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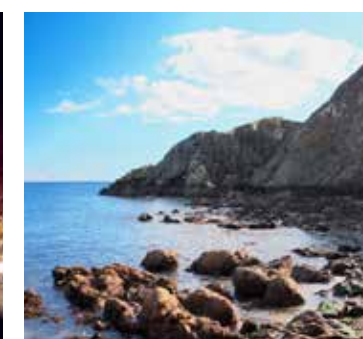
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IN 

**2016 Annual
Ireland Network
Chicago Ball**

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—
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WELCOME TO IRELAND NETWORK CHICAGO'S 2016 ANNUAL BALL

Fáilte! Welcome to the Ireland Network Chicago Annual Ball 2016. In this centenary year of the 1916 Easter Rising and Proclamation of the Irish Republic, I am delighted to be President of IN-Chicago along with Vice President Valerie Wall.

We have an interesting and engaging event calendar planned for the year ahead which will give you, our members, an opportunity to network, build partnerships and share information with local and national individuals and organisations.

Since our 12th Annual Ball last year, we have hosted or partnered over 40 events. These included such events as our popular "First Friday" program, In Conversations, Networking with Neighbors and many more.

A delegation from IN-Chicago travelled to Boston last November to attend the national IN Conference, the theme of which was Embracing the Past, Empowering the Future, which is particularly apt considering the significance of the year ahead. We welcome Steve Lenox, President IN USA to the event this evening.

Our aim for the year ahead is to grow our membership and deliver increased benefits to our individual and corporate members.

In 2016 we also wish to continue fund raising for our charities of choice. These charities are Concern Worldwide and Chicago

Irish Immigrant Support, two charities near to the heart of all Irish.

We would like to thank Imelda Gallagher, former President IN-Chicago for her contribution during her tenure. The many events hosted by IN each year would not happen without the commitment of our committee members, please read more about them in the Bio section. Many thanks to Seamus Byrne, former President of IN Chicago for his continued direction of our very popular IN Conversation series.

Welcome Orla Mc Breen, Consul General of Ireland in Chicago to her first IN Ball and many thanks to Nicholas Michaels, Vice Consul for his continued support. We are very fortunate to have a Consulate Office in Chicago and one so committed to Ireland Network, they recognize that IN Chicago is of great value to the diaspora.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our many sponsors please support them with your business whenever the opportunity arises.

Please join us this evening in celebration of the past and in anticipation of the future. Together as Irish born, Irish Americans and friends of Ireland we can build a successful and productive IN Chapter.



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ORDER OF THE EVENING

- 6:30 P.M. CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION
- 7:45 P.M. IRISH AND AMERICAN NATIONAL ANTHEMS - PADDY HOMAN
- 7:50 P.M. WELCOME ADDRESS
Ireland Network Chicago President, Rachel McCormac
- 8:00 P.M. DINNER SERVED
See Menu Below
- 9:00 P.M. CONSUL GENERAL OF IRELAND, ORLA MC BREEN
- 9:15 P.M. 2016 RAFFLE DRAWINGS WITH MASTER CEREMONIES, CONOR CUNNEEN
- 9:30 P.M. DANCING TO THE BECCA KAUFMAN ORCHESTRA
- 12:30 A.M. CARRIAGES

MENU OF THE EVENING

- SOUP** The Drake's Famous Book Binder Soup
Presented with an Individual Sherry Carafe
- SALAD** Spinach Salad with Sugar Bacon, Nectarines, Walnuts, Smoked Walnut Cider Vinaigrette
- ENTRÉE** Filet Mignon with Caramelized Onions
Herbed Fingerling Potatoes
Broccollini and Mushroom Ragout
- DESSERT** Lemon Ginger Posset
2 Gingers Irish Whiskey Gelee, Almond Oat Streusel, Fresh Berries
- DINNER WINE SERVICE** Canyon Road, Sauvignon Blanc
Canyon Road, Merlot

