

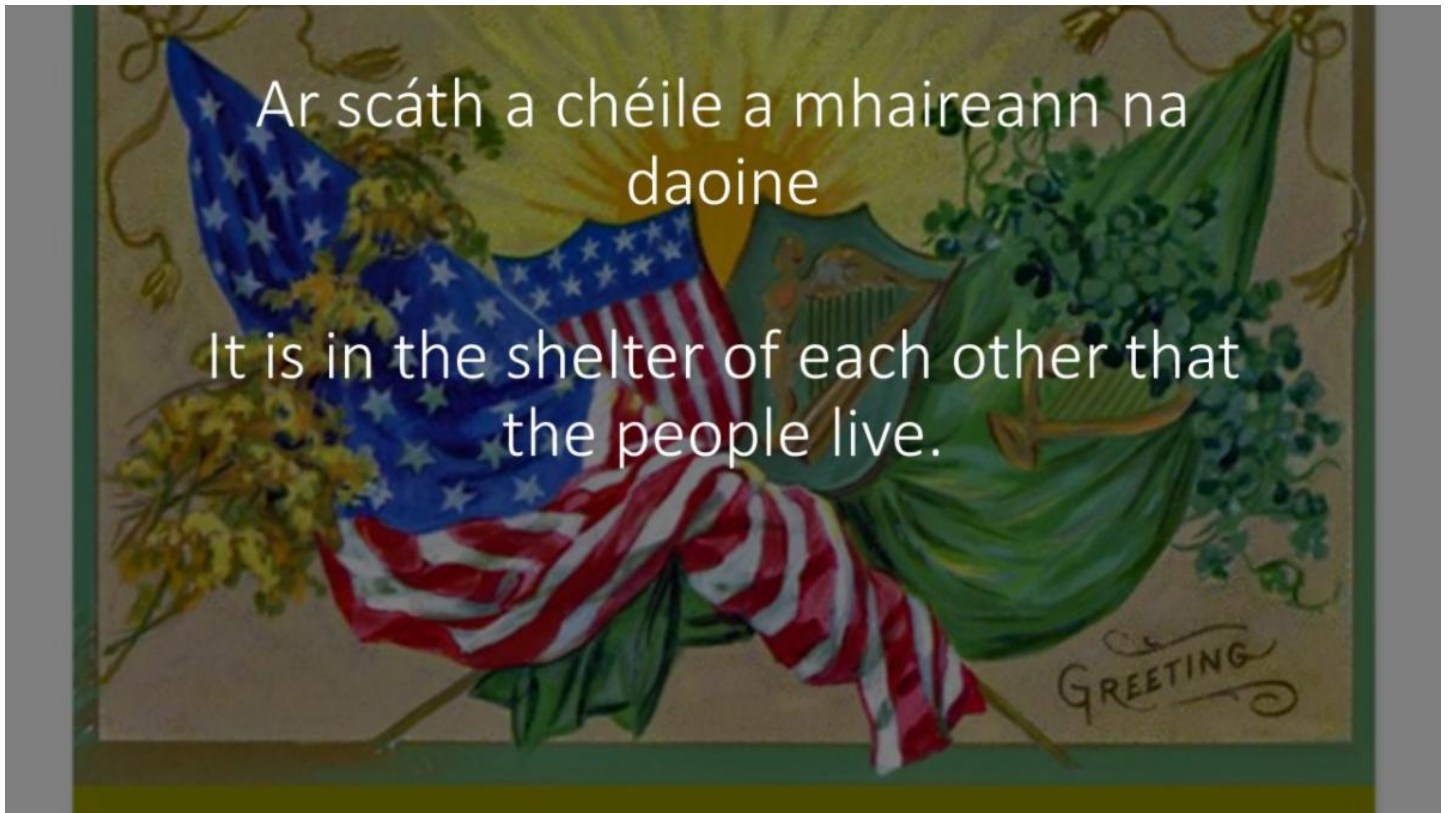


Upcoming Events

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## September at the Museum!



