

# IrishEcho LABOR AWARDS

#IrishLabor

2022



*Featuring*  
**Irish Labor Leader of the Year 2022 – Terry O’Sullivan,  
General President LiUNA**

*And virtually...*  
**From Washington D.C. – U.S. Secretary of Labor, Martin J. Walsh  
From Belfast, Ireland – Gerry Adams**

**Thursday, September 8, 2022  
The Edison Ballroom, 240 West 47th Street, New York NY**



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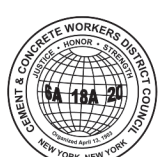
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# A Lifetime Standing in Labor's Front Lines

By Ray O'Hanlon

**B**attling for the cause of labor has never been an easy road, no matter where in the world it has been waged.

Here in the United States the cause of labor has, it's fair to say, never had a day off.

And that includes Labor Day.

There are forces afoot, and they have been stomping around since day one of the republic, that view labor as simply that, and nothing more.

The human beings who stand in the ranks of labor, and its representative movement, are seen by some as mere details in a world where profit is paramount.

Now there is nothing wrong with profit per se. But how it is achieved, and at what cost to the workers who generate it, has been never less than a primary concern of the labor movement, and the leaders of the labor movement.

Terry O'Sullivan is ranked among those leaders.

Terry would be the first to say that being the leader of a union in the first quarter of the 21st century is not a task for the faint hearted.

Unions and union membership have been under pressure these past couple of decades.

But in recent days came some remarkable news.

According to reports, and this particular one was carried by The Hill newspaper, public support for unions is climbing.

Stated the report in part: "Seventy-one percent of Americans indicated support for labor unions in a Gallup poll released on Tuesday, the highest percentage since 1965.

"The latest measure is a slight uptick from the 68 percent who supported labor unions when the survey giant polled the question last year.

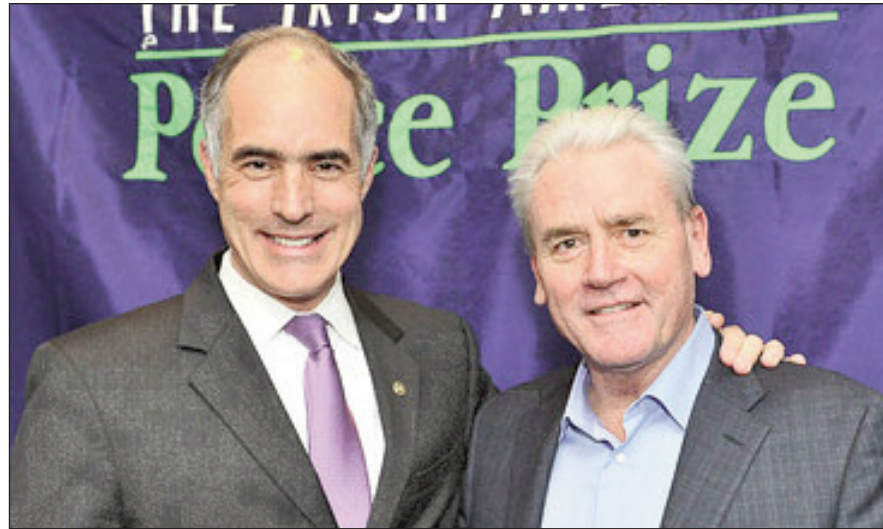
"Gallup has tracked union approval for decades, and support has gradually increased since 2009.

"Support fell below 50 percent for the only time in 2009, but ever since has been improving to levels now not seen in more than a half century. The increased support comes as workers at many major companies have pursued union campaigns.

"A Starbucks store in Buffalo, N.Y., became the company's first U.S. location to unionize in December, and more than 200 stores have since successfully held votes to join the union. Starbucks has battled many of those unionization efforts in court.

"In April, workers at one of Amazon's New York City facilities voted to become the first of the e-commerce giant's U.S. locations to unionize.

"Additionally, the first U.S. Chipotle store voted to unionize last



In the course of his work Terry O'Sullivan has dealings with many leading political figures. He is pictured here with Pennsylvania's Senator Bob Casey.

Thursday in Lansing, Mich.

"The new poll found that 6 percent of U.S. adults report that they are a union member, and 16 percent live in a household in which at least one resident is part of a union.

"The results remain in line with Gallup's range of between 14 percent and 21 percent of adults since 2001 who have said they live in a household with at least one union member.

"The Gallup poll was conducted between Aug. 1 and 23 through a random phone sample of 1,006 U.S. adults. The sample is weighted to match national demographics, and the margin of error is 4 percentage points."

So, some good news. But, for sure, no reason to be complacent.

Complacency is not a word in Terry O'Sullivan's lexicon.

He is a student of labor history. He knows all about historical ebbs and flows.

Part of the ebb and flow has been the relationship that links the labor movement in Ireland and the United States.

The Atlantic has been a conduit for ideas, inspiration and mutual support in all the years that the Irish have crossed it in search of a new life in the new world.

Much of the thinking that propels the labor movement in America can

be traced back eastwards across the ocean to labor leaders in Ireland, and labor leaders who left Ireland for the growing United States.

James Connolly comes to particular mind.

Scottish-born Connolly was, of course, a labor champion who brought his message to America before he became a leader of the 1916 Rising. He paid for his patriotism with his life. But his legacy lives on.

And it lives on in the heart and mind of Terry O'Sullivan.

It was with that in mind that James Connolly House in West Belfast, Áras Uí Chonghaile, dedicated its widely acclaimed conference space to Terry, the person who is also General President of LiUNA!.

A long-standing friend and supporter of Áras Uí Chonghaile, Terry and LiUNA have helped ensure that the vision of the James Connolly Visitor Centre is realized and that visitors to West Belfast from across the world are introduced to the life, times and politics of the revolutionary figure and pioneering trade unionist that is James Connolly.

Fáilte Feirste Thiar (West Belfast) Director, Harry Connolly, said of the dedication earlier this year: "We are delighted to rename the Terry O'Sullivan LiUNA! Conference and Event Space in recognition of the

immense contribution made to the success of Áras Uí Chonghaile by Terry and his union brothers and sisters from LiUNA!

"It's symbolic of the transatlantic relationships forged by James Connolly over a century ago and we are incredibly proud to continue to sustain and develop those relationships today."