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Message from Consul General

IN-Chicago Annual Ball, Drake Hotel 20 February 2015

A Chairde/Dear friends

I'm delighted to join you for my first Ireland Network Ball in Chicago since taking up duty as Consul General in September 2015. The Consulate has had a close relationship with Irish Network Chicago since its inception proving the old proverb that our achievements come from cooperation "Ní neart go cur le chéile". I would like to thank the Network's current and past Presidents and Committee members for their commitment and dedication in promoting connection and cooperation between Ireland and the US and in contributing to the wider Irish-American community in Chicago.

2016 is a very important year for Ireland as we commemorate the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising, a pivotal event in Ireland's path to independence. We have a special message of support from Ambassador Anderson explaining the significance of the commemoration of 1916 for Ireland in the US. Here in Chicago, the Consulate will be organising a series of commemorative events all of which will be open to the public and we look forward to welcoming as many of our friends as we can fit! The programme of commemorations in Chicago and the Midwest can be found on our website and is regularly updated – we have been so impressed by the energy and commitment of the community in Chicago and further afield to commemorate this defining event in Irish history.

I congratulate the Irish Network itself which has been going from strength to strength and was pleased to attend the launch of the 20th chapter – IN-Detroit – last November and would like to convey to you their appreciation for IN-Chicago's offer of support and advice. The Chicago chapter of the Network is one of the oldest and most successful and has been a great example to the Network as a whole in delivering on the Network's mandates to promote business connections, provide a forum to discuss topical events and also contribute to the community. We also congratulate IN-Chicago for their excellent *IN-Conversation* which has received grant support from the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Programme.

Our whole team at the Consulate looks forward to continuing our cooperation with IN-Chicago under the leadership of your President, Rachel McCormac, in the coming years.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Orla Mc Breen
Consul General



PADDY HOMAN



To honor the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Rising in Ireland, celebrated Irish tenor Paddy Homan will present "I Am Ireland," a one-man show to take American audiences on a journey through the songs, speeches and images of the time to honor and celebrate the Irish road to freedom. March 19th at Wentz Concert Hall. March 12th at Chicago Gaelic Park. "There will be all manner of celebrations during next year's centennial, but it is hard — almost impossible — to imagine any will be as moving, entertaining, enlightening or soaring as "I Am Ireland."



CONOR CUNNEEN

Happily exiled in the Windy City, Conor Cunneen is a proud Corkman who earns a crust as a business keynote speaker and consultant providing Substance with Humor to Improve People, Performance and Productivity. Conor's clients ranged from Harley-Davidson to Helsinki, from Memphis to Madrid. A multiple author and Fellow of the Marketing Institute of Ireland, Conor is also a Chicago Humorous Speaker of the Year who practices much of his material on his long suffering wife Pat. He also bleeds Man United red!

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And, in 2015, we'll be celebrating a year of Irish Design, the wise words of WB Yeats and marveling at the incredible landscapes along the Wild Atlantic Way and Northern Ireland's Causeway Coastal Route.

So make plans today and we're fairly certain the road will rise up to meet you along the way.

Find out more at Ireland.com

Jump into
Ireland 



Making Connections

*Irish Network USA congratulates
President, Rachel McCormac
and Irish Network Chicago
on a successful 2016 Ball.*

- Steve Lenox, President INUSA

Across the United States

Irish Network USA is proud to support chapters and their members across the United States. INUSA helps Irish and Irish-American professionals across the United States to connect with their peers and to develop relationships that will foster success in their business, economic and social ventures.

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IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the IRISH people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty; six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign independent State and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or treachery. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,

THOMAS J. CLARKE,

SEAN Mac DIARMADA. THOMAS MacDONAGH,

P. H. PEARSE. EAMONN CEANNT,

JAMES CONNOLLY. JOSEPH PLUNKETT

A Cháirde,

This is a truly special year, as Irish people at home and abroad – that great extended Irish family around the world – mark the centenary of 1916.

