

The School for Social Enterprises in Ireland (SSEI) is devoted exclusively to leadership, management, business development programmes and events for the social economy sector.



SSEI is a  
Flax Trust /  
Ulster University  
Initiative.

Advanced  
Diploma  
Bursary  
Recipients  
2019  
Graduates

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Alberta Riley        | MD Donegall Pass Community Forum                          |
| 2. Bronagh Flynn        | Housing Rights Business Partnership & Development Officer |
| 3. Caeris Armour        | Business & Enterprise Officer Ledcom                      |
| 4. Chara Clarke         | Founder & Director GLOW                                   |
| 5. Conor Stiobhard      | Chairperson Iontaobhas Bheann Mhadagáin                   |
| 6. Clare McLaughlin     | FLEX Language Services Manager                            |
| 7. Darren Wallace       | Board Member Oakwood Centre                               |
| 8. David Montgomery     | Founder Director Goanserve                                |
| 9. Deborah Cross        | Director Iona Enterprises Ltd                             |
| 10. Grainne McGinley    | Bogside & Brandywell Initiative                           |
| 11. Helen Crickard      | Vice- Chair Forward South Partnership                     |
| 12. Katherine Agnew     | CEO An Tobar CIC  |
| 13. Kieran Brady        | Development Officer Ionad na Fuisgeoige                   |
| 14. Elaine Mansfield    | Chair Donegall Pass Community Forum                       |
| 15. Laura McCourt       | Information and Engagement Officer Ledcom                 |
| 16. Matthew McKinley    | Commercial Manager Colin Neighbourhood Partnership        |
| 17. Robin Stewart       | Project Worker Reach UK                                   |
| 18. Kirsty King         | Founder Shared Threads                                    |
| 19. Megan Douglas       | Director (Founder) Proud                                  |
| 20. Martin Connolly     | MD Poleglass Community Association @ Sally Gardens        |
| 21. Elizabeth Mansfield | Finance & Admin Donegall Pass Initiative                  |
| 22. Terry Conlon        | Co-Founder 5th Element                                    |
| 23. Eileen Wilson       | Sustainable Living Manager Footprints Women's Centre      |

**FLAX TRUST MUSIC BURSARY RECIPIENTS  
TO ASSIST FURTHER STUDIES**

**Flax Trust Inter-School Cross Community Gala Choir Competition  
(FISCA) Belfast City Hall**

260 young people from North Belfast took part in The Flax Trust  
Inter-School Cross Community Gala Choir Competition (FISCA)



Girls Model, Belfast & Mercy College.  
Winners of the Most Promising Senior Choir Award 2018 with Noel Thompson, BBC NI.

**The Flax Trust Music Awards November 2018**



Winner of the Flax Trust Music Award Kevin Jansson (*piano*)  
with finalists Miriam Kiczor (*flute*) and Eva Richards (*cello*)

**Flax Trust/CBYO  
Conductors Award 2019**



Ellen Quinn, *Cello*

**Flax Trust Music Awards 2019 Finalists**



Tom Myles, *clarinet*



Fiachra de Hora, *viola*



Andrew Douglas, *flute*

**Camerata Ireland  
Music Bursary  
Award 2019**



Phoebe White, *Violin*



Jack Wilson, *organist*



Laoise Kavangh, *clarinet*



Ryan Garnham, *baritone*

Welcome to the Twenty-Ninth New York Annual Event

**FLAX TRUST BANQUET**

**GUESTS OF HONOR**

**Patricia Harty**

Co-Founder Irish America Magazine

**Edward A. McDermott Jr.**

President & CEO Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research

**Niall J. Murray**

Managing Principal & Founder,  
Rockabill Consulting & Development

**The '21' Club 21 West 52nd Street**

**Wednesday, October 9th 2019**

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Charitable Organisation

We are very grateful to  
Mutual of America for  
this invaluable facility.

Enrichment Through Respect for Difference

**SSEI Graduation July 2019 Ulster University Business School**



## Niall J. Murray

*Managing Principal & Founder, Rockabill Consulting, Rockabill Development*

While building on a successful career as a certified accountant, managing director at a prestigious accounting firm, and banker/consultant at Allied Irish Bank, Niall had envisioned creating a unique business to serve the affordable housing industry. The idea was to create a consulting and development platform to provide clients with innovative and value added solutions to create and preserve affordable and supportive housing. With this concept, and his strong belief in the importance and need for quality affordable housing for all New Yorkers, Niall created Rockabill - a financial consulting and development firm - in 2007. Since its founding, Rockabill has consulted or partnered on the development and financing of over 12,000 affordable housing units throughout New York City and New York State.