Terry responded: "On behalf of the almost 520,000 proud, strong and united men and women of LiUNA! Can I say how proud, honored and humbled we are to have this space named after our organization.

"James Connolly said it best: 'The cause of labour is the cause of Ireland and the cause of Ireland is the cause of labour.' No truer words have ever been spoken."

Belfast Lord Mayor, Tina Black, commended the support that Terry has shown and all that the James Connolly Visitor Centre has brought to the city:

"We are now a world class tourist destination. People are coming to West Belfast to learn about our culture, history, language and music. The James Connolly Visitor Centre has set the standard. Thank you to Terry and LiUNA! for helping to make the vision a reality."

It's fair to say that Terry, who was born in San Francisco, has found a second hometown in Belfast.

It's fair to say that Belfast has found a new favorite son in Terry.

The cause of labor never rests. Labor faces new challenges each and every day, and sometimes old challenges come back to haunt.

The opposition to the formation of labor unions in the workplaces of America is an old challenge and that is today still all too evident.

What is also evident is the determination of so many proud union members to resist the suppression of their right to speak and bargain with one voice.

That collective voice is heard by broader society through labor leaders; leaders like Terry O'Sullivan.

Long may it resonate.



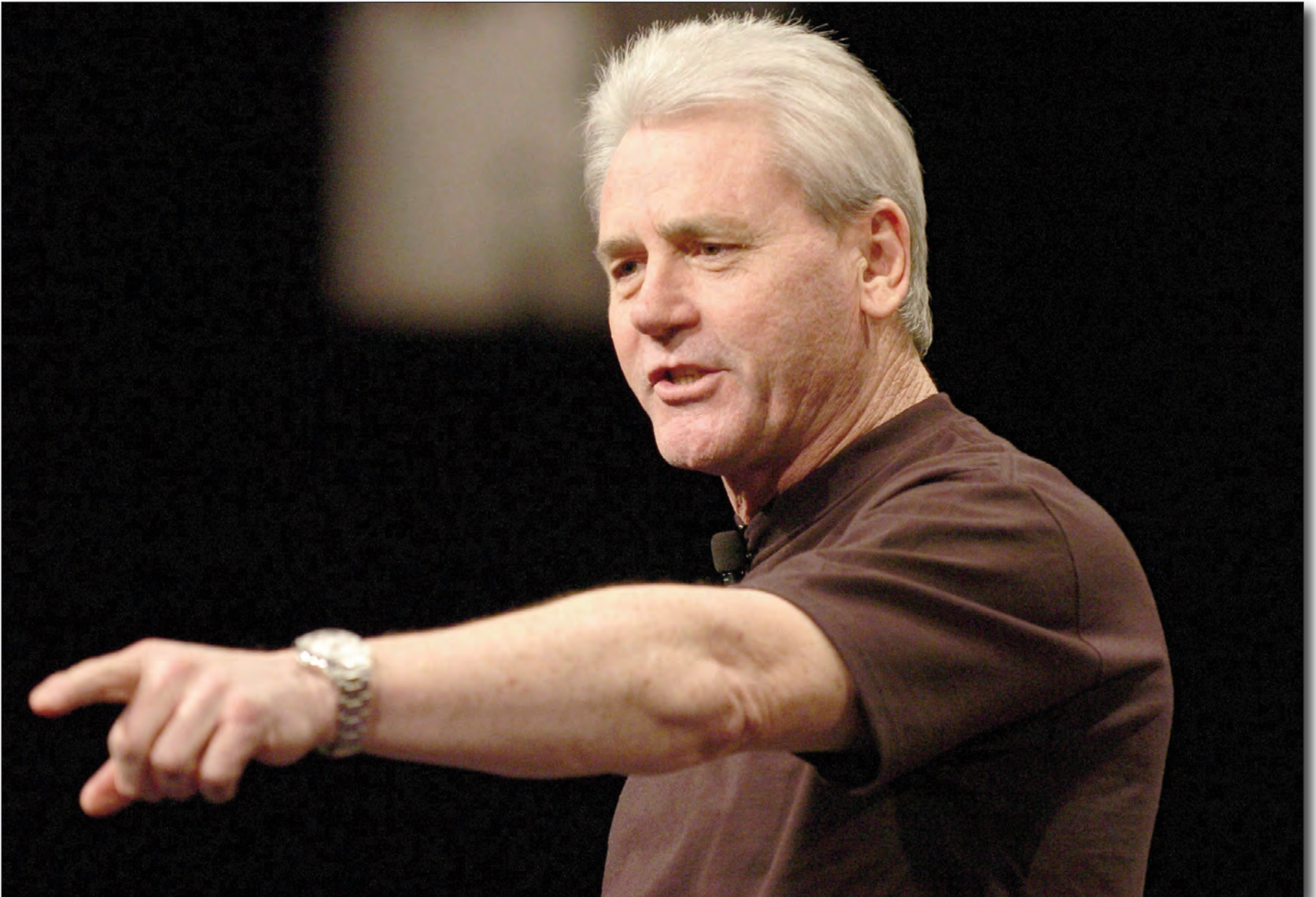
Terry telling it like it is.



Terry channeling his inner James Connolly.



# IRISH LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR 2022



## Terry O'Sullivan

General President

Laborers' International Union of North America

Terry O'Sullivan became the tenth General President of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) on January 1, 2000, and was unanimously reelected to his fifth full term at the union's 26th International Convention in 2021.

The grandson and great-grandson of Irish immigrants, Terry O'Sullivan is deeply proud of his heritage, holds dual American and Irish citizenship, and remains connected to his ancestral homeland. His father's parents were born in Glencar, County Kerry, which saw some of the fiercest fighting in the Irish War for Independence, and whose residents were subjected to some of the most brutal atrocities of the so-called Black and Tans, British recruits of the Royal Irish Constabulary. One of O'Sullivan's maternal great-grandfathers was born in Ross-Gray, County Tipperary, and many of his ancestors fought for Irish independence.

Terry O'Sullivan believes that James Connolly's declaration that "the cause of labour is the cause of Ireland, the cause of Ireland is the cause of labour," is truer in today's global economy than it has ever been. With workers in the United States and Ireland fighting many of the same battles, and facing many of the same issues, O'Sullivan has taken a leadership role in building bridges between the Irish and American trade union movements. He travels to Ireland frequently to meet with labor leaders and elected officials there, and has hosted similar meetings on this side of the Atlantic. In 2016, he led an American labor delegation to Dublin for the official celebration of the cen-

tenial of the 1916 Easter Rising, and in 2019 he led a similar delegation to Belfast for the dedication of the James Connolly Visitor Centre, a museum and cultural center located on the Falls Road in West Belfast. Terry O'Sullivan also serves as President of New York Friends of Ireland, and Chairman of DC Friends of Ireland.