Outside of Ireland, in no other country will the centenary have more resonance than in the United States. The testimony is there in the Proclamation itself. The text invokes the support of “our exiled children in America”, and five of the seven signatories were significantly influenced by time they had spent in America. Throughout all the intervening years, the United States has continued to stand with us as a friend and partner.

As one of the foremost Irish cities in America, it is fitting that Chicago should host its own commemorations. In preparing the centenary programme, the Embassy and our Chicago Consulate are deeply grateful for the support and collaboration of partner organisations, such as Ireland Network Chicago.

A great deal of thought has been given to shaping the centenary programme. At home and abroad, our events will be built around themes of remembrance, reconciliation, imagination. As well as examining the 1916 legacy, we will chart the one hundred year journey, reflect on where we have arrived, and set our compass for the decades ahead.

Throughout the year, we will proudly showcase the dynamic, multi-faceted Ireland of today. This is the Ireland so well represented by contemporary organisations such as Ireland Network Chicago and its members – the Ireland that owes so much to the past but continues to focus resolutely on the future.

We are looking forward to an exciting and joyful year. We extend a warm invitation to all Irish people, Irish Americans and Ireland’s friends across Chicago and the US Mid-West to join us and become part of this great global celebration and commemoration.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Anne Anderson
Ambassador





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DIRECTED BY ROBERT O'HARA
THROUGH MAY 10, 2015



The Herd

BY RORY KINNEAR
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FRANK GALATI
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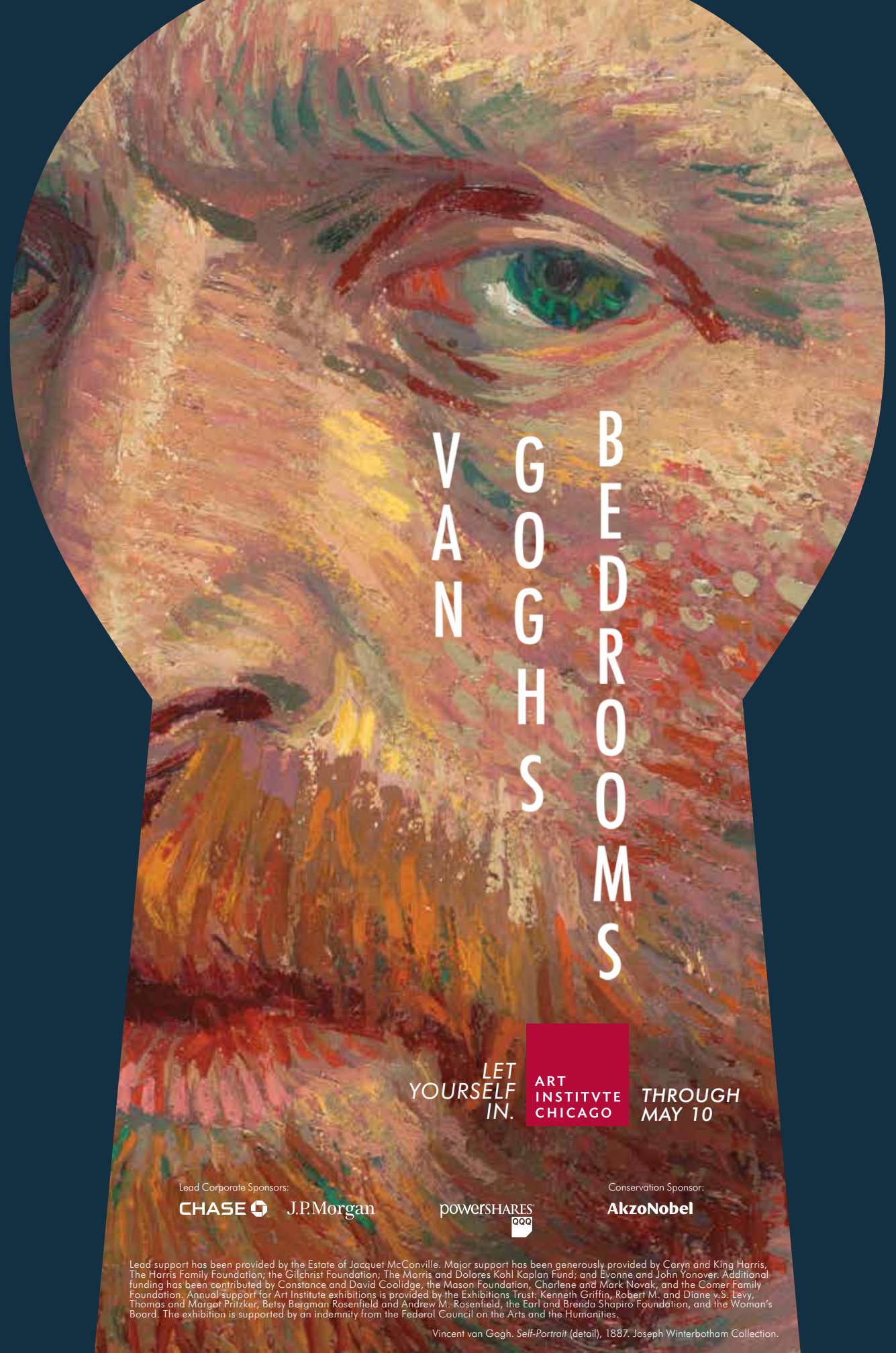