## The Big Irish Echo Campfire

Dear members and friends,

We were delighted to participate in the Big Irish Echo Campfire last week, which was a virtual conference about Irish America coming together to survive the pandemic and to emerge stronger and better. Dr. Stack chaired a panel entitled **Leading from the Front: Reimagining the role of our Irish Centers** which included Irish centers in New York, Maine, San Francisco, Canton, and San Diego. You can watch the various panels at [The Irish Echo Replay Website](#)

The campfire was an uplifting and communal event, and I was reassured again about the strength and resilience of our Irish American heritage despite these trying times. The silver lining in all of this is the opportunity we have to cooperate with each other in this new, virtual world. As you have seen on our Facebook page or Twitter, we have shared events that our friends in St. Paul, Minnesota, or Canton, Massachusetts, or Portland, Maine have hosted and it has only enriched our community. So while we are still adjusting to restrictions on visitors and travel, we hope to

still be a part of your lives. We are starting to host some lectures again, and can safely have fifteen people attend the events in the theater. We are also filming them and sharing them on our Facebook page - we will try to begin livestreaming these soon. The Museum is conforming CDC and NY Department of Health Covid guidelines, so attendance at these events is limited to fifteen people. Please call or email the museum to let us know if you intend to attend.

I am sharing the message President Higgins sent to the conference, as I think we can all benefit from his words of wisdom!

## **Message from President Michael D. Higgins to the “Big Irish Echo Campfire.”**

### **Áras an Uachtaráin, 28 August 2020**

Is cúis mhór áthais dom beannachtaí a chur chugaibh go léir atá cruinnithe le chéile le h-aghaidh The Big Irish Echo Campfire.

May I send my best wishes to all those gathered together for the Big Irish Echo Campfire, and through you, to the broader Irish community throughout the United States.

As we joined one another in fighting the global health emergency presented by the Coronavirus pandemic we, in Ireland, remained greatly conscious of the profound link we share with our American Irish family despite the many thousands of kilometres that may separate us.

The depth of our connection is maintained and nurtured by the generous spirit of solidarity that has always defined the Irish community in the United States. The Irish Echo has played its own significant role in keeping that spirit alive by providing, for almost a century, an important voice and forum for our Irish community in the USA.

Today you continue that vital work, despite these socially distanced times, by gathering Irish American Associations from across the USA to discuss, together, how we might navigate our way safely towards a shared and brighter future.

I am greatly impressed by the breadth and depth of your programme for today, and by the wide range of experts who have agreed to participate. We know that the current Covid-19 crisis has had devastating consequences for so many across the globe, impacting on the worlds of trade, business, culture, health, education among the poorest and altering significantly how we may interact in our daily lives together.

Our response to these challenges will require moral courage, innovation and resolve as we work to craft a post-pandemic future, born out of crisis but built on a new understanding of the values that must lie at the heart of a truly functioning world.

Conversations such as the ones being initiated amongst you today will be critical to the construction of such a future.

The Irish story in the US is one of hard work, resilience and achievement at the highest level across so many areas of American society. It is inspiring to see that story continues to be written in a way that makes us, in Ireland, so very proud of our Irish American family.

Now, more than ever, is a time for unity and for us to work together, in solidarity and compassion, to come through this difficult period and craft a better and brighter future for both our nations. For generations of Irish people, cruthaitheacht and samhlaíocht, creativity and imagination, have been our greatest resource.

I thank you all for taking part in this important event and for supporting the Irish community in the United States to remain vibrant and connected to each other and to the country of their birth or forefathers.

