



IRISH AMERICAN
PARTNERSHIP

Annual Campaign 2018-2019



*Honoring our Irish Heritage,
Investing in Ireland's Future*

Transforming School Communities

DIRECT GRANTS TO SCHOOLS

Partnership grants to schools fill gaps in government funding and are typically used to purchase books, science materials, and new technology, but can also be spent on music, arts, or other pressing needs.

“We thank you for your grant towards our ‘Grúpa Ceoil’ music program. Many of our students would never play an instrument or participate in a musical event without this opportunity. We stand in awe of your great spirit of generosity.”

Carl O’Brien
Board of Management
North Monastery Primary School, Co. Cork

53

SCHOOLS RECEIVED
DIRECT GRANTS

27

SCHOOLS HAD FEWER
THAN 100 PUPILS

6,847

STUDENTS IMPACTED
AS A RESULT OF THE GRANTS



LITERACY LIFT OFF AT SCOIL IOSAGAIN

Scoil Iosagain is an all-boys primary school located in Cork City serving 366 boys ages 4 to 13. It is a DEIS school, meaning it has been designated by the government as serving a socioeconomically disadvantaged population. The school is currently working on improving the literacy of its pupils through early intervention. Using a popular program called Lift off to Literacy, students as young as 5 are able to learn to read. Senior Infant teachers used the Partnership’s grant to purchase additional books that accommodate a wide range of young readers.

INCLUSIVE PLAY AT ST. JOHN’S NATIONAL SCHOOL

St. John’s National School in Kenmare, Co. Kerry received a Partnership grant of \$12,000 to construct a new school playground for their students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The playground was specifically designed with the Autism Unit in mind, featuring equipment that promotes motor development, communication skills, balancing, and sensory processing. Mainstream classes take turns playing with buddies on the playground, encouraging socialization without creating an overwhelming environment. The new playground facilitates the integration of students with autism into the student body by providing a safe and welcoming space for all students to play.



Making University Attainable for All

UNIVERSITY ACCESS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Partnership funds university access programs at Dublin City University, Queen's University, Trinity College, and Ulster University, helping twenty students pursue their dreams through higher education each year. These grants target socioeconomically disadvantaged and historically excluded communities, building a diverse and well-rounded student body. The scholarships make a tremendous impact by alleviating the financial burden of university and allowing students to fully integrate into campus life.

“On behalf of the Irish Government, I would like to thank you for all that the Irish American Partnership does to celebrate and promote Irish connections and heritage.”

Ciarán Cannon T.D.
Minister of State for the Diaspora

“College is such a diverse environment and I felt rather overwhelmed but the scholarship has truly helped throughout the academic year. It eased some of the financial stress I faced such as paying for my rent, food and transportation to college.”

Jessica Ojomor
Trinity Access Scholarship Recipient

20

STUDENTS RECEIVED
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

GIVING BACK THROUGH ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS: THE IRISH LEGACY SOCIETY



Church of St Anne, Cork City

At the young age of 14, Christine O’Beara Sullivan Kelley left Cork City alone and boarded a ship bound towards her relatives in Boston. With few opportunities available in Cork, her family felt no choice but to send her to America, where she could make a better life for herself. She settled into life in Boston, eventually marrying and giving birth to a son who would go on to serve as the 28th Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.

