

Flax Trust Cross Community Inter School Choir Awards



Winning Schools Celebrate

240 young people from 20 schools in North Belfast came together in front of a packed audience in Belfast City Hall for the Flax Trust Gala Cross Community School Choir Awards.

The George Mitchell Cup for the most captivating performance was won by Dominican College Fortwilliam and Belfast High.



*Fr. Myles Kavanagh CP
Chairman Flax Trust/Belfast
'Cuts the Sod' on the New
Nursing Home in
North Belfast, July 30th*

A very successful Irish singer called Val Doonican had a long running popular show on the BBC. He said "It has taken me twenty years to become an overnight success". It has taken twenty years for us to get this Nursing Home off the ground. It will be completed in September 2015.

Twenty-Sixth Annual Belfast Event
The Flax Trust Classics Bursary Awards: Camerata Ireland's Clondeboy Festival, August 21st 2014
Flax Trust Cross Community Inter-School Choir Gala, Belfast City Hall, December 4th 2014

Twenty-Fourth Annual New York Event
The '21' Club, West 52 Street, New York - October 15th 2014



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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Charitable Organisation

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

Welcome to the Twenty Fourth Annual

FLAX TRUST WASHINGTON DC EVENT

GUESTS OF HONOR

Ambassador Paula J. Dobriansky
Former Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs
and President's Special Envoy to Northern Ireland

Michael D. McCurry
President, Public Strategies Washington Inc
and Former White House Press Secretary

CHAIRPERSONS

James M Boland
President
Boland
Chair Flax Trust/America

Michael D. McCurry
President
Public Strategies Washington Inc.
Director Flax Trust/America

Tuesday, November 25th, 2014



Hay Adams, The Rooftop Terrace

Across from The White House

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

Enrichment Through Respect for Difference

BREAKFAST CO-CHAIRS

James M. Boland
President
Boland
Chair Flax Trust/America

Michael D. McCurry
President
Public Strategies Washington Inc.
Director Flax Trust/America

BREAKFAST COMMITTEE

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Breakfast Banquet

*Champagne Reception
Plated Freshly Sliced Fruit*

Constitution Avenue: *Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs with Chives and Crispy New Potatoes, Applewood Smoked Bacon and Sausage Links or*

Washington Circle: *Cornflake Crusted Cranberry Foccacia French Toast, Carmelized Red Pears, Warm Maple Syrup, Applewood Smoked Bacon or Sausage Links*

Breakfast Pastries, Vermont Creamery Butter and Housemade Preserves, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee/Decaffeinated/Selection of Mighty Leaf Teas

THE HONORABLE PAULA J. DOBRIANSKY

Ambassador Paula J. Dobriansky is a foreign policy expert and former diplomat specializing in national security affairs. She is a Senior Fellow at Harvard University's JFK Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Chair of the National Board of Directors of the World Affairs Councils of America. She is also a Senior Advisor with the Albright Stonebridge Group.

From 2010-2012, Ambassador Dobriansky was Senior VP and Global Head of Government and Regulatory Affairs at Thomson Reuters, responsible for designing and implementing a corporate strategy for engagement in Washington, D.C. and key capitals around the globe. She also held the Distinguished National Security Chair at the U.S. Naval Academy.

From 2001-2009, Ambassador Dobriansky served as Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs. Primary accomplishments: established and led the U.S.-India, U.S.-China, and U.S.-Brazil Global Issues Fora - which advanced crucial work and international cooperation on environment, health, development, and humanitarian issues. She was head of delegation and lead negotiator on U.S. climate change policy.

As the President's Special Envoy to Northern Ireland (2007-2009), Ambassador Dobriansky received the Secretary of State's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Medal, for her work on the historic devolution of power in Belfast. During more than 25 years in national security affairs, she held many Senate-confirmed, senior level positions in the U.S. Government including Associate Director for Policy and Programs, United States Information Agency; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs; Deputy Head of U.S. Delegation to 1990 Copenhagen Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE); Director of European and Soviet Affairs, National Security Council, the White House.

From 1997- 2001, she was Senior VP and Director of the Washington Office of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and the first George F. Kennan Senior Fellow for Russian and Eurasian Studies; she also served on the Presidentially-appointed U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

A member of CFR and the American Academy of Diplomacy, Ambassador Dobriansky serves on various boards: Smith-Richardson Foundation, Cooperation Ireland, Atlantic Council, American University in Afghanistan and Australian-American Leadership Dialogue; she is a Trilateral Commission Trustee and on the Advisory Board of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

Ambassador Dobriansky received a B.S.F.S. summa cum laude in International Politics, from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, an M.A. and Ph.D. in Soviet political/military affairs from Harvard University. She is a Fulbright-Hays scholar, Ford and Rotary Foundation Fellow and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She has received three Hon. Doctorates of Humane Letters, an Hon. Doctorate of Laws and an Hon. Doctorate of International Affairs.



MICHAEL D. McCURRY

Mike McCurry is a partner at Public Strategies Washington, Inc., where he provides counsel on communications strategies and management to corporate and non-profit clients. He is also a Distinguished Professor of Public Theology at the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC.

McCurry is a veteran political strategist and spokesperson with nearly four decades of experience in the nation's capital. McCurry served in the White House as press secretary to President Bill Clinton (1995-1998). He also served as spokesman for the U.S. Department of State (1993-1995) and director of communications for the Democratic National Committee (1988-1990). McCurry held a variety of leadership roles in national campaigns for the Democratic ticket from 1984 to 2004.

McCurry began his career on the staff of the United States Senate, working as press secretary to the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and to the committee's chairman, Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (1976-1981). He also served as press secretary to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (1981-1983).

McCurry serves on numerous boards or advisory councils including Share Our Strength, the Children's Scholarship Fund, the White House Historical Association, Flax Trust/America and the Executive Committee of the Global Health Initiative of the United Methodist Church. He is co-chairman of the Commission on Presidential Debates which sponsors the general election debates between candidates for President and Vice President of the United States.

McCurry received his Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University in 1976, a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Georgetown University in 1985, and a Master of Arts from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2013.



SNAPSHOT

2013 Washington DC Event at the Hay Adams



1. Co-Chairs Jim Boland and Mike McCurry welcome Honorees and guests
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