I wish you a most fruitful gathering, and every success as you continue your important work.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir. Beir beannacht do inniu agus don todhchaí

## Help Us Reach Our Goal!

**Pomeroy Fund  
for NYS History**

Grant assistance for  
history-related organizations

William G.  
Pomeroy  
Foundation  
For History For Life

MUSEUM ASSOCIATION  
OF NEW YORK

As you know, The Irish American Heritage Museum was closed for five months as a safety measure in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

We used all the digital resources we had at hand to stay connected to our volunteers, members, and our community. We tried streaming tours on Museum Mondays, quarantine postings on our website, and posted new content every day to our social media. Although these attracted a tremendous response, they could not help us alleviate the deep negative financial impact from the loss of admissions income and the postponement of our March fund raising events.

We are pleased to announce that the Museum was invited to raise funds to match a grant from the Pomeroy Fund for NYS History to help with expenses incurred for the Museum to re-open safely under NY guidelines. For every two dollars we raise, The Pomeroy Fund for NYS History will grant one dollar. Your donation will help us raise \$6,000 to help cover not just the new mandated cleaning supplies and protocols, but also help us to transition more of our materials online, so that we can bring the museum to you!

Please consider making a donation today. You can donate safely and securely from our website by [clicking here](#). Donations of any amount are welcome and will count towards our match goal if received by October 1, 2020.



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

## Tragedy and Tribute: Art Illuminates Ireland's Great Hunger

Using selections of artwork from the collection of Ireland's Great Hunger Museum at Quinnipiac University, Tragedy and Tribute: Art Illuminates Ireland's Great Hunger, visually tells the story of one of the worst environmental catastrophes in European history. Through the use of artwork from the period, as well as contemporary works by artists reflecting on this time period, this exhibit looks to make this topic accessible to a wider audience like never before.

This exhibition focuses on the famine years from 1845-52, when blight destroyed virtually all of Ireland's potato crops for consecutive years. The crop destruction, coupled with British governmental indifference to



the plight of the Irish, who at the time were members of the United Kingdom, resulted in the deaths of more than 1 million Irish men, women and children and the emigration of more than 2 million more to nations around the world. This tragedy occurred even though exports of food and livestock from Ireland continued and, in some cases, actually increased during the years of the Great Hunger.

Ireland's Great Hunger Museum's collection, the only one of its kind in the world, constitutes an incomparable direct link to the past of almost 6.5 million Irish and 40 million Irish-American people. This exhibition is made possible through support provided by the Irish Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Emigrant Support Program.

The exhibit will be on view at the Irish American Heritage Museum until November 23rd.

## **Typhoid Mary: The Debate About Super-Spreaders and Autonomy** **Thursday August 11th 7pm.**

Typhoid Mary: The Debate About Super-Spreaders. September 10<sup>th</sup> 7pm



First Responders: Then and Now.  
Supported in part by:

  
**HUMANITIES  
NEW YORK**

In the Fall of 1906, Mary Mallon, a cook, was found to be "patient zero" for a typhoid outbreak leading to her exile. Public health experts blamed rare typhus bacilli carrier "Typhoid Mary" for more than 26 serious cases of the disease. Investigations led to her forced quarantine by the New York Health Department. After three years in isolation she successfully fought for release, only to be exiled to an island cottage for the rest of her life after authorities discovered she continued to work as a cook. This lecture will examine the role of super spreaders, and Mary's own circumstances as an immigrant.

Mary's case created a plethora of moral and ethical dilemmas for the medical and law enforcement agencies involved at the time, and which are relevant today. Can we legally — and ethically — imprison and isolate someone solely because they are carriers? Does public health supersede individual rights? When does precautionary action become fear and then the acceptance of tyranny? And who gets to make these calls?







Lecture Four in the War of Independence series will examine the IRA strategy for defeating the RIC and the Black and Tans and Auxiliaries. The successful guerilla tactics employed by "Flying Columns" of IRA men on the run, was supplemented by a PR campaign which publicized the tragic deaths of martyrs like Terence MacSwiney and Kevin Barry. Larger targets including blowing up barracks and train stations, or cutting roads, meant that British forces found it increasingly difficult to patrol the countryside. An army many times smaller than the British forces in Ireland was fighting the Empire to a compromise.

