15th Annual Awards
Friday 25th February 2022
Manhattan Manor, 201 W 52nd Street,
New York, NY
Guest of Honor: Dr Anne Donnelly,
District Attorney, Nassau County

Introducing our forty 2022 honorees

Lauren Stafford
New York
Kerri McGinley
New York
Sarah Costello
Florida
Scott Partika
Ohio

Kieran Mitchell
New York
Cillian Flavin
Delmar, NY
Mark Desmond
New York
Katie Kokolus
Buffalo

Sean O'Keefe
New York
Jennifer Muldowney
NYC
Jessica Foster
Ohio
Nick Smyth
Pittsburgh, PA

Sarah Cullivan
New York
Catherine Kavanagh
New York
Rory McGloin
Colchester, CT
Matthew Ellis
New York

Connor Coughlin
New York
Michael Lawler
New York
Siobhán Keane-Revie
New York
Devlin Robinson
Pittsburgh, PA

James (JJ) Hester
Delaware
Michael O'Brien
Pennsylvania
Clayton McGhan
Hawaii
Peter Fahy
New York

Darcy Young
Massachusetts
Colleen O'Riordan
Pennsylvania
Kaitlyn Frega
New Jersey
Ciara Schenk
New York

Kate Ward
Pennsylvania
Owen Ring
New York
Gwen Camp
Philadelphia, PA
Siobhán Kinealy
New Jersey

Grace Tallon
New York
Andy Collins
New York
Terence Cullen
New York
Erin O'Brian
Houston

Brian Reilly
New York
Chris Keeley
New York
Daniel Roche
New York
Patrick Collins
New Jersey
DA Donnelly to Speak at 40 Under 40

By Ray O’Hanlon

A feature of the 40 Under 40 Awards over the years - and there are now fifteen of those - has been an array of excellent speakers.

This year is certainly no exception.

The 2022 awards gathering at Rosie O’Grady’s in Manhattan will be addressed by Nassau County District Attorney Anne Donnelly.

Hers is certain to be an arresting oration.

Donnelly, according to her official profile, has spent her entire professional career following her passion, working as a prosecutor in the Nassau County District Attorney’s Office. Serving the public under three District Attorneys, Donnelly was entrusted with positions of significant responsibility throughout the course of her 32 years as an Assistant District Attorney.

Her profile continues: “Elected to the position of Nassau’s top law enforcement officer in 2021, Donnelly’s priorities for the office include keeping the residents of Nassau County safe, making sure that dangerous individuals are put behind bars, and providing resources for individuals who need support and assistance.”

In addition, Donnelly is committed to restoring morale and standing firmly with the staff of the District Attorney’s Office, as well as members of the law enforcement community who work hand-in-hand with prosecutors.

“Most recently, Donnelly was the Deputy Bureau Chief of the Organized Crime & Rackets Bureau. In that capacity she was charged with prosecuting long-term investigations into traditional Organized Crime families, as well as large-scale operations engaging in illegal activities, including money laundering. Donnelly was also in charge of overseeing the prosecution of all computer crimes in the office and served as liaison to the Nassau County Correctional Center.”

“Prior to her appointment to Deputy Chief in the Organized Crime & Rackets Bureau, Donnelly served as the Deputy Chief of the Economic Crimes Bureau where she was charged with supervising and prosecuting crimes ranging from identity theft to tax fraud, and previously spent more than 12 years prosecuting violent felonies.”

“Focused on keeping communities safe, Donnelly has been involved in the investigation and successful prosecution of complex murder cases and other prosecutions involving dangerous criminals. Over the course of her career, Donnelly has prosecuted a criminal case involving the sale and distribution of counterfeit electronics, which resulted in the largest asset forfeiture collection in the history of Nassau County; worked with federal prosecutors to successfully convict a physician who filmed and forcibly touched patients; and worked on a Long Beach drug wiretap case, which resulted in the conviction of seven individuals.”

“Donnelly is committed to lobbying for substantial changes to New York’s broken bail laws, increasing resources in the area of technology and internet crimes, furnishing more assistance for at-risk individuals, supporting office staff and law enforcement officers during increasingly difficult times, and providing education and positive alternatives for young people.”

Donnelly is a graduate of Fordham University and Fordham Law School. She resides in Garden City with her family.

But on Friday evening Donnelly will be speaking to this year’s class of the Echo’s 40 Under 40 school, an array of people under that standout age that have given of their talent to society in a range of career fields including, of course, the practice of law in all its forms.

It promises to be a captivating evening.

This Year’s Honorees

Darcy Young

Where you live: Palmer, MA.
Place of Birth: Springfield, MA.
Age: 30.
Family: Mike, husband & Delaney, daughter (5 months old).
First Job: Production Assistant/Field Producer/Assignment Desk Editor.
What it taught me: My first job in TV News production taught me the value of storytelling in a digital context. As I learned at my university, effective communication has at its core, a foundation in storytelling. Yet, in the digital age and with the fast pace of TV news, I learned the do-or-die nature of digital storytelling. Now my career is really focused on helping others to tell their stories in a digital world too.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Here are my tips: 1) Do everything you can to gain experience in your desired field through internships, volunteering, and job shadowing. 2) Take your passion and turn it into an impressive project and something you’re really proud of. 3) Network and reach out to people who are in the position you would like to be in. At times, it may feel uncomfortable to put yourself out there but from that experience, you really grow and develop professionally.
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Through service to my Irish community. As a former Colleen (Local Irish Community Service Award), I’m very proud of my Irish heritage. I currently serve as Communications Chair for the Springfield St. Patrick’s Parade Committee and I have served on the board and many of the sub-committees. I’m also a member of the John Boyle O’Reilly Club. The Springfield St. Patrick’s Parade Committee promotes and celebrates Irish heritage in Western MA by enriching experiences for its members, yearly honorees, including scholarships for students. One of my favorite volunteer efforts for them is chaperoning the Colleen and her Court every year as we travel to a variety of public presentations to share our Irish Heritage.
Something that people would be surprised to know about me: My husband surprised me with a proposal at work on St. Patrick’s Day and we were married one year later on the High Holiday.

Darcy Young is Director of Digital Public Relations at Garvey Communication Associates, Inc. and a Video Producer at New England Corporate Video.

Darcy knows a good story and, better yet for her clients, she is experienced at telling them. Storytelling is a skill that she has worked on for the greater part of her life. She started out early producing news packages for her university’s student-run news broadcast. Those skills gained her positions as a production assistant, field producer, and assignment desk editor for ABC and Fox news affiliates. In her spare time, she produces video content for her local community access television station.

At GCAI, she heads up the Digital PR department, working with her colleagues to develop engaging content for targeted media and audiences through strategic public relations and digital marketing campaigns. At NECV she plans, produces, and edits video content. GCAI and NECV work with corporate clients in many different industries from automotive to financial services.

A cum laude graduate of Westfield State University, Darcy earned a Bachelor of Arts in communication with a concentration in journalism. She serves on the executive committee and board of directors for the Children’s Study Home. She also serves as chairperson for their community relations committee. She is a proud member of the New England Financial Marketing Association and Women in Film and Video of New England.

Darcy is a former Colleen (Local Irish Community Service Award) and serves as Communications Chair for the Springfield St. Patrick’s Parade Committee. She has served on the board and many of the sub-committees. She is also a member of the John Boyle O’Reilly Club.
Qarik is a technology consulting firm focused on combining senior-level expertise and experience to help our clients go further and faster, solving big business problems.

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Go further, faster.
Mindset is key to competing

By Peter McDermott
pmcdermott@irishecho.com

"Belfast has a certain swagger." That’s the view of Ballyhegan, Co. Armagh, native Gavan Corr, the managing partner of Qarik Group in New York.

The past Irish Echo 40 Under 40 honoree extols its strengths as a location for business, but he also says that his young people do extremely well when they travel to work overseas.

The two phenomena have the same basic explanation: Queen’s University and other institutions of higher learning.

"The fundamental education system is first class, and the quality of the graduates is first class," Corr said.

"And there is a work ethic and a determination to succeed." You could see even in Silicon Valley the quality of the graduates coming out of Queen’s and Jordanstown [University of Ulster, where he did a postgraduate degree at the Ulster Business School] were absolutely more than able to hold their own with your Stanfords and your MITs," said Corr, who worked in the financial technology sector in Vienna, Stockholm, Frankfurt, Paris, Hamburg, Palo Alto, Calif., and London before moving to New York, where he’s been since 2003.

"It’s a mindset," he said.

"The attitude that ‘we can do anything’ blossomed, and the culture changed massively from the mid- to late ‘90s forward," he said, adding that factors like the peace dividend and European Union money were a big help.

The influence of the late Brian Conlon, the founder of First Derivatives, is central to the story, he believes.

"Brian was the first guy that really pushed Northern Ireland, and Newry in particular, as a place that you could go out from and compete globally," Corr told the Irish News in 2020.

Last week, he added, "Brian had worked in London with J.P. Morgan and was doing some software development and he said ‘I can do this better from home. I can find the people coming out of Queen’s.’ The caliber was stronger than the people he was seeing in London.

"He found some smart people and he found me as well," Corr said. "I managed the company’s Morgan Stanley, JP Morgan and Bank of America accounts.

Being straight out of college and in at the “deep end” in a city like Vienna, in his own case, was part of the process that gave us the belief that we could compete with anybody.

He cited, too, the active roles taken by politicians like Peter Robinson, the late Martin McGuinness and Arlene Foster in bringing in business, including from companies he’s been involved with, such as NYSE Euronext and Cowen investment bank. The NYSE had acquired Wombat, a company that was led by another Queen’s graduate and former First Derivatives employee, Danny Moore, and its move into Ballyhegan was the target of investment project in Europe that year.

"Invest Northern Ireland have always been a great partner for us in terms of investment," Corr said. "They’ve done a fantastic job in terms of putting a support system around people who are looking at that. They will talk to people who’ve come in; they will talk to people who’ve been successful; they will talk to recruitment companies.

"They make that journey easier. You don’t get that support in a lot of places."

Corr has been leading the way in recent times, as a couple of media reports revealed.

The Irish News, first of all, said on Sept. 3, 2020, that Qarik would set up in Belfast, creating 50 jobs.

"The fast-growing company provides cloud-based data management and analysis software development services to corporate customers in the U.S., including banks and financial services companies," the News reported.

"Based at River House on High Street, Qarik has already recruited 37 people for its research and delivery hub in Belfast, most of them software engineers and data scientists," Qarik reached its job-creation target there, and the other half of the company’s workforce of 100 is based in U.S. cities.

Then, later that month the News also reported, referring to Corr, "A throwaway remark in a New York boardroom last October by an Armagh-born former employee of First Derivatives in Newry prompted the boss of a Chicago technology and investment firm to jump on a plane to Belfast within just 24 hours.

"And Judi Hart [chief operating officer at PEAKs] admits to being ‘so hugely impressed’ with what she immediately convinced her company to establish a center of excellence in the city, which is creating 160 jobs paying an average salary and bonus of £50,000 mark each.

Access to the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and the ease with which visiting business people can get meetings with the right people, like the economy minister, are big pluses. ‘You can’t get lost there,’ Corr said.

In the U.S., the different size and scale mean there are other forces and advantages at play. Being involved with the Irish-American network — which, he said, "has always been personal very supportive to me" - might lead to meeting someone who works for the world’s biggest bank, for instance.

"A warm introduction can go an awful long way here," he said.

On the other hand, Corr said, "I can do this better; you could go out from and compete globally," in particular, as a place that you could push Northern Ireland, and Newry believes Derivatives, is central to the story, he said.

"The rate at which technology is accelerating right now is breathtaking, the amount of data we generate and capture is huge. And sometimes the social media can be an echo chamber for that," Corr said, "and that probably helps you when you go to work in a place where you’re not aware of the culture. Because you’re somewhat culturally sensitive inherently. I think that helps people adjust."

Corr, a native of New Jersey, had started as a software developer and left the U.S. and started his career, Corr listed two: London, working in finance there was a "really interesting experience" in the late 1990s; and Stockholm, a "phenomenal city," he said, and recommends Sweden as a place to visit to anyone who might get the opportunity.

"So, there is ‘always a cultural battle somewhere that you fly your business of banking and the capability of the technologies,’ he said.