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THROUGH MAY 10

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Vincent van Gogh. Self-Portrait (detail), 1887. Joseph Winterbotham Collection.

A Look Back at Ireland Network Chicago Events in 2015

IN-Chicago was delighted to develop our IN-Conversation series further in 2015 thanks to a generous grant from the Irish Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs. Our First Friday gatherings continue to be well-attended and we even experimented with a First Thursday evening in September! Look for additional 'First Thursdays' in 2016. And as always, we continue to let our members know about events we think may interest them through our 'IN-Chicago Supported event' emails.



FIRST FRIDAYS/MONTHLY NETWORK GATHERINGS

Informal gatherings of members and friends each month

02 JAN 2015	Celtic Crossings Irish Pub	05 JUN 2015	Lizzie McNeill's
06 FEB 2015	Fadó Irish Pub	07 AUG 2015	Kaiser Tiger
06 MAR 2015	Johnny O'Hagans	03 SEP 2015	First Thursday(!) Gathering C Chicago
03 APR 2015	The Gage	03 DEC 2015	Christmas Gathering Emerald Loop
01 MAY 2015	First Friday Gathering /IN-Chicago Annual Members' Meeting The Drake Hotel		

IN CONVERSATIONS

A series of special events with interesting topics and speakers

27 JAN 2015	Immigration - Impact of Recent Changes	10 JUL 2015	Galway's Richard Donovan: 7 Marathons, 7 Continents, 5 Days - and other stories
08 MAY 2015	The Curators' Backstory: How "Ireland: Crossroads of Art & Design, 1690-1840" came exclusively to The Art Institute	06 OCT 2015	IN Conversation with Michael Smith
		30 OCT 2015	Christina Noble: Dublin Orphan to Global Advocate for Children

