

# Kennedy Summer School

A FESTIVAL of IRISH & AMERICAN HISTORY, CULTURE and POLITICS



## 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> of SEPTEMBER 2019 NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD, IRELAND.

www.kennedysummerschool.ie



Larry Donnelly



Dr Robert M. Mauro

## **WELCOME**

It is with tremendous pleasure that we invite you to join us in New Ross for the 2019 Kennedy Summer School. The Summer School has become a major cultural event and diary commitment for the first full weekend of each September; and as summer draws to a close, people on both sides of the Atlantic sharpen their focus on the year ahead.

Over three days - from the 5th to the 7th of September - we will be joined by high profile figures from the United States, Ireland, and beyond to discuss our shared history and culture, our politics in a time of uncertainty and tumult, and what our future may hold in store.

Of course, we will once again be discussing the Trump presidency as the 2020 election looms in the US, as well as the impact Brexit will have on the whole of this island, the United Kingdom, and beyond. The Summer School will commence with the commemorative Tea Party and with the dedication and accession of the Larkin Collection to the Kennedy Book and Research Archive at New Ross Library. We will have a number of expert panels discussing history, religion, sport, US politics, Irish politics, and more. There will be entertainment including our annual speakers lunch, our Kennedy Summer School Tea Party and numerous occasions for lively informal encounters.

As our keynote speakers this year, we are especially honoured to welcome Most Reverend Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland, New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd and former US Congressman Bruce Morrison.

It is worth repeating: there will literally be something for everyone at the Kennedy Summer School on the first weekend in September. We hope that you will join with us and our organising committee for some or all of what promises to be an informative, thought provoking, and enjoyable three days in New Ross.

#### Larry Donnelly, Dr Robert M. Mauro, Co-Directors of the Kennedy Summer School 2019

The Kennedy Summer School Programme is subject to change. For up to date details and full profiles of speakers see kennedysummerschool.ie



**The Kennedy Summer School Afternoon Tea Party** With Marty Morrissey, Frances Black And Sean Connick

**Thursday 5th September** 2:30pm

Venue: The Marquee at JFK Memorial Park and Arboretum



Host: Sean Connick



Marty Morrissey



Frances Black

The Kennedy Summer School will again celebrate the iconic Presidential visit of John F Kennedy to New Ross and Dunganstown with a special event of talks, entertainment and afternoon tea. The event will be hosted by Sean Connick, Chief Executive of the JFK Trust New Ross and will feature a pair of lively and interesting personalities. We have invited Marty Morrissey and Senator Frances Black to talk about their very different career paths and their rise to national celebrity in very different fields.

As well as getting his take on the hurling season then drawing to a close, we will ask Marty to reflect on his broadcasting career and his rise as a truly unique national treasure and a magnate for all that is optimistic and party loving in Irish sport and our society generally.

Sean will also chat with Frances Black about her successful music career including the incredibly successful "Women's Heart" phenomenon. They will talk about how her own struggles gave rise to her founding the Rise Foundation and how now she is utilising her new role as an Independent member of Seanad Éireann to draw attention to and achieve real change in the issues which matter to her.

The afternoon promises to be an interesting, entertaining, lively opportunity for all involved to meet, mingle and chat in that most typical of Irish ways - over a cup of tea.

Members of Wexford Federation Irish County Women's Association will create a mouth-watering range of exquisitely presented homemade cakes and pastries for this special Afternoon Tea event.



Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí Office of Public Works



New Ross Kennedy Book And Research Archive -Presentation Of The Larkin Collection To New Ross Library

## Thursday 5th September | 5:30pm - 6pm

Venue: New Ross Library

To mark the 100th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's birth in 2017, the Kennedy Summer School and Wexford County Council opened an archive of Kennedy related material at New Ross Library. It hosts an impressive collection of books, publications and audio-visual materials on the Kennedy Presidency, the Kennedy family and their links with Co. Wexford.

Felix M. Larkin, historian and distinguished former public servant, has been publishing on a range of historical themes including the Kennedy for over 40 years. In so doing he has amassed an extensive collection of books and other published materials about the Kennedys. This personal collection includes a wide range of biographies and other interesting materials. Felix has now generously donated his personal Kennedy



Eileen Morrissey



Felix M. Larkin

collection to the Kennedy Archive at New Ross Library. To mark the occasion a short ceremony, hosted by Eileen Morrissey, Wexford County Librarian will mark the formal hand-over of the collection.

Felix M. Larkin is a former academic director of the Parnell Summer School, and a co-founder and former chairman of the Newspaper and Periodical History Forum of Ireland. He was an Irish public servant for thirty-six years before reverting to the role of non-stipendiary historian in his retirement.