"That’s the view of Ballyhegan," he said. "And Judi Hart [chief operating officer at PEAKs] admits to being ‘so hugely impressed’ with what she immediately convinced her company to establish a center of excellence in the city, which is creating 160 jobs paying an average salary and bonus of £50,000 mark each."

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"Austria, he recalled by way of example, has a ‘rigid’ culture. "In banking the concept of ‘four eyes,’ always oversight of things. Germany and Austria have that policy; everything is checked by someone else the whole way through the process. As a result they’re very conservative. In finance, they like the fundamentals. They like doing the things that are low risk and they are always very risk aware. Switzerland is something similar.

"They’re risk aware here [in New York], but they’re much more willing to embrace something new or different or change in a way that some of the older cultures in Europe don’t," he said.

"The most fascinating cultural difference is, though, is that between the East Coast and the West Coast in the U.S.

"Said Corr, who before setting up Qarik with his business partner Joe Schenk worked for two and half years as Principal of Financial Services at Google Cloud Platform, "From a mindset difference. Google culturally is very new. There’s a thing in Google ‘fail often and fail fast.’ It’s a badge of honor to try multiple things that don’t work because you learn a lot from those experiences. And the thought process in Google always emphasizes the idea of 10x. Whatever you’re doing should be 10 times better than what’s there or have the possibility to. That encourages innovation and new ways at looking at things.

"In a very regulated world of Wall Street you can’t take on those changes. You have so much regulation, so much oversight and compliance in a way that’s not an issue for Google or Amazon or Microsoft."

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I certainly feel especially lucky to be included in the 2016 40 Under 40! Thank you to my amazing family for your unending support and love. I couldn't do it without you! Thank you also to the many Irish friends and mentors I've met throughout my career in both politics and the labor movement. You are a constant inspiration! Congratulations to all my fellow honorees and thanks to the Irish Echo for all you do for the Irish American Community!

S laín te! Éirinn Ríce

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Kaitlyn Frega
Where you live: Hoboken, NJ.  
Place of Birth: Suffern, NY. 
Age: 28. 
Family: I’m the oldest daughter of Jamie and Robert McGrath, and granddaughter to Eugene and Helen McGrath, as well as Carole Gaughran. I have two younger brothers, Ryan and Christopher. My husband Jon and I were married in 2019 and live in Hoboken, NJ with our dog, Libbi. 
First Job: Working at an ice cream shop at 14. 
What it taught me: My first job taught me both patience, and the importance of customer service. Valuing customers/clients is crucial for the success of any business. Learning to work with people at such a young age helped me to develop interpersonal skills that I’ve carried with me through all my subsequent jobs. 
Current Company and position: Project Manager and Lead Regulatory Specialist at McLaren Engineering Group. 
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Take advantage of any opportunity to improve your skills and learn something new. Ask questions of experienced people in your field. Jump at the chance to try something out of your comfort zone – staying comfortable, is staying static. Attend any seminars that might interest you. If you have the opportunity to take additional classes – both within and outside your chosen field - , take them. Each new opportunity to learn can build valuable connections and teach you unique skills that will help expand your interests and open doors. 
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Growing up as an Irish American, there has always been a strong influence from both parents and our culture. Both my parents are active in the GAA community and some of my best friends have come from it. I play Camogie for Annie Moore’s New York and have travelled to play camogie in the United States. I received a scholarship to study at Seattle, Boston, Chicago, and Philadelphia. I am also proud to have represented New York playing Camogie at the World Games, at home in Ireland. I play Gaelic Football for Manhattan Gaels Ladies team, and represented the club as part of the first ever New York Scor competition. I have also coached a number of GAA youth teams here in New York and it’s great to see young Irish Americans actively participating in their Irish heritage. 
Something that people would be surprised to know about me: 1. I am a very superstitious person - "Go out the door, you come in" and all that. 2. I am a big Tom Brady fan. 
Kaitlyn Frega has a passion for the environment that has steered her towards sustainable and resilient design. Kaitlyn’s interest in environmental conservation began in high school when she had the opportunity to intern with a program through Columbia’s Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory, studying marsh habitat and its value to our ecosystem. Kaitlyn went on to attend Villanova University, where she double majored in Environmental Science and Geography and earned a minor in Sustainability. Kaitlyn began working for McLaren Engineering Group after graduation, while continuing her academic education and being assigned progressively responsible positions in the company. She began as an engineering technician, working to obtain regulatory approvals for marine infrastructure. Kaitlyn also began taking courses part time, while working full time, to obtain her Masters. Kaitlyn graduated in May of 2021 from Johns Hopkins with a Master’s Degree in Environmental Engineering and Science. She now serves as a Project Manager in McLaren’s Marine Division, working on the design and permitting of public parks, marinas, shoreline stabilization, piers, platforms and offshore wind development. Kaitlyn is also a Certified Floodplain Manager, specializing in flood zone regulation compliance, and is certified in WEDG and Envision sustainability frameworks, which aim to encourage more sustainable, resilient, and accessible development.

Connor Coughlin
Place of Birth: New York City. 
Age: 27. 
Family: Parents: Maureen and Dave Coughlin; siblings: Mychala and Matthew Coughlin. 
First Job: Analyst at Apex Fintech Solutions. 
What it taught me: Always raise your hand for new opportunities, don’t shy away from solving problems you don’t know the answer to, and embrace feedback when your solutions are wrong. 
Current Company and position: General Manager, Fintech - Apex Fintech Solutions. 
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Look for what you enjoy in what you do, then do everything you can to keep getting better at it. How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Irish Heritage was always an important focal point of my extended family growing up. Embracing my Irish heritage is about embracing my family and the opportunities they have afforded me. 
Something that people would be surprised to know about me: My father was a sailmaker who was growing up so I spent a lot of time on the factory floor and am pretty good with a sewing machine. 
Connor Coughlin is a native of New York, born in the Bronx and raised in Westchester he attended Fordham Prep and then Columbia University where he studied Political Science and Computer Science. Connor was captain of the rowing team at both Fordham and Columbia. Connor began his career at Apex Fintech Solutions (AFS). As a project manager in McLaren Engineering Group after graduation, while continuing her academic education and being assigned progressively responsible positions in the company. She began as an engineering technician, working to obtain regulatory approvals for marine infrastructure. Kaitlyn also began taking courses part time, while working full time, to obtain her Masters. Kaitlyn graduated in May of 2021 from Johns Hopkins with a Master’s Degree in Environmental Engineering and Science. She now serves as a Project Manager in McLaren’s Marine Division, working on the design and permitting of public parks, marinas, shoreline stabilization, piers, platforms and offshore wind development. Kaitlyn is also a Certified Floodplain Manager, specializing in flood zone regulation compliance, and is certified in WEDG and Envision sustainability frameworks, which aim to encourage more sustainable, resilient, and accessible development.
Congratulations to Kaitlyn McGrath
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**Sioibhán Kinealy**

**Where you live:** Madison, New Jersey.

**Place of Birth:** Dublin, Ireland.

**Age:** 37.

**Family:** I have two beautiful children, Saoirse Rose (2 years) and Declan (5 years). My parents, the Marcheses, are close by in Madison, New Jersey.

**First Job:** Games and ride operator at Southport Fairground (England).

**What it taught me:** It was a tough, physically demanding 12-hour day job for really low pay. Working for minimum wage is a grind and I was very fortunate to only have to work there during university. It showed me that I am capable of working hard but my experience since then has taught me that success also takes intelligence, resilience and luck.

**Current Company and position:** Owner and attorney, The Law Offices of Sioibhán Kinealy, Esq., LLC.

**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Success is not a straight line. Even with two law degrees, three law licenses and my own law firm, I took on two jobs to make it through the tough first years as a business owner. Owning a business is worth it but it may not look that glamorous in the beginning.

**How do you embrace your Irish Heritage?** Although my family emigrated from Ireland a few generations ago, we always celebrated our Irish heritage. The pillars of good humor, elaborate storytelling, humility, and camaraderie are still going strong in our household! As a young girl, I loved hearing stories about Ireland and watching ‘The Quiet Man’ on St. Patrick’s Day with my family. Later, while studying at Notre Dame, I decided to spend a year abroad at Trinity College Dublin and fell in love with Ireland firsthand. Today, I’m a proud member of the Board of Directors at the Irish American Business Chamber Network in Philadelphia. Admittedly, I also love a good pint of beer!

**Something that people would be surprised to know about me:** I have quite varied interests. Although I have an Economics degree, I almost went to art school to pursue a career in illustration. I also moonlighted as a food and beer writer.

**Kate Ward**

**Where you live:** Phoenicia, PA.

**Place of Birth:** Newport Beach, CA.

**Age:** 38.

**Family:** Wonderful husband Mike Ward and sons Henry (5) and Colm (3). Wonderful husband Mike Ward and sons Henry (5) and Colm (3).

**First Job:** Pet sitting.

**What it taught me:** A friend and I hand-drew flyers and posted them in our neighborhood. It wasn’t exactly an entrepreneurial success, but even back then I enjoyed the design process!

**Current Company and position:** Founder of Ward Design, a strategic branding and marketing studio. It’s been so rewarding to combine my passion for design with my experience in business and real estate to deliver some incredible projects to amazing clients.

**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Don’t worry so much about where you’ll end up. Do what you say you’ll do. Look for interesting opportunities. Above all, surround yourself with wonderful people who are really in your corner and be there for them, as well.

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**Rory McGlinn**

**Where you live:** Colchester, CT.

**Place of Birth:** Hartford, CT.

**Age:** 37.

**Family:** Wife - Megan McGlinn; Daughter - Mairead McGlinn, 8

**First Job:** Sears (Retail).

**What it taught me:** My first job was at Sears. I worked in the Men’s Department during the Christmas season. This first job taught me many lessons, but the thing that stays with me today is the value of being kind to those in the retail and service industry. On a regular basis I would be mis- treated (rudely, impatient, etc.) by the public during the hectic holiday season. Rory has learned to be patient with those who are providing services and to demonstrate kindness and respect in all situations especially in an effort to make-up for other’s mistakes.

**IRISH 40 UNDER 40 - 2022**

Keane is a great pinner of beer!

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THE IRISH ECHOS 2022

IRISH UNDER

40 40

From all the staff at Coyle

WWW.COYLECONTRACTINGCORP.COM
Patrick Collins

Where you live: Hamilton, NJ.
Age: 26.
Family: Fiancé- Alexa Vintimilla; Dawn Collins – Mother; Michael "Peter" Collins – Father; Michael Collins – Brother; Shawn Collins – Brother; Christopher Collins – Brother.
First Job: Selling Ice Cream.
What it taught me: Mike's Ice Cream taught me how to interact with individuals and hold a conversation in addition to learning how to keep a store operating. I worked there for 5 years and worked in all capacities at the store including counter service, store upkeep and maintenance, making the homemade ice cream and cakes, managing and training employees, and accounting for daily sales and bank runs. It was a major contributor to my interpersonal and time management skills.
Current Company and position: Owner of PC Collins Company. PC Collins Company, LLC is a permanent staffing agency specializing in architecture, engineering, construction (AEC) and real estate solutions on behalf of our capital partners, and investors.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Persistence is key, many wrong doors will lead to the right one. Be willing to sweep the floor when the floor goes without being said. All things can be learned with the appropriate amount of time and effort. I have a degree in Fire Science and went to school to pursue Fire Investigation. 1. I have a degree in Fire Science and went to school to pursue Fire Investigation. 2. I am right-handed but swing a golf club as left-handed. 3. I am a hard-charging baseball player on my baseball team. I enjoy attending local events and speaking with fellow Irish-Americans.
Something that people would be surprised to know about me: I am the son of Patrick O'Keefe and the grandson of Michael Collins, who was the Irish Independence leader. I have worked my way up to open championship during the 'surge' in Iraq and my unit recently welcome Maeve Frances to clan in 2021.

IRISH 40 UNDER 2022

Patrick Collins, Owner of PC Collins Company, LLC previously worked with NYC staffing agencies to place their archivists, technical writers, construction (AEC) and real estate divisions from the ground up. After years of success, Patrick opened his own permanent staffing agency specializing in AEC and real estate. Patrick takes pride in his consultative and responsive approach assembled upon transparency, integrity and high quality service.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage?
I embrace my Irish heritage by supporting local Irish businesses (food, drinks, services) and associations. In addition to this, I have held positions with several Irish organizations such as attending local events and speaking with fellow Irish-Americans.