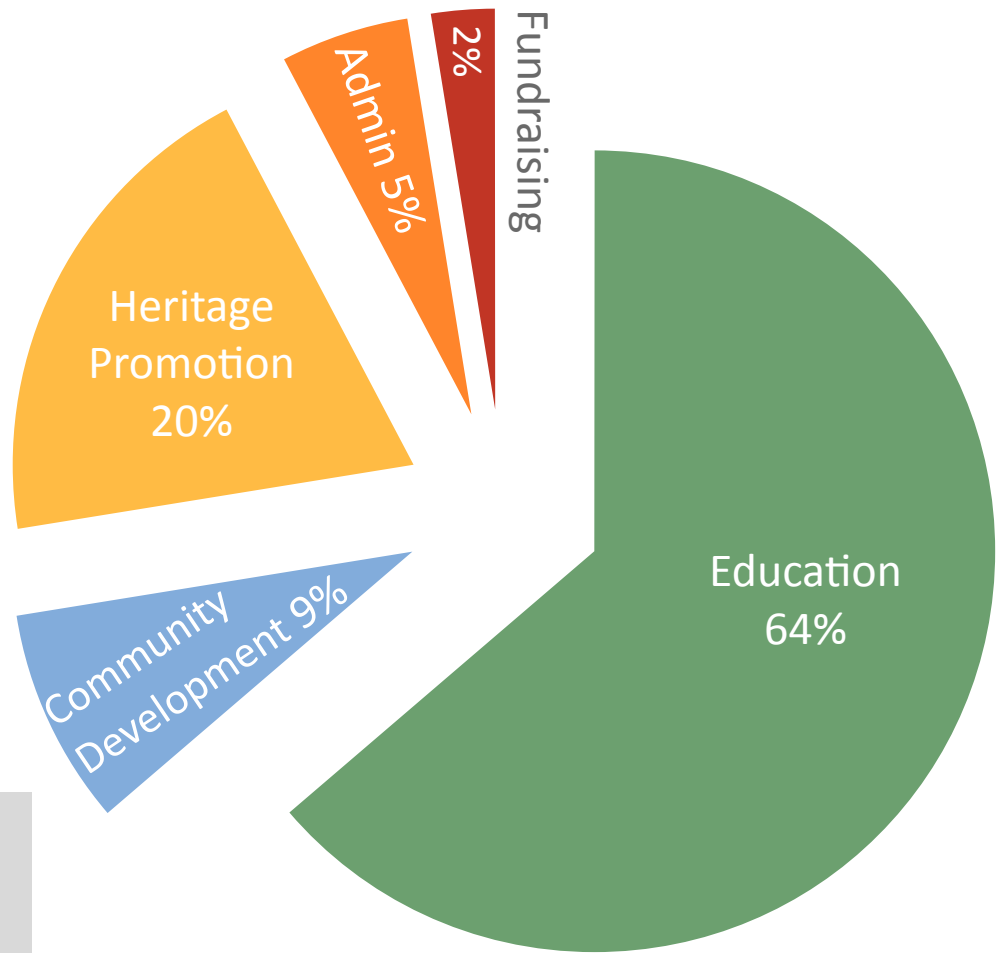
Former Partnership Chairman General P.X. Kelley sought to honor his mother’s sacrifice with a longstanding and transformative gift to The Irish Legacy Society. **Inspired by his mother’s fond recollection of the Shandon Bells, he established the Kelley Family Endowed Scholarship to provide resources to five primary schools in Cork City in perpetuity.** The schools rotate, but all are within earshot of the famed bells--the same bells of his childhood stories.

For General Kelley, the ability to give students in his mother’s hometown a great education, and with it the opportunity to stay, live, and work in Cork, is a tangible way to connect with his Irish heritage.

If you are interested in joining The Irish Legacy Society by establishing an endowed scholarship, please contact Mary Sugrue at (617) 723-2707 or mary@irishap.org.

YOUR IMPACT

Thanks to your generosity, the Partnership disbursed over **1.4 MILLION DOLLARS** to *education, community development, and heritage promotion* programs in Ireland, North & South in 2017.



2017 PROGRAMS

Education	\$967,153
Community Development	\$132,397
Heritage Promotion	\$301,097
Total	\$1,400,647

REGINA SULLIVAN JOINS PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS



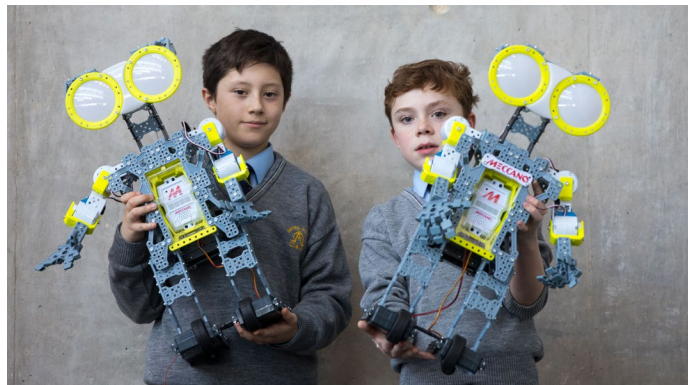
Regina Sullivan, former Executive Vice President at Fidelity Investments, has joined the Partnership's Board of Directors. Regina has lived and worked in Dublin, London, and Boston, giving her indispensable insight into transatlantic business relations. As Fidelity's EVP, Head of Shared Services and International Operations in Dublin, she had excellent exposure to the Irish tech industry and is eager to advise on the Partnership's STEM education programs.

Regina is an advocate for increasing female inclusion and participation in the workforce. She attributes her perseverance and sense of humor to her Irish roots, and looks forward to honoring her heritage as an Irish American Partnership Director. Her extensive multinational business experience will be a great asset to the Partnership, and we are delighted to welcome her on the Board.

Bringing Science to Life

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Partnership sponsors continuing professional development (CPD) for teachers in science through the Western Seaboard Science Program (WSSP) at Dublin City University. **The program benefited 37 rural schools in counties Clare and Kilkenny last year.** WSSP facilitators provide hands-on instruction in preparing STEM lessons at regional educational centers. By bringing teachers together in the centers, the program combats rural isolation, promotes collaboration, and efficiently trains dozens of educators. As a result, teachers reported increased confidence, greater student engagement, and positive ripple effects for the entire school.



