

Community Regeneration Project, North Belfast



New life for Brookfield Mill
22 Town Houses and 55 Apartments



Flax Trust is working in collaboration with ABC Trust and Urban Villages, developing this community regeneration project - providing health, recreational and training facilities and an arts centre



The Galgani development consists of 53 new affordable housing units of which 29 are houses, 24 apartments and 5 retail units.



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 and personal development.

The Flax Trust Music Bursary Awards 2023 Bridging the Divide



Flax Trust Arts bridges the divide in North Belfast through Music and Theatre, encouraging Respect for Difference. The production of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz brought together 35 individuals aged 7 to 70, filming in locations such as Belfast City Centre, The Crumlin Road Gaol in North Belfast and Carrickfergus Castle.



City of Belfast, Youth Orchestra (CYBO) at Holy Cross Church, North Belfast



Conductor's CBYO Award

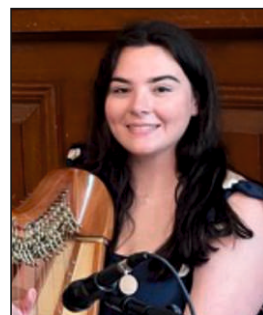
Hugo Reilly-Stewart, Violin and Leader of City of Belfast Youth Orchestra, winner of The Flax Trust Conductor's Award. Conductor Paul McBride.

Camerata Ireland Awards



Sinead Walsh (Flute) & Jack Myles (Trumpet)

Queen's University Awards



Marie - Therese McCartan, Harp & Violin



Matthew McLoughlin, Voice



Katie Fitzsimmons, Voice

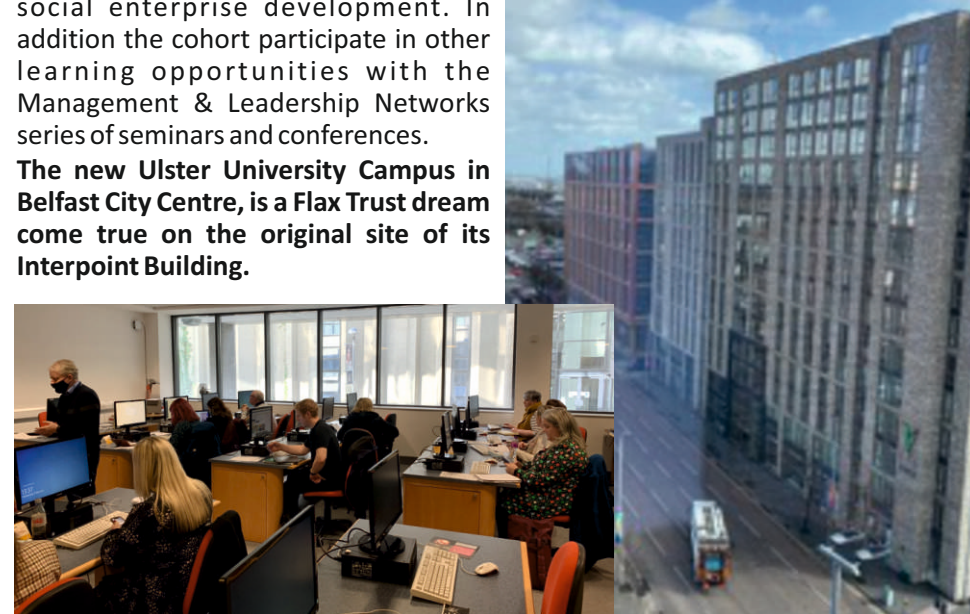
The School for Social Enterprises in Ireland (SSEI) is a Flax Trust / Ulster University alliance (2005) devoted exclusively to leadership, management and business development for the social economy sector.

'The TRANSFORM' Social Enterprise Development Programme offers the award of an Advanced Diploma in Social Enterprise, fully accredited by Ulster University.

It is aimed at individuals in existing community organisations, social enterprises and charities who are trying to diversify their income streams and those who have an idea for starting or growing a social enterprise.

The academic content and delivery mechanism reflects the changing needs and emerging trends within the social economy sector, recognising the key drivers for social enterprise development. In addition the cohort participate in other learning opportunities with the Management & Leadership Networks series of seminars and conferences.

The new Ulster University Campus in Belfast City Centre, is a Flax Trust dream come true on the original site of its Interpoint Building.



