



KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL

**A FESTIVAL of IRISH & AMERICAN
HISTORY, CULTURE and POLITICS**



**7th / 8th / 9th of SEPTEMBER 2017
NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD, IRELAND.**

www.kennedysummerschool.ie



Larry Donnelly

WELCOME

We were both delighted to be invited to take on the role as Directors of the 2017 Kennedy Summer School. Over the last five years the summer school has grown from strength to strength and it is now a significant feature of the political, social and media landscapes each September. This has made our task in seeking to attract such a broad range of contributors all the easier. Over two and a half days from the 7th to 9th of September, the Kennedy Summer School will again tackle the important topical issues in Irish and U.S. politics, with top commentators from both sides of the Atlantic.



Dr. Brian Murphy

The Trump presidency and Brexit will inevitably be important topics for discussion. We have also gathered a panel of leading historians to assess the legacy of President John F. Kennedy, 100 years on from his birth. We are also thrilled that we will be joined this year by two of the most impressive practitioners of the art of political discourse; the veteran campaign strategist Bob Shrum, who has been central to many U.S. presidential campaigns, and Cody Keenan, who was chief speech writer for President Obama.

We have also enhanced the opportunity for audience participation over the weekend by introducing a series of public interviews, including with RTE U.S. Correspondent, Caitriona Perry and the Democratic Unionist MP, Ian Paisley. Additionally, we have again, a special visit to the Kennedy Homestead for our annual Dunganstown Tea Party, a secondary schools' event focusing on building resilience, and a special children's book event with Ryan Tubridy. There will literally be something for everyone and we do hope you can join us for some or all of the weekend.

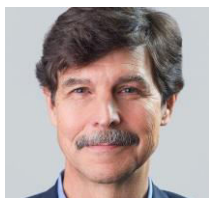
Larry Donnelly, Dr Brian Murphy

Directors Kennedy Summer School 2017.

The Kennedy Summer School Programme is subject to change. For up to date details and full profiles of speakers see kennedysummerschool.ie



Professor Richard Aldous



Dr. David Woolner

Thursday 7th @ 6pm

Venue: New Ross Library

Launch of the New Ross Kennedy Book and Research Archive

To mark the 100th Anniversary of John F. Kennedy's birth, the Kennedy Summer School in association with Wexford County Council, is opening a Kennedy depository at New Ross Library. A collection of books, publications, audio visual recordings and other research materials on the Kennedy Presidency, Kennedy Family, and the link between the Kennedys' and County Wexford will be gathered and maintained for public use.

The project will be formally launched by leading historian and author Richard Aldous, who will also speak about his forthcoming book, '*Schlesinger: The Imperial Historian*', which tells the story of the architect of JFK's presidential legacy-and the myth of Camelot-Arthur Schlesinger Jr.

The event will also hear from Dr. David Woolner, who has been a visiting professor in the Mary Ball Washington Chair in American History at University College Dublin for 2016-17.

This is a free event but places are limited and MUST be booked in advance. To reserve a space on a first come basis, email karen@kennedysummerschool.ie to receive confirmation of ticket allocation



Thursday 7th @ 8pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

OPENING NIGHT EVENT

Official Opening by
Katherine Zappone,
Minister for Children
and Youth Affairs, followed
by a Public Interview

Katherine Zappone is a human rights campaigner, a first time Dáil Deputy, and the second ever U.S. born Minister of the Irish government. In an interview with Noel Whelan, Katherine will talk about her life, her work as a lecturer in education, her campaign, along with her wife Anne Louise Gilligan for Marriage Equality, her time as a member of Seanad Eireann, her election to Dáil Eireann, her decision to join the current government and issues which have arisen in her ministerial brief. She will also tell us of her memories of growing up in Kennedy's America.



Followed by:

EDWARD M. KENNEDY LECTURE 2017

Special Film Screening of
'Condemned to Remember'

Irish Holocaust Survivor Tomi Reichental celebrates his 80th Birthday in a Dublin Mosque with Shaykh Muhammad Umar Al-Qadri before embarking on an epic journey across a Europe in turmoil.