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**Kathleen (Katie) Kokolus**

Places of Birth: Ireland, specifically counties Monaghan and Donegal. My parents married because of the privilege of collaborating with teams of physicians and scientists focused on developing new treatment modalities that will directly impact patients’ lives.

**First Job:** Receptionist at the rectory of my parish;

**Current Company and position:** Working at a cancer center, developing novel treatments that will help educate children, parents, and fellow pediatricians about the kidneys and their role in nutrition, growth, and development. Catherine’s specific area of interest is disorders of the kidney filters—the glomeruli—which clean the blood by filtering out excess fluid and waste products.

**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Don’t compare yourself to others. While becoming the head of the department or the manager of a large team may be prestigious, it may not be what is right for you. Try to set your own goals, take time to think about what brings you fulfillment and don’t be afraid to pivots. It is great when you can find something you love early on and stick with it throughout your life. Most of us are not that lucky, at least not in a way that we can stick with. I may love jumping rope but unless and until I can find a way to make a living out of that I need to pivot. The key is to identify what you like and if you have the chance they will want to try their very best to help you when you need them. Oh, and ALWAYS send hand-written thank you notes (especially after a job interview!)

**How do you embrace your Irish Heritage?** I was only blessed with knowing my Irish grandmother for a few years and sadly we lost my grandfather before I was born. My mom always refers to Ireland as “God’s Country,” and since before I was born. My mom always refers to Ireland as “God’s Country,” and since

**Kathleen (Katie) Kokolus, PhD, grew up in Buffalo, NY where she graduated from Nardin Academy, an all-girls Catholic high school in 2003. Katie was an accomplished swimmer, competing from age 7 into college, and she credits many of the lessons she learned in the pool in shaping her future successes.**

Kokolus graduated from Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, PA, USA) with a BS in Biology in 2007 and a MS in Forensic Science and Law in 2008. In 2014, Kokolus received a PhD in Tumor Immunology from the State University at New York at Buffalo (Buffalo, NY, USA) and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Penn State College of Medicine (Hershey, PA, USA). In 2018, Kokolus started at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center working to develop new therapeutic options and enhance the efficiency of current treatment strategies.

Catherine Kavanagh was born to Peter and Breege McGee in Queens New York in 1987. Her parents hail from Counties Monaghan and Donegal. From an early age she knew she wanted to become a doctor to help people which is how she ended up at Columbia University Hospital as a Pediatric Nephrologist. A graduate from Stony Brook with a degree in History and Penn State Medical School for the Roswell Park Graduate program. Catherine additionally worked with and is chairwomen of the dance journal for the Abercrombie jeans my parents wouldn’t buy me. I faced the tough reality that being in the sun all day doesn’t bode well for fair, freckled, Irish skin. I also learned the important lesson that you can never own too many pairs of flip flops!

**First Job:**; First job was working the reception desk at the rectory of my church.

**When it taught me:** My first job taught me a lot. Aside from the normal things like punctuality, politeness, and respect, I learned to step out of my comfort zone. I remember being so worried that a parishioner would call and ask a question that I couldn’t answer or I wouldn’t know how to answer it. My first job showed me my character and my work ethic. It taught me time management, the importance of acting respectfully, and how to manage money. I learned the value of hard work because I had to work very hard to afford the Abercrombie jeans my parents wouldn’t buy me. I faced the tough reality that being in the sun all day doesn’t bode well for fair, freckled, Irish skin. I also learned the important lesson that you can never own too many pairs of flip flops!

**Current Company and position:** Working in cancer research in the Department of Immunology at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo, NY. My work focuses on developing new methods to treat patients with immune-based cancer therapies. Working at a comprehensive cancer center, I have the privilege of collaborating with teams of physicians and scientists focused on developing new treatment modalities that will directly impact patients’ lives. I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue my research in a highly collaborative and scientifically motivated environment like Roswell Park.

**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Don’t be afraid to let everyone know who you are and how good you are at your job. Personality goes a long way. Go out of your way to be kind to everyone from a high school intern to the top boss. Provide assistance whenever you can because you never know when you will need some help! This lesson still guides me now. Despite my Polish last name, I am well acquainted with the typical Irish traits, and I have them all. Curly hair, freckles, pale skin, big blue eyes, stubbornness, and, as anyone who has ever sat next to me at the bar can attest, the “gift of the gab”. I am well-known for baking my Grandma Kit’s soda bread, and never shy away from a shot of Jameson and a pub![Kathleen (Katie) Kokolus, PhD, grew up in Buffalo, NY where she graduated from Nardin Academy, an all-girls Catholic high school in 2003. Katie was an accomplished swimmer, competing from age 7 into college, and she credits many of the lessons she learned in the pool in shaping her future successes.]

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In her free time, Katie volunteers as a Docent for theExplore Buffalo and architecture tours the city of Buffalo. She also does free-lance writing for the social networking website Labroots, explaining complex scientific concepts to cancer and oncology research. Katie enjoys traveling and visiting museums, collecting Christmas tree ornaments, spending time with family and friends, and cheering for the Buffalo Bills!

**Catherine Kavanagh**

Where you live: Bayside, Queens.

Place of Birth: Flushing, Queens.

Age: 34.

Family: Bridget (Duncan) Kavanagh – Mother – Donegal; Peter Kavanagh – Father – Monaghan; Chase Victorson – Husband.

First Job: The first job was working the reception desk at the rectory of my church.

When it taught me: My first job taught me a lot. Aside from the normal things like punctuality, politeness, and respect, I learned to step out of my comfort zone. I remember being so worried that a parishioner would call and ask a question that I couldn’t answer or I wouldn’t know how to answer it. My first job showed me my character and my work ethic. It taught me time management, the importance of acting respectfully, and how to manage money. I learned the value of hard work because I had to work very hard to afford the Abercrombie jeans my parents wouldn’t buy me. I faced the tough reality that being in the sun all day doesn’t bode well for fair, freckled, Irish skin. I also learned the important lesson that you can never own too many pairs of flip flops!

Current Company and position: In typical Buffalo fashion both came from very large families, and thanks to genealogy websites and the invention of email, we have been able to reconnect and stay in touch with most of our extended family living throughout Ireland.

First Job: Lifeguard;

What it taught me: Always wear sunscreen! My first job showed me my character and my work ethic. It taught me time management, the importance of acting respectfully, and how to manage money. I learned the value of hard work because I had to work very hard to afford the Abercrombie jeans my parents wouldn’t buy me. I faced the tough reality that being in the sun all day doesn’t bode well for fair, freckled, Irish skin. I also learned the important lesson that you can never own too many pairs of flip flops!

Something that people would be surprised to know about me: My dog is named McGee after Terrance McGee, former kick returner for the Buffalo Bills.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I was only blessed with knowing my Irish grandmother for a few years and sadly we lost my grandfather before I was born. My mom always refers to Ireland as “God’s Country,” and since before I was born. My mom always refers to Ireland as “God’s Country,” and since

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS
OF THE IRISH ECHO 40 UNDER 40 AWARDS!

We are so proud of these talented men and women who exemplify the values of hard work, decency and idealism of the Irish American Community. Over 35 million Americans claim Irish heritage across America and the Irish Echo has been a key part of our community for nearly 100 years, nurturing our identity through awards such as these in a creative, vibrant and inclusive way. Our two organizations, the Irish Business Organization of New York (IBO) and Glucksman Ireland House at NYU deeply appreciate the Irish Echo for informing the Irish community of many new opportunities for the next generation of Irish Americans in so many sectors from business to culture to sports to academic life and to public service.

Our Mission: Network, Communicate, Reciprocate

The Irish Business Organization of New York is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, non-denominational association which seeks to promote, foster, and advance the business interests of Irish and Irish-American people. Founded in 1973, the Irish Business Organization of New York Inc. is chartered to encourage, increase, and further the business interests of its members in the tristate area, United States, Ireland and elsewhere in the world. We sponsor noteworthy guest speaker programs and social events throughout the year, and promote programs designed to improve the economic, intellectual, and social status of our members. Through its regular networking meetings, the IBO holds more than 25 events a year including monthly evening events, monthly business breakfasts, a quarterly women's networking lunch, and other member events.

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To view our list of upcoming events and for unique opportunities to foster connections, make life-long friendships and business connections, contribute your particular strengths, and learn new ones.

Looking forward to meeting you, Paul Finnegan, email: president@ibonewyork.org

Glucksman Ireland House
Master of Arts in Irish and Irish-American Studies at Glucksman Ireland House, NYU

Situated in the heart of Greenwich Village, the M.A. program in Irish and Irish-American Studies at Glucksman Ireland House in NYU is a unique and prestigious opportunity to advance your academic skills and to learn about your Irish heritage from a gifted and dedicated faculty led by Professor Kevin Kenny, Director of Glucksman Ireland House. The M.A., which can be completed in one year, offers students a broad interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes new approaches to the field of Irish Studies modeled on the best methods of contemporary Humanities and Social Science scholarship. Courses taught in History, Literature, Music, and Cultural Studies investigate the Irish experience in and outside of Ireland. The classes and public sessions take place at Glucksman Ireland House at 1 Washington Mews, a home away from home for those of all ages who love Ireland. NYU also offers a very popular “Summer in Dublin” program.

Apply Now for the Fall Semester to:
Kelly Sullivan, Director of Graduate Irish Studies kelly.sullivan@nyu.edu
NYU GSAS online application: https://apply.gsas.nyu.edu/apply/
Ciara Schenk


Place of Birth: Evanston, IL.

Age: 29.

Family: I come from a family of four helmed by my amazing parents, Joe and Wexford-born and raised, Aine. I’m the odd one out in a sea of S-named siblings, Sean, Sinead, and Siobhan. Over the past few years, my family has grown to include my fiancé, Jack, our dog Lady, a sister-in-law in Sean’s wife, Bri and their daughter/my niece, Adeline. Outside of my core family, I have a robust extended family, including 20 aunts and uncles and 24 cousins!

First Job: Cardinal’s Appeal Intern, Archdiocese of New York.

What it taught me: This role taught me quite a bit, including how to handle difficult conversations, how to build trust in professional relationships, and the value of stewardship.

Convincing people to donate money and convincing people to convince people to donate money is tough! It can be uncomfortable and awkward because personal finances are always very sensitive. In the short course of my internship, I began to learn how to navigate these conversations and how to get key stakeholders to trust you and these skills have translated into all of my subsequent roles.

Perhaps more importantly however, was learning the value of supporting charitable causes early in my career. This experience helped shape my professional with the ability to support charitable causes early in my career. That experience helped shaped my career trajectory. Perhaps more importantly however, was learning the value of supporting charitable causes early in my career. This experience helped shape my professional with the ability to support charitable causes early in my career. That experience helped shaped my career trajectory.

Current Company and position: Global Head of Revenue Acceleration Programs Lead, Customer Success, Google Cloud.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Take advantage of any opportunity that comes your way that will challenge you and be patient! Your first job is unlikely to be your favorite job, but it builds experience and credibility that will help get you that next job. Taking advantage of opportunities that get thrown your way means you’re building relationships and growing your skillset and you never know where that might lead. Every new role I’ve taken at Google has been because I’ve been rapport with that new team and proven my value even when I might not have been qualified on paper or even in instances when that team wasn’t actively looking to hire!

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Being Irish is a big part of my identity. For better or worse, I have the privilege of educating people on the intricacies of my family. Success team on a near daily basis via correcting them on the pronunciation of my name! But on a more serious note, I am the proud daughter of a wonderful Irish woman, Alice, and my family is joy involved in a large extended Irish family. I try to visit as much as possible (pre-Covid, at least once a year) and have greatly enjoyed participating in my family and culture on trips back.

Sarah Costello

Where you live: Celebration, Florida, USA.

Place of Birth: Belfast, Ireland.

Age: 36.

Family: Mother - Eileen Costello; Father - Michael Costello; Four Brothers - Malachy, Barry, Gerard & Michael; Two Sisters - Aisling (Twin sister), Eimhearr; Niece - Cara Ellen; Nephew - Ciaran.


What it taught me: That the Irish Language is an extremely beautiful and poetic language and that people across the Island of Ireland were working hard to keep it alive. I learned to be confident in my own voice, how to live by a schedule, and how the radio was a wonderful form of entertainment and communication. It enhanced my love of the Irish Culture at such a young age.

Current Company and position: Director and Founder of CloudGrown, a Florida Irish Dance.

What it taught me: I see that the key to success is to always be learning and growing.


