



### Message from Fr Myles

Dear Friends

During the troubled years from 1969-1995, education in the section of North Belfast which is Ligoniel, Ardoyne and Oldpark, the main focus for the work of the Flax Trust, suffered a major reverse. The impact of inter-community strife on children in these districts is still being felt. Schools have become run-down, parents and children are demoralized, school attendance is down and student ambition has not yet recovered. A new initiative in education is critically needed if the slide to an anti-social, drug and crime tolerant society is to be avoided.

The Flax Trust proposes an education initiative which includes three new primary schools and a new campus which includes nursery and parent facilities, a primary school for 700 and a high school for over 1000 with 'Step up' programs to University and 3rd level Institutions. These schools will be state-of-the-art with the latest technologies. They will be all-ability co-educational Catholic schools available to all of the community irrespective of class or creed.

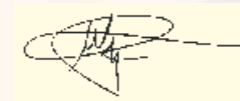
In the present world of depressed budgets Government is unwilling to commit to such an ambitious initiative. The Flax Trust is developing a new Community Finance Initiative which will capitalize the program and will cost between \$30/40m. We will need all your help to make this happen.



#### Architect's Impressions

- 1. Primary School A
- 2. Primary School B
- 3. Primary School C
- 4. & 5. High School



  
**Fr Myles Kavanagh CP**  
**Chairman**  
**Flax Trust/Belfast**



## FLAX TRUST



### Mission

*The Flax Trust as a registered charity, formed in Belfast in 1977, has as its 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*

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

Flax Trust Development  
 Brookfield moves into a new world.

Welcome to the Twenty-First New York Annual Event



## FLAX TRUST BANQUET

### GUESTS OF HONOR

**WILLIAM J. FLYNN**

**Chairman Emeritus, Mutual of America**  
**President Emeritus Flax Trust/America**  
**Chairman National Committee on American Foreign Policy**

**JOHN FITZPATRICK**

**President and CEO**  
**Fitzpatrick Hotel Group North America**

**The "21" Club**  
 21 West 52 Street

Wednesday, October 12th 2011



Enrichment Through Respect for Difference

## BANQUET CHAIRMAN

### JAMES E. QUINN

President Tiffany & Co.  
President Flax Trust/America

## Honorary Banquet Co-Chairpersons

Danny Lopez  
British Consul General

Margaret F. Grace  
President Grace Institute

John D. Ferrick,  
Sidney C. Norris Chair of Law  
in Public Service, Fordham University

Loretta Brennan Glucksman  
Chairman  
American Ireland Fund

John T. Sharkey, CEO  
Kane Saunders and Smart

John Kelly, Manager Partner  
Hanover Stone Partners, LLC

Donal R. Keough  
Chairman, Allen & Co.

Senator George J. Mitchell DLA Piper

Noel Kilkenny  
Consul General of Ireland

Mary Higgins Clark  
Author

Edward A. McDermott, Jr.  
President, Ludwig Institute  
for Cancer Research

Diarmuid M. Hogan  
President & CEO  
Global Excess Partners, LLC

Thomas M. O'Brien  
President & CEO  
State Bank of Long Island

Denis Curran, CEO  
Willowfield Ventures, LLC

Michael Gibbons, Chairman  
Ireland-US Council Foundation

## Banquet Committee

Doug Benson  
Dr. John Brennan  
Patricia Brennan  
Michael Carey  
John Conlon  
Carol Higgins Clark  
Mary J. Grace

Jim Griffin  
Shawn Griffin  
Gary Hanley  
Norman Houston  
Fr Myles Kavanagh  
Edward J. Kenney  
Prof. John Ryle Kezel

Alison Metcalfe  
Thomas J. Moran  
Anne Marie Moriarty  
Gerry Murphy  
Niall Murray  
Sr. Mary Turley  
Beverly Owen Stone

## Banquet Menu

*Smoked Irish Salmon With Red Onion, Shaved Fennel Salad, Grapefruit  
and Chive Sour Cream*

*Seared Tenderloin of Beef with Red Wine Bordelaise Sauce  
Chef's Selection of Starch and Vegetable*

*Creme Brulee with Espresso Bean Biscotti*

*Coffee Service*

**Twenty First Annual Washington DC Event**  
The Hay-Adams - November 17th, 2011

**Twenty Third Annual Belfast Event**  
The Flax Trust Classics - April 19th, 2012

## WILLIAM J FLYNN

William J. Flynn joined Mutual of America as President in 1971. He served as Chief Executive Officer from 1972 to 1994 and Chairman of the Board from 1982 to May 2005 when he was named Chairman Emeritus. Previous to joining Mutual of America, Bill Flynn served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War before embarking on his professional career, which began in 1953 with the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. Mr. Flynn served as Chairman of the Board of the Life Insurance Council of New York, which named him the most outstanding CEO of the life insurance industry for the past 25 years in 1994.

Bill Flynn's devotion to and recognition by the Irish community are particularly outstanding. In 1994 the Irish Taoiseach Albert Reynolds honored Mr. Flynn's efforts on behalf of Northern Ireland. In that same year he was selected "Irish American of the Year" by Irish America Magazine and was honored by the American Ireland Fund. He served as Grand Marshal of the 1996 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. In March 2000, Mr. Flynn and John Cardinal O'Connor were the first recipients of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Medals. In March 2001, Mr. Flynn served as Grand Marshal of the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Day Parade. In September 2005, the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding presented Mr. Flynn with a Special Peacemaker in Action Award "for a lifetime devoted to conflict resolution." In October 2007, Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs Dermot Ahern honored Mr. Flynn for his tireless work over the years in fostering peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Flynn has been awarded an honorary CBE (Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by Her Majesty the Queen in recognition of his exceptional contribution to peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. He received this award at an investiture ceremony, at the British Embassy, in Washington, D.C., in June 2009.

