

Margaret Lynch has served as part-time Executive Director of the Irish American Archives Society since August 2008. She was a founding member of the IAAS board of trustees and served as its president from 1999-2001. She is a free-lance writer and arts education consultant who has developed arts education programming at Great Lakes Theater Festival (1983-2003) and the Mandel Jewish Community Center of Cleveland (2005-2009) and currently serves as a consultant to the Creative Arts Division of Cuyahoga Community College.

Often writing about Irish immigrant stories, she is a playwright with productions at Dobama Theatre in Cleveland, Cleveland Contemporary Dance Theatre, and Stagedoor Manor in New York. Her plays have also received staged readings at the Cleveland Play House, Dobama Theatre, and Cleveland Public Theatre. From 1983 to 2003, she served as dramaturg for Great Lakes Theater Festival in Cleveland, where she also developed award-winning educational and community outreach programming, such as the 1990 Horton Foote Festival and the 1992 Adrienne Kennedy Festival. She has since been commissioned by Great Lakes Theater Festival to write scripts for its outreach touring and other educational programming. She has also written and directed more than twenty-five scripts about workplace issues for corporate clients and adapted folk tales for young audiences. She founded the Cleveland Theater Collective, a theater service organization. In addition she assists with teaching and record-keeping for the Burke School of Irish Dance.

Ms. Lynch received a B.A. from Marquette University in 1974, and a Ph.D. in English Literature in 1980 from the University of Chicago. She is the mother of three daughters, Grace, Claire and Rachel Kenney.

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