O'Sullivan and LiUNA are well-recognized forces in Washington, DC, working with anyone they can, and fighting everyone they must, regardless of party affiliation, to advance the interests of LIUNA members and of all working men and women. Under his leadership, LiUNA's Political Action Committee (PAC) has become one of the top PACs in the United States, supporting pro-labor, pro-energy, and pro-infrastructure Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. He also led delegates to the union's 2006 Convention to vote to contribute 25 cents for every hour worked by a Laborer to LiUNA's organizing efforts, generating more than \$90 million per year; more than almost any other union in North America.

A fiery orator who is never afraid to speak his mind, Terry O'Sullivan can rally and inspire a crowd of Laborers one moment, then meet with top corporate leaders the next. He is equally at home on a construction site as he is in a boardroom.

Prior to becoming General President, Terry O'Sullivan served as LiUNA Vice President, Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager, and Assistant to the General President. Before that, he served LiUNA in many positions, including Chief of Staff; Staff Assistant to the General President; Administrator of the LiUNA Tri-Funds; Assistant Director of the LIUNA Construction, Maintenance, and Service Trades Department; and Administrator of the West Virginia Laborers' Training Center. A proud native of San Francisco, California, he joined LIUNA in 1974, and is a long-time member of LiUNA Local Union 1353 in Charleston, West Virginia.

*Irish Labor  
Leader*



## 2022 IRISH LABOR AWARDS AMBASSADORS

### Noel Woods

**City and State of Address:** Irvington, New York.

**Current Company and Position:** Eurotech Construction, SVP. Director of Operations

**Family:** Married to Catherine; daughter Lauren (recently married) McCahill; 3 sons, Mark, Dylan and Jack.

**First Job:** Heydt Scaffold and Hoist.

**What it taught me:** Everything you learn on a daily basis is a stepping stone to greater things.

**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Be willing to put in the long hours and be prepared for the financial and organizational issues along the way.

**What changes do you think the labor movement could improve on, in today's economy?** The unions must realize that they face strong competition from non-union labor willing to work for less. Their approach should be two-fold;

1. Relax onerous work rules which can hamper productivity.
2. Consider expanding the membership of the union by organizing and accepting

Noel Woods was born and raised on a farm in Pomeroy Co. Tyrone, Ireland, he was one of six sons and two daughters to Felix and Mary, who are now sadly deceased. Noel attended St Mary's Primary School, Pomeroy; Dean Brian Maguirc Secondary School, Carrickmore and Dungannon Technical College where he studied Building Theory and obtained final leaving certs.

With the believe in hard work and knowledge in the building world, Noel arrived in New York in 1981 where he started work in the construction industry and after a few years joined the Carpenters Union 608. Noel currently is a board member of the New York Building Contractors Association.

Noel works at Eurotech Construction and has since its inception 37 years where he is the SVP. Director of Operations. Noel takes a lot of pride and pleasure in building quality jobs.

Noel is passionate and brings energy and purpose to everything he commits to, whether chairing a Charity Golf outing or supporting the Gaelic Athletic Association or many other worthy causes. Noel resides in Irvington NY with his loving wife Catherine. They are blessed with four children, one girl, Lauren and three boys Mark, Dylan and Jack. Lauren recently got married to Steven McCahill from Donegal.



### Kara McCormick-Lyons

**City and State of Address:** Croton, NY

**Current Company and Position:** White Plains Teachers Association, President American Federation of Teachers, Vice President Grade 7 English Teacher

**Family:** Michael Lyons, Clare Lyons, Katherine Lyons.

**First Job:** I've been working my whole life from coat check, waiting tables to teaching students.

**What it taught me:** All of these jobs have taught me that relationships matter, being part of a team is amazing, and the labor movement is the most powerful vehicle to improve the lives of individuals, families, communities, country, and the world.

**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Build a relationship with someone you trust that you can learn from and join or start a union!

**What changes do you think the labor movement could improve on, in today's economy?** The labor

movement could improve by focusing more on unity and our collective worker power. Staying centered in the reality that we are stronger together to advocate for worker's and to improve the lives of all. Also, realizing that politics impact our lives in so many ways. There is no room to sit on the sidelines and spectate; we must participate.

Kara McCormick-Lyons has taught for 25 years. She was born in Queens, NY. She is the first female in her family to go to college. Her dad's job with the government and her grandfathers' union work have instilled the importance of belonging to a union and its pathway to a better life. She has the conviction that while education should be the great equalizer, she also knows that unions are among the most powerful vehicles for change across the board. She has two daughters who attend public schools. She attributes her Irish heritage to her love of scholarship, literature, and advocacy. Her husband Michael Lyons is also a public-school teacher. His mom is from County Kerry.



**LIUNA is Proud to  
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12th ANNUAL IRISH ECHO  
LABOR AWARDS**

*Honoring*  
**2022 Irish Labor Leader  
LIUNA's Own  
GENERAL PRESIDENT  
TERRY O'SULLIVAN**

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**LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA**

**Armand E. Sabitoni**, General Secretary-Treasurer  
and the LIUNA General Executive Board



# 2022 IRISH LABOR AWARDS AMBASSADORS

## Edward Berry

**City and State of Address:** Bronx, NY.  
**Current Company and Position:** Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter (NYS) Co-Chair Political Committee. Also, Executive Board Member Lower Hudson Sierra Club (Westchester, Rockland, Putnam and parts of Orange County).  
**Family:** Partner Anie Khachadourian.  
**First Job:** Restaurant work- dishwasher- busboy.  
**What it taught me:** Hard work is appreciated when you are part of a Team. It also taught me to get all the education I could so I could go as far as possible in life.  
**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** Try very hard to find something you like and can learn from. Then you can go on from there.  
**What changes do you think the labor movement could improve on, in today's economy?** Communication is key and part of that is listening to younger workers. Just because something has always been done a certain way doesn't mean it has to be that way forever. Change is inevitable.