IN-CHICAGO SUPPORTED EVENTS

Events and performances we promote to our members

05 FEB 2015	The Life and Sort of Death of Eric Argyle Steep Theatre Company	09 MAY 2015	Darkness into Light 5K
28 FEB 2015	Chicago Irish Film Festival	29 MAY 2015	Belfast Girls by Jaki McCarrick The Den Theatre
01 MAR 2015	15th Annual Chicago Polar Plunge	02 SEP 2015	Annual AIF-Young Leaders' Summer Sunset Fireworks Cruise
13 MAR 2015	Irish American Partnership's Annual St Patrick's Day Breakfast	02 OCT 2015	Launch of New Horizon - Architecture from Ireland
13 MAR 2015	ShamROCK Chicago 2015	16 OCT 2015	Chicago Irish Immigrant Support Pub Quiz - Gideon Welles
17 MAR 2014	Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840	04 NOV 2015	American Ireland Fund's 31st Annual Chicago Dinner
10 APR 2015	Outside Mullingar by John Patrick Shanley Northlight Theatre	10 NOV 2015	We Built This City-panel discussion
25 APR 2015	2015 Irish American Hall of Fame Awards Gala	04 DEC 2015	Irish Fellowship Club's Annual Christmas Luncheon

FLAGSHIP EVENTS OF THE YEAR

21 FEB 2015	2015 Ireland Network Chicago Ball The Drake Hotel	05 NOV 2015	INUSA 2015 National Conference Boston
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IRELAND NETWORK CHICAGO

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



BARBARA ANDREWS
Treasurer
barbaraandrews@gmail.com

A proud Dubliner, Barbara has lived in her beloved adopted city of Chicago for 20 years. She graduated with a BSc from University College Dublin and a HDipIT from St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. She has made her career in the field of Software Quality Assurance and has worked in several different industries in Chicago and its suburbs. When not working she pursues hobbies in Theatre (as both an audience member and a performer!), crafts and home improvement. She has been a member of Ireland Network Chicago since its inception and is currently enjoying her first year on the committee.



EAMON BYRNE
ebyrne@palmbay.com

Eamon hails from Kilkenny and obtained a BA in Business and Human Resources from the National College of Ireland. He started his career at Allied Irish Banks(AIB), where he worked for over seven years before moving to Chicago on the Fourth of July, 2013. Eamon works for Palm Bay International as a Fine Wine Specialist. He holds a Level 3 Wine Spirit Education Trust and is currently studying their Diploma level, he is also a Wine Educator for The American Wine School in Chicago. Eamon along with his wife are the organizers of Chicago's Irish Christmas Market.



KATIE FITZPATRICK
Secretary
katiehamilton@gmail.com

Katie is the Executive Director of Programs at the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce. Prior to joining the Chamber, Katie served as Public Affairs Officer at the Irish Consulate in Chicago. She has a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Illinois and master's degrees in public policy from the University of Illinois and University College Cork, Ireland. She is a member of the Economic Development Committee at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and Young Professional at Chicago Council of Global Affairs. Katie also teaches Irish dance in the South Loop.



IMELDA GALLAGHER
imeldagallagher@gmail.com

Imelda grew up in Galway and lived in Dublin before returning to her native Chicago. She was a Barrister in Ireland and also worked in Brussels with the European Commission. Imelda has worked in the wireless industry for over eight years specializing in leasing/licensing and zoning/permitting for major wireless network carriers. She is responsible for designing national training programs in the industry. Imelda has served on the Committee for seven years.



RACHEL McCORMAC
President
rachel@artaneconstruction.com

Rachel has been a member of IN Chicago for 11 years. She is a native Dubliner and has lived in Chicago for 12 years with her husband also from Dublin and their son James. Rachel and her husband own and run a residential remodeling business in Chicago.



DIARMUID MORAN
diamuidmoran@gmail.com

Diarmuid hails from Castlebar, Co. Mayo and has lived in Chicago for over 10 years. He currently serves as a Director in Oncology Drug Development at Astellas, a Japanese pharmaceutical company. Diarmuid holds a B.Sc. in Biotechnology and Ph.D. in Cancer Cell Biology, both awarded by Dublin City University. Since he moved to Chicago, he has conducted research in cancer biology at both the University of Chicago and Northwestern University, and currently holds an adjunct professorship in the Dept. of Pharmacology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is also a co-owner of a scientific skincare startup company, Biocosmeceuticals LLC and is the prior co-founder of a personalized medicine oncology company, Targeted Cancer Treatment, LLC.