This is a free event but places are limited and MUST be booked in advance. To reserve a space on a first come basis, email info@kennedysummerschool.ie to receive confirmation of ticket allocation

# PROTESTANT

Being Protestant And Irish: A Library Forum

Ireland

## Thursday 5th September | 6pm - 7pm

The minority's search for place in independent

Venue: New Ross Library

In 1989 Edna Longley remarked that if Catholics were born Irish, Protestants had to 'work their passage to Irishness'. Thirty years after this statement, "Protestant and Irish: The minority's search for a place in independent Ireland", edited by Dr Ian d'Alton and Dr Ida Milne, has become one of Ireland's most successful and most talked about non-fiction books of 2019.



**Professor Maurice Bric** 

University College Dublin

The work reassesses interpretations as to what it meant to be Protestant and Irish in the changed political dispensation after Irish independence in 1922. The Kennedy Summer School, with New Ross Library, is delighted to host a discussion on Protestant identity in contemporary Ireland. The event will be chaired by Maurice Bric, with a panel of key contributors to this ground-breaking book.

Our panel for this discussion will comprise of Dr Ian D'Alton, from the Centre of Contemporary Irish History at Trinity College, Dr Ida Milne, from Carlow College who is also the Vice Chair of the Oral History Network of Ireland, Dr Deirdre Nuttal and Felix M. Larkin, Independent Academics.



Dr Ian d'Alton

Centre for Contemporary Irish History, Trinity College



Dr Ida Milne

Carlow College, Vice-chair of Oral History Network of Ireland



Dr Deirdre Nuttall

Independent Academic

This is a free event but places are limited and MUST be booked in advance. To reserve a space on a first come basis, email info@kennedysummerschool.ie to receive confirmation of ticket allocation



**Official Opening Of 2019 Kennedy Summer School** By Seamus Mallon, Former Deputy First Minister Of N. Ireland

## Thursday 5th Sept | 7:30pm to 8pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

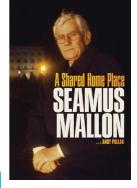
### **OPENING NIGHT EVENT**

The Kennedy Summer School is delighted that Seamus Mallon has kindly accepted our invitation to officially open our 2019 programme.

During the 1960s, Seamus Mallon was introduced to politics through the Civil Rights movement. He became Deputy Leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) in 1979. In a distinguished political career, he served as Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland from 1998 to 2001.

He was elected to the Power-Sharing Assembly in 1973. Mallon served briefly in Seanad Éireann, having been appointed by the then Taoiseach, Charles Haughey, in 1982. He was elected in the same year to the Northern Ireland Assembly. In 1986, he was elected in a by-election to Westminster. As a central figure in the peace process, his viewpoint was shaped by growing up as a Catholic in a predominantly Protestant village. Mallon gained a reputation for speaking out against violence from all sides. He was a key architect of the Good Friday Agreement.

In opening remarks and then in a short public interview with Eileen Dunne, Mallon will discuss his fascinating career, his recently published memoir, "A Shared Home Place" and his perspective on current developments, or lack of them, in Northern Ireland.





The Edward M Kennedy Lecture: What Role Is There For Faith In Our Politics

## Thursday 5th September | 8pm - 9pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

More than 50 years after his inauguration, John F Kennedy remains the only successful Catholic candidate for US presidency. His 1960 presidential win was a milestone moment for both Irish Americans and Catholics in the United States. The Kennedy Summer School has invited the Catholic Primate of All Ireland Archbishop to deliver this year's keynote Edward M Kennedy Lecture on the role of faith in politics.



Archbishop Eamon Martin

Thomas H. Groome, who is a senior Professor of Theology and Religious Education at Boston College and is the long-serving Director of its PhD programme in Theology and Education will set the Archbishop's lecture in context discussing the role which Kennedy's Catholicism and the faith of politicians has been an issue in political campaigns.

Archbishop Eamon Martin will deliver the keynote lecture. Archbishop Martin is Archbishop of Armagh and Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Dromore, Primate of All Ireland, President of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference and Chancellor of the Pontifical University, Maynooth. He is also chair of the Council for Communications of the Bishops' Conference.

Replies to the lecture will come from Senator Ivana Bacik, Professor of Law in Trinity College and Michael Kelly, Editor of The Irish Catholic and an award-winning writer and broadcaster specialising in religious and social affairs. The event will be moderated by Dr Robert M. Mauro.