After 4 years of study at Maryknoll Seminary, Glen Ellen Illinois, He returned to New York looking for a new direction. Having enjoyed working with youngsters in Chicago, He began teaching in his hometown of Yonkers. 41 years later He retired from classroom teaching. During this entire time, he was very active in his local YFT union, serving as a building Representative and on various committees (especially political). After retiring he became active with Sierra Club being very concerned with Climate Change, especially as it effects our drinking water. He discovered a real nexus between environmentalists and organized labor and worked to coordinate their shared goals.



## James M. Fleming

**City and State of Address:** Boston, MA 02122  
**Current Company and Position:** IBEW Local Union 103 Business Agent/Recording Secretary  
**Family:** Wife – Sharon; Daughters – Maggie, Meghan & Molly  
**First Job:** Apprentice electrician wiring houses.  
**What it taught me:** It taught me the importance of showing up every day, being prepared and doing your job. It doesn't matter what task you are given; you should do it to the best of your ability.  
**Best advice you could give someone starting out:** The best advice I would give someone starting out would be to arrive early every day, ready to work and listen to the more experienced co-workers on the job. I would also tell them to get involved in their union, attend union meetings, and give back when called upon by the officers of the union.  
**What changes do you think the labor movement could improve on, in today's economy?** The labor movement should mirror the cities and towns where we work. An honest attempt should be made to recruit



people from neighborhoods where we are working and have them apply to our apprenticeship programs.  
We need to embrace today's changing technologies. Organized labor should be the first call made when installations of renewable energies, such as wind turbines, solar panels and electric vehicle charging stations, are wanted, and needed.  
Jimmy was born and raised in South Boston, Massachusetts. As a 1988 graduate of Don Bosco Technical High School in Boston, Jimmy gained basic electrical skills that brought him into a career in the electrical field. He was organized into IBEW Local 103 as a journeyman inside wireman in 2000. Since 2014, he has been involved in the union as an officer, moving his way through the ranks as an Examining Board Member to his current position as Recording Secretary and Business Agent.  
Jimmy has been married to his wife, Sharon, for 22 years, and they have three daughters, Maggie (18), a freshman in college studying nursing; Meghan (17), a senior in high school; and Molly (13) who is currently in the eighth grade.





Congratulations and Best Wishes

# Irish Labor Award Recipients

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Jay Frasier  
Tim Long  
David O'Laughlin  
Bernard N. Sharpe, Jr.  
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David E. Comerford  
David J. Mastrangelo  
Shane M. Murray  
Bryan P. Sisson

## Louis J. Antonellis

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## Robert S. Sheehan, Jr.

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## Richard Monahan

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## Kevin W. Monahan

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## James M. Fleming

Recording Secretary/  
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## U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh salutes Irish Labor Leader 2022 Terry O'Sullivan

I'm thrilled to congratulate my friend and General President Terry O'Sullivan for receiving the 2022 Irish Labor Leader of the Year Award.

I also want to thank my friend Máirtín Ó Muilleoir and his team at the Irish Echo for honoring the labour movement and recognising Terry's amazing body of work.

As you may know, I am a life-long member of the laborers union, LIUNA, of which Terry is our president.

That's because when my father immigrated from Ireland, the laborers union gave him an opportunity and allowed my family to join the middle class. That's why I'm here today. And that's why I'm grateful to be part of the Biden administration that believes in and supports organized labor.

And I'm grateful that LIUNA has a leader like Terry, who, for over 20 years, has worked to bring these opportunities to more workers from all across our communities.

So thank you, Terry, and congratulations once again. Congratulations to all the honorees tonight.

And thank you for gathering to celebrate the important life changing work of the labor movement.

Martin J. Walsh  
Secretary of Labor



Terry O'Sullivan welcomed to the James Connolly Centre by the Lord Mayor of Belfast Tina Black, Gerry Adams and members of the center board.

# Comhghairdeas Terry O'Sullivan

A chairde,

I want to thank the Irish Echo for the invitation to contribute to this evening's event.

Thanks also to the Echo for its dedication to public service journalism, its weekly publication and daily online news service.

This is the 12th year of this important annual social event in the life of Irish America and of the trade union movement. Each year these awards bring together the leaders of American Labor. They celebrate your extraordinary hard work and diligence to the cause of Labor.

I want to commend the trade union ambassadors being honoured tonight: Kara McCormick-Lyons, James M. Fleming, Ed Berry and my old friend Noel Woods.

But tonight is Terry O'Sullivan's night. He is the Irish Labor Leader of 2022. Well done and well deserved Terry.

I know his father Terry J senior and his mother Leona were enormously proud of their son's achievements. So is the rest of his family and his wife Yvette.

Well done to you all.

Along with others in the leadership of the American trade union movement Terry has kept alive the spirit and the legacy of James Connolly.

In 2016 Terry unveiled the statue to Connolly on the Falls Road in Belfast and with other union leaders he was present in April 2019 when Áras Uí Chonghaile – the James Connolly Visitor Centre - was formally opened by President Michael D Higgins.

In July this year Terry was with us in Ireland to honour our friend and comrade Rita O'Hare and also to rebrand the conference hall in Áras Uí Chonghaile as the 'Terry O'Sullivan LiUNA Conference and Event Suite'.

James Connolly understood the importance of workers standing together, united against injustice and oppression.

In 1916 Connolly was one of those who led the Easter Rising and when it was suppressed he was killed by a British firing squad.

Connolly famously wrote: 'The cause of Labour is the cause of Ireland; the cause of Ireland is the cause of Labour.'

This is especially important in the context of the partition of Ireland by the British, the growing demand that it end, and the increasing support for Irish unity.

There have been many great Irish American trade union leaders and activists who pioneered partnerships between working men and women in both our countries and

who never forgot their homeland and its struggle for freedom.

Leaders like Mary 'Mother' Jones and Peter Maguire; Mathew Maguire and Mike Quill and so many others.

Terry O'Sullivan is in that mould.

The support of the American Labor Movement in defence of the Good Friday Agreement and for Irish Unity is hugely important. The demand for the referendum on unity contained in the Good Friday Agreement is growing stronger day by day. So too is the need for the Irish Government to plan for the future.

As General President of LiUNA Terry O'Sullivan has been at the heart of these campaigns.

