connolly, the Irish revolutionary socialist martyred by the British government for his role in the Easter Rising of 1916. The original Songs of Freedom contains 18 songs, nine of which are by Connolly, while the James Connolly Songbook contains 23 songs and poems, 19 of which are by Connolly. Furthermore, the introduction to the latter book gives an excellent account of the heroic battle surrounding the Dublin concert in 1919 as well as important insights into Connolly's purpose and methods in composing his lyrics. This new version of Songs of Freedom should prove invaluable to all those interested in Irish, labor and revolutionary history.

\$5 museum members

\$10- non-members



**Understanding the Manchester Martyrs
April 20 @ 7pm**

On the 150th Anniversary of the Fennian Rising of 1867, Dr. Ruan O'Donnell will discuss the profound impact that it would have on Ireland in the 19th century, as well as in modern times.

Dr. Ruan O'Donnell is the Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Limerick. He is the Director of the Irish Manuscripts Commission and member of the Universities Ireland Decade of Commemorations Committee. His involvement in academic publishing includes ongoing roles as co-series and commissioning editor of the '16 Lives' project for O'Brien Press, as well as series editor of the 'Irish

Abroad' series for Irish Academic Press.

This lecture is part of the New York State AOH FFAI Lecture series and is being presented by Albany AOH Father Henry Tansey Division #5, Albany LAOH JFK Divison #1, and the Irish American Heritage Museum.

Please note this program is taking place at the Capital District Irish American Association at 375 Ontario St. Albany NY

Cost \$7



**Seanachie Eves Storytelling Series
April 21 @ 7PM**

Seanachie Eves sponsored by Berkshire Bank



is back with a fantastic April line-up. As always, museum members \$5, non members \$10

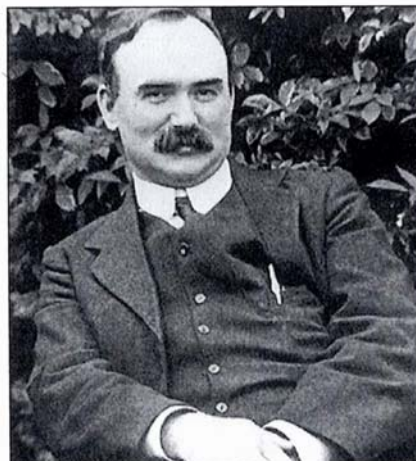
Marni Gillard is a well-known regional storyteller who once taught at Niskayuna, but now freelances as a teacher-artist education consultant. The book "Storyteller, Storyteacher" traces her journey into storytelling and the transformation it brought to her classroom and her life. "Without a Splash: Diving into Childhood Memories" is a cd of triumph and trauma that helps children and adults storytell memories.

Mary Murphy is a regional writer and storyteller who has performed regionally at Proctors, and Story Sundays and nationally at the Hawaii Storytelling Festival. The Clever Gretchen Storytelling Festival at Syracuse University & National Storytelling Festival. Widely known for her humorous and family tales, her stories have been published in the anthologies: "Give a Listen and A Solstice Evergreen."

The Exiles' Journey: James Connolly in America April 28 @ 6:30PM

The Exiles' Journey is a documentary on 3 "agitators" for human rights and labor dignity who said they were "Irish Americans in the early 20th century.

Join Denis Foley and Michael Barrett as they discuss their documentary; James Connolly, Nora Connolly, and Jim Larkin; preview the exhibit they are making, and also show a portion of their new documentary.



James Connolly, 1910

Thank you to everyone that came out to all of our March events and making this month a huge success! Below you will find a small sampling of photos from our busy month.

Board Member Dr. Margaret Carroll giving a background into the performances of "How He Lied to Her Husband" and "Spreading the News." The multiple performances of these plays were made by possible the Irish Government's Department of Foreign Affairs Emigrant Support Program.





Board Chair Harold Qualters leading a demonstration on how to bake traditional Irish Soda Bread at the 2017 Soda Bread Contest



Visitors and participants lining to taste test all of the submissions at the Maureen Farrell McCarthy Irish Soda Bread Competition





One of our young visitors stopping by the 2017 St. Patrick's Day Parade Family Festival. Thank you to everyone who braved the cold and joined us at this great event!





Irish singer, songwriter, and storyteller Helena Byrne amazed a full house once again with her tales of the fairies and amazing voice. Helena has been to the Museum twice now to perform, and we are looking forward to having her back!



Local Events Calendar

April 12 @ 6:30 PM- *The Orphan Trains and the Irish Famine*- Presented by Thomas Riley- Lecture and film. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany NY 12207.

April 19 @ 7PM- *Songs of Freedom: Concert & Reading of James Connolly Songbook*- Performed by Mat Callahan and Yvonne Moore. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany NY 12207.

April 20 @ 7PM - *Understanding the Manchester Martyrs*- Presented by Dr. Ruan O'Donnell- Senior Lecturer at the University of Limerick. Capital District Irish American Association. 375 Ontario St. Albany, NY.

April 21 @ 7PM- *Seanachie Eves Monthly Storytelling Series*- Performed by Marni Gillard and Mary Murphy. Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany NY 12207.

April 26 @ 11AM-2PM- *Open Genealogy Session with professional genealogist Lisa Dougherty* . Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany NY 12207.

April 26 @ 7PM- *Immigration Discrimination: The Irish, Italian, and German Experience in the Capital Region*. Capital District Irish American Association. 375 Ontario St. Albany, NY.

April 28 @ 6:30PM- *The Exiles' Journey: James Connolly in America.* Irish American Heritage Museum. 370 Broadway Albany NY 12207.

Irish American Heritage Museum | 518-427-1916 | info@irish-us.org | www.irish-us.org

STAY CONNECTED:



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