Thomas H Groome



Ivana Bacik



Michael Kelly

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#### **BRIAN KENNEDY: SONGS OF LOVE AND LOSS**

## Thursday 5th Sept | 9pm-10pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### **OPENING NIGHT EVENT**

The Kennedy Summer School is delighted to close its opening night programme with a special performance from Irish singer-songwriter and author Brian Kennedy. The one hour-long performance will take place in the intimidate surroundings of the 300-seater St. Michael's Theatre. It will feature his most popular and evocative songs of love, challenge, and loss.

Brian Kennedy is an Irish singer-songwriter and author from Belfast. He scored a number of hit singles and albums during the 1990s and 2000s, including You Raise Me Up, Life, Love and Happiness, and Put the Message in the Box. He represented Ireland in the Eurovision Song Contest 2006 and finished in 10th place. Between 2011 and 2012, Kennedy was a coach on the first series of The Voice of Ireland. He currently performs in venues across the country.





## SECONDARY SCHOOL EVENT Inspiring Ambition Over Adversity Friday 6th September | 10am-12 Noon

Venue: St Mary's Secondary School



Stefanie Preissner



Gina London

Stefanie Preissner is the creator of the hit RTE comedy series 'Can't Cope Won't Cope' currently available worldwide on Netflix. She has also been producer/presented series of short documentaries "How to Adult" for RTE and her newly released podcast 'RTE-SITUATIONSHIPS' is enjoying great ratings on the iTunes chart. Her first book 'Why Can't Everything Just Stay the Same" was nominated for several awards and her second book "Can I Say No" published in May 2019 is one woman's honest and hilarious take on how re-learning one small word can pave the way to saying YES to who you really are.

The event will be hosted by Gina London who is an Emmy winning former CNN correspondent and anchor and international campaign strategist currently based in Ireland. She is a published author and a high level communications consultant.

Our full range of speakers for this year's secondary schools events is currently being finalised and full details will be announced and publicised online and to the local secondary schools before the end of the 2018-19 school year.

The title of this event uses the 'New Ross' Font designed by fifth class students at Bunscoil Rís in New Ross, County Wexford.



## JUNIOR SCHOOL EVENT Blazing A Trail Friday 6th September | 10am

Venue: New Ross Library



Lauren O'Neill

Lauren O'Neill is a Wexford-born illustrator who now lives and works in Dublin. She is a graduate of the National College of Art and Design. Her illustrations can be found on the covers and interiors of books for children throughout Ireland and abroad. She is the proud winner of the 2018 An Post Irish Book Awards Children's Book of the Year (Senior) for her most recent book, 'Blazing a Trail', with author Sarah Webb and publisher O'Brien Press.

As a special event for the Kennedy Summer School, Lauren O'Neill takes the kids on a hands on experience of drawing in a workshop environment. This event will be for students of the neighbouring national school in the relaxed setting of New Ross Library.





KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL TOURISM FORUM In association with Fáilte Ireland and

Wexford County Council

Host: Jenny De Saulles

## Friday 6th September | 10am-12pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

The Kennedy Summer School, in association with Fáilte Ireland and Wexford County Council, is delighted to host a keynote gathering of stakeholders in Ireland's rapidly growing tourism industry to discuss the challenges of this ever-growing sector. The panel will include industry experts who will discuss Ireland's unique appeal and the strengths it can leverage to promote further success. The event will also involve a visiting delegation from Savannah Tourism and Georgia Southern University in the context of the Wexford-Savannah Research Project which has involved Waterford Institute of Technology and Georgia Southern University in joint research into 19th century emigration from Ireland to the South Eastern United States.

Other speakers and panellists will include Denise O'Leary, Assistant Head of the School of Hospitality and Tourism in Technological University Dublin, Paul Kelly, CEO Fáilte Ireland, and Tom Enright, CEO Wexford County Council, and other contributors to be announced. The event will be hosted by Jenny De Saulles, Head of Ireland's Ancient East.

#### \*Other speakers will be announced



#### Denise O'Leary





Paul Kelly



Tom Enright



This is a free event but places are limited and MUST be booked in advance. To reserve a space on a first come basis, email info@kennedysummerschool.ie to receive confirmation of ticket allocation

🖸 Fáilte Ireland

KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL Speakers Lunch

## Friday 6th September 12:30pm - 2.30pm

Venue: The Marquee at JFK Memorial Park and Arboretum

Delegates and invited guests get the opportunity to meet and mingle with the 2019 summer school speakers at this lunch event at nearby JFK Memorial Park & Arboretum. This lunch event is hosted by Boston College and this year's speaker for the lunch itself will be Micheál Martin TD Leader of Fianna Fáil. A native of Turner's Cross in Cork, Deputy Martin was first elected to Dáil Éireann in 1989 and has since had a long and distinguished career in Irish politics including serving in four cabinet posts: Minister for Foreign Affairs (2008-2011), Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment (2004-2008), Minister for Health (2000-2004) and Minister for Education (1997-2000).