He has been General President of the Laborers International Union of North America since 2000 and in that time he has also campaigned fearlessly for increased investment in America's infrastructure, fought tirelessly for fair wages and conditions for his members and worked diligently to provide good union job opportunities to undeserved communities.

Terry brings that same passion and conviction to his support for Irish Unity and a new future for all the Irish people.

We salute him.



*Congratulations and Best Wishes*



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# Labor was 'part of who we were'

By Peter McDermott

[pmcdermott@irishecho.com](mailto:pmcdermott@irishecho.com)

"Our working conditions are the children's learning conditions."

So said Kara McCormick-Lyons, president of the White Plains Teachers Association.

That's why the 7th grade English teacher when checking in with members about working conditions, and to ensure they're being taken care of, and when talking with management, must also have the students' needs at the forefront of her mind.

McCormick-Lyons has an additional union role as a vice-president of the Union of Federation of Teachers. "So I spend a lot of time tuned in nationally, regarding education and labor and public policy," she said.

Of her full-time job, the Croton resident McCormick-Lyons said, "We teach the students to become critical thinkers; we don't teach them what to think, but we sure teach them how to think. Literature is the pathway here that I've chosen to take."

The students have a lot of choice in terms of what they can read and are allowed to gravitate towards what they're curious about. "So we focus on skills," she said.

"They are encouraged to investigate topics they're interested in," Kara McCormick-Lyons said of the students. "We all are scholars if we choose to be. We encourage them to think of themselves as scholars."

As might be expected of an English teacher, her background was crucial in shaping her. "Growing up in my house, my dad, though he wasn't college educated, was an avid reader and ensured that my brother and I were avid readers. He took such pride in the literary tradition of Ireland."

"He'd love to talk about Bram Stoker," McCormick-Lyons recalled, citing an example, and added that "Dracula" was a favorite book of hers.

With this attention to literature and the written word generally (including the Irish Echo), she said, "it's no coincidence that my brother is a political science professor and I'm an English teacher."

McCormick-Lyons's paternal grandfather, a longshoreman, worked to keep alive the Irish traditions because he'd been orphaned by the death of his parents in the Spanish Flu



Kara McCormick-Lyons.

following World War I. (He resided in the institution that was at the center of the novel "Motherless Brooklyn.")

The family kept his memory alive, and were aware of the deaths of the great-grandparents and some of their children in the worldwide pandemic of the early 20th century.

The worldwide pandemic of the early 21st century claimed McCormick-Lyons's mother Bernice, who died of Covid in 2020. Three months earlier her father John died from Alzheimer's disease.

"My dad worked for the U.S. Customs and belonged to the Emerald Society, and his brother, who worked for the Corrections Department, was a proud member of the Emerald Society – and that was always part of who we were and the tapestry of our family."

"My dad was so proud of my work as an English teacher and he was so proud of my work with labor, putting my fiery spirit to good use," she said.

"I grew up down the block from my uncles who were veterans and then postal workers after the war. We were surrounded by the importance of labor, our culture and our religion as well."

*"As an Irish American I'm aware that struggle is part of our history. As an Irish Catholic, I've grown up with the spirit of social justice and in doing what's right. And I know that the work of labor is the pathway of justice and what is right."*

"As an Irish American I'm also aware that struggle is part of our history," she added. "As an Irish Catholic, I've grown up with the spirit of social justice and in doing what's right. And I know that the work of labor is the pathway of justice and what is right."

Ingrained was the view that organized labor "provided a stable path to the middle class for my family"; and connected to that is the belief that thanks to the labor movement "people can thrive and live well in this country"; and that "labor is part of the success story for Irish Americans."

McCormick-Lyons said, "History teaches us what happens when there aren't fair working conditions. And I'm just so thrilled about all of the unionization that's happening right now."

The causes of labor and of education intersect, in McCormick-Lyons's view. "Everyone deserves a quality education, because that's opportunity."

How would the UFT Vice-President McCormick-Lyons make education better? "All students deserve schools that are fully funded, safe and rich with literature and experiences and that also provide the pathway to the skills and the trades," she said. "College isn't the only pathway forward. If we could connect towards success, if we could train students who are interested in becoming electricians and getting unionized electrician jobs or becoming

painters or carpenters, I think that would revolutionize our education system."

However, teachers are under attack and education is constantly politicized. She said there is a PR campaign by people who want to end public education because an "educated populace is one that challenges those who are in power."

The former president, Donald Trump, and the governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis, are among those leading the campaign.

"I've been called a 'groomer' on Twitter," said McCormick-Lyons, who was raised in the Woodhaven and Middle Village in Queens. "I don't know what I'm grooming children for."

"Educators deserve to be respected for the important work that we do," she said. "Our schools need to fully-funded centers of communities."

For her, defending the cause of education and schools couldn't be more personal: her husband Michael is a public school teacher; while their children, Catherine Grace Lyons, 15, and Clare Elizabeth Lyons, 10, are public school students.

"Clare is named for the beautiful county," said McCormick-Lyons who can boast roots in Roscommon, among other places in Ireland, and whose mother-in-law is from Knocknagoshel, Co. Kerry.

Not so long ago, her own mom asked, "Kara, are you going to go back to school?"

"No, but there's one program that I really want to do. It's called the Worker Institute at Cornell," she replied. "You have to be invited in and the NY State AFL-CIO sends people and our state union sends people."

"On the day of my mom's funeral, I received a text inviting me to participate in the Worker Institute, which I thought was a beautiful sign," she said.

On a recent trip to Montauk, McCormick-Lyons remembered that she'd brought her dad there and it was the last place he visited before he was too ill to vacation anymore. While thinking about that, she got an email telling her she would be honored at Friday night's Labor Awards.

"I felt again it was my parents' approval of this work," McCormick-Lyons said.





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LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer & New England Regional Manager

## ARMAND E. SABITONI

along with the Trustees and Staff of the New England Laborers' Tri-Funds and the Laborers' New England Region Organizing Fund, wish to congratulate our brother LIUNA General President

## TERRY O'SULLIVAN

as the Irish Echo awards him with the 2022 Irish Labor Leader Award, in recognition of his proud Irish heritage and his tireless and unwavering lifelong passion to serve his brother and sister Laborers and their families.

General President O'Sullivan's commitment to the labor movement is unmatched and under his leadership, LIUNA continues to lead the way in programs such as apprenticeship, organizing, and youth education, ensuring that Laborer continue to work safely, competitively, and productively throughout their careers.



