



Preserving Our Heritage, Sharing Our Stories

The Newsletter of the
Irish American Archives Society of Cleveland & Northeast Ohio

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Save the Date!

Thursday, February 24, 2021
5:30 pm

25th Annual Walks of Life Awards Dinner

Windows on the River
2000 Sycamore Street
Cleveland, OH 44113

Donation \$75 (\$35 tax deductible) or
\$150 VIP ticket (\$90 tax deductible)

Contact Margaret Lynch at
iaasadmin@gmail.com by
February 4 if you are interested in ad
or table sponsorship opportunities.

Invitations will be mailed in January.

The Day We Celebrate, our lavishly
illustrated book about the history
of the St. Patrick's Day Parade
in Cleveland, is still available for
purchase online at
www.irisharchives.org for \$50,
including sales tax and shipping.

Taimid ag suil le do comhlúadar
We look forward to your company!



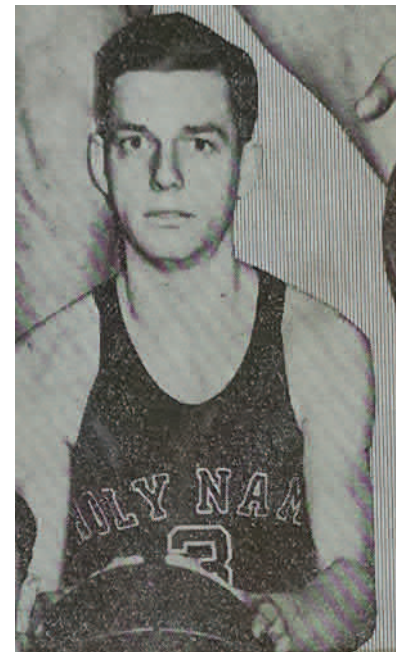
25th Anniversary: 2022 Walks of Life Dinner

Dr. Thomas Campbell, founder of the Irish American Archives Society, launched the first Walks of Life Awards and dinner in 1997. Since the Walks of Life dinner was not held in 2021, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the 2022 dinner will be the 25th!

The Walks of Life Awards recognize living Clevelanders and northeast Ohioans of Irish heritage whose attainments in their chosen and diverse Walks of Life have been truly remarkable and stand as an inspiration to others. The honorees have not only excelled in their professions, but they have also given generously of their time and talent to make this community a better place for all. The awards preserve for posterity a record of their achievement.

Thanks to a partnership with the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, forged in 2020, all IAAS Walks of Life honorees will merit a biographical entry in the online Encyclopedia. (Per standard practice for encyclopedias, the entries are made after each individual's death.) With assistance from two college students and St. Ignatius High School alumni—Daniel Brennan and David Patrick Ryan--the IAAS has already researched and submitted 33 Walks of Life entries and will submit five more at the end of 2021. Including the 2022 honorees, IAAS will have honored 120 individuals in the award's 25-year history.

Five distinguished honorees will join the ranks in February 2022: Daniel B. Chambers (President, Chambers Funeral Homes), James Doyle (Principal, Hemingway Development), M. Colette Gibbons (Of Counsel, McDonald Hopkins), Ryan Marrie (President, Ohio Real Title), and Cheryl Hagan O'Malley (Chief Transformation Officer/Vice President Population Health, Southwest General Health Center). Invitations and full biographies will be mailed after the first of the year.



Judge Francis Talty, the IAAS Founding President, was also one of the first Walks of Life Honorees. He's pictured here as a Holy Name High school student. The foundation he set up in honor of his parents--The Michel Talty and Helen Talty Charitable Trust--has supported many IAAS endeavors over the years.

Please consider an "annual donation" to support our
mission of public history during the coming year!



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2021 Year in Review

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, IAAS kept up an active outreach schedule in 2021. The IAAS Podcast series, “Finding Home” has logged about 6000 listeners since its launch in spring 2020. The initial 50-episode series and the current second interview series are both accessible via the IAAS website at www.irisharchives.org. Two local genealogical societies, the Rocky River Public Library, and the Great Hunger Institute of Quinnipiac University invited IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch to give talks on Zoom about family history research, Irish “Gangs, Gangsters, and Gamblers,” and the Tuke Emigration Scheme. The Tuke talk was recorded and can be viewed on the “Galway BEO” YouTube channel. Through an ongoing internship program begun in 2016, students from John Carroll University and Holy Name High School have assisted with the research into the 1880s-era assisted immigration program sponsored by English Quaker, James Hack Tuke. IAAS collaborated with poet and filmmaker Kevin Toolis on two short films screened during Zoom events in February and November and at a live event at The Harp in September. The Toolis films—about immigration and about the Irish struggle for independence—can be viewed on the IAASCleveland YouTube channel. IAAS director Margaret Lynch contributed essays about Cleveland connections to the Irish struggle for independence to the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History and to a centenary commemorative book, “Men of the West,” produced by the Westport Historical Society and available online at www.westmayo.ie.



“Coming Home Again,” a filmed reflection on the bonds of immigration linking Cleveland and Ireland, formed the centerpiece for a virtual fundraising event that took the place of the traditional Walks of Life dinner in February 2021.

Trustees: Ken Callahan Jr., Dan Conway, Thomas D. Corrigan, John Coyne, Ray Daull, Margaret (Meg) McGarry, John Myers, Erin O’Toole, Kevin O’Toole, Jim Proctor, Colleen Reali, Thomas J. Scanlon. **Trustees Emeritus:** Helen Malloy, Mary Karen O’Neil, Gerald Quinn, J. Gerard Sheehan
Executive Director: Margaret Lynch, PhD.