In Poland and Slovakia Tomi confronts the "crisis of shame" that prevents an honest reckoning with the scale of local "collusion" with the Nazi extermination project.

In Bosnia, he embraces Muslim survivors of a genocide, who still search for the bones of their loved ones. Along the way Tomi puts himself in the shoes of the "new Jews" and discovers a strong common bond with refugees fleeing the hell that is Syria.

The screening will be followed by an audience discussion with Tomi Reichental and Shaykh Dr Muhammad Umar Al-Qadri, Irish Muslim Peace and Integration Council, chaired by Peter Cassells Director of the Edward M Kennedy Institute, Maynooth University.



Shaykh Dr Muhammad
Umar Al-Qadri



This is a free event but places are limited and MUST be booked in advance. To reserve a space on a first come basis, email karen@kennedysummerschool.ie to receive confirmation of ticket allocation



Niall Breslin

Friday 8th @ 10am

Venue: St Mary's Secondary School
SECONDARY SCHOOLS' EVENT
BUILDING RESILIENCE

Niall Breslin, known as Bressie, is a former Westmeath inter county footballer, lead singer, guitarist and songwriter with pop band 'The Blizzards', and he was a coach on the hit TV show 'The Voice'. He is a solo artist and a leading advocate in the area of mental health education and empowerment. His 'My1000Hours' blog and training initiatives set out to explore positive and proactive ways to improve emotional fitness and manage mental stress. This led to him setting up the website 'A Lust For Life'.



Sinead McSweeney

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GROW UP?

Sinead McSweeney is Vice President for Public Policy and Communications for Twitter in Europe, the Middle East and Africa and is Managing Director of Twitter's operations in Ireland. Over the course of her career she has been Director of Communications for An Garda Síochána, Director of Media and Public Relations for the Police Service of Northern Ireland and a Special Adviser to the Minister for Justice and The Attorney General. A native of Midleton, she studied law at University College Cork and qualified as a barrister in 1993. She began her working life as a parliamentary transcriber in the Dáil debates unit. None of the jobs she has worked in existed when she was in secondary school.

& More speakers to be confirmed...



Artworks from 'One Woman Solo Show' by Marie Holohan at the Wexford Arts Centre

Friday 8th @ 12pm

Venue: The Tholsel New Ross

Arts and Disability - Extending Access

This year the Kennedy Summer School is hosting a special event to commemorate Jean Kennedy Smith's contribution to the Arts and Disability. This panel discussion will deal with issues surrounding art access and support for people with disabilities in Ireland and Wexford; what is currently available, and what is needed. Creating engagement in this area will also be explored, not just as participants and viewers but as practising artists as well. There will also be a special exhibition from local artists involved with CUMAS in the gallery space at St Michael's Theatre.



Pádraig Naughton

Executive Director, Arts & Disability Ireland



Elizabeth Whyte

Executive Director, Wexford Arts Centre



Senator John Dolan

CEO, The Disability Federation of Ireland

And more speakers to be confirmed...



Friday 8th @ 2.30pm

Venue: Kennedy Homestead, Dunganstown

THE DUNGANSTOWN TEA PARTY

An Afternoon of Talks, Cookery Demonstrations,
Entertainment and Light Refreshments



Paul Kelly

Executive Pastry Chef,
Merrion Hotel and judge
on the hit TV show *'The
Great Irish Bake Off'*



Kevin Dundon

Chef/Proprietor of the
Dunbrody Country
House Hotel & Restaurant
in Co Wexford



Mike O'Connor

Assistant Head, School of
Culinary Arts & Food
Technology, Dublin
Institute of Technology



And more speakers
to be confirmed...



Friday Evening 8th @ 6.00pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

BREXIT & BORDERS

The Kennedy Summer School has gathered a panel of expert voices from Dublin, Derry, Brussels and Wexford, for an in depth discussion on Brexit and its implications for politics, trade and economics in Ireland, North and South and for the future of the European Union.