Our delegates and guests will be very anxious to hear what Micheál Martin as Leader of the Opposition has to say about topical political events including Budget 2020 which will take place 4 weeks later. His address will also no doubt focus on the finalisation of the Brexit negotiations including their implications for the timing of a General Election in Ireland. Afterwards he will participate in a public interview with Dr Robert M. Mauro, Director of the Irish Institute and Global Leadership Institute at Boston College



Chaired by Eileen Whelan

Eileen Whelan is a senior journalist and news anchor at RTÉ.



Willie Keilthy

Chair, Kennedy Summer School



Dr. Robert M. Mauro

Executive Director of the Irish Institute and Global Leadership Institute at Boston College "We do not want our children to become a generation of spectators. Rather we want each of them to be a participant in the vigorous life." John F. Kennedy.

**PROFILES IN SPORTING COURAGE** A Special Panel of Irish Sporting Voices

Friday 6th September 6pm - 7pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre



Chair: Evanne Ní Chuilinn

RTÉ sports journalist



Sarah O'Shea



Gearoid Devitt



Ursula Jacob



A love of sport has been synonymous with the Kennedy family for generations, from John Kennedy's love of touch football, sailing and golf, to Eunice Kennedy Shriver's work with the Special Olympics. The Kennedy Summer School is delighted to host a panel of Irish sports personalities to reflect on the determination and dedication that propelled them to the top.

Sarah O'Shea joined the Football Association of Ireland in 2005 as the first in house lawyer in an Irish Sport's Governing Body. Following a successful number of years establishing and leading an inhouse legal department she became the first Deputy Chief Executive of the Football Association of Ireland. She was elected as Honorary General Secretary of the Olympic Federation of Ireland in 2017 and is actively working on an array of governance, legal and structural changes in that role.

Gearoid Devitt has been County Secretary and Chief Executive of Wexford GAA since December 2018. Prior to that he was the GAA's National Player Welfare Officer for the previous 3 years.

Ursula Jacob is a Wexford inter county camogie player and a multiple winner of All-Star awards. She won All Ireland Senior Camogie medals in 2007, 2010 and 2012. With a total of 3-54 she was the highest scoring player in the Senior Championship of 2011. She is now a regular Gaelic games pundit for RTE on tv and radio.

Lee Chin is an inter-county player for the Wexford senior hurling team.

As the sporting season plays out, over different codes across the summer, we hope to add a number of additional voices to our panel for this discussion. The event will be hosted by Evanne Ní Chuilinn, RTÉ sports journalist.



For the first time the Kennedy Summer School has decided to examine the similarities and differences between the Irish legal system and constitutional framework and that of the United States particularly in the area of personal and human rights. We have gathered an impressive panel to explore the relationship between the US Supreme Court and the Irish Supreme Court and the influence which the jurisprudence of the former may have had on the latter. The session will go through the means of the personal stories of individual litigants and their cases but also through the story of a particular friendship which developed between an Irish Supreme Court Judge and one of the US Justices.



Donncha O'Connell



Dr. Jennifer Kavanagh



Ruadhán Mac Cormaic

Donncha O'Connell is Professor of Law at NUI Galway where he teaches European Human Rights, Administrative Law and Advocacy, Activism and Public Interest Law. Among his current research interests is working on the personal correspondence from 1963 to 1993 from Mr Justice Brian Walsh of the Irish Supreme Court and William J Brennan Jr Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Dr. Jennifer Kavanagh is a Lecturer in Law in Waterford Institute of Technology and specialises in Constitutional Law and Electoral Law. She completed her undergraduate legal education in Waterford Institute of Technology and she completed her PhD in the School of Law in Trinity College Dublin in 2015 in Constitutional Law and Freedom of Expression. Jennifer is the author of "Constitutional Law in Ireland" (Clarus Press 2018) and "Electoral Law in Ireland" (Bloomsbury Professional in 2015)

Ruadhán Mac Cormaic is Assistant Editor at The Irish Times and former Foreign Affairs Correspondent, Legal Affairs Correspondent and Paris Correspondent with the newspaper. He is author of the critically acclaimed book "*The Supreme Court*". In writing and researching the book he had had unprecedented access to a vast number of sources, and conducted hundreds of interviews, including with key insiders. The book reveals new and surprising information about wellknown cases. It exposes the sometimes fractious relationship between the court and the government. Above all it tells a story about people - those who brought the cases, those who argued in court, those who dealt with the fallout and, above all, those who took the decisions.