## **Virtual Event: Hitching for Hope - A Journey Into The Heart and Soul of Ireland.**

**Wednesday, September 23rd, 3pm**



virtual event with acclaimed author, social entrepreneur and former member of Ireland's Council of State Ruairí McKiernan.

Originally from Cootehill in County Cavan, McKiernan now lives in Lahinch, County Clare, on the wild west coast of Ireland. His debut book *Hitching for Hope – a Journey into the Heart and Soul of Ireland* was recently published by US publisher Chelsea Green and went straight to number 1 in the Irish Times paperback non-fiction bestseller charts.

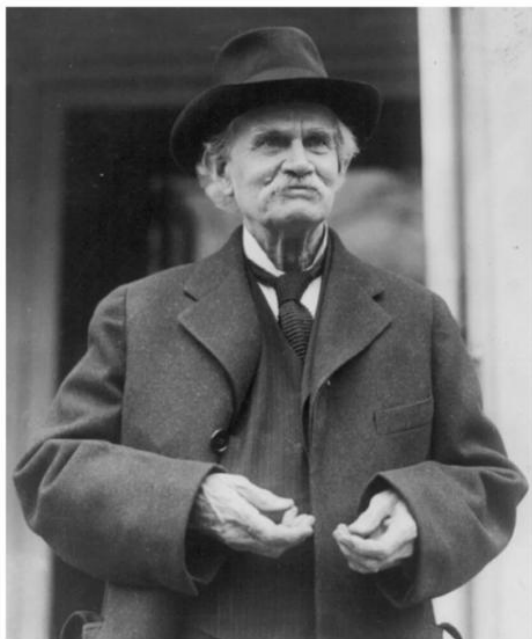
Described as a "powerful manifesto for hope and healing in troubled times," *Hitching for Hope* is part personal pilgrimage, and part political quest that captures the power of human resilience. The book is a reflection of a hitchhiking listening tour McKiernan undertook around Ireland during the bleak 2013 recession, while he was contemplating the prospect of emigration. The book is also a memoir reflecting on his 20 years' work as a trailblazing social leader in Ireland and it is very much a timely celebration of the value of community spirit, kindness and collective action in today's troubled world.

You, your family, friends and colleagues are invited to join us for what is sure to be an uplifting, enlightening and inspiring event full of stories, conversation and humour with one of Ireland's most gifted public speakers. Please email [info@hitchingforhope.com](mailto:info@hitchingforhope.com) to register. Registration is free for all and attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions during this live 1-hour event.

More information on Ruairí McKiernan and his book can be found at [his website Hitching For Hope](#). The book is available to order direct from Chelsea Green Publishing (a discount code will be provided to attendees) and from usual outlets such as independent bookstores, Bookshop.org Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and Book Depository.

## Lecture: Martin Glynn and the Irish in the American Revolution Margaret Lasch Carroll PhD, Wednesday September 30th, 7pm

Glynn vs Williams: The Irish in the American Revolution



The son of Irish immigrants, Martin Glynn attended public school in Kinderhook and graduated from Fordham

University in 1894. While serving in the US Congress (1899-1901), he championed the rights of labor, political reform, and religious tolerance. Glynn was elected lieutenant governor in 1912. He was the [40th Governor of New](#)

York from 1913 to 1914, the first [Irish American Roman Catholic](#) head of government of what was then the most populated state of the United States.

In 1916, as tension was rising between the British and the Irish, and being felt by Americans, Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi "pooh poohed" the Irish contribution to American history, claiming that the "braggart" Irish were claiming accomplishments made by their fellow Americans. Glynn launched a blistering series of articles in the *Times Union* listing the various Irish who had been involved in the American Revolution. The articles were later gathered and sold as a collection. Professor Carroll will discuss Glynn's fiery defense of the Irish at this sensitive time in British-American-Irish relations.

## Irish American Heritage Museum

21 Quackenbush Square,  
Albany, NY 12207  
(518) 427-1916

Email Us

