

Focus on Northern Ireland 2020 APPEAL Children participating in the 'Educating the Heart' program





#### **EDUCATING THE HEART**

Nurturing compassionate global citizens in Northern Ireland



#### 🗰 THOMAS J. MORAN SCHOLARSHIP AT **QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY**

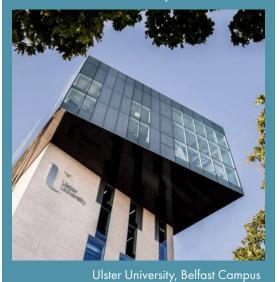
Friendship, resilience and opportunity in Chicago

#### ULSTER UNIVERSITY GO BOSTON PROGRAM

Thanks to the generosity of members through a Donor-Advised gift, the Irish American Partnership was able to award a \$50,000 grant to Ulster University's Go Boston Program this past December.

This funding is crucial to widening access to the study abroad program to students who would not otherwise have the means to participate in this life changing experience.

In addition to supporting study abroad opportunities, the Partnership is proud to fund university access scholarships at both Ulster University and Queen's University Belfast.



"I am grateful for the opportunity I was graced with. My year abroad saved me in many ways, and for that I hold so much gratitude to those who fund the Partnership's Thomas J.

Moran Scholarship."

- Ryan Lavelle Irish American Partnership scholarship recipient



#### THE THOMAS J. MORAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Partnership established the Thomas J. Moran Scholarship at Queen's University Belfast in 2018. Named for the university's late Chancellor and dear friend of Ireland, the scholarship provides stipends to underprivileged undergraduate students to pursue work or study abroad.

Ryan Lavelle, a 2019-2020 recipient, shares the transformative impact this funding has already had on his life.

n August 2019, armed with just my suitcase, I took off on the most unforgettable journey of my life. I had always dreamed of one day traveling to America, and there I was, standing wide-eyed in O'Hare International Airport with a bag-load of dreams, nerves and expectations. I was determined to propel myself further in life by meeting new people of different backgrounds, making new connections, seeing new places and learning new things. I did all of this and more, and though the year ended abruptly due to COVID-19, it made a remarkable difference in my levels of confidence and knowledge.

My favourite moment was the Global Climate Strike in downtown Chicago. That moment exuded everything I learned throughout the year - friendship, reflection, passion, activism, strength, and resilience. I have an almighty appetite to return to the States one day, but for now I am quite content at home seeing the places I am used to through new eyes.

"I was gifted with an entrepreneurial spirit during my time studying in the U.S., which also comes with an eagerness to take every opportunity that presents itself. I will be ever grateful for this exchange."











#### **NURTURING COMPASSIONATE GLOBAL CITIZENS**

or over thirty years, the Irish American Partnership has been dedicated to building a more inclusive and equitable society across Ireland, North and South. We believe in the power of education to inspire hearts and minds to confront bias so that all, regardless of background, are truly loved, accepted, and valued. As part of this commitment, we are pleased to announce an additional \$10,000 grant to our long-time partner, Children in Crossfire for their transformational Educating the Heart initiative.

Children in Crossfire was founded in 1996 by Richard Moore. In 1972, as a 10-year-old child, Richard was blinded by a rubber bullet fired by a British soldier during the Troubles. Just as Richard's life emerged as triumph out of tragedy through his experiences of compassion in the face of challenge, Children in Crossfire pursues its own vision of a compassionate world, where every child is supported to reach his or her potential.

Based in Derry/Londonderry, Educating the Heart supports educators through a series of continuing professional development courses for teachers, helping them to shape students into the people that the world needs most: compassionate and active citizens who are engaged with global issues, and have the knowledge, skills, emotional intelligence and creativity needed to create a fair and sustainable world.

"With the generous support from the Irish American Partnership, we can continue to support schools to foster compassionate global citizenship, reaching up to 40 new schools in 2020-2021. Thank you."

- Donna McFeeley, Development Education Officer, Children in Crossfire



Pupils from Thornhill College, St Mary's College, Carndonagh Community College and Moville Community College participate in Educating the Heart





## FORWARD TOGETHER IN LOVE

#### ST. MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL DUNAMANAGH, CO. TYRONE

Students and teachers at St. Michael's Primary School are no strangers to change. Established in September 2019, St. Michael's has not only had to navigate the amalgamation of four smaller schools, but also an abrupt transition to remote learning due to COVID-19. Thanks to a new school website that has allowed instruction to resume remotely, student resilience, and a financial boost from the Irish American Partnership, these transitions were made as seamless as possible.

Awarded as part of the Partnership's hallmark **Direct Grants to Schools Program**, St. Michael's plans to use their gift to enhance student literacy through an Accelerated Reading initiative.

Though back to school is likely to look very different with the need to maintain social distancing measures, thanks to your generosity, St. Michael's is equipped to take on whatever the future may bring.

"The Partnership picked a 'good one' given that we have experienced so much change in the last year... Our greatest asset has been the children: they settled so quickly and were becoming one entity, with a new identity. We will continue to build upon this in the coming year, in accordance with our mission statement: Forward Together in Love."

- Principal Jacqueline Carlin



#### **CELEBRATING RESPECT TOGETHER**

For more than three decades, the Irish American Partnership has understood the importance of educating children of different traditions together, not apart.

Integrated schools in Northern Ireland bring together children and adults from Catholic, Protestant and other backgrounds, striving to achieve a religious balance of pupils, teachers, and governors to acknowledge and respect the cultural diversity they represent.