#### THE KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL INTERVIEW In association with Fáilte Ireland and Wexford County Council

## Friday 6th September 8:30pm - 9:30pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

Bruce Morrison is a graduate of MIT and Yale Law School, where his classmates included Bill and Hillary Clinton and President Donald Trump's national security adviser, John Bolton. A public interest lawyer and Democrat, he was elected to the United States Congress from Connecticut in 1982. While in Congress, he served on the judiciary committee and also sponsored legislation which became known as the Morrison Visa and enabled tens of thousands of Irish men and women to emigrate to the US and chase their American dreams.

Subsequent to his tenure in Congress, Bruce Morrison was active in the Northern Ireland peace process and was instrumental in helping Gerry Adams to obtain a visa to travel to the US. He has remained an outspoken voice on important issues for Ireland and Irish Americans in his career as an immigration lawyer and lobbyist and features frequently in Irish and American media.

Former Congressman Morrison's public interview will be with Caitríona Perry. Caitríona has presented Six One News alongside Keelin Shanley since January 2018. Caitríona was previously RTE's Washington Correspondent from February 2013 to December 2017. She is bestselling author of *"In America: Tales from Trump Country"* published in October 2017.



Bruce Morrison



**Caitríona Perry** 



THE KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM:

Looking Back At 1959, 1979 And 1989

**Saturday 7th September** 10am - 11:40am





Chair: Eileen Dunne



Ronan McGreevy

Author, Historian, Irish Times Reporter

#### 10.00am

#### SEAN LEMASS IN HIS OWN VOICE

Seán Lemass is widely regarded as Ireland's greatest Taoiseach but he left no papers or autobiography. However, after 50 years, tapes have emerged which were intended to form his authorised biography. In over 23 hours of recordings Lemass talks about his often-troubled relationship with Éamon de Valera, his reluctance to be Taoiseach and Ireland's struggles to create an economically sustainable country.



#### 10.30am

#### **CHARLES HAUGHEY: A RETROSPECTIVE**

A discussion and debate on the political life and times of one of Ireland's most controversial political leaders, Charles Haughey, who became Taoiseach almost 40 years ago in December 1979. Peter Murtagh, an Irish Times security correspondent, covered Haughey as Taoiseach and co-authored "The Boss". Conor Lenihan, a former Fianna Fáil TD himself and the son of Tánaiste Brian Lenihan, is the author of "Haughey: Prince of Power", a recently published biography.



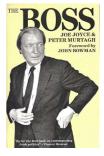
Peter Murtagh

Journalist, co-author of The Boss, Charles J Haughey in Power



Conor Lenihan

Former Fianna Fáil politician, author of Haughey: Prince of Power.









Michael Žantovský

Former Czech Ambassador to the United States. He is author of the definitive biography of his friend Vaclav Havel and Chairman of the Vaclav Havel Library.



**Dick Spring** 

Former Labour Party leader, Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs

#### 11.10am THE WALLS FALL DOWN

On the night of 9th November 1989, East German border police opened the gates at crossing points in the Berlin Wall, allowing masses to stream through them unhindered. This triggered a night of unbridled celebrations as people crossed freely back and forth through the Cold War barrier. The "Fall of the Berlin Wall" marked an iconic staging post after months of protest against society controlling single-party regimes in other eastern European countries. In the weeks after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Velvet Republic took place from 17 November - 29 December 1989. Popular demonstrations resulted in the end of 41 years of Czechoslovakian one-party rule and the subsequent dismantling of the planned economy and a peaceful conversation to a parliamentary republic.

Now thirty years later we look back at these iconic events and their impact on European politics, the European Union and the United States' relationship with Europe.



#### KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL KEYNOTE EVENT: Maureen Dowd On US Media, US Politics And More

## Saturday 7th September 12pm - 1pm

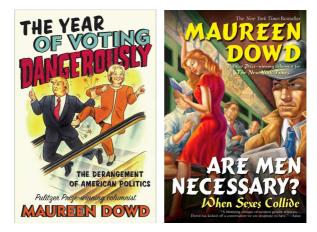
Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

The Kennedy Summer School is delighted to host Maureen Dowd as our special guest at this year's event. Dowd is a distinguished New York Times columnist. Winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary and author of three New York Times bestsellers, Dowd has covered nine presidential campaigns, served as The



Times's White House correspondent, and written "On Washington," a column for The Times Magazine. In addition to The New York Times, Ms Dowd has written for GQ, Vanity Fair, Rolling Stone, The New Republic, Mademoiselle, Sports Illustrated and others. Her column appears every Sunday.