Transform Students in class

New Ulster University, Belfast City Centre

SSEI Social Enterprise Collaboration

During the year the SSEI with Flax Trust support partnered with Belfast City Council, Work West Enterprise Agency and the social enterprise GLL / Better Organisation to deliver the On-Purpose conference.



SSEI/ADSE graduate Chara Clarke founder of Glow shares her insights at the On - Purpose event

Prof Ken O'Neill Chair of SSEI with key note speaker Michael Kelly



ADSE alumni with other representatives of the social economy at the event

Welcome to the Thirty Third Annual FLAX TRUST WASHINGTON DC EVENT

Guests of Honor

Kristen Welker

“Moderator, NBC News’ Meet the Press”

Timothy J. Driscoll

President, International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers

Meghan L. O’Sullivan

Director, Belfer Centre for Science & International Affairs
Harvard University’s Kennedy School

CHAIRPERSONS

James M. Boland

Chairman and CEO, Boland
Chairman Flax Trust / America

Michael D. McCurry

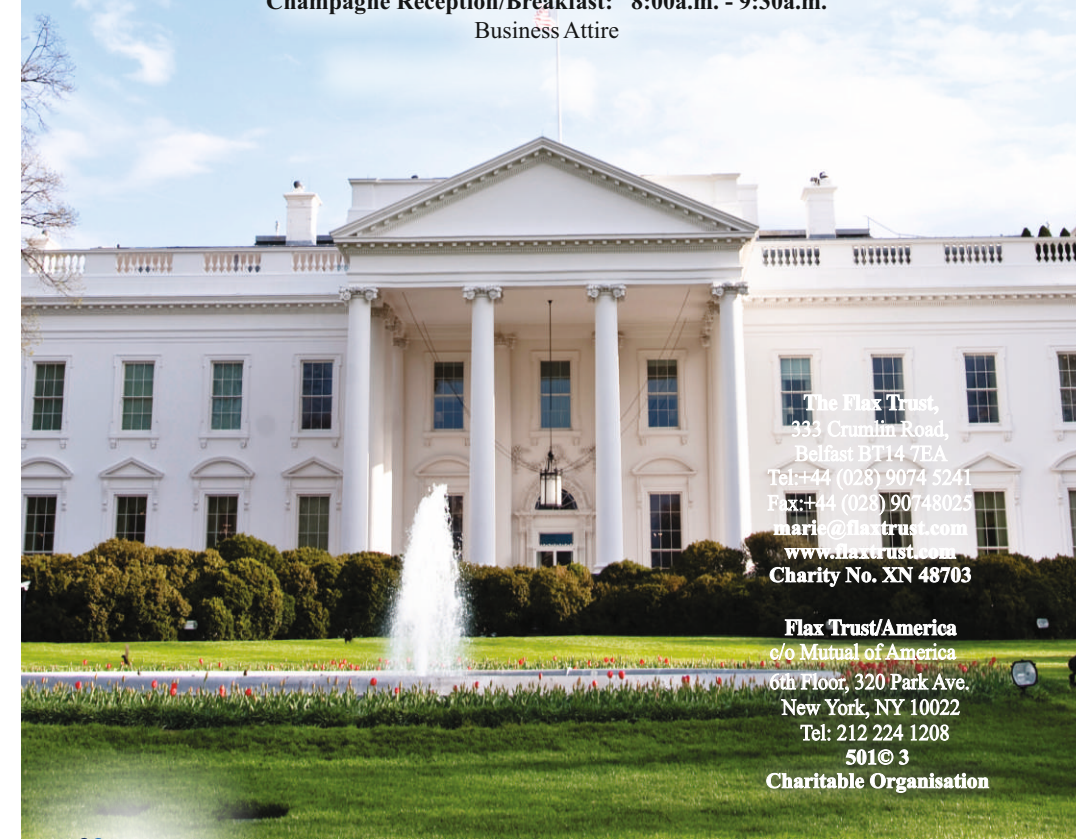
Former White House Press Secretary &
Director Flax Trust / America

Tuesday, November 21st, 2023

Hay Adams, The Rooftop Terrace

Across from The White House

Champagne Reception/Breakfast: 8:00a.m. - 9:30a.m.
Business Attire



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Charitable Organisation



Enrichment Through Respect for Difference

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

Kristen Welker

“Moderator, NBC News’ Meet the Press”



Kristen Welker is the 13th moderator of Meet the Press.