Bertie Ahern

Taoiseach 1997- 2008,
Leader of Fianna Fáil 1994-
2008, President of the
European Council 2004



Mark Durkan

MP for Foyle 2005 - 2017,
Former leader of the SDLP
and Deputy First Minister
of Northern Ireland



Verona Murphy

President of the Road
Haulage Association,
Managing Director of
DruMur Transport Limited



Tony Connelly

RTE Europe Editor, Author
of *'Brexit and Ireland: the
Dangers, the Opportunities
and the Inside Story of the
Irish Response'*



Cody Keenan working with President Obama in the Oval Office, December 2016

Friday 8th @ 7.30pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

'THE MAN BEHIND THE WORDS: SPEECH WRITING FOR PRESIDENT OBAMA'

Cody Keenan, Director of Speech Writing,
White House 2013-17



In an audio-visually illustrated presentation, Cody Keenan will explore the craft and process of speech writing with a focus on particular speeches he enjoyed writing.

A 2002 graduate of Northwestern University's Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Cody Keenan moved to Washington, DC after graduation to work for the late Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts. He later earned a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He took a full-time position on Barack Obama's presidential campaign in 2008. In 2009, he became Deputy Director of Speech Writing at the White House and in that role he led the crafting of many renowned speeches, such as President Obama's address after the shooting of US Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords in 2011 and his eulogy for Senator Kennedy.

He was promoted to Director of Speech Writing for the Obama administration in 2013 and continued in that role through President Obama's second term. The memorable speeches on which he has worked include the anniversary of "Bloody Sunday," in Selma, Alabama, multiple State of the Union addresses and President Obama's farewell speech in Chicago in January 2017.



Friday 8th @ 8.30pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

THE KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL INTERVIEW 2017

Ian Paisley MP



Ian Paisley has been the Member of Parliament for North Antrim in Westminster since 2010. He is the DUP spokesman for Agriculture in the House of Commons and a member of the Northern Ireland Select Affairs Committee. For

thirteen years prior to being a Member of Parliament he was a Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly. He was also a Junior Minister in the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister and is one of the longest serving members of the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

In an extended conversation with Irish Times Columnist Noel Whelan and an audience questions and answers session, Ian Paisley will tell of his political life, his involvement in the Peace Process and his work on the Northern Ireland Policing Board. He will also give his reflections on his father's political career and influence and the ultimate decision to enter government with Sinn Féin. Ian Junior will also discuss the prospects for politics in Northern Ireland and the restoration of power sharing government. He will set out the case for modern Unionism and the relationship it wishes to have with the Republic of Ireland. He will tell why he sees Brexit as a positive development for Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom. He will also be asked for his take on Donald Trump, on the late Martin McGuinness and on other leading politics figures on these islands and further afield.

Saturday 9th @ 11am

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

KENNEDY SUMMER SCHOOL

HISTORY SYMPOSIUM;

JOHN F. KENNEDY 1917-2017



CHAIR

David McCullagh is a journalist with RTÉ. After 12 years as Political Correspondent, he became a presenter on Prime Time in 2013. He is the author of *'A Makeshift Majority: A history of the First Inter-Party Government and The Reluctant Taoiseach: A biography of John A. Costello'*. His new book, *'De Valera: Volume 1, Rise (1882-1932)'* will be published by Gill Books in October.



Was JFK a Great American President?

Felix M. Larkin is a prolific author and historian on numerous aspects of Modern Irish and international history. He has been chairman of the Sick and Indigent Roomkeepers Society, academic director of the Parnell Summer School and chairman of the Newspaper and Periodical History Forum of Ireland.



Ireland in the Kennedy Era

Mary E. Daly is Professor Emeritus in Modern Irish History at University College Dublin. Subsequent to her career as a teacher and researcher of modern Irish history, she was - in 2014 - elected as the first woman President of the Royal Irish Academy in the Academy's 229-year history. In 2015, she was appointed as a Commissioner to investigate the history of Ireland's mother and baby homes.



Keynote: John F Kennedy's Life and Legacy

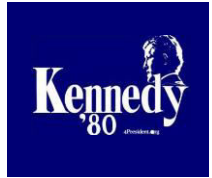
Professor Robert Schmuhl is the Walter H. Annenberg-Edmund P. Joyce Chair in American Studies and Journalism at Notre Dame University. He is the author of more than a dozen books on Modern Irish History and a regular contributor on US affairs and elections for RTE's Morning Ireland.