In an extended public interview with Larry Donnelly she will discuss her monumental career stemming from her position as an editorial assistant for The Washington Star in 1974, to writing for major global publications on a series of topics from politics to gender. She will give her take on the Trump presidency, the fate of US politics and media and the lead in to the 2020 US Presidential Election.



#### **THE IRISH POLITICS PANEL** Budget, Brexit and Election Time?

## Saturday 7th September 2pm - 3pm

Venue: Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

Ciara Kelly chairs a special one-hour panel of leading Irish politicians on topical issues facing the current government, followed by questions from the audience. In a year dominated by post-Brexit uncertainty and rumours of an early general election, the panel will have plenty to cover.



Dr Ciara Kelly

Presenter Newstalk and Sunday Independent Columnist

The panel will also discuss the upcoming 2020 budget, which will need to consider recent overspend controversies and mounting pressure around climate change.

Ciara Kelly is a broadcaster, journalist and doctor. She presents Lunchtime Live on Newstalk daily and is an award-winning columnist with the Sunday Independent.



Regina Doherty TD



Mick Wallace MEP

Independents4change



Jim O'Callaghan TD

Fianna Fáil



Joan Burton TD

Labour



#### OUR TWO ISLANDS, OUR COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS

## Saturday 7th September | 3pm - 4pm

Venue: Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

The spotlight has been very much on Northern Ireland in 2019 not least because the question of a "backstop" ensuring a soft or no border on the island of Ireland has been centre stage during various twists and turns of the Brexit negotiations. There is a prospect of both Dáil elections and Westminster elections later this year or early next year. Talks are likely to continue between the Northern Ireland parties and the two governments about the prospect of revitalising the political institutions at Stormont. In the more medium term, the workings out of the Brexit process and the increasing attention on whether and when there might be a border poll demands consideration in the wider context of relationships between the people and traditions on these islands.

The Kennedy Summer School is currently finalising an interesting panel of voices to speak on these issues and to engage with our audience in a reflective space. Jeffrey Donaldson MP, DUP Chief Whip at Westminster, and Independent Senator Michael McDowell, former Tánaiste and Minister for Justice are confirmed to participate in this session. Further speakers will be confirmed in the coming weeks.



Jeffrey Donaldson MP Democratic Unionist Party, Chief Whip at Westminster



Michael McDowell SC

Senator, Former Tánaiste and Minister for Justice



#### A BOSTONIAN PERSPETIVE ON LAW AND POLITICS IN TODAY'S USA

## Saturday 7th September | 4:15pm - 4:45pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross



In November 2018 Rachael Rollins was elected Suffolk County's District Attorney on a promise to end cash bail, send drug users to treatment instead of jail, and stop prosecuting 15 low-level charges.

Rachael was born into a large, multi-cultural family, with Cork heritage on her father's side.

Her parents met shortly after the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in Loving v. Virginia, which invalidated laws prohibiting interracial marriage. At the time, her father had just returned from Vietnam and was living with his family on Ethel Street in Roslindale. Her mother was a nursing student at Boston University. They married and settled on Harlem Street in Dorchester in 1969. Rachael is the oldest of their five children and has a 14 year old daughter. She is also the guardian and custodian of her 5 and 9 year old nieces. She is happiest when she is with family and her dog Cassius. She attended Buckingham Browne and Nichols and prior to graduating from high school in 1989, was selected onto an Elite New England School Girls Lacrosse Team and won a National Championship and she received a lacrosse scholarship to attend the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Immediately after graduating in 1994, she went to Northeastern University School of Law. While there, she served as the first legal intern in the history of the National Basketball Players Association and interned with United States District Court Judge Robert E. Keeton. After graduating in 1997, she clerked for one year on the Massachusetts Appeals Court and then went to Georgetown University Law Center where she obtained a Masters in Law.

She was accepted into and attended a 6 month intense Change Management and Leadership program at Harvard Business School. After she graduated from the program at HBS she was ready to take on the world. Tragically, she was then diagnosed with breast cancer. For the next 18+ months, she underwent treatment and multiple surgeries, which led to her becoming completely healthy and cancer free, but that diagnosis deeply impacted her and her family's life. She now realizes that every day is a gift.

In a public interview with Dr Robert M. Mauro, which will set the scene of our subsequent US politics panel, Rachael will talk about her career and her determination as the DA of Suffolk County to change and improve the criminal justice system.



#### **US POLITICS PANEL: TRUMP AND ELECTION 2020**

## Saturday 7th September | 4:45pm - 6pm

Venue: Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

Once again at the 2019 Kennedy Summer School, a panel of prominent American political experts will discuss and debate the future of the Trump administration. Chaired by Larry Donnelly, the panellists will reflect on his time in office to date and consider his chances of re-election in 2020. They will also discuss the particularly crowded race for the Democratic nominee. The discussion will encompass a wide range of ideological spectrums, reflective of the current landscape in American politics.