Previously, she was co-anchor of “Weekend TODAY” and NBC News Chief White House Correspondent, where her political reporting appeared across all NBC News and MSNBC platforms, including “NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt,” “TODAY,” “Meet the Press,” and NBCNews.com.

She joined “Weekend TODAY” as co-anchor in Jan. 2020 and began covering the White House for NBC News in Dec. 2011, travelling domestically and internationally with President Obama, the First Lady, and then-Vice President Biden. Welker also covered President Trump’s administration, the 2020 presidential race and is currently leading the network’s coverage of all aspects of the Biden administration.

During the 2020 general presidential election, Welker moderated the final presidential debate between former President Donald Trump and now-President Joe Biden on Oct. 22, 2020 at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. Welker received universal praise for her performance, and USA TODAY wrote that she was “praised for ‘masterclass’ debate moderation.” In Nov. 2019, Welker co-moderated the fifth Democratic presidential debate hosted by MSNBC and The Washington Post at Tyler Perry Studios in Atlanta, GA alongside Rachel Maddow, Andrea Mitchell, and Ashley Parker of The Washington Post.

During the 2016 presidential election, Welker reported from the trail covering former Sec. Hillary Clinton’s campaign. She broke the exclusive that Vice President Joe Biden decided not to run for office that cycle. Prior to the White House beat, Welker was a network correspondent based in Burbank, California, joining NBC News in 2010. During her first year at the network, Welker was nominated for a National Emmy Award for her role in NBC News’ midterm election coverage. She won a National Emmy Award for her role in NBC News’ coverage of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17. Welker was also a researcher on “Weekend TODAY” early in her career and an intern for “TODAY” while in college.

Welker previously worked at WCAU-TV, NBC’s Philadelphia owned and operated station, where she anchored the NBC 10 weekend newscasts and started as a general assignment reporter in April 2005. She also previously worked at WLNE-TV in Providence, Rhode Island and KRCR-TV in Redding, California.

Welker, a native of Philadelphia, graduated cum laude from Harvard University with a Bachelor’s Degree in American history. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband John Hughes and daughter Margot Lane.

Timothy J. Driscoll

President of International Union
of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers



Timothy J. Driscoll was elected to the Office of President of the International Union in 2020. Prior to that he served as Secretary-Treasurer from 2017 to 2020, and as International Union Executive Vice President from 2010 to 2017. During his time in office, Driscoll has established himself as a leader committed to solving problems that improve the lives of BAC members.

Driscoll, a second-generation bricklayer, joined BAC Local 3 Massachusetts in 1985, where he served his apprenticeship and worked as a journeyman bricklayer on numerous commercial and institutional projects throughout the Boston area. Traveling for work in the early 1990’s, he eventually settled in the Washington, D.C. metro area and joined Local 1 Maryland/Virginia/D.C. in 1992.

Driscoll’s service with the International Union began in 1995 when he joined the IU’s Government Relations department, later becoming Assistant to the President. In 1999, he was called upon to lead BAC’s Department of Trade Jurisdiction, vigorously and successfully defending BAC members’ work opportunities in scores of matters over the course of the next decade. He also helped lead the International Union’s efforts to address emerging new products and building systems, seeking to enhance work opportunities for signatory contractors and BAC members alike. During that time, Driscoll also served on the AGC Basic Trades Committee, the National Maintenance Agreement Policy Committee, and administered various other National Agreements on BAC’s behalf, working with many of the Union’s largest signatory contractors. Well known since his early work in Trade Jurisdiction, Driscoll is recognized throughout the building trades industry for his judgment and strength, reasoned approach to issues and ability to solve problems and get things done.

President Driscoll serves as Co-Chair of the International Masonry Institute (IMI), the industry development and training arm of the organized masonry industry. He is also Co-Chair of both the International Trowel Trades Pension Fund and the International Health Fund. In addition to his duties with BAC and its related entities, Driscoll also serves as a Vice President of the AFL-CIO Executive Council and is a member of the Governing Board of Presidents of North America’s Building Trades Unions (NABTU). He also serves on the Board of Directors for: the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, the Union Labor Life Insurance Company, the Blue-Green Alliance, Union Sportsmen’s Alliance and Helmets to Hard Hats, and serves on the Leadership Council for the University of Maryland’s Center for Global Migration Studies. Driscoll holds a BS in Economics from the University of Maryland, and is a graduate of the Harvard Trade Union Program.