As Rockabill's Managing Principal, Niall brings over 25 years of experience working with a wide variety of industry participants, both government and private sector organizations. He has built an outstanding reputation for his understanding of the affordable housing development business, public private partnership financing and he has been on the vanguard of some unique financing innovations.

Niall leveraged his industry knowledge and financial expertise to build a business that has been widely acknowledged for its integrity and capabilities - resulting in Rockabill becoming an indispensable resource and partner for the creation and preservation of affordable housing. Niall now focuses his time on expanding Rockabill's client base while moving the company further into its new business lines with industry partners.

Niall is a qualified accountant with the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (CPA equivalent), an internationally recognized accountancy organization. He spent five years in accounting practice with Horwath Bastow Charleton, Dublin. Affiliations/Awards:

Qualified Chartered Accountant; New York Housing Conference Advisory Board Member; Citizens Housing and Planning Council (CHPC) Board Member; Hoboken Community Center Board Treasurer; Flax Trust/America Board Member. He received the Los Sures Corporate Award in 2015 in recognition of Rockabill's leadership and dedication to serving the mission of their Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation (HDFC).

## BANQUET CO-CHAIRS

### JOHN J. KELLY, CPCM

*Managing Partner  
Hanover Stone Partners, LLC*

### TOM O'BRIEN

*Director & Audit Chair  
Prudential Financial Annuity Funds*

## Honorary Banquet Co-Chairs

**Antony Phillipson,**  
*British Consul General*  
**Andrew Elliott,**  
*Director Northern Ireland Bureau*  
**John R. Greed, Chairman, President & CEO**  
*Mutual of America*  
**Michael J. Dowling CEO**  
*Northwell Health*  
**James W. Griffin CE&D Executive Director**  
*City of Hornell IDA*  
**Mary Higgins Clark, Author**  
**Shaun T. Kelly, Global Chief Operations Officer**  
*KPMG International*  
**John D. Feerick, Sidney C. Norris Chair of Law**  
*In Public Service, Fordham University*  
**Patrick P. Grace, President & CEO**  
*Grace Institute Foundation*  
**John Ryle Kezel, Director**  
*The Campion Institute  
Fordham University*  
**Michael J. Gibbons, Chairman**  
*The Ireland-U.S. Council Foundation*  
**Mary J. Grace**  
*Restoration Design Consultant President  
Vice Chair Flax Trust/America*  
**James E. Quinn,** *President Emeritus Tiffany & Co, President Flax Trust/America*

## Banquet Committee

Doug Benson	Bebhinn Gallen	Alison Metcalfe
Jim Dale	Paul Gallen	Robert Reilly
Sean Davis	Mary Hart	Julie Swaitz
Fr. James Dorr	Andrea Haughian	Cathy Toner
Emmanuel Dowdall	Joseph Hummel	Sr. Mary Turley
Marie Fusco M.B.E.,	Fr. Myles Kavanagh	Lorraine Turner M.B.E.

## Flax Trust Mission

*The Flax Trust as a registered charity, formed in Belfast in 1977, has as it's Mission the reduction and, if possible, the elimination of community tensions and religious prejudices by creative engagement in economic and social development, education and training with inter-community activities including culture, the Arts, sport, health, social programmes, personal development and dedicated communication projects.*

## Patricia Harty

*Co-Founder Irish America Magazine*

Patricia Harty founded *Irish America* magazine along with publisher Niall O'Dowd in October 1985. Among Harty's many interviews in the past 33 years are Nobel Prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney; Nobel Prize-winning scientist William Campbell; Eileen Murray Co-CEO Bridgewater Associates; Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan; Ford Motor Executive Chairman William Clay Ford; best-selling author Pat Conroy; Hollywood legends Gregory Peck and Maureen O'Hara; actress Fionnula Flanagan, and singer Judy Collins.

In 2017, Harty received the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad from President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins. On October 19, 2015, the 30th anniversary of the founding of Irish America magazine, she was presented with the Eugene O'Neill award by the Irish American Writers & Artists Association. In 2009, Harty received the Ambassador Award from the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke, Massachusetts for her work "to promote the relationship between the people of the Republic of Ireland and the people of the United States."

She was twice honored by the Office of the Comptroller of the City of New York for her "outstanding journalistic contributions to the Irish community in New York and throughout the United States."