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# CONGRATULATIONS

to  
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LiUNA President  
and  
Outstanding Trade Unionist Terry O'Sullivan  
and  
2022 Labor Ambassadors  
Kara McCormick-Lyons, James M. Fleming  
Ed Berry and Noel Woods

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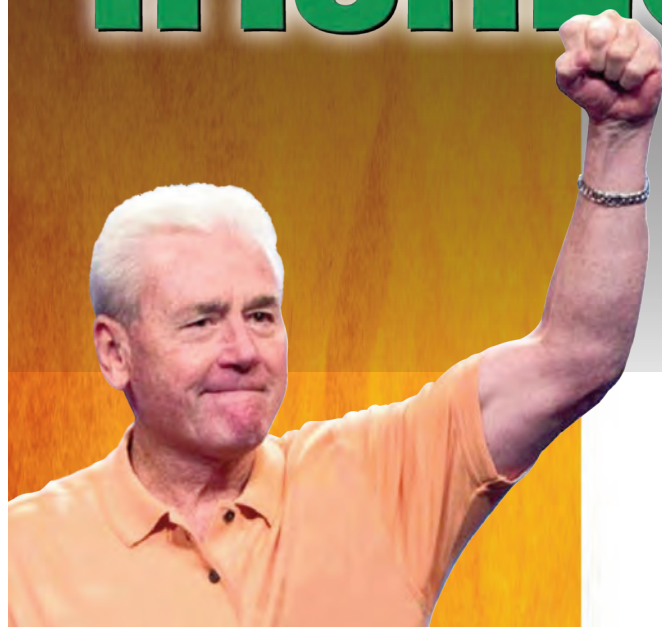
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*honoring*

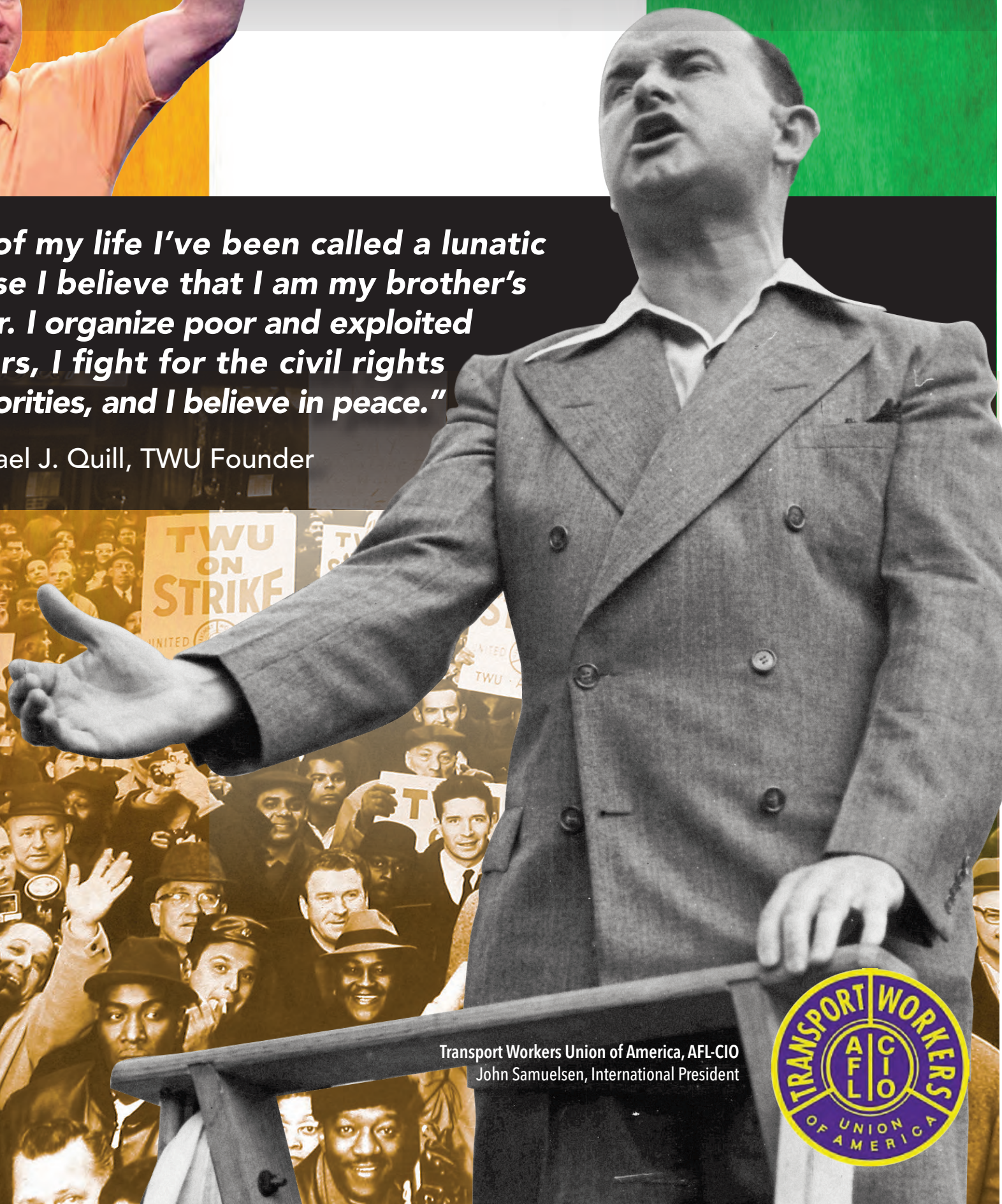
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GENERAL PRESIDENT, LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL  
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***"Most of my life I've been called a lunatic  
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— Michael J. Quill, TWU Founder