What it taught me: It taught me that every job is learning and growing.


What it taught me: It taught me that every job is learning and growing.

Sarah Costello is the founder and director of Central Florida Irish Dance. A native of West Belfast, Ireland, Sarah grew up in a large Catholic family enriched in Irish music, language and theatre from a very young age.

She is a professional Irish Dancer and musician who has toured the world for over 13 years with world renowned Irish dance shows and has been lucky enough to perform in 31 countries. Graduating in 2007 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Theatre and Irish from Queens University Belfast, she then went on the graduate as a TCRG (Irish Dance Adjudicator) exam to take place in 2022.

Sarah Costello studying for her ADCRG (Irish Dance Adjudicator) exam to take place in 2022. She was lead dancer and dance captain for many professional dance troupes including Gaelforce Dance and Dance of the hag that young Europe and Asia. Sarah then relocated to Orlando, Florida in 2011 to perform professionally at Walt Disney World. She then went on to open her own Irish dance school. Boosting 11 locations including one in Georgia and over 110 students to date, Central Florida Irish Dance currently has North American Open Champions as young as 6 years old. Her students hold state, national and International world medals for Irish dancing and is the biggest Irish dance school in the state of Florida.

Sarah was the recipient of the 2015 ‘Contribution to the Irish Community Award’ from the Irish American Chamber of Commerce in Florida, and also received the Excellence Award for outstanding achievement for ‘I Love Dance’ competition Orlando in 2018 as well as the inaugural ‘FusionFest Entertainment winner 2018.” A native Irish Speaker, Sarah promotes the Irish Language and music on tin-whistle, flute and bodhran in her students in classes. Sarah had a short documentary made about her youth growing up in West Belfast during the troubles and it won Best Film at the FusionFest Cultural Festival in Orlando in 2019. She truly is an incredible inspiring woman to all of her students and beyond. She is living the American dream and worked extremely hard to create her own business and become a permanent resident of the USA via an EB1 Green Card proving her extraordinary ability. Sarah is the casting director for CMI Entertainments and has toured the USA extensively as a musician and dancer with Celtic Angels, Women of Ireland and Tony Kenny Cabaret over the years. A fiercely independent and successful entrepreneur, Sarah is a credit to Ireland and the amazing culture she has brought to the USA and continues to promote every day.

Sarah is the definition of the American dream and hopes to continue her passion of educating through Irish Culture for many years to come.
Congratulations, Erin, on the success of Wearwell and your company’s commitment to sustainability and garment workers' rights in the fashion industry.

Love,
Aunt Kerry

wearwell

Sustainability looks great on you.

Shop the most ethical + sustainable clothing, accessories, home goods, and more from brands that meet the highest standards.

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Grace Tallon

Place of Birth: Dublin, Ireland.
Age: 36.
Family: I live in New York with my partner Joe and our two furry ladies Lady and Ned. I am 5th generation Dublin on both sides. My parents, my brother and his family, and my sister and her family all stayed close to home and live in our hometown Dundrum, Dublin. My other sister emigrated to Sydney Australia and I also have a brother living in San Francisco.
First Job: Summer Camp Assistant.
What it taught me: I spent a summer working with a group of young people in my old primary school, teaching dance and musical theater. This was the first time where I was offered the opportunity to show leadership and initiative outside of the standard school curriculum – and it was an environment in which I thrived. This exposure to practical experience was invaluable to me, but is often not available to many. We were teaching it wrong when it comes to educating the next generation of innovators, leaders and creators. Building young people into rote learning and eliminating the opportunity to learn from practical experience and networks in NY to inform the development of a new strategic plan and change program is keeping the tradition of sean-nós singing alive in my family and community. I’ve been invited to perform in the New York Irish Center on St. Patrick’s Day, and I’m very much looking forward to cementing our culture by playing the fiddle and singing sean-nós!

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I enjoy the concentration in computer information technology, technical, and interpersonal skills who is responsible for all aspects of the program, fundraising effort for Rockland Homes for Heroes. The Rockland Homes for Heroes organization is a private not for profit 501c3 organization created to provide supportive, affordable and permanent housing for honorably discharged and displaced veterans. The event was a resounding success, raising over $16,000 through donations and O&R’s Employee Grants program.

Siobhán Keane-Revie

Where you live: Pearl River, NY.
Place of Birth: Nyack, NY.
Age: 35.
Family: I met my husband, Dave Revie in 2019 while we were both working at Orange & Rockland Utilities (and on the occasional night out in O’Malley’s of Nyack). We married in 2016 and have a ½ year old son named Ronan, who has quickly become the head of our household. We were both born in Ireland. My mother, Margaret Keane (née McGovern) was born in Belfast, but her family hails from Cavan (Swad) and Fermaghad (Enniskillen). My Father, Paul Keane, was born in Connemara Galway, where the first language is Gaelic and the second language is family. I have three siblings; Geraldine, Paul Martin and Joseph. I’m also blessed with a large extended family (Keane’s, McGovens and Revies) who are a very big part of my life.

First Job: My first job was a Customer Service Representative at Orange and Rockland Utilities.
What it taught me: It taught me the value of empathy. Empathy helps us understand how others are feeling so we can respond appropriately.
Current Company and position: Project Specialist in Substation & Transmission Engineering at Orange and Rockland Utilities.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Best advice would be something my dad always said to us growing up; “Be kind, always.”
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Siobhán is a 12-year Orange & Rockland Utilities Inc. (O&R) employee, she began in 2009 as a Customer Service Representative and steadily advanced to full administrative staff managing O&R’s largest customer service operation.

Siobhán also takes an active role in her community. Her passion for helping people shows in her support for two important causes: improving community mental health resources and expanding local veterans’ services. Siobhán is a supporter of NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness), the largest grassroots mental health organization, dedicated to building better lives for Americans affected by mental illness.

Siobhán also serves as a Vice President of the Con Edison Emerald Society. She previously worked as a consultant with “Sounding the Feminists”, an Irish-based collective, committed to promoting and publicizing the creative work of female musicians. The initiative received $100,000 in government funding over five years, making a significant contribution to promoting the work of female musicians and composers.

When Grace was elected for the Labour Party on Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council in Dublin in 2011, she was the youngest public representative ever elected in the area. In 2012, Grace was elected Chair of the local area committee. She led a successful local election campaign in 2014 with a team of 40 volunteers. After serving as a Councillor for 9 years, in 2019 she decided not to contest the election, in order to pursue other professional opportunities, but she remains politically active.

In 2011, Grace established a string project in a DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) school, which ensured broad participation among children from disadvantaged backgrounds who had previously no musical involvement. She was responsible for all aspects of the program, including fundraising, teaching and stakeholder engagement.

In 2021, Grace co-founded The Doorstep Market, a voluntary initiative set up to support small, independent Irish businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This virtual multi-vendor marketplace was an online ‘one-stop shop’ where Irish consumers could ‘stay home and shop local’, from a selection of over 300 small Irish businesses and 1,000 products.

She holds a Music (Performance) Dip from TU Dublin, a HDip in Arts in Music Education from Griffith College Dublin, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Leadership from University College Dublin.
CONGRATULATIONS!

KAITLYN MCGRATH FREGA

On being selected as one of the Irish Echo’s 2022 Top 40 under 40

We are so proud of all your achievements!

We Love you,
Jon, Mom, Dad, Ryan, Chris,
Gene, Grandma and Nanny
IRISH 40 UNDER 40 – 2022

Chris Keeley


Family: Wife: Chris Alice Winward, Son: Colin Keeley; Parents: Jim and Pat Keeley; Siblings: Terri, Jen, Beth, Rose.

First Job: Program Associate at Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: To always use plain language and to never talk down.

Current Company and position: Chief Operating Officer, Deputy Executive Director, and Acting Director of Trace at NYC Test & Trace Corps; Chief Operating Office, Office of Ambulatory Care, NYC Health + Hospitals.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Read the news/newspaper for at least 20 minutes every morning; keep your true personality in all situations, and be kind even in the hardest of situations to people on your side of the table and especially those across from you.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I’ve embraced the music, the history, the politics and beyond. My first trip abroad as a teenager was to visit my sister while she was volunteering at the Pat Finucane Centre and my first extended trip with my now-wife was to see another of my sisters in Trelae as she competed as the Philadelphia Rose. I’m looking forward to joining the Wolfe Tones on March 16 with the tickets I recently won on WFUV’s Ceol na Gael and, most importantly, bringing up my son Colin with the same Irish pride my parents instilled in me.

Holly, Maggie, James and Charlotte.

Place of Birth: Philadelphia, PA.

Siblings: Rosemary (Posie), Chrissy, Katie.

Matthew, Joseph, Cecelia, Marie, Ella, Rose, Abigail, Grace, Caroline, Daniel, Sam, Matthew, Samantha, Michael.

First Job: NYC Test & Trace Corps; Chief Operating Office, Office of Ambulatory Care, NYC Health + Hospitals.

What it taught me: To surround yourself with people you love and admire and who make you want to be a better person. Keep in close touch with your friends and family — the effort when it comes to relationships with the people you care about. Second, find a career that you’re passionate about and one that makes you proud to answer the question “What do you do?” If you’re able to do that, early mornings and late nights and weekends at the office don’t seem like a burden.

Through March and April 2020, Chris led the effort to recruit, credential, and deploy thousands of medical providers from across the country so they could support our patients and staff at the frontlines. In March 2020, he helped build the city’s COVID-19 telephone hotline, which served thousands of New Yorkers each day.

Prior to his work in the COVID-19 response, Chris was leading the transformation of the health system’s patient referral processes. He will reengage that work as the City finds its way through COVID. He also managed the system’s immigration policy efforts, including driving the system’s effort to fight against the ‘public charge’ rule that would harm immigrant patients. He is a key advisor on the citywide implementation of NYC Care, helped transform the system’s revenue cycle, and expanded insurance screening access to uninsured New Yorkers, and re crafted the system’s financial assistance programs.

Previously, Chris ran a healthcare access program for immigrants while working at the NYC Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs and was responsible for large-scale operations and government affairs at a billion-dollar healthcare start-up. Chris was a community and political organizer for over 10 years prior to turning his focus to equitable healthcare access for all New Yorkers.

Michael O’Brien


Family: Parents: Joseph and Barbara; Siblings: Rosemary (Posie), Chrissy, Katie and James; nieces/Nephews: Noah, Rose, Abigail, Grace, Caroline, Daniel, Matthew, Joseph, Cecelia, Marie, Eila, Holly, Maggie, James and Charlotte.

First Job: Intern, Lackawanna County Public Defender’s Office.

What it taught me: The Public Defender is at the heart of government, attorneys tasked with the representation of criminal defendants who are unable to pay a private attorney. I started when I was 14 years old. It was a fascinating and breathtaking experience. It opened my eyes — at a young age — to the wide disparity that exists in relation to access to education, employment, and the other opportunities that form the foundation of a healthy and successful life. I realized just how lucky I was to have a healthy and happy family and parents who were focused, consistent and committed to providing their children with social and economic opportunities.

It also drew me into the law. It instilled my Irish heritage, but it taught me the rule of law, and the importance of a fair, impartial, and adversarial process to resolve civil claims and determine the fate of criminal prosecutions.

Current Company and position: Partner, Eckert Seams Cherin & Mellott.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: First, surround yourself with people you love and admire and who make you want to be a better person. Keep in close touch with your friends and family — the effort when it comes to relationships with the people you care about. Second, find a career that you’re passionate about and one that makes you proud to answer the question “What do you do?” If you’re able to do that, early mornings and late nights and weekends at the office don’t seem like a burden.

Instead, you see this time and effort as an investment in yourself and the people around you. I recently finished The Wolf Hall trilogy, by Hilary Mantel, which I would highly recommend.

Heritage? Irish-Americans in the 21st Century have an exciting opportunity to build on the personal and professional networks that have enabled our success over so many years, and to ensure that more recent Irish-Americans are given extended the same ladder of opportunity. In addition, all of us have a role to play in ensuring Irish-America remains focused on and committed to the Peace Process, and to achieving - in this century - a peaceful, fair, and united Ireland.

Something that people would be surprised to know about me: I read between 2-3 books a week, and have been keeping that pace since I was around 10-12 years old. For a while I was listening to audiobooks, but I’ve since returned to paperbacks and hardcovers. I recently finished The Wolf Hall trilogy, by Hilary Mantel, which I would highly recommend.

