



VIRTUAL

GOLDEN
BRIDGES

REBUILDING TOGETHER

Connecting Boston,
Massachusetts and Irish America
with Northwest Ireland

SPONSORS:



CHARITY SPONSOR:





Diaspora



Community



Business



Government

The 12th annual Golden Bridges Conference and Awards will take place virtually on 20 November 2020 from our broadcast studio in the Guildhall, Derry. Our purpose is to build mutually beneficial links of community, culture, commerce and education across the Atlantic.

Eastern Standard Time

Irish Standard Time

8:30am	Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, Publisher, The Irish Echo	1:30pm
8:35am	Welcome to the Twelfth Annual Golden Bridges Conference Martin J. Walsh, Mayor of Boston Cllr Rena Donaghy, Cathaoirleach, Donegal County Council Cllr Brian Tierney, Mayor of Derry and Strabane District Council	1:35pm
8:50am	Dispatches/Teachtaireachtaí Lament for the Wild Geese performed by flutist Amy Gillen	1:50pm
8:55am	A Connected Northwest, Strength in Alliances and Strategic Partnerships, INW a Unique Post-Brexit Opportunity, Bridge to UK and EU John Kelpie, CEO, Derry and Strabane District Council and John McLaughlin, CEO, Donegal County council in conversation with Jeananne Craig, Journalist	1:55pm
9:15am	A Northwest Ireland Gateway through the Brexit Challenge. Introduction: Charlie McConalogue TD, Minister for Agriculture Chair: Paul McFadden, Broadcaster Sinéad McLaughlin, MLA, SDLP, Foyle Pearse Doherty TD, Donegal	2:15pm
9:50am	Dispatches/Teachtaireachtaí. Danny Boy performed by City of Derry International Choir Festival Bád Eddie	2:50pm
9:55am	When Given Lemons...How Innovative Small Businesses Survived the Covid-19 Challenge Chair: Sonia Nic Giolla Easbaig, Founder Ligid TV, Donegal Laura Hamilton, President, Boston Irish Business Association, Boston Kieran Kennedy, Managing Director, O'Neills Sportswear Jennifer Neff, Co-Founder & CEO, Elemental Software John McDermott Production Manager, RAP (Rapid Action Packaging), Donegal Mairead Anderson, Boathouse Restaurant/SeaShack, Killybegs, Co Donegal	2:55pm
10:20am	The Bigger Picture: Why Culture Counts in the Time of Covid Chair: Mary Cremin, Director Void Gallery, Derry Maggie Maguire, An t-Acadamh Ceoil, Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin, Derry Joyce Linehan, Chief of Policy and Planning, City of Boston Úna Campbell, An Gailearaí, Donegal Tara Lynch, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Boston	3:20pm





Eastern Standard Time

Irish Standard Time

10:45am Three: Arranmore Island – the Most Connected Island in the World.

3:45pm

10:50am Dispatches/Teachtaireachtaí

3:50pm

Dave Mosley, CEO Seagate
A Mhamaí Lig Mé chun Aonaigh, Amhráin Inis Eoghain
Packie Bonner, former Ireland Goalkeeper
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin, Oideas Gael

11am Testing Times

4pm

Ray O'Hanlon, Editor, The Irish Echo, in conversation with
Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs Simon Coveney

11:15am Ulster University Gamechanger: New School of Medicine.

4:15pm

Speaker: Louise Dubras, School of Medicine, Ulster University

11:25am Opportunity Amid Crisis: Remote Working and Advantage of Northwest?

4:25pm

Chair: Dr Sandra Moffett, Head of Department of
Global Business & Enterprise, Ulster University
Sean Moynihan, Principal, Moynihan Group, Boston
Micheál Ó hEanaigh, CEO Údarás na Gaeltachta, Donegal
Dr Ciaran Richardson, Senior Manager, Randox Teoranta, Dungloe
Aidan O'Kane, Director, Allstate NI
Anne Marie Conlon, Head of Economic Development,
Donegal County Council



11:50am The Journey Back for Tourism: Investing Now for A Reimagined Visitor Experience

4:50pm

Chair: Garvan O'Doherty, Hotelier, Derry
Jim Carmody, GM Seaport Hotel, Boston
Des Connolly, Financial Director, Vesada Private Limited
Alison Metcalfe, Executive VP USA & Canada,
Tourism Ireland
James Doherty, CEO Sliabh Liag Distillers, Donegal



12:20pm New Approach for a New Era: Northwest Gateway to Foreign and Indigenous Investment

5:20pm

Chair: Paul Gosling, Author and Commentator
Paul Hannigan, CEO LYIT, Donegal
Peta Conn, Executive VP, Head of Americas Invest NI
Prof. Liam Maguire, Executive Dean, Faculty of Computing,
Engineering and Built Environment Ulster University
David Roche, Director, FinTech Services, Pramerica
Head of Corporate Social Responsibility
John Nugent, Regional Business Development Manager,
IDA Ireland



12:50pm Conference Close:

5:50pm

Andrew Elliott, Director, NI Bureau, Washington D.C



1pm Dispatches/Teachtaireachtaí

6pm

Irish Black Bottom performed Tara O'Grady
Amazing Grace performed by City of Derry International Choir
Festival which includes schools from Donegal, Strabane and Derry
Ceol an Phóbaire performed by Aobha Ní Aragáin, Amhráin Inis Eoghain



Diaspora



Community



Business



Government



Education



COVID-19



Tourism



Brexit

Eastern Standard Time

Irish Standard Time

1:15pm

Golden Bridges Annual Awards Presentation

Opening Remarks: Laoise Moore, Irish Consul General in Boston
Featuring a special presentation on the Donegal Diaspora
Project by Joanne Kilmartin, Donegal County Council

2020 Honorees

Congressman Brendan Boyle
Kathy Savage, Recipient of the Dave Burke Award
Steve Burke, Irish Cultural Centre
Prof Christine Kinealy
Grace Cotter Regan, President Boston College High School
Senator Nick Collins, Massachusetts State Senate
Councilman Frank Baker, Boston City Council,
Pádraic McLaughlin, Buncrana & Boston, GAA
Mark Porter, Buncrana & Boston, Businessman, Director,
Irish Pastoral Centre, Boston & Cancer Research Fundraiser
Connemara Gaels, Boston
Joseph Burke, Deputy Secretary of the Office of International
Business Development, Pennsylvania

6:15pm



John Donovan
Maureen Bennett
Sean Moynihan
Nuala Friel Wright
Eugene O'Flaherty
Martina Curtin
Sean Getchell
Nuala McGowan
John Foley