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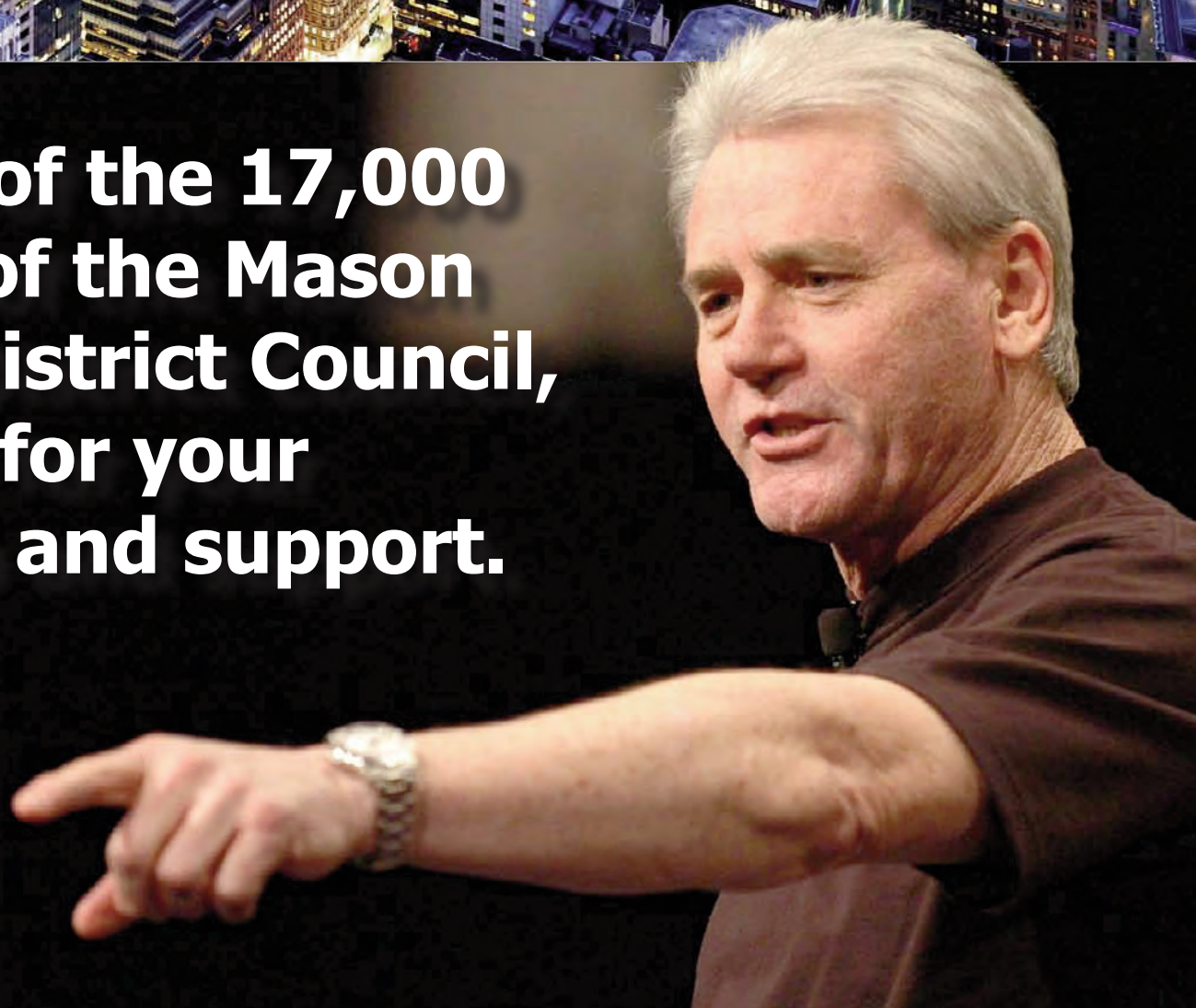
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# Congratulations to Terry O'Sullivan



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**Terry O'Sullivan**, General President of LIUNA.

**Kara McCormick-Lyons**, White Plains Teachers Association, President; American Federation of Teachers, Vice President; Grade 7 English Teacher

**James M. Fleming**, IBEW Local Union 103, Business Agent/Recording Secretary

**Ed Berry**, YFT & Sierra Club; Co-chair of the Atlantic Chapter Political Committee during this year's

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is pleased to join the Irish Echo in honoring  
this year's Labor Leader and  
President of the Laborers' International Union of North America,

**Terry O'Sullivan**

and the 2022 Labor Ambassador honorees.

We appreciate Terry's forward-thinking leadership and dedication to  
creating life changing opportunities for the men and women of  
LIUNA and the Building Trades.

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On behalf of your fellow Local #574 brothers and sisters,  
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**Congratulations to our General President Terry O'Sullivan**

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**Kara McCormick-Lyons,**

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From Eurotech Construction, SVP. Director of Operations  
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# TERRY O'SULLIVAN

GENERAL PRESIDENT OF THE LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

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**Congratulations to  
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Solace House and  
the Environmental  
Contractors Association



*Congratulates*

our dear friend,

**NOEL WOODS,**

and all of the other Labor  
Leaders/Ambassadors  
for being honored at this  
year's **IrishEcho** Labor  
awards ceremony.



## THE SUICIDE PREVENTION ORGANIZATION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY'S SUPPORT

Located in Long Island City, Queens and Yonkers, New York, Solace House provides free one-on-one counseling for people who are in suicidal distress, have made a suicide attempt, engage in self-harm and/or have been bereaved by suicide. We also offer group bereavement counseling, family support for our clients loved ones and community awareness workshops & training. All of our services are **completely free of charge and confidential**. Our team consists of highly qualified Licensed Clinical Social Workers, with extensive experience in the area of suicide prevention.

As the Solace House mission aligns with the passion of the Environmental Contractors Association, the ECA has announced Solace House as their designated charity. Both seek to break down the stigma around mental health and suicide by creating an environment where people are comfortable seeking help for themselves and/or their loved ones.



Rebecca Skedd of Waterford Ireland, was instrumental in establishing Solace House, Inc. in New York and was appointed Chief Executive Officer in 2015. Prior to her appointment as CEO of Solace House, she served as the Social Care Manager for the New York Irish Center, a community based not-for-profit organization, providing a holistic social care and welfare program. Working closely with numerous cultural agencies to identify the specific needs and requirements of the Irish American diaspora, she developed social strategies focused on the overall mental health and well-being of members of the community.

All of our services remain free by fundraising and generous donations received from the industry. We could not achieve our mission and continue the provision of these life-saving services without the support of this community.