Michael O’Brien is a partner at Eckert Seams Cherin & Mellott, a law firm with more than 360 attorneys in 15 offices across the United States.

Michael focuses his practice on commercial litigation, corporate counseling, and nonprofit law. Michael represents publicly traded companies, privately held corporations, nonprofit organizations, small businesses, municipalities, and individuals in complex litigation matters before state and federal courts throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

In addition to his litigation practice, Michael counsels corporations and institutional nonprofits in governance matters. From 2016-2020, Michael was an adjunct professor in the School of Business and Global Innovation at Marywood University, where he taught Legal Environment of Business.

In addition to his civilian practice, Michael is a former Army officer and served in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps from 2007-2017.

Michael is a graduate of Scranton Preparatory School, Georgetown University, and Temple University Law School.

Erin Houston


First Job: Barista.

What it taught me: The power of connecting authentically with people. The less transactional business is, the more loyalty you’ll build.

Current Company and position: Co-founder + CEO.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: You don’t need to have everyone figured out, because things probably won’t go according to plan! Look for opportunities where you can learn and grow in a career direction, rather than being prescriptive of your end-goals from the start.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I grew up competing in Irish dance. Not only did it bring me closer to my Irish heritage, but it taught me resilience, persistence, and teamwork in ways that made me who I am today.

Erin co-founded Wearwell after working for a media platform that serves the global development community, where she had the opportunity to build and lead their partnerships division. During that same time in her life, she earned her Master’s in Social Enterprise and focused on sustainable supply chains in the fashion industry. She loves the work she does at Wearwell because a more sustainable fashion industry has the power to positively impact the lives of so many. Other things she loves: cooking, yoga, and daily morning walks with her pup, Ruby. M.A. Social Enterprise, American University 2015. B.A. in Irish, Government, The College of William & Mary, 2009.
Jessica Foster

Where you live: Girard, Ohio.
Place of Birth: Youngstown, Ohio.
Age: 36.
Family: Husband - Doug Foster.

Current Company and position: Cohn & Company, Senior Manager, Assurance.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Learn from your mistakes and be open to new opportunities when they arise.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? It allowed me to let my Irish culture shine through, my interest in the Irish language, sport, dance, and music. In my free time you can find Sarah volunteering at Sacred Heart’s gym as a basketball coach or assisting in keeping the score of CYO games.

Sarah Sullivan

Place of Birth: New York, New York.
Age: 36.
Family: My father, Eugene Thomas Sullivan emigrated to Queens, New York from Butlersbridge, Co. Cavan in 1888. My mother, Patricia Crowley traces her Irish heritage to her grandparents who emigrated from Counties Louth and Cavan. Her father, Walter Crowley, a proud Irish American, served as a member of the Ancient Order of the Hibernians as well as the Cavan P & B Association and shared his love for Ireland with his fifteen children. I have two older siblings Eugene and Maria.

First Job: Playground Associate at the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation.

What it taught me: Spending July and August days outdoors in New York City parks with children taught me patience, delegation skills, the importance of a baseball cap, and the sanctity of SPF 50.

Current Company and position: President of Irish Society at St. John’s University, Member of the University’s President’s Society, and Discover New York Peer Coordinator.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: This is a little tricky, because in some ways I find myself still ‘starting out’, however, I would say BE TRUE TO YOURSELF.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I am an Irish Citizen through my mother. I try to visit Ireland annually to spend time with my grandfather, aunts, uncles and cousins. On Sundays, my family and I listen to WFUV -90.7 Fordham University Irish station. We have marched together in New York City’s St. Patrick’s Day parade and watch plays at the Irish Repertory Theatre.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I was once selected from the audience to play a Harry Potter Trivia Game on Eilen.

J essica Foster, the daughter of Dan and Laurie Brinker, was born and raised in Girard, Ohio, where she currently resides with her husband, Doug Foster, and dog, Bella. Jessica attended Saint Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana, graduating magna cum laude with a B.A. in Mathematics. After teaching high school mathematics for three years, she decided to pursue a Master’s of Accountancy at The University of Akron in Akron, Ohio. Since graduation, she has become a CPA and has worked at Cohn & Company where she is currently a senior manager. Her role includes providing, attestation and consulting services for privately held clients, training, developing, and supervising staff, and assisting with the Firm’s quality control and technical initiatives. In addition to her position at Cohen, Jessica is involved in various professional organizations and currently serves on the AICPA’s Women’s Initiatives Executive and Student Recruitment Committees and The Ohio Society of CPAs Women’s Initiatives Committees. She volunteers her time serving as an officer or board/member of various organizations and nonprofits including Saint Mary’s College Alumni Association Board of Directors, Alta Care Group, Junior League of Akron, Beauitute House, Youngstown Business & Professional Women, and the United Way of Youngstown and Mahoning Valley. Her past honors include graduating from the AICPA Leadership Academy in 2019, receiving the Junior League of Akron’s President Award in 2021, and being a Mahoning Valley Young Professional “25 under 35” Honoree in 2018.

Michael Lawler

Where you live: Pearl River, NY.
Place of Birth: Nanuet, NY.
Age: 36.
Family: Doina Lawler (wife); Marie Lawler (mother); Kevin Lawler (father, deceased); James Lawler (brother).

First Job: Volunteer at Yankee Stadium. What it taught me: It taught me the importance of hard work, a positive attitude, and enjoying what you do. Interacting with fans throughout the Stadium, it allowed me to let my personality shine through, as well as serve people.

Current Company and position: New York State Assemblyman.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Stay humble in victory and gracious in defeat. Life will always have its challenges, but through hard work and perseverance, success is always within reach.

Mike Lawler was elected to the New York State Assembly on November 3, 2020. His district is comprised of the southern portion of Rockland County.

In his first legislative session, Mike was one of the top-5 most successful freshman legislators in the Assembly, passing a half-dozen bills focused on helping his Rockland County constituency.

He was also tied for most bills passed by any member of the Republican Conference in the 2021 legislative session. Mike is a lifelong Rockland County resident and graduate of Suffern High School. In 2009, he earned a degree in Business Administration with a double major in Accounting and Finance from Manhattan College. His hard work earned him the distinction of Valedictorian of his graduating class.

Prior to being elected to the Assembly, Mike served as Deputy Town Supervisor in Orangeford under Supervisor Teresa Keegan and previously worked in the Westchester County Executive’s Office as an advisor to Rob Astorino. In those roles, he gained invaluable experience dealing with issues ranging from crafting a disaster recovery plan to policy and community outreach initiatives.

Previously, Mike served as Executive Director of the State Republican Party and has helped secure the election of candidates at federal, state, and local levels.

In addition to his distinguished public service career, Mike is also a successful small-business owner. He has brought his experience and knowledge from the private sector – he previously founded his own government affairs and public relations firm – to best serve his constituents. Mike and his wife, Doina, live in Pearl River.
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Jennifer Muldowney
Where you live: NYC  
Place of Birth: Dublin, Ireland.  
Age: 39.  
Family: Mom - Olivia, Dad - Gerry and Brother - Stephen.  
What it taught me: It definitely was a hint at my future career! I think working in any form of hospitality teaches patience, multitasking, organizational skills, and above all, it teaches you how 'to be' with people.  
Current Company and position: Owner of The Glam Reapar LLC which is the umbrella company for Muldowney Memorials, and my cremation jewellery companies - Farewell Celtic Ashes and Rainbow Bridge Memorials and I am also the host of The Glam Reaper Podcast.  
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Embrace your weirdness - the thing that makes you you. Everyone will have an opinion on you but if you do what's in your heart and make intuitive decisions then you can't go too far wrong. And keep going! The Struggles are real but everyone has them, even if it appears otherwise so just keep on trucking.  
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? My Irish cremation jewellery line - Farewell Celtic Ashes allows Irish diaspora around the world to send some of the ashes of their loved ones to our home base in Ireland where we either fuse or encase the ash in handmade glass and then ship the jewellery back to them. We also offer to scatter some of the remains on Irish soil if they wish for that.  
In terms of Memorials, The Irish Wake is known the world over and I simply bring an updated version of that to what I do day-to-day when working with families on memorializing their loved ones. We incorporate food and drink into celebrating someone's life and make it as personal to that unique individual as we can.  
Something that would people be surprised to know about me: I'm criminally shy. I get fits of giggles when I feel most awkward. Those who have seen it in action know.  
From a busy fine dining Irish bar in Washington DC, a marathon in Miami, death in Dublin to hustling in New York, Dubliner Jennifer Muldowney has been inspired every step of the way when creating her funeral business concept. She is the proud owner and operator of The Glam Reapar LLC specializing in providing unique products and services to help people memorialize their loved ones their way.  
Born in Dublin in 1982, Jennifer Muldowney went to college in Dublin City University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Business Studies Degree in 2004. She furthered her studies in 2010 with a Wedding Planning Certificate and a PRL accredited Public Relations post-graduate diploma and Event Management post-graduate diploma and again in 2012 with a Digital Communications diploma with Social Media.  
She is currently partnered as creative director for the prestigious Frank E. Campbell - The Funeral Chapel in New York City. She is a trained, experienced, and modern memorial planner, with over 10 years of experience in the funeral profession. She is the host of The Glam Reapar Podcast, author of books 'Say Farewell Your Way', 'Say Farewell The Irish Way' and writes a monthly column for the Funeral Times magazine back home in Ireland. She has also been asked to speak on a variety of stages and mediums including the National Funeral Directors Association, the New York Funeral Directors Annual Convention, The Elvis Show, RTE, Fox News, and most notably her Tedx talk in 2017.  
Funerals are her passion, her life and she loves what she does.

Gwen Camp
Place of Birth: Bryn Mawr, PA.  
Age: 39.  
Family: Three "little" brothers, two great parents, approximately one million cousins, aunts and uncles.  
First Job: Teamsters Trust & Pension.  
What it taught me: To be kind when people are facing big change.  
Current Company and position: Executive Director of Team Democracy.  
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Work hard, exercise the limits of your empathy every day, and manage up.  
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? In the spirit of welcoming anyone without a seat to the table. In celebrating any small victory excessively and laughing hard at any sadness. In keeping friends and family close. In knowing that I'm only here because of all the strength my family laid out for me.  
Something that would people be surprised to know about me: We had four generations on one block when the McCabes and Fitzgeralds all got mixed up with one another in Northeast Philly. There's still nowhere I'd rather be than surrounded by those crazy kids, so come find us if you need a friend at Rosie's in February!  
Gwen Camp is a voting rights advocate who runs a crisis and political management firm in Philadelphia. She is a frequent academic lecturer and the Executive Director of Team Democracy, spearheading The Election Pledge to protect elections and the peaceful transition of power in the United States.  
She has supported many Irish American public servants, notably as the State Director for Senator Bob Casey of Pennsylvania; the Chief of Staff for the Pennsylvania Treasury, which is the custodian of more than $110 Billion in Commonwealth funds; and as the Political Director for Patrick Murphy's first Congressional race. She has also served as a Legislative Assistant in the United States and Pennsylvania Houses of Representatives.  
She was twice appointed to the Obama Administration, serving as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and as Director of Individual and Community Preparedness for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), where she was recognized as the NextGov Bold Innovator in Government in 2014.  
Gwen has run workshops throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America and is a Security Advisor with the Truman National Security Project. She earned her MA at the Harvard Kennedy School, her BA at Rosemont College and holds certifications in Public Treasury Management in Investment and Pensions (Pepperdine) and Senior Management in Government (Harvard).  
Her family comes from County Galway and her "home" in Ireland is where her mother’s mother’s mother lived in Athenry, County Galway.