JAMES SHEEHAN
jsheehan@conlonrealestate.com

Originally from Dalkey, Co. Dublin, has lived in Chicago since the summer of 2000. He currently works for CONLON/Christies Real Estate in both commercial and residential real estate. Prior to working in RE, he was an equity options trader for 10 years in the CBOT. He resides in Lincoln Park with his wife Adrianna and their two rescue dogs.

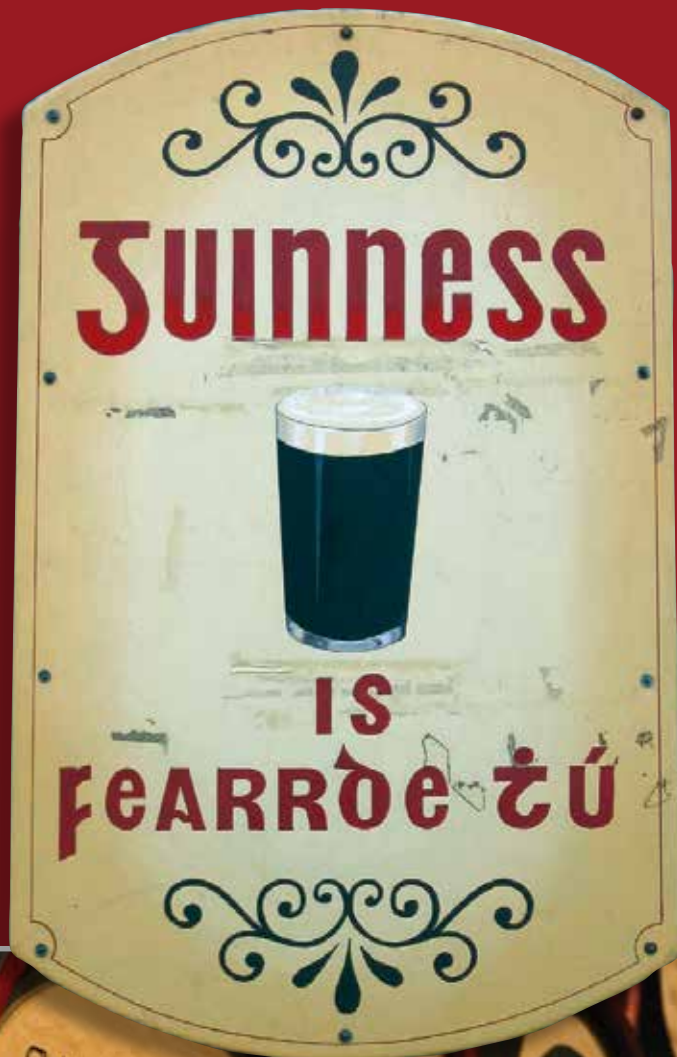


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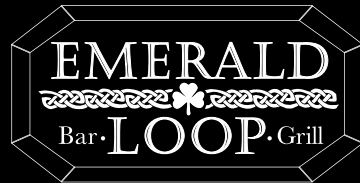
Valerie moved to Chicago in 1998 for "one year only". She graduated from University College Dublin in 1998 with a PhD in organic chemistry and started her career in the pharmaceutical industry as Senior Research Scientist with the Monsanto Company. She now directs the fine chemical operations of RCC, a custom development and manufacturing company with global locations. Valerie has been an IN committee member for the past six years, now acting as Vice-President. She also serves on the board of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support. Valerie hails from Dublin's Fair City.

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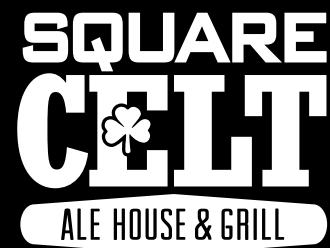
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