**Rachael Rollins** 

Boston Suffolk County, District Attorney



Cal Thomas

Conservative Syndicated Columnist & contributor to Today FM's The Last Word



Sarah Elliott

Chair, Republicans Overseas UK



Niall O'Dowd

Founder, IrishCentral.com



Michael Lonergan



Chair: Larry Donnelly

Deputy Head of Mission at the Irish Embassy, Washington D.C.



## END OF SESSIONS ENTERTAINMENT Saturday 7th September | 6:15pm - 6:30pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre, New Ross

To conclude a vibrant programme of talks and events, the Kennedy Summer School is delighted again to invite the New Ross & District Pipe Band to perform their now iconic special entertainment piece to mark the end of the 2019 Kennedy Summer School. Founded in 1974, this award-winning group will perform a series of familiar and inspiring songs and tunes reflecting themes of struggle, freedom and overcoming personal and political adversity.



Sinead Casey, District Manager, New Ross Municipal District Council, and Willie Keilthy, chair of Kennedy Summer School, watch Kerry Kennedy (daughter of late Senator Robert Kennedy) and George Vradenburg take the helm of the of the Dunbrody replica Famine Ship during their visit to New Ross for the 2018 Summer School.



#### THE FÁILTE IRELAND-KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL DINNER

## Saturday 7th September | 8pm - 11.30pm

Venue: Venue: JFK Memorial Park And Arboretum Marquee

To mark the conclusion of the Kennedy Summer School and on the occasion of the roll out of Fáilte Ireland's Taste the Island initiative the day will conclude with a gala dinner at the JFK Memorial Park & Arboretum Marquee.

Kicking off in September 2019, Taste the Island is a special initiative to promote the island of Ireland's extensive catalogue of food and drink experiences to domestic and international visitors, creating opportunities for Irish businesses to attract higher numbers of visitors outside of the already busy summer months. Fáilte Ireland are creating an all-island opportunity to showcase our world-class food and drink culture, by providing visitors with access to authentic food and drink experiences and high-quality local ingredients across September, October and November.





The Taste the Island programme will be extensive, including everything from visits to food producers, distillers and brewers; food trails and food festivals; participation in traditional skills; opportunities to forage and fish; and chances to sit back and enjoy the best of modern Irish cuisine in traditional pubs, small-town cafés, restaurants, city bistros and Michelin-starred experiences. That's just to start with!

The Kennedy Summer School dinner will provide an ideal opportunity for delegates and guests to mix and mingle at the end of our busy weekend while enjoying this initial showcase of the best in the Irish food and drink experience. The dinner will also feature some light entertainment, a special guest speaker to be announced and short presentations from well known figures who are champions of the Irish food and drink experience.



A limited number of tickets are available for the Gala Dinner and can be booked on a first come first served basis at our website **www.kennedysummerschool.ie** or directly from the St Michael's Theatre Box Office

## **PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**

Thursday 5th September, 2.30pm Venue: The Marquee At JFK Memorial Park And Arboretum

THE KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

Host: Sean Connick; Special Guests: Marty Morrissey, Frances Black

Thursday 5th September, 5.30pm - 6.00pm Venue: New Ross Library

NEW ROSS KENNEDY BOOK AND RESEARCH ARCHIVE - Presentation Of The Larkin Collection To New Ross Library Host: Eileen Morrissey; Remarks: Felix M. Larkin

Thursday 5th September, Time 6.00pm – 7.00pm Venue: New Ross Library

**BEING PROTESTANT AND IRISH** 

Chair: Professor Maurice Bric; Panellists: Dr Ian d'Alton, Dr Ida Milne, Felix M. Larkin, Dr Deirdre Nuttall

Thursday 5th September, 7.30pm- 8.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

**OPENING NIGHT EVENT** 

Official Opening of Summer School: Seamus Mallon, Followed By A Public Interview

Thursday 5th September, 8.00pm - 9:00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

THE EDWARD M KENNEDY LECTURE: What

Role Is There For Faith In Our Politics Keynote Lecture: Most Reverend Eamon Martin; Replies: Senator Ivana Bacik, Michael Kelly, Thomas H. Groome

Thursday 5th September, 9.00pm - 10.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

**BRIAN KENNEDY: SONGS OF LOVE AND LOSS:** A Special Performance of Irish And American Music And Song

Friday 6th September, 10.00am - 12.00pm Venue- St Mary' Secondary School

SECONDARY SCHOOL EVENT 'Inspiring Ambition Over Adversity' Speaker: Stefani Preissner, Host: Gina London