Devlin Robinson
Where you live: Pittsburgh PA.  
Place of Birth: Pittsburgh PA.  
Age: 38.  
Family: Bachelor.  
First Job: Lifeguard.  
What it taught me: Being a lifeguard at a very busy wave pool not only taught me the typical, show up on time, ready to work, and with a good attitude. It taught me vigilance, at any time someone's world could be in jeopardy.  
Someone that entrusted you to be and be ready to assist in a wide range of medical issues so continuing education was integral to ensure a positive outcome in an emergency.  
Current Company and position: State Senator of Pennsylvania’s 37th Senatorial District.  
Best advice you could give someone starting out: always be open to learning and keep learning all you can.  
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? My Great grandfather William Leonard Robinson came to this country in 1917 from County Tyrone in order to ensure he and his descendants could have a better life. He worked hard, he taught his children to work hard, and he taught them that a successful life included service to their family, their community, and their country. I made sure to join the Marines at 18 and have been active in numerous local charities including the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the International Rotary where I have visited clubs in Sligo and Dungannon.  
Something that would people be surprised to know about me: I have visited the birthplaces of both of my Irish Grandparents. Many Foley in County Leitrim and William Robinson in County Armagh. I continuously communicate with my cousins in Ireland and Northern Ireland and have visited with them as well as hosting them in America.  
Senator Devlin Robinson was elected in November 2020 to serve residents of the 37th State Senatorial District, which includes parts of Allegheny and Washington counties in southwestern Pennsylvania.  
A native of southwestern Pennsylvania, Robinson was raised in the working-class Brookline neighborhood of Pittsburgh and attended Central Catholic High School. After graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps – continuing a family tradition of military service dating back four generations.  
Following the 9/11 attacks, Robinson requested assignment to the infantry, ensuring him a spot on the front lines. He served one combat tour in Afghanistan and two in Iraq, where as an infantryman in Nasiriyah ("ambush alley") Devlin’s unit fought door-to-door to rescue Army POW Jessica Lynch. He also later served in Fallujah.  
Upon his honorable discharge, Devlin returned home to Pittsburgh and founded his own company, Veterans Medical Technology. Under the GI Bill, Devlin earned a business degree from Robert Morris University and an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh’s Katz School of Business.
Congratulations to Brian Reilly -
A proud descendant of Crossmaglen, for being selected by the Irish Echo to receive this prestigious honor.

We are all very proud of who you have become and eagerly await your future because we know your brightest moments are yet to come.
Nicholas Smyth

Where you live: Pittsburgh, PA
Place of Birth: Dublin
Age: 38
Family: Parents: Ted (former Irish diplomat) and Mary Breasted; Wife Ariana
Ornelas Smyth (first generation American); Children: Marine (7) and Elena (5), Sisters: Sally (37) and Jennifer (35).
What it taught you: Through relentless hard work and persistent coalition-building, it is possible for consumer financial protection advocates and progressive legislation that significantly improves the lives of American families. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act is an example of what we can accomplish if we stick together and work really hard.
Current Company and position: Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General as Assistant Director for Consumer Financial Protection.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Work really hard, learn something new every day, don’t be afraid to ask questions, and hire and promote people from diverse backgrounds.
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I have always been very proud to be humble, ask for help, and stay in touch with my cousins and family.
 Something that people would be surprised to know about me: In law school I studied immigration law, not consumer finance. I was planning to work on immigration policy until the subprime mortgage crisis spurred my interest in consumer financial protection.
Recruited in 2017 by Attorney General Josh Shapiro to start the nation’s first “mini CFPB,” Nicholas Smyth manages investigations and litigation of complaints from more than 12 million consumer complaints. He leads a team of attorneys that, working closely with other states and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, has obtained over $328 million in relief for about 110,000 Pennsylvania consumers. Public lawsuits and settlements include Navient (M.D. Pa), Wells Fargo, Equifax, Citibank, Think Finance (E.D. Pa), and Dominion Management (Phila. Ct. Com. PI). In June 2019 Smyth testified before the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services about student loan servicing.
Prior to joining the Office of Attorney General, Smyth spent four years as a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) Enforcement Attorney. He was the fourth employee at the CFPB, having previously worked at the U.S. Department of the Treasury on the team of attorneys that, working closely with Congressional staff, drafted and revised the Consumer Financial Protection Act in 2009-10. In between his stints in government, Smyth was also a Senior Counsel at an auto finance company and a Senior Associate at Reed Smith. He earned his B.A. and J.D. from Harvard. He was born in Ireland and grew up in Pittsburgh, where he resides with his wife and two daughters.

Mark Desmond

Place of Birth: Cork.
Age: 33
Family: Son to Humphrey and Noreen who still reside on the farm family outside of Bandon, Cork. One of 6 children including Christina, Terry, Kieran, Daniel and Ronan ranging in ages from 23 to 33. Nicholas grew up with Mary Kate and Cian. All who still reside at or near the family farm.
First Job: Growing up on a farm I always had work to do. But my first ‘official’ job was working on the butcher counter in my local Supervalu in Bandon during secondary/high school.
What it taught me: The value of good customer service. How to be organized and efficient. Working as part of a team even when things are chaotic. Some awesome knife skills that I still use in the kitchen.
Current Company and position: Vice President with Allied Irish Banks New York office.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Something I learned early on is to come with solutions, not problems. Your boss will thank you for it and you’ll be remembered for the solution and not the bearer of bad news.
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Being so far away from home, like many people, keeping in touch with my Irish heritage becomes more important. I have tried to actively contribute to the community in New York including joining the American Irish Historical Society Success in the City Committee and helping to organize events for young professionals while that was in operation. I also regularly attend and contribute to events organized by friends in the wider Irish American community including marching in St Patrick’s days parades and completing a number of charity cycles raising funds for CMRF through the Ireland Funds.
Something that people would be surprised to know about me: I cycled 180 miles across West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania last summer visiting civil war battlefields in those states.

Mark is currently Vice President with Allied Irish Banks New York office, moving to New York in 2016. Marks works on the Syndicated and International Finance team, focusing on investing in U.S. Leveraged loans. Prior to that he spent 5 years in AIB’s head office in Dublin specializing in restructuring where he joined as an analyst following graduation. Mark holds a B.Bus (Hons) in Accounting from Cork Institute of Technology, a M.Sc in Finance and Capital Markets from Dublin City University and is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. Mark grew up on a dairy farm in Bandon, West Cork being one of 6 children.
Congratulations, Keeley!

We knew when we met you in high school you were already destined for a Top 16 Under 16 and here you are on The 40 Under 40 list! We are so proud of you!

We will still be your biggest supporters when you make The Top 80 Under 80 list! – Love, The Thread

Congratulations, Peter!

Everyone in Galway is so proud of you. I'm honored to be on the Board of Celtic Irish American Academy Scholastic with you. Keep up the good work.

Gaillimh abu! John Flaherty
Daniel Roche

Place of Birth: London.  
Family: My parents are both Irish and met in UCC. Like many in the 80s, they emigrated to London to work and had me. We moved back to Dublin when I was 5 and then onto Cork when I was 8 years old. Here I grew up. After a short stint in New Zealand and now New York, I feel like somewhat of a nomad! On this side of the Atlantic, I have found some new family also - I am due to get married in Florida this summer. 

First Job: Hotel Porter.  
What it taught me: I was very lucky to have such supportive parents who gave me every opportunity to have a great education. Besides that, I’ve had some great mentors during my early career from Ian O’Connell and Cathal Friel at Raglan Capital, to Conor Smyth who I met in New York. All of whom put a lot of effort into developing me. I also have a deep desire to learn and pursued a Master’s degree at Trinity College Dublin and my CFAs. I feel both of these experiences were essential in expanding my knowledge of finance and also gave me the confidence to speak as a subject matter expert in certain areas. 

Current Company and position: I work as a Vice President for a boutique placement agent named TritonLake. We have a global footprint with team members from Singapore to New York. Our primary focus is to raise capital in private equity funds, ranging from $100-750MM in size, from our club of c. 300 investors. I was lucky to meet Conor Smyth, the Founder, shortly after I left college and became one of the first employees. 

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Don’t be afraid to challenge yourself even if it makes you uncomfortable. If you feel nervous about your Irish Heritage? 

Colleen O’Riordan

Where you live: Ardmore, PA.  
Place of Birth: Philadelphia.  
Age: 37.  
Family: Husband: Seán O’Riordan; Parents: John and Susan Gallagher  
Places (Spouse): Sheila Sheaffer (Kyle), Catherine Vickers (Jake), Bridg Gallagher, Anne Marie (Stanley), Suzanne (Lillu), Bernadette Gallagher First Job: After, with the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival’s educational touring company WillPower. 
What it taught me: As an educational touring company, we brought Shakespeare to schools and classrooms across the tri-state area. My experience showed me the transformational ability of drama and how storytelling can be a powerful access point for healing trauma. This discovery lead me to pursue my MA in Dramatherapy at NUI, Maynooth in Co. Kildare. 
Current Company and position: Director, Office of the CEO at FS Investments, a leading alternative asset manager with $29 billion under management. FS Investments is dedicated to helping individuals, financial professionals and institutions design better portfolios by providing access to alternative sources of income and growth and setting industry standards for investor protection, education and transparency. I support the firm’s co-founder, Chairman & CEO, Michael Forman including his involvement with various civic initiatives in Philadelphia. 

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Leadership is everyone’s responsibility. Listen to understand. Don’t be afraid to take risks, regardless of the outcome, you’ll either win or learn. 

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? Growing up I was always proud of Irishness and understood the journey of my ancestors to America, but when I think about embracing my heritage since marrying my husband, I’m more aware of the responsibilities of raising 1st generation children (when the time comes) and making sure they know both of the cultures that they come from. Through engagement with Irish community in Philadelphia, participation at Irish cultural events and spending as much time back in Ireland as we can, we will be both Irish and American. 

Clayton Mcghan

Place of Birth: Mesa, Arizona.  
Age: 38.  
Family: Craig (father), Kim (mother), Oyate (wife), Kalotaiine, Ema, Ivi (daughters), and Ammon (son). 
First Job: Construction with my father at age 10. 
What it taught me: Not to talk back and be thankful for work, no matter what it is. 
Current Company and position: Current and position: CEO of Tralee (2007) and earned her MA in Finance from the American College of Healthcare Executives. 
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Be willing to work at the bottom before the top. Serve others along the way. Be kind and thankful to ALL around you. Don’t be afraid to get your hands dirty. Never stop learning. 

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I embrace my Irish Heritage through my strong connections and passion for my family, friends, and community. Once I put my mind into what it is I am doing, I fight for it passionately to see it through. I am proud to say my ambition and passion for Irishness and understanding the journey of my ancestors to America and Ireland Funds through the Young Leaders Program and in 2016, was one of the first women inducted into the Society of the Friendly Sons (and now Daughters) of St. Patrick in Philadelphia, alongside Irish Amb. Anne Anderson. 
Colleen moved back to Ireland in 2018, to work for Irish unified communications company Blueface as Chief of Staff to the CEO. Blueface is where she met her husband Seán O’Riordan, who was CFO in the business. When Comcast Business acquired Blueface in 2020 the pair relocated back to Philadelphia post acquisition. Colleen now works at FS Investments as Director, Office of the CEO. In March she will be installed as an officer in the Society of the FSSP. 

President and CEO of Ali`i Health Center, Clayton Mcghan entered the healthcare field from humble beginnings. He started his healthcare journey as a volunteer, handing out blankets and comfort in the emergency department at a community hospital in Kona, on the Big Island of Hawai‘i. Rotating as a volunteer into a number of key departments within the hospital, Clayton was noticed by Executive Leadership because of his desire to serve others with kindness and dignity. Clayton was hired at the hospital as the as assistant to the Nurse Administrator, eventually working his way up to the executive assistant to the Regional CEO. Soon after, Clayton was asked to lead Ali`i Health Center, West Hawai‘i’s largest multi-specialty healthcare clinic where he currently manages over 35 physicians and providers and over 100 total employees. He is an active member in the community, serving on the Kona Kohala Chamber of Commerce (KCC) Board of Directors and as the chairman of the Kona Kohala Chamber of Commerce Health & Wellness Committee. 

Crediting his Irish ancestry, Clayton is proud of his deep connection to the Polynesian people. 
Early in his life, Clayton served as a missionary in the Kingdom of Tonga. There, he developed strong bonds with the people because of the cultural similarities between the Irish and Tongans. Both are kind-hearted, religious, frank, and sharp-witted. Clayton earned a Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from Grand Canyon University. He is currently working towards his Board Certification with the American College of Healthcare Executives.
Ancient Order of Hibernians
Irish Catholic American

Congratulations to the 2022 Top 40 Irish Americans

Members of The Ancient Order of America

Scott Partika  
Columbus Ohio Division 1 - Office of Governor Mike DeWine - Assistant Policy Director Health and Human Services

Kieran Mitchell  
Dutchess NY Division 1 - VP Actuarial Careers, Inc.