Dr. Maeve Liston at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick oversees the Partnership's CPD efforts in the Munster area. This year, she hosted numerous CPD workshops, oversaw CoderDojo workshops for students and student teachers, and provided robotics training to 44 schools in Clare, Cork, Tipperary, Limerick, and Kerry. **Since 2017, Dr. Liston has reached 5,529 students and teachers with the Partnership's funding.**



SCIENCE FAIRS

The Partnership has been supporting the RDS Primary Science Fairs (now called Science Blast) since their inception. These non-competitive science fairs in Dublin, Limerick, and Belfast enhance math, science, and communication skills while also increasing teacher confidence in the science curriculum. **In 2019, the RDS expects to engage 13,000 students at 520 schools.**

The Partnership also supports the Munster Maths & Science Family Fair, which brings local businesses together to demonstrate the application of STEM in the community.

103 TEACHERS RECEIVED
SCIENCE TRAINING

7,500 STUDENTS ATTENDED
SCIENCE FAIRS

18,226
STUDENTS DIRECTLY IMPACTED BY
THE PARTNERSHIP'S SCIENCE PROGRAMS

“The support and funding the Irish American Partnership provides to small rural Irish schools is invaluable.”

Michelle Maher
Kilkenny WSSP Coordinator

Supporting Schools of All Traditions

INTEGRATED AND SHARED EDUCATION

In Northern Ireland, the Partnership supports both Integrated and Shared Education. Integrated schools are non-denominational and cultivate an ethos of respect for all traditions. Their establishment is parent-driven and at least 30% of the students in an integrated school must be from the local minority community. Integrated schools are an excellent way to ensure religious and cultural integration. However, only 8% of Northern Irish schools are integrated.

Thus, the Partnership also funds Shared Education initiatives. These programs bring students from Protestant and Catholic Schools together to work on shared projects. Many of the programs are paired with initiatives to bring parents from both schools together, breaking down distrust and fear. The students love the opportunity to make new friends and create relationships that extend far beyond the classroom.



Students from Botanic and Holy Rosary Primary Schools in Belfast present on their Shared Education projects

“Our school was one of 632 that had their budget refused by the government. Your donation could not have come at a better time!”

Paul Bell
Principal

Botanic Primary School, Belfast

4,295

STUDENTS DIRECTLY IMPACTED
BY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS IN NI

EDUCATING THE HEART



As the uncertainty of Northern Ireland’s position in the ongoing Brexit negotiations breeds constant worry in a conflict weary population, it is as important as ever for Irish America to remain steadfast in its commitment to peace. By funding community development organizations such as Children in Crossfire, the Partnership works to improve cross-community relations and give students constructive methods to address feelings of fear and anxiety. **Through Partnership funding, teachers at nine schools across Northern Ireland were able to receive Children in Crossfire’s *Educating the Heart* training during the 2017-**

2018 school year. The Educating the Heart program aims to equip students and teachers to engage with global issues compassionately, building informed and empathetic global citizens. In a confusing and divided world, Educating the Heart is empowering a new generation to be positive change-makers in their community and beyond.

NOLLAIG NA MBAN BREAKFAST CELEBRATIONS



Mary McAleese
Eighth President of Ireland



Anne Anderson
Fmr. Ambassador of Ireland to the U.S.



Baroness May Blood
Founder, NI Women's Coalition

In 2019, the Partnership will host two Nollaig na mBan breakfast celebrations, accommodating members in both Boston and Washington, D.C. Nollaig na mBan is an old Irish tradition which is celebrated by giving women a day of rest and merriment after the busy Christmas season. The Partnership commemorates this holiday with breakfasts featuring prominent Irish and Irish-American female leaders. At the inaugural Boston event, **Ambassador Anne Anderson** will facilitate a fireside chat with eighth **President of Ireland Mary McAleese**; at the D.C. event, **Baroness May Blood** will discuss her work with the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition and the Integrated Education Fund.

EVENT DETAILS

BOSTON NOLLAIG NA MBAN
January 10, 2019 | 8 am
Boston Harbor Hotel
Speakers: Fmr. President Mary McAleese
& Ambassador Anne Anderson

WASHINGTON, D.C. NOLLAIG NA MBAN
January 8, 2019 | 8 am
University Club of Washington DC
Speaker: Baroness May Blood

For more information on these exciting events, contact Clodagh Boyle at clodagh@irishap.org or visit www.irishap.org/events.

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Name: _____ Gift Amount: \$ _____

BY CHECK: Please make checks payable to *The Irish American Partnership*.

BY CREDIT CARD:

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____ Security Code: _____

Billing Address: _____

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Thank you for your support.