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**If you or anyone you know is in need of support, please call us at 718-482-0001.**  
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**to**

**The Irish Echo**

**on their**

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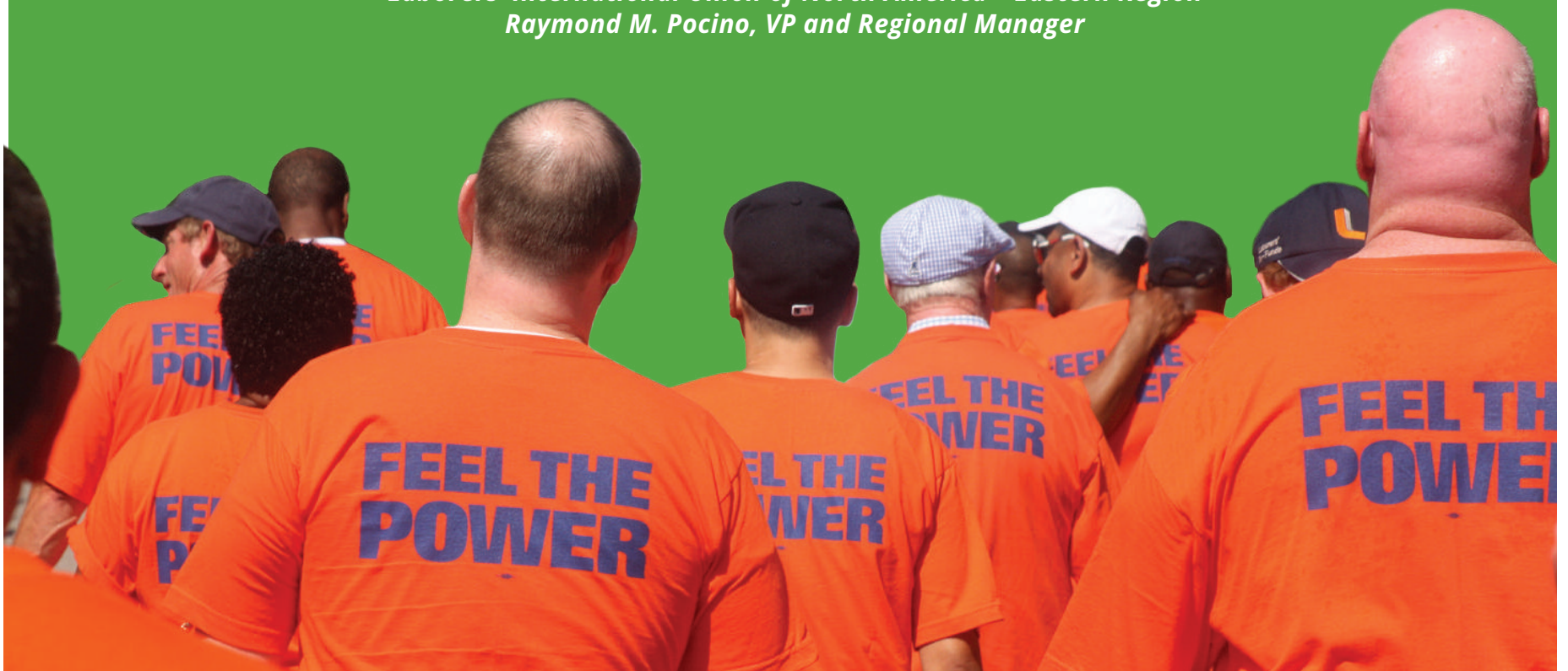
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**CONGRATULATIONS**  
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2022 Labor Leader  
Award Honoree

**TERRY O'SULLIVAN**  
General President  
Laborers' International Union  
of North America (LIUNA)

*Laborers' International Union of North America - Eastern Region  
Raymond M. Pocino, VP and Regional Manager*





# CONGRATULATIONS

# Terry O'Sullivan

## for your Irish Echo Labor Award

### C A R E E R S



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# Congratulations to this year's honorees!

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**AECOM TISHMAN**



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HONORING

2022 Labor Leader of the Year

Terry O’Sullivan  
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**NYSUT congratulates  
this year's Irish Echo Labor Award Honorees  
Kara McCormick Lyons and Ed Berry**



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# Grand Gathering For 2022 Irish Labor Awards

There was a full house at the Edison Ballroom in Midtown Manhattan on Thursday evening, September 8, for the 2022 Irish Echo Labor Awards. The Labor Leader of the Year Award was presented to LiUNA General President Terry O'Sullivan by his good friend Marty Walsh, U.S. Secretary of Labor. PHOTOS BY NUALA PURCELL.



Members of IBEW Local 103 Boston enjoying the 2022 Irish Labor Awards.



Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, publisher of Irish Echo with honorees; Noel Woods, Terry O'Sullivan, Kara McCormick-Lyons, Ed Berry, Jim Fleming and United States Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh.



Kevin Monaghan, Marty Walsh and Jim Fleming



Ed Berry, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter (NYS) Co-Chair Political Committee. Also, Executive Board Member Lower Hudson Sierra Club (Westchester, Rockland, Putnam and parts of Orange County) receiving his award from Florence McCue, Yonkers Teachers Association.



Terry and Yvette O'Sullivan.



Terry O'Sullivan, LiUNA President receiving his 2022 Labor Leader award from Marty Walsh, United States Secretary of Labor.



Vice Consul Dermot Fitzpatrick presents Noel Woods, Eurotech Construction, SVP. Director of Operations with his award.



Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, Publisher Irish Echo presents award to Kara McCormick, White Plains Teachers Association, President; American Federation of Teachers, Vice President; Grade 7 English Teacher.



Joyce Nastasi, Environmental Contractors Association and Danielle Gallagher, Solace House.



Kevin Monaghan, Business Agent/Organizer, IBEW Local 103, Boston present award to James Fleming, Business Agent/Recording Secretary, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 103.





Noel Woods and guests.



Steven McCahill, Dylan Woods, Catherine Woods, honoree Noel Woods, Lauren Woods McCahill, Emmett Woods, Sean Woods



Marty Walsh with guests.



Guests of Kara McCormick and Ed Berry representing White Plains, Yonkers and Greenburg North Castle Teachers.



Representing the NYC Carpenters Union-Local 157 were Eamonn Carey, Kenny Molloy, Shane McInerney, Tony Kelly, and Mark Hannon.



Larry Downes, Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, Brian McCabe, Noel Woods, Sean Downes



Labor 2022 guests



Members of the newly formed Young Irish American Activists (YIAA) were in attendance including Justin Kennedy, Ronan Devlin, and Corey Devlin.





# **The Irish Echo**

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