Meghan L. O’Sullivan

Director of the Belfer Centre for Science & International Affairs
Harvard University’s Kennedy School



Meghan L. O’Sullivan is the Jeane Kirkpatrick Professor of the Practice of International Affairs and the Director of the Geopolitics of Energy Project at Harvard University’s Kennedy School. On February 21, 2023, she was named the Director of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, effective July 1, 2023.

Dr. O’Sullivan’s scholarship continues to be at the nexus of traditional disciplines, examining topics at the intersection of geopolitics, science, markets, and policy. Her work on how large changes in the energy system has shaped how policymakers and academics alike view these issues. Her publications in this area include her award-winning 2017 book Windfall: How the New Energy Abundance Upends Global Politics and Strengthens America’s Power.

O’Sullivan has served in multiple senior policymaking roles and has advised national security officials in both Republican and Democratic administrations. She is the recipient of numerous awards for her public service, including the U.S. Defense Department’s highest honor for civilians (the Distinguished Public Service Medal) and the State Department’s Superior Honor Award (which she has received three times).

O’Sullivan is a member of U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken’s Foreign Policy Advisory Board. Between 2004 and 2007, she was special assistant to President George W. Bush and as Deputy National Security Advisor for Iraq and Afghanistan during the two years of her tenure. In 2013, O’Sullivan was the Vice Chair of the All-Party Talks in Northern Ireland.

O’Sullivan also has extensive experience advising the private-sector on geopolitical risk and in board leadership and advisory roles in non-profit organizations. She is a Partner at the strategic consulting firm, Macro Advisory Partners, and is the Chair of the North American Group of the Trilateral Commission.

’Sullivan earned a bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University, a masters of science in economics, and doctorate in politics from Oxford University. She was a Henry Crown Fellow from 2015-2017 and a Henry Luce Fellow in Indonesia from 1991-1992.

SnapShots

The 32nd Flax Trust / America New York Banquet
at The Links Club



Gerard Crotty Chair Weichert Enterprise (2021) honouree; Bill Byrne Senior Vice President Global Sales U.S.A. accepting award on behalf of Aer Lingus (2022); Tom O'Brien Luncheon chair / Director Flax Trust/America, Helena Nolan Irish Consul General New York; Honouree John Coleman (2022) President Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, New York, Andrew Elliott, Director/Counselor, NI Bureau; Honouree Sophie Colgan (2022) Program Director The Ireland US Council; Laura Hickey Deputy British Consul, Shawn Griffin, Partner Harris Beach PLLC, Director Flax Trust/America, honoree (2021) Sr Mary Turley Director Flax Trust.

The 32nd Flax Trust / America Washington DC Banquet Breakfast
at The Hay Adams



Washington DC 2022 honorees - Hon. Marty Walsh, U.S. Secretary of Labor; Kelly O'Donnell, Senior White House Correspondent NBC News; Hon. Mick Mulvaney, Former White House Chief of Staff and Ambassador and Special Envoy to Northern Ireland; Jim Boland, Chair Flax Trust/America; Mike McCurry, Director Flax Trust/America; Jim Quinn, President Flax Trust/America and Sr Mary Turley, Director Flax Trust.

Washington DC Honoree Co-Chairs

Stacey Allen
Brian Boland
Jim Boland
Louis Boland, Jr.
Sean Boland
Sean Boland Jr
Oakley Brooks
Michael Clark
John Collins
Steve Coyle
Hon. Joe Crowley
Brian Darmody
Susan Davis
Hon. Paula Dobriansky
Robert Dormer

Andrew Elliott
Laura Faul
John Feehery
Jeff Finkle
John Finucane
Fr. Seamus Finn
Tony Cully-Foster
Heather Foley
John Hanley
Sarah Heitkemper
James Hickey
Lisa Kardell
Fr. Myles Kavanagh
Prof. Ross Lewin
Peter McArdle

Mike McCurry
Angela Moore
Hon. Bruce Morrison
Nathan Ohle
Mike O’Neil
Pres. Pat O’ Shea
John Patterson
Larry Reeves
Prof. Sandra Quinn
Steve Saxon
Matt Shay
Prof. Stephen Thomas
Mark Tuohey III
Sr. Mary Turley
Hon. James Walsh