Devlin Robinson  
Allegheny PA Division 10 - State Senator of Pennsylvania's 37th Senatorial District

Michael Lawler  
Rockland NY Division 3 - New York State Assemblyman

Rory McGlone  
Hartford Ct Division 2 - University of Connecticut, Professor of Business Communication, Founder & President, RPM Communication Consulting

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Sunday July 10th - Saturday July 23rd 2022

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Congratulations Peter Fahy
We are proud of your achievements
Cillian Flavin is from Cork City, Ireland, and has lived in the U.S. since 2006. He currently lives in Delmar, NY and works at New York State Office of Victim Services in Albany, NY as a Deputy Director. He attended the University of Cork College and received a BSc in Government and Public Policy, and then moved to the U.S. to attend the College of St. Rose in Albany NY where he received a MA in American History and Political Science. He was one of the founding members of the Albany Rebels Gaelic Athletic Association in Albany, NY and is very proud of the development of the game in the Capital Region. They just added a hurling team in their tenth year of existence and Cillian is involved as a player at both hurling and football and as a Director of the club. The professional accomplishment he is most proud of was his nomination as Deputy Director at the New York State Office of Victim Services where he manages federal funds that are used to assist victims of crime. He is the proud father of two beautiful (and saucy) daughters and enjoys regularly bringing them home to Cork and to visit family in Kerry. His favorite thing to do is to watch the senior Kerry football team, his passion from football having been passed down by his father.

Andy Collins

Where you live: Upper West Side, Manhattan. 
Place of Birth: Elphin, County Roscommon. 
Age: 39.
Family: Wife Rita, Sons Ryan (5) and Aedan (3) and daughter Nessa (8 months).
First Job: Collecting glasses at my local bar at 14.
What it taught me: At times an eye-opening experience, I saw firsthand the important role people skills and enthusiasm can play in a successful working environment, traits I have tried to take with me throughout my career, with the added bonus of helping me in some tense situations!
Current Company and position: President and Co-Owner at Book Nook Enrichment.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Keep the head down, stay focused and bet on yourself - you’ll be surprised how far you get!
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I embrace my Irish Heritage through the teaching of Irish dance and I travel around the world as an Irish dance competition adjudicator. Something that people would be surprised to know about me: I started Irish dance lessons at the age of 16.

JJ Hester

Where you live: Magnolia, Delaware.
Place of Birth: Newark, NJ.
Age: 37.
Family: Married to my wonderful wife Brittany and loving our 3 year old son Parker.
First Job: Shop Rite Cashier.
What it taught me: It taught me how to work hard, stay organized, and how to interact with so many people, both happy customers and unhappy ones.
Current Company and position: I work as a school teacher in Maryland public schools and I also own and operate my own Irish dance school, Hester Academy of Irish Dance.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Take at least one business course in college to understand the ins and outs of owning and operating your own business.
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I embrace my Irish Heritage by working with the Peter Smith School in NJ at age 16. He went on to win multiple regional solo titles, place in the top 3 of the North American Championships, and medal in the World Championships. Additionally, although he could not do the tour, he received a contract offer from Riverdance. He currently operates his own Irish dance school in Delaware. He is a certified TCGR (Irish dance teacher) and ADCRG (Irish dance adjudicator). In addition to being involved in the Irish dance world, JJ is a middle school physical education and health teacher.
Congrats to Chris Keeley

So proud of our "Chip" off the old block...

Congratulations....
We love you.
Mom and dad

Congrats to Chris Keeley

Sandwiched in between Two and two the Bear of our family.

So proud of you...
Love, Piggy, Rosie, Lambie, and Roo
Lauren Stafford


Family: Desmond Stafford- father; Diane Stafford- mother; Megan Stafford- sister; Mitchell. Youngest of three- my older family someday.

Age: 28. First Job: Pintale’s Pizzeria. What it taught me: To be hard working and diligent. That even when the days seem long and frustrating it will all be worth it in the end.

Current Company and position: Our Lady Of Fatima Catholic Academy in Jackson Heights, NY, Middle School Science Teacher.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: Always remember to try your best. Listen to your advisors and grow from the experience. Be positive, even when things seem chaotic and impossible. The more faith you have in yourself, the more confident your work will portray.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? My grandfather was from Ireland and my grandmother’s side was from Ireland as well. They made me so proud to be Irish when we would dance and sing songs from various Irish artists, especially The Wolfe Tones. Every year I try to incorporate Irish traditions into my classroom. I embrace my heritage by passing along Ireland’s history and stories to the future generations, even though I teach science. Every Sunday I listen to W Fun 106 Co- radio with my parents and sister and it helps me stay up to date on what’s occurring in Ireland. I even have multiple family members who live in Ireland that I love and adore and want to visit one day. I hope to travel there again soon to see them and learn even more about my heritage.

Something that people would be surprised to know about me: I have a collection of rare Goofy (from Disney) figurines and I love to collect valuable items.

Lauren Stafford is 28 years old and from New York City. She is currently teaching middle school science at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Academy in Queens. She has always had a passion for learning and science since she was a young girl. She is dedicated to her faith and to the Catholic Church. After she completed her BA she immediately entered graduate school to receive her MSED for education. While working on her degrees at university she worked several tedious jobs. It was all worth it in the end when she landed her dream job as a full time classroom teacher. She instills a love of learning upon her students as her mentors had done for her. Teaching during a global pandemic was one of the most challenging tasks Lauren had to endure. Keeping her students positive during these dark times was overwhelming, but she made it as fun and educational as she could for them at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Academy. She thanks her phenomenal principal and mentor Mrs. Rogers for bestowing the honor of being a part of her wonderful faculty. Through her guidance and mentorship, Lauren has learned various new effective teaching techniques and methods. She would also like to thank the hard working faculty and staff at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Academy for being so supportive.

She is currently engaged to her high school sweetheart Alex and is excited to be getting married to him next year. He is her true soulmate and the love they share is unbreakable. She thanks him for always being so supportive and loving throughout all of these years. All of her hard work and dedication she owes to her loving parents. Her father is a NYPD officer who has been dedicated to his job for many years. He always told her that if she works hard in life, she’ll achieve success.

Her mother is a registered nurse who taught her to always have confidence and to never lose hope. She taught her valuable life lessons that she takes with her every day, even when teaching. Her mother truly inspired her to be the teacher that she is today. She thanks her parents for everything she has ever achieved in her life. Her older sister has always been by her side since the very beginning and has always held her hand along the journey. She loves her very much. Without her friends, family, and fiancé she wouldn’t be the strong and dedicated woman that she is today. Lauren is extremely honored to be one of the honorees in this special occasion and to congratulate all of the other honorees as well.

Kieran Mitchell


Age: 26. First Job: Actuarial Recruiter. What it taught me: This job taught me how to sink or swim professionally. Being 100% accountable, and in environments where most employees are largely autonomous after the initial training, it required me to be highly organized and extremely good at self-benchmarking to be as successful as possible. There was no one else to hold me accountable. Furthermore, it taught me that an individual is responsible for the potential of the company and that the more positive impacts on that community. Professionally speaking- find a job that is a blend of satisfying the financial requirements necessary to lead a comfortable life that is also something you are passionate about. If you don’t succeed in finding this right away with your first job, use it as a stepping stone to find that job which makes sense for you.

Money is not everything. Pursue what makes you happy.

How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? I embrace my Irish heritage in a variety of ways. Although distantly removed from Ireland (my mother’s side of the family moved to America on the Mayflower, my great-grandparents on my father’s side immigrated in the early 20th century from Ireland), my family and I maintain our deep Irish roots and celebrate our Irish culture and heritage. Despite having deep American roots but predominantly Irish blood, Kieran’s family always remembered their Irish background. Kieran learned from his grandparents growing up, and is fortunate to still be able to spend a lot of time with his grandparents as 3/4 are still alive. This upbringing helped shape his journey. He is fascinated with family lineage, generally promote our Irish culture to the local community.

Kieran is a board member of two local non-profits in Dutchess County (The Irish/Irish American members of his community that would change his life.

Kieran was born in 1995 in Somers, NY. At four years old, his family moved up to Dutchess County, NY. Between both of his grandparents, he was fortunate to be able to visit homes on vacation in North Carolina, the Adirondacks, and East Durham/The Irish Alps in the Catskills. Kieran spent almost whatever we want by setting actionable steps towards that end goal. Furthermore, it taught me that an individual is responsible for the potential of the company and that the more positive impacts on that community. Professionally speaking- find a job that is a blend of satisfying the financial requirements necessary to lead a comfortable life that is also something you are passionate about. If you don’t succeed in finding this right away with your first job, use it as a stepping stone to find that job which makes sense for you.

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Money is not everything. Pursue what makes you happy.
CONGRATULATIONS!
SIÓBHÁN,
WE ARE ALL SO PROUD OF YOU!
THE KINEALY & MARCHESE FAMILIES

SLÁINTE!
TO...
KATIE KOKOLUS

IRISH ECHO IRISH UNDER 4040
Scott Partika

Where you live: Columbus, Ohio
Place of Birth: Youngstown, Ohio.
Age: 31
Family: Wife: (Kristie); Son (Donovan, 3), Daughter (Delaney, 1); Parents (Randy and Christine O’Connell Partika); Siblings (Annie, Abbey, and Emily Partika).
First Job: Greenskeeper.
What it taught me: It taught me that respecting your colleagues, truly valuing their insights, and expressing your gratitude for their work will help you find more success through those meaningful relationships you develop. Whether you are regularly replacing a broken sprinkler on the 17th fairway or crafting a piece of legislation, that has always held true.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Work with people who inspire and motivate you each and every day. It will undoubtedly improve your work product and success over the course of your career. Not to mention it will also improve your overall happiness and well-being, which counts for a lot.

Matthew Ellis

Where you live: Brooklyn, NY.
Place of Birth: Yonkers, NY.
Age: 27.
Family: My wife, Donna Choi Ellis, at my current school network 8 years ago. We have two sons: Jameson Choi Ellis, who is 2 and a half, and Noel Hwang Ellis, who is 4 months old. My parents are both from the Bronx, NY, very close to where I grew up in the Bronx/Yonkers border. I am the middle of 3 boys, my older brother lives in Cape Cod with his wife and my younger brother lives in Mahopac, NY, with his wife. 
First Job: Caddie at Leewood Golf Club.
What it taught me: I learned: - the importance of the details being on time, even when that is 6am on Saturday and Sundays - how to interact with different people, different personalities and different expectations for what work looks like - how important it is to treat all people with respect, even those that are in a more of a service role (unfortunately I learned that from seeing positive examples and experiencing negative ones).

Current Company and position: Brooklyn Prospect Charter School - Principal of Clinton Hill Middle School.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: This is specific to those who are starting out in education: 1. Be okay with not being great right away. Keep going at it every day anyway. 2. Teaching is a hard job. Don’t let the one or two negative moments you inevitably take away from the 90 other positive ones you’ll have. 3. Find people who are positive, speak positively, show enthusiasm and peers, and push through challenges. Stick by them and avoid people who do not seem to be in it for the right reasons.

Cathal Ring

Where you live: Columbus, Ohio
Place of Birth: Youngstown, Ohio.
Age: 31
Family: I grew up in Woodlawn, NY, one of the largest Irish and Irish American communities in the country, and always felt drawn to my Irish roots. I may be 4 generations removed from Ireland, but have always felt pride in the “Cregan” family. I’ve always taken extra interest in learning about Irish history and embracing Irish culture and traditions. As a student who studied abroad at UCD for a semester, the first class I signed up for was an Irish poets and playwrights course. Currently, as a 3rd year student in a school that is intentionally diverse, I am proud to share parts of my Irish culture with my students and peers, whether it’s bringing in food, telling them about the difference between Irish and American football, or sharing about my time studying abroad in Ireland.

What it taught me: I am a recovering picky-eater, trying to make progress, but still often stuck in my stubborn ways from youth. An example of this is that I was convinced I didn’t like pasta for the first 20 years of my life. As a junior in college, I realize how wrong I was.

Best advice you could give someone starting out: To not be afraid to go against the grain. It’s ok to be unsure of where you want to end up; what’s more important is taking the first step and doing so without conviction. Focus on small wins because they add up quick.

Owen Ring

Place of Birth: Cork, Ireland.
Age: 27.
Family: I’m the eldest of three children. My parents, Patrick & Deborah Ring are both home in Cork. My sister Alison is working for the UN and the youngest Cathal is in his 3rd year of Undergrad in Commerce at UCC. Special shoutout to my Nana Christina Barrett, who just turned 90 and wrote her first book.
First Job: Worked in a coffee shop in the Cork University Maternity Hospital.
What it taught me: It taught me the value of sacrifice, accountability, patience, and hard work.
Current Company and position: Account Executive at Celonis.
Best advice you could give someone starting out: To not be afraid to go against the grain. It’s ok to be unsure of where you want to end up; what’s more important is taking the first step and doing so with conviction. Focus on small wins because they add up quick.
What do you embrace your Irish Heritage?