Friday 6th September, Time 10.00am Venue: New Ross Library JUNIOR SCHOOL EVENT: Blazing A Trail Speaker: Lauren O'Neill

#### Friday 6th September, 10.00am - 12.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL TOURISM FORUM

Host: Jenny De Saulles; Panellists: Paul Kelly, Tom Enright, Denise O'Leary and more speakers to be confirmed

Friday 6th September, 12.30pm - 2.30pm Venue: The Marquee At JFK Memorial Park And Arboretum

#### KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL SPEAKERS LUNCH

Keynote Speaker: Micheál Martin; Chair: Eileen Whelan; Speakers: Willie Keilthy, Dr Robert M. Mauro

Friday 6th September, 6.00pm - 7.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### PROFILES IN SPORTING COURAGE: A SPECIAL PANEL OF IRISH SPORTING HEROS Chair: Evanne Ní Chuilinn; Panellists: Sarah O'Shea, Ursula Jacob,

Lee Chin and Gearóid Devitt

Friday 6th September, 7.15pm - 8.15pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### THE SUPREME COURTS OF IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES: SHARED IDEAS AND INFLUENCES

Chair: Noeline Blackwell; Panellists: Professor Donncha O'Connell, Dr Jennifer Kavanagh, Ruadhán Mac Cormaic

Friday 6th September, 8.30pm - 9.30pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### THE KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL

**INTERVIEW:** Former Congressman

#### **Bruce Morrison**

Chair: Eileen Dunne; Panel: Ronan McGreevy, Peter Murtagh, Conor Lenihan, Michael Žantovský, Dick Spring

Saturday 7th September, 10:00am - 11.40 am Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### THE KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM: Looking Back At 1959, 1979 And 1989 10.00am: Sean Lemass In His Own Voice

10.00am: Sean Lemass In His Own Voice 10.30am: Charles Haughey: A Retrospective 11.10am: The Walls Fall Down

Chair: Eileen Dunne; Panel: Ronan McGreevy, Peter Murtagh, Conor Lenihan, Michael Žantovský, Dick Spring Saturday 7th September, 12.00pm - 1.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL KEYNOTE EVENT

Keynote: Maureen Dowd in Public Interview with Larry Donnelly

Saturday 7th September, 1.00pm - 2.00pm LUNCH BREAK

Saturday 7th September, 2.00pm - 3.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

THE IRISH POLITICS PANEL: Budget, Brexit & Time for an Election? Chair: Dr Ciara Kelly; Panellists: Regina Doherty TD, Jim O'Callaghan TD, Mick Wallace MEP, Joan Burton TD

Saturday 7th September, 3.00pm - 4.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

THE INCREASINGLY COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS ON THIS ISLAND Panellists: Jeffrey Donaldson MP, Senator Michael McDowell

Saturday 7th September 4.00pm - 4.15pm COFFEE BREAK

Saturday 7th September, 4.15pm - 4.45pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

## A BOSTONIAN PERSPECTIVE ON LAW AND POLITICS IN TODAY'S USA

Speaker: Rachael Rollins in Public Interview with Dr Robert M. Mauro

Saturday 7th September, 4.45pm to 6.00pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

## US POLITICS PANEL: TRUMP AND ELECTION 2020

Chair: Larry Donnelly; Panellists: Rachael Rollins, Cal Thomas, Sarah Elliott, Niall O'Dowd, Michael Lonergan

Saturday 7th September, 6.15pm - 6.30pm Venue: St Michael's Theatre

#### **CLOSING ENTERTAINMENT**

New Ross & District Pipe Band

Saturday Night 7th September, 8.00pm - 11.30pm Venue: The Marquee At JFK Memorial Park And Arboretum

THE FÁILTE IRELAND KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL DINNER

Special Guest Of Honour: To Be Announced

## Kennedy Summer School 2018 Event

More images on: www.kennedysummerschool.ie



## **Ticket Prices**

Tickets: St. Michael's Theatre. Box Office +353 (0)51 421255 or online at www.kennedysummerschool.ie

- The Kennedy Afternoon Tea Party at JFK Arboretum €15
- Thursday Opening Night €15
- Speakers' Lunch (Friday 12.30pm) €25
- Friday Evening Events €20
- Saturday All day Theatre events €25
- Fáilte Ireland Kennedy Summer School Dinner at JFK Arboretum Marquee €45

All events at New Ross Library are Free but places are limited and MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE. Please email info@ kennedysummerschool.ie to book your place(s) and to received confirmation of place(s) allocation.

#### The Kennedy Summer School

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