

Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers Newsletter

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Greetings!

Welcome to the December 2013 edition of the CIIC Newsletter!
Happy Holidays from the Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers.

Our member centers have been busy organizing banquets, senior luncheons, supporting comprehensive immigration reform, honoring those who have worked hard in our communities, providing front line services, and much more!

We wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year. Please feel free to contact me with comments, suggestions or if you would like to submit an article . Feel free to forward this Newsletter onto friends, family or colleagues by using the link at the bottom of this page.

All the best,
Sara McDermott

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Undocumented: the paperless Christmas

December 7th - An article by the [Irish Times](#)

highlights the difficulties that undocumented workers face who can't go home for the holidays, or for other major events due to fear of not being able to return to their country of residence. The article followed the stories of three undocumented Irish workers in the U.S. and three undocumented immigrants in Ireland and the stark reality of living an unofficial life.

View the article [here](#).

Irish Community Holiday Party



Seattle, WA

December 7th - The Seattle Irish organizations and community groups celebrated big on December 7th as they held their first ever combined Holiday Party. 250+ attended the event. A special surprise award ceremony also took place to honor Seattle's Honorary Irish Consul, John Keane, for his 35 years of dedication and volunteer efforts for Seattle's Irish Community. Kevin Byrne, Vice Consul represented Ireland's Consulate/San Francisco and presented John Keane with a letter from (Prime Minister) Taoiseach Enda Kenny as well as a letter from Anne Anderson, Ireland's Ambassador to the US. The "Cultural Ambassador" designation and the "Distinguished Citizen" medallion were presented to John by the Seattle Mayor's office. He received a customized Seattle Police badge from the Seattle Police Pipe and Drum band as well as an award from the Seattle Gaels. The Irish Heritage Club designated John and Maureen Keane as "Lifetime Honorary Grand Marshalls" for the annual St. Patrick's Parade. John was incredibly humbled by the outpouring of love, affection and appreciation from the Seattle Irish Community.

Employment Opportunity: Executive Director

Boston, MA

December 5 - The Irish Pastoral Center (IPC) in Boston is currently seeking to hire an Executive Director. Please visit [here](#) for more details.

About the IPC:

Founded in 1987 and believing in justice for all and solidarity in the face of hardship, the IPC is committed to welcoming the "stranger among us" and providing compassionate assistance and encouragement to individuals in need of spiritual, social, legal, and educational support.

IPC Fundraising Banquet

Irish Pastoral Centre - Boston



November 16th - The Staff and Board of the Pastoral Centre were delighted with the wonderful turnout and show of support at our Annual Fundraising Banquet. It was great to see everyone, meet old friends and make new ones. A special word of thanks to our renowned guest of honor Dr. Mary McAleese and her husband Martin McAleese along with former Ambassador to Ireland James Kenny and his wife Margaret, Irish Consul General Breandán Ó'Caolli and his wife Carmel and Vice Consul Jillian O'Keefe. The evening was a fabulous coming together of over 400 supporters and community members for a night of music, dancing, fun and fundraising to support the wide range of programs offered by

the IPC. We could not do it without you so go raibh máith
agaibh go léir, thank you very much, for your ongoing
support.

Emerald Isle Immigration Center 25th Annual Dinner Dance

Queens, NY

October 25th - The EIIC held its 25th annual dinner dance at Astoria World Manner. Honored on the night were three individuals who typify the spirit of the EIIC and who each have made outstanding contributions to the Irish community: Honorable Charles E. Schumer, United States Senator; Dr. Miriam Nyhan, Historian & Co-Director of Archives of Irish America; and Rory McCreesh, President of Duce Construction.

This year, the EIIC also presented the Frank Carvill Award to John DeCoursey, a 20-year veteran of Precinct 47 in the Bronx, a tremendous asset to the Woodlawn community and a great friend to the EIIC. A sincere thanks went to all honorees. By showcasing their achievements, EIIC highlighted some of the reasons that so many immigrants from all around the world continue to seek the hope of a better life in America.

Congratulations Sr. Marguerite Kelly

Boston, MA

Oct 22nd- The Irish Pastoral Centre, Boston recognized Sr. Marguerite Kelly as a recipient of the 'Silver Key Awards' from the Charitable Irish Society at the BC Club in Boston.



Sandra Moody presents Sr. Marguerite Kelly with the Silver Key Award.

Murphy's Unite!!

Are you a Murphy? Come to Toronto for a "reunion of the Murphy Clan," which invites anyone with the last name Murphy to march in a section of the 2014 Toronto St. Pat's parade. Any "Murphy" interested in participating should e-mail murphy@topatrick.com for further details.

With much thanks,
Cathy Murphy

Cathy Murphy
Executive Director
Irish Canadian Immigration Centre



855.249.5146

Calls to Date - ISC volunteers have received 235 calls to date on the listening line, and have made 535 well-being check-in calls.

Give us a like! We're on [Facebook](#)

For more information about the program, contact ISC Program Coordinator, Susan Doody, at susan.doody@ciic-usa.org

ABOUT THE COALITION OF IRISH IMMIGRATION CENTERS

The Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers (CIIC) is a national umbrella group for all of the Irish Immigration Centers in the US. The CIIC was established in 1996 to promote the welfare of Irish immigrants in the US at a national level. The CIIC is funded by a grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Emigrant Support Program and by generous support from the American Ireland fund for its Irish Senior Connect Program.

The mission of the CIIC is to represent immigrant organizations throughout the United States who are committed to providing services to Irish immigrants. The Coalition provides support and assistance to the various centers in their work through advocacy, education and the exchange of information. CIIC member organizations are located in California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Wisconsin.

To learn more about CIIC visit, www.ciic-usa.org