S o ft i p l ay l i s t s f i l e d w i t h e v e r y t i p e o f I r i s h m u s i c f r o m T h e D u l l i m e n t s t o W e B a n j o 3 , b u t C e n t r a l O h i o i s b l e s s e d w i t h a v e r y r o b u s t I r i s h m u s i c s c e n e , p r o v i d i n g l i v e e n t e r t a i n m e n t o p t i o n s f o r m y s e l f , f a m i l y , a n d f r i e n d s t o e n j o y t o g e t h e r y e a r - r o u n d . I h a v e s e r v e d a s P r e s i d e n t o f o u r l o c a l A n c i e n t O r d e r o f H i b e r n i a n d iv i s i o n , w h o o p e n e d T a r a H a l l i n C o l u m b u s - w h i c h h a s l i v e m u s i c e v e r y F r i d a y n i g h t a n d p r o v i d e s s o m e w e l l - r e p r e s e n t e d , f i r e n d l y , I r i s h p u b e x p e r i e n c e f o r a l l . I a l s o p e r f o r m a s a f o l k g i t a r i s t , a n d o n o c a s i o n a l l y h a v e b e e n a b l e t o s h a r e t h e s t a g e w i t h s o m e p h e n o m e n a l I r i s h m u s i c i a n s h e r e i n C e n t r a l O h i o .

Owen Ring, 27, was born and raised in Cork, Ireland. Owen lives and works in New York City and is entering his 5th year in the United States. Currently, Owen works as a Key Account Executive for Process Mining and Execution Management Technology company, Celonis. Operating out of the 67th floor of One World Trade Center, he is a leader in the firm’s Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance practice.

During his tenure in the US, Owen has worked as an Account Manager and Analyst for the Global Manufacturer, Flex, and held various positions within Celonis, ranging from Team Lead in the Business Development organization to Individual Contributor in the Sales function.

Owen holds a BSc in Finance from University College Cork and an MS in Information Systems Engineering and Management from Harrisburg University of Science & Technology.

Scott Partika

Where you live: Columbus, Ohio
Place of Birth: Youngstown, Ohio.
Age: 31
Family: Wife: (Kristie); Son (Donovan, 3), Daughter (Delaney, 1); Parents (Randy and Christine O’Connell Partika); Siblings (Annie, Abbey, and Emily Partika).
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CONGRATULATIONS

Kathleen Kokolus, PhD
Research Assistant Professor of Oncology
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center is proud to honor
Dr. Kokolus for her outstanding contributions to the
Center and to advancing cancer science for global benefit.

CONGRATULATIONS

Kathleen Kokolus, PhD
Research Assistant Professor of Oncology
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

From Allied Management:
Frank Dwyer and Peter Fitzpatrick.
— And from all the family in Ireland
especially parents, Brian and Deirdre, and siblings

And brother Bryan in New York, and his wife Jeanette,
and his beloved and dear sweetheart, fiancée Lauren Schmidt.
Terence Cullen

Place of Birth: Long Island, New York.  
Age: 31.  
Family: I live in Forest Hills with my wife, Rebecca, whom I met in graduate school, and our 5-year-old dog, Ellie.  
First Job: I worked as a reporter for the Queens Courier.  
What it taught me: Don’t write a story until you’ve tried to speak with everyone. That’s as much a lesson about life as it is about journalism. As your career and life go on, you find yourself in situations that require you to make decisions or statements that could really impact a community. I learned that you need to hear from as many experiences as possible before you jump to a conclusion.  
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Do good work and don’t sweat the small things. When you’re starting out, there’s a lot of pressure to rise quickly and lead the pack. But opportunities only come when you’re focused on the job you have, not when you’re thinking about the job you want. You’ll get there. Just do the best job you can every day and make sure you take time for you.  
How do you embrace your Irish Heritage? My family came here in the 1860s during the Great Hunger, with my great-great-grandfather joining the Union Army during the Civil War. Those experiences have stuck with me as an Irish-American in New York City. In my personal and professional life, I have sought to work against the kind of hatred and abuse of power my ancestors experienced on both sides of the Atlantic. As Irish Americans I believe we have a duty to work against hate of any kind and promote understanding among people.  
Something that people would be surprised to know about me: I have a tattoo of James Joyce on my shoulder blade, which I got after reading a Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man.  

Terence is the Director of Communications for the New York Building Congress, a broad-based membership organization that represents approximately 500 firms. A reporter by training, he began his career at the Queens Courier covering the borough he’s called home for more than 25 years. Prior to that he worked as a real estate reporter for the Commercial Observer, where he focused on development, public agencies and economic policy. Terence also worked at the New York Daily News, where he covered everything from metro news to national politics.

Terence went on to work as the Communications Director for former City Council Member Costa Constantinides. He oversaw the messaging and press strategy for the Climate Mobilization Act and the Renewable Rikers Act, two nation-leading environmental legislation packages that were the deciding factor in the Constantinides’ campaign for Queens Borough President in 2020, specializing in communications and policy.

As the New York Building Congress, Terence advocates for investments in the city and state’s built environment. Last year, he oversaw production of a commemorative, 400-page book and a televised documentary that celebrated the 100th anniversary of the New York Building Congress.

Peter Fahy

Place of Birth: Co. Galway.  
Age: 35.  
Family: Parents are Brian and Deirdre Fahy, fiancée to Lauren, sisters are Johanna and Catherine and elder brother to Bryan.  
First Job: My first job was as a barman at The Hole in the Wall Bar, Eyre Street, Galway.  
What it taught me: I learned the values of hard work and how to gain an insight into how a successful business should be managed. I saw how creating a good customer experience is essential for business and I experienced how to optimize every resource a business has to offer. My father ‘trained me in’ on every aspect of the trade and I learned that if you are well motivated and a good listener, your chances of attaining business goals are increased accordingly.  
Current Company and position: Current Company is Allied management. My position in this company is proprietor & General operating manager.  
Best advice you could give someone starting out: Advice is relative and ‘to declare’ here. I could probably be best described as an open book to say there are no surprises to know about me. To be perfectly honest, I have nothing ‘to declare’ here. I could probably be best described as an open book in this regard and basically what you see is what you get.  

Peter Fahy is a former Ireland 40 Under 40 winner. He was a key member of their all-conquering New York Championship winning team in 2012. Peter has represented Dublin football club in New York and was a key player on the NY Irish soccer team who were winners of the 2019 Cosmopolitan Championship. He has been a vital supporter of the Celtic Irish American Academy since its inception and a patron of scholarship opportunities to study in Ireland. Peter travelled extensively through Europe, The Southern Hemisphere and The United States before eventually settling in New York in 2012.  

He has an outstanding track record in business and in sport. While in Ireland he was a member of Salthill Knocknacaragh Gaa club and he represented his club at all levels in Irish soccer who were winners of the 2007 FAI Cup and 2008 UEFA Cup. Peter started working for the Allied Management Company ten years ago and has progressed to becoming a partner in one of its most successful establishments. He is now proprietor general manager of the very successful St. Patrick’s Bar and the Grille in Mid-Town Manhattan. Under his watch, St. Pats is fast establishing itself as an iconic landmark for a great company and excellent food and drink. It is a meeting place for local and international business people, tourists from all corners of the world and it’s the perfect setting of the ‘old stock’ from back home.

In addition, Peter has secured St. Pats as home base for Auburn College Football Club Alabama, The NFL football team - Jacksonville Jaguars Florida, and Glasgow Celtic Supporters Club NY. Recently the Irish Business Organization New York held a major function in St. Pats with their new President and fellow Galway man, Paul Finnegan. One of Peter’s plans for the 2020s is to cultivate the enormous potential of the Irish American business diaspora in the United States. He believes there are many opportunities that this network presents for the Irish American communities on both sides of the Atlantic and is very keen to progress some of his plans regarding this.
Comhairdealas

Congratulations, 2022 Irish 40 Under 40 Honorees

Especially our board member, Kate Brennan Ward
Founder, Ward Design

Join the Irish American Business Chamber & Network
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Led by a dedicated Board of Directors, the Irish American Business Chamber & Network (IABCN) promotes the interests of our members and the development of commercial, economic, and educational relationships between the Greater Philadelphia Region & the Island of Ireland.

The Irish Chamber encourages and facilitates business relationships among its members by providing virtual and in-person educational and networking forums and extensive opportunities for the exchange of information and ideas, especially about import/export issues, customs regulations, investment opportunities, industry trends, and market research.

With a solid record of accomplishment and achievement over the past twenty-two years, the Irish Chamber’s trusted role in facilitating business development has been recognized on both sides of the Atlantic.

Connect with the Irish American Business Chamber & Network
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The Irish Business Organization of New York
Congratulates Its Members

2022 Irish Echo
40 Under 40
Award Recipients

Patrick Collins
PC Collins Company, LLC

Daniel Roche, CFA
Vice President at TritonLake

The Irish Business Organization Salutes the Irish Echo for Shining the Spotlight On, and Celebrating, the Irish-American Identity

2022 Executive Board

President: Paul Finnegan
First Vice President: Seán O’Dowd
Second Vice President: Maralyn Dolan
Treasurer: Steve Jogan
Secretary: Colleen Berry Conway
Communications: Noreen Bowden

Learn More About the Irish Business Organization, and Become a Member, at IBONewYork.org
The Emerald Society of Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. 
Est. 1962

Congratulations, to our own Siobhan Keane-Revie

for being honored by the Irish Echo – 40 Under 40 Awards!
The Emerald Society of Con Edison wants to recognize and congratulate all the award winners on a job well done!

EXECUTIVE BOARD 2020 - 2022

President: John G. Ryan
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Congratulations to Colleen O’Riordan

And all of the Irish Echo’s 40 under 40 honorees

You are an inspiration to all of us and we are thankful to have you in our lives each and every day.

Lots of Love –
Sean, Mom, Dad, your six sisters and all of your family in Ireland & America

Congratulations to Kaitlyn McGrath Frega
Recipient of the Irish Echo 40 under 40 Emerald Sustainability Award

Through your hard work and strong leadership, you continue to make a difference in making long-lasting environmental changes and our City a better place.

We are so proud of you!!!
With Love - Chase, Mom and Dad
Congratulations to Catherine Kavanagh
On this well deserved honor

Save the date – October 15, 2022,
Donegal Association of New York
125th Annual Dinner Dance

www.donegalny.org
donegalnewyork@gmail.com - John Doherty President

Congratulations to
CILLIAN FLAVIN

on being named to the
Irish Echo 40 Under 40!

A founding member and former chairman
of the Albany Rebels Gaelic Football and Hurling Club

Congratulations
Kieran Mitchell

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Emmett, Moira Woods and Family
CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THIS YEAR’S

IRISH ECHO

TOP 40 UNDER 40

SEAN O’KEEFE

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New Members Welcome
For more information visit us at
www.nykerry.org

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305 McLean Ave * Yonkers, NY 10705    (914) 964-2100   (347) 920-6837
Congratulations
Nicholas Finnbarr Breasted Smyth
From your proud family and friends in Pittsburgh, New York, Boston, Oakland, Dublin, Kells and London

CONGRATULATIONS CATHERINE!
WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED AND ALL YOU WILL DO IN YOUR BRIGHT FUTURE!
WE LOVE YOU!
Auntie Rita Daly, Auntie Marie Kavanagh Brendan and Kathleen Ryan, Brendan and Jeannie Daly, Philip and Carrie Daly, Sean and Rita Ingram Emma, Liz, Jack, Thomas, Gavin Maggie, Caroline and Matt

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Congratulations to all the nominees, especially our own, Daniel Roche!

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CONGRATULATIONS CATHERINE!
WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED AND ALL YOU WILL DO IN YOUR BRIGHT FUTURE!
WE LOVE YOU!
Auntie Rita Daly, Auntie Marie Kavanagh Brendan and Kathleen Ryan, Brendan and Jeannie Daly, Philip and Carrie Daly, Sean and Rita Ingram Emma, Liz, Jack, Thomas, Gavin Maggie, Caroline and Matt