In 2000, an honor she is most proud of, Harty was made a Citizen of the Bronx by Fernando James "Freddy" Ferrer, the then Bronx Borough President.

A native of Tipperary, Harty serves on the board of Glucksman Ireland House, NYU's center for Irish studies. She also serves on the Irish Repertory Theater's Advisory Board, and on the committee for the annual Women of Concern Luncheon which raises funds for the Irish relief organization Concern Worldwide.

In addition to her book, *Greatest Irish Americans of the 20th Century*, Harty contributed essays to *Being Irish: Personal Reflections on Irish Identity Today*, edited by Paddy Logue; and to Julia McNamara's book, *The Irish Face in America*.

## Edward A. McDermott Jr.

*President & CEO Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research*

Following graduation from college (Colgate University) and law school (Duke University) Mr. McDermott served as an associate partner in the Washington D.C. law firm of Ragan & Mason from 1974 until 1988. He specialized in administrative and corporate law.

In 1988 Mr. McDermott was recruited to join the commercial operations of Daniel K. Ludwig in New York as Senior Executive Officer of Matinal Bulk Carriers, a real estate holding company, and Universe Tankships, Inc., an international shipping enterprise.

Mr. McDermott became President of Universe Tankships in 1989 and President of National Bulk Carriers in 1990. Universe Tankships is wholly owned by the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (LICR), a not-for-profit Swiss corporation which conducts research into the cause, treatment and control of cancer. In 1995 Mr. McDermott became president of the Ludwig Institute and later also assumed the position of Chief Executive Officer. The Ludwig Institute is one of the largest international cancer research institutes, engaging a staff of over 500 scientists, clinicians, technicians and support staff dedicated to altering the course of cancer and working at research sites around the world. Mr. McDermott's responsibilities include management of \$1.4 billion endowment which supports the operations of the Ludwig Institute. Since its inception the Ludwig Institute has invested more than \$1.8 billion of its own resources in cancer research.

Separately, as a Trustee of the Virginia and D.K. Ludwig Fund for Cancer Research, Mr. McDermott has coordinated the establishment of Ludwig Professorships and Ludwig Centers at six leading U.S. institutions: Harvard, MIT, Johns Hopkins, Memorial Sloan Kettering, the University of Chicago and Stanford. Gifts in excess of \$120 million were made to each of these institutions by the Trust to endow the cancer research activities there. Mr McDermott is a director of Flax Trust/America.

Mr. McDermott and his wife, Leigh, reside in Westport, Connecticut. They have two adult children, Cristin and Edward III.

## SNAPSHOT

*2018 New York Banquet at The "21" Club*



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Rosemary McCormack, John Feerick   | 12 Mary Grace, Doug Benson                              |
| 2 Jim Dale, Bebhian Gallen, Paul Gallen, Anton Moore                                   | 13 Bob Reilly, David O'Sullivan                         |
| 3 Jim Quinn, President, welcomes guests with Diane Quinn                               | 14 Marcella Hourican, Joe Hummel                        |
| 4 Ed Kenney Sr., Brigid Kenney, Ed Kenney Jr., Allyson Kenney                          | 15 Gemma Toner, Cathy Toner                             |
| 5 Alison Metcalfe, Helen Maguire, Aiden Houlihan                                       | 16 Paul O'Hara, Kathy Cicerole, Dara Burke, Taryn Lubin |
| 6 Lena Fitzsimmons, Ciaran Madden  | 17 Susan Wabuda, John Ryle Kezel                        |
| 7 Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Paul Caskey, Baroness May Blood                           | 18 Laura Hickey, Andrea Haughian                        |
| 8 Pattie Cunningham, Hank Bunnell  | 19 Bernadette Lynch, Katrina Godfrey                    |
| 9 Patricia Harty, Alfie Tucker   | 20 Patrick Grace, Bevin Savage - Yamazaki.              |
| 10 Honorees Ed Kenney Sr., Brigid Kenney & Tom O'Brien with Sr Mary Turley & Jim Quinn | 21 Richard Cushnie                                      |
| 11 Jim Griffin, Joe Browne   | 22 Frank McLaughlin, Patricia Brennan                   |
|  | 23 Lorette Cotex Zoites, Fr James Dorr                  |
|  | 24 Siobhan O'Neil, Diane Armony, Tonya Lillie           |
|  | 25 Frida Maiorana, Alba Goebel                          |
|  | 26 Emma Brazil, Hannah Web, Rory Power                  |