In this educational environment self-respect and respect for others are developed as priorities. Though education remains highly segregated between Protestant and Catholic traditions, these integrated schools highlight the power of this ethos as a means for reconciliation in a post-conflict society.

Many integrated schools have excelled in new and imaginative ways to support their community in a time of need, with several repurposing their premises to be used by healthcare workers to

administer testing and treatment for COVID-19. Principal Michael Bennet of Slemish Integrated College in Ballymena, lent his own personal laptop to a family of four children who were struggling to access equipment to undertake home learning.

EACH YEAR, THE PARTNERSHIP AWARDS AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL A GRANT OF \$10,000 THROUGH OUR PARTNERS AT THE INTEGRATED EDUCATION FUND, AN ORGANIZATION AT THE FORE OF THIS INNOVATIVE MOVEMENT THAT CELEBRATES RESPECT, UNDERSTANDING, AND FRIENDSHIP.

2020 has brought unprecedented challenges for all schools, but integrated schools have continued to lead the way forward as beacons of hope, kindness, and resilience.





## Thank You

YOUR GENEROSITY AFFECTS THOUSANDS OF LIVES ACROSS IRELAND, NORTH & SOUTH. ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS, SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES YOU SUPPORT, WE THANK YOU.

#### HERE IS A SAMPLE OF PARTNERSHIP GRANTEES IN NORTHERN IRELAND:

174 Trust
Acorn Fund
Armagh Robinson Library
Avoniel Primary School, Belfast
Ballycastle Integrated Primary School
Ballymoney Integrated Primary School
Blackwater Integrated College, Downwater
Botanic Primary School, Belfast
Cavehill Primary School, Belfast
Children in Crossfire
Cinemagic

Cliftonville Integrated Primary School,
Belfast

Colaiste Feirste, Belfast Community Foundation for Northern Ireland

Crumlin Integrated Primary School, Belfast Cumber Claudy Primary School, Claudy Dominican College, Fortwilliam, Belfast Drumlins Integrated Primary School, Ballynahinch

Edenbrooke Primary School, Belfast Elmgrove Primary School, Belfast Flax Trust

Fort Hill Integrated Primary School, Lisburn

Gaelscoil na gCrann, Ballinmullan Glengormley Integrated Primary School, Belfast

Glenwood Primary School, Belfast Glynn Primary School, Larne Greater Shankill Alternatives Groarty Integrated Primary School, Londonderry

Holy Cross Boys' Primary School, Belfast Holy Cross Girls' Primary School, Belfast Holy Rosary Primary School, Belfast Integrated Education Fund

Knockavoe School, Strabane
Malone Integrated School, Belfast
Mercy Primary School, Belfast
Millburn Primary School, Coleraine
Newbridge Integrated College,
Bandbridge

Northern Ireland Human Rights Fund Park Hill Integrated Primary School, Belfast Portadown Integrated Primary School Pushkin Trust

Queens University Access Program RDS Primary Science Fair Belfast Rosemount Primary School, Londonderry Round Tower Integrated Primary School, Belfast

Scoil an Droichid, Belfast

Scotch Irish Trust

Slemish College, Ballymena

St. Columbkille's Primary School, Carrickmore

St. Joseph's Boys' School, Westway

St. Kieran's Primary School, Belfast

St. Louise's, Belfast

St. Mary's Christian Brothers School, Belfast

St. Mary's Primary School, Mullaghbawn

St. Matthew's Primary School, Belfast

St. Michael's Primary School, Dunamanagh

St. Nailes' Primary School, Kinawley, Enniskillen

St. Oliver Plunkett Primary School, Belfast

St. Patrick's Primary School, Belfast

St. Patrick's, Carrickmore

Thomas J. Moran Queens Scholarship Tullycarnet Primary School, Belfast Ulster American Folk Park Ulster Historical Foundation University of Ulster Access Program Youth Link Northern Ireland

## JOIN US IN GIVING THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

\$33M+

500+

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SCHOOLS + ORGS SUPPORTED



CONNECT, GIVE BACK, AND CHANGE YOUNG LIVES WITH TARGETED IMPACT GRANTS

We encourage donors to select a school, region, or community program as the recipient of your philanthropy.  You can make a secure donation online at your convenience at www.irishap.org/donate					
Enclosed is my check in the amount of	(Please make checks payable to the Irish American Partnership.)				
Please accept my gift in the amount $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$	\$500	\$250	\$100	other	
I wish to make my gift in honor of $\ /$ in memory of $\ (Name)$					
Credit card number			Exp. d	ate	
Name		Signature _			
Address					
Email		Phone			
I will make a gift through my Donor-Advised Fund (DAF). $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$					
I would like to know more about planned giving with the Irish Legacy	Society.	Enclosed	d is my compar	ny's matching gift form.	



# CREATE A LASTING LEGACY FOR IRELAND

### YOUR GIFT CAN BENEFIT GENERATIONS TO COME

The Irish Legacy Society is a special community of forward-thinking supporters who have invested in the future of the Partnership's transformative mission through a planned gift or provision in their estate plans.

The Irish American Partnership is on hand to assist you in identifying the best options to fulfill your philanthropic vision. Through bequests, charitable trusts, life insurance, retirement plan designations or other gift arrangements, members of The Irish Legacy Society share in our goal to educate and empower.

Connect, give back, and change young lives while preparing for tomorrow in a way that works with your financial plan.

If you have already included the Partnership in your estate plans, please let us know. We would be delighted to welcome you into The Irish Legacy Society.

And thank you for the profound difference you make in the lives of Irish children and their communities.