In November 2010, the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas announced the establishment of the William J. Flynn Center for Irish Studies in recognition of his significant contributions to peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. In February 2011, Mr. Flynn was inducted into the Irish America Hall of Fame sponsored by Irish America Magazine.

Bill Flynn serves as Chairman of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy. He is former Chairman of the International Center for Religion & Diplomacy and former President of Flax Trust America. He is also a member of the Racquet and Tennis Club, The University Club and The Garden City County Club. His past Board service includes The Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation, The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, the U.S. Army War College Board of Visitors, The Ireland America Economic Advisory Board to the Taoiseach, The United States Holocaust Memorial Council, the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation, Boston University, Fordham University, St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center and New York Foundling Hospital.

Born in New York, William J. Flynn graduated from Cathedral College of the Immaculate Conception and received a Master of Arts degree in Economics from Fordham University.

## JOHN FITZPATRICK

John Fitzpatrick, President and CEO of the Fitzpatrick Hotel Group, North America, has almost thirty years of experience in the hotel industry. He began his impressive career in Ireland, where the Fitzpatrick name is synonymous with hospitality. For most of the past two decades, John has overseen the operation of two very successful hotels in New York, one of the most competitive cities in the world. He works diligently with his team to provide guests with an Irish brand of hospitality that is uniquely warm and inviting. Being a discerning business traveler himself, John's establishments appeal to the business executive's needs while also catering to leisure travelers and vacationing families. The Fitzpatrick Manhattan and The Fitzpatrick Grand Central have continuously received guest and industry accolades for outstanding, yet unpretentious service.

John began his formal hospitality training with a four year hotel management course at the Fitzpatrick Hotels in Ireland, followed by the prestigious hotel management course at UNLV in Las Vegas. After honing his skills with two major hotel organizations in Chicago, John then returned to Ireland to work at the family hotels in Dublin and Bunratty. He made the move back to the U.S. and opened his first New York hotel in 1991.

Devoted to the industry, John serves as Chairman of the Hotel Association of NYC, which is comprised of over 250 member hotels with more than 70,000 hotel rooms within the five boroughs of New York City. He is on the boards of the American Ireland Fund, the Ireland-US Council and Flax Trust/America. John has received numerous honors for his business savvy and charitable work from Crain's New York Business "Top Forty Entrepreneurs Under Forty" to the Irish Voice's Person of the Year Award. In 2002, John received the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor, whose previous recipients include George Bush, Bill Clinton, Rudy Giuliani, several Nobel Laureates, and other distinguished leaders. In 2008, John was recognized for his contributions to the peace process in Northern Ireland by being invested with an honorary OBE by Her Majesty the Queen. In 2010 Irish America Magazine recognized him with its most prestigious award, "Irish American of the Year" as well as including him on its "Business 100". In 2011, John is nominated and elected to be the Secretary/Treasurer of the American Hotel & Lodging Association. With nearly 9,000 members, AH&LA represents more than 1.3 million guestrooms. As the voice of the industry ensuring a positive business climate for hoteliers, AH&LA provides advocacy on Capitol Hill, as well as education, marketing, information, and bottom-line benefits.)

John is very active in a number of philanthropic activities, and is particularly dedicated to supporting organizations that aid children in need and those that advance the peace process in Northern Ireland. He founded a charitable foundation 17 years ago in memory of his late parents to benefit such causes. The Eithne and Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Foundation has generated more than \$1.3 million for charities that include the Barretstown Gang Camp (Co. Kildare), the Corrymeela Reconciliation Centre (Co. Antrim), PeacePlayers International and the Integrated Education Fund.

In his spare time, John is an avid aviator, flying both helicopters and airplanes. In 2003, in recognition of skill and passion, he was asked to join the Board of Directors of Omega Aerial Refueling Services. He also enjoys water sports, snowboarding, skiing, kitesurfing and golf.

## SNAPSHOT

2010 New York banquet at The "21" Club



1. Banquet Chairman Bill Flynn with Sir Alan Collins (L) and Noel Kilkenny (R)
2. Fr Myles, John and Emaile Feerick
3. Tom Moran, Declan Kelly
4. Jim Quinn, James Gill(L) and Tom O'Brien(R)
5. John Feerick Honoree receives Flax Trust Award from Sr Mary Turley
6. Mary Higgins Clark and Bishop J. Sullivan
7. Lorraine Turner and Ed Kenny
8. Doug Benson, Mary J. Grace, Toyna Lillie
9. Rose Gill Hearn
10. Patricia Hartly
11. John Fitzpatrick
12. Gerry and Cathy Toner
13. John and Helen Sharkey
14. John Kelly, Dominic McSorley, Gary Hanley

15. David O'Sullivan
16. Christina Kirshbawn, Diane Aramony, Mike Gibbons
17. Alison Metcalf
18. Dermott McGale, Jackie McCoy and Donald Carey
19. Clare Risman
20. Gerry Murphy
21. Denis Curran, Margo Wick
22. Shawn Griffin and Seamus O'Prey
23. Constantine Katsoris and Kenneth Hickman
24. Robert Reilly,
25. Jim Griffin and Seamus Carrol
26. Fiona Dunne,
27. Patricia Brennan and Alba Goebel
28. Bill Plunkett and Andrea Haughian