Saturday 9th @ Noon

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

'THE CAUSES THAT ENDURE'
Bob Shrum



In an audio-visually illustrated public interview with Dr. Brian Murphy, Robert M. Shrum will reflect on his involvement in Edward Kennedy's 1980 presidential election campaign and his life as a senior Democratic political strategist over five decades.

Shrum is now the Director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics and the Carmen H. and Louis Warschaw Chair in Practical Politics at the University of Southern California, where he is a Professor of the Practice of Political Science in the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. He is a former political strategist and consultant who served as senior advisor to the Kerry-Edwards 2004 campaign and to the Gore-Lieberman 2000 campaign. *'The Atlantic Monthly'* described him as "the most sought-after consultant in the Democratic Party."

Shrum served as speechwriter to New York Mayor John V. Lindsay from 1970 to 1971, speechwriter to Sen. George McGovern's 1972 presidential campaign and speechwriter and press secretary to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy from 1980 to 1984 and as a political consultant until 2009.

Internationally, Bob was a senior adviser to the campaign of Prime Minister Ehud Barak of Israel and to the British Labour Party in the 2001 parliamentary campaign.

His book, *'No Excuses: Concessions of a Serial Campaigner'*, was published in June 2007 by Simon and Schuster.

Saturday 9th @ 2pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

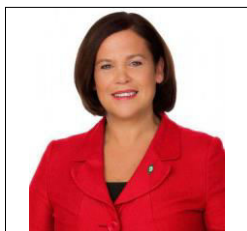
IRISH POLITICS SESSION BUDGET, BREXIT & BETTER POLITICS



Sarah McInerney, co-presenter of Newstalk Drive, chairs a special one-hour panel of leading Irish politicians who will debate topical issues and take questions from the Kennedy Summer School audience. As the political season is about to restart after the summer recess and with Budget 2018 just weeks away there will be much to discuss. The new Taoiseach and reshuffled ministers are likely to have had three months to settle into their new positions and the panel will take a timely look at how 'new politics' has adjusted to the change in leadership. The panel will also give their up to date perspectives on Ireland's approach to Brexit as negotiations between Britain and the European Union 27 are set to intensify in the autumn.



Regina Doherty TD
(Fine Gael)



Mary Lou McDonald TD
(Sinn Féin)



Joan Burton TD
(Labour)



Lisa Chambers TD
(Fianna Fail)



Saturday 9th @ 3pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

TRANSLATING TRUMP'S AMERICA FOR THE IRISH AUDIENCE

Caitriona Perry



CAITRIONA PERRY is RTE's Washington Correspondent. She has been described as "a one woman newsroom covering a whole continent". She has reported on the unprecedented tensions and excitement of the 2016 US presidential campaign and the turbulent early months of the Trump presidency.

She has covered many difficult stories, most notably the tragic deaths of Irish J1 students in the Berkeley balcony collapse in June 2015. For lighter news stories she has covered the Oscars in Los Angeles and in July 2014 she tracked down Garth Brooks for comment on his decision to cancel a series of concerts in Croke Park.

In an audio-visually illustrated conversation with Boston born lawyer and US politics pundit Larry Donnelly, Caitriona will tell the behind the scenes story of her four years working in her 'dream job', sometimes 21 hours a day in two different time zones.

Prior to becoming RTE's Washington Correspondent, she held various posts as an anchor, reporter and programme editor within RTE and before that with Today FM.

Caitriona holds a Degree in Journalism and a Masters Degree in International Relations, both awarded by Dublin City University



Saturday 9th @ 4.30pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

US POLITICS SESSION DONALD TRUMP AND THE US PRESIDENCY



Bob Shrum

Professor of the Practice
of Political Science,
University of Southern
California



Gina London

Former CNN Correspondent,
Communications Consultant
Expert



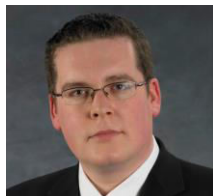
Bob Schmuhl

Professor of Politics and
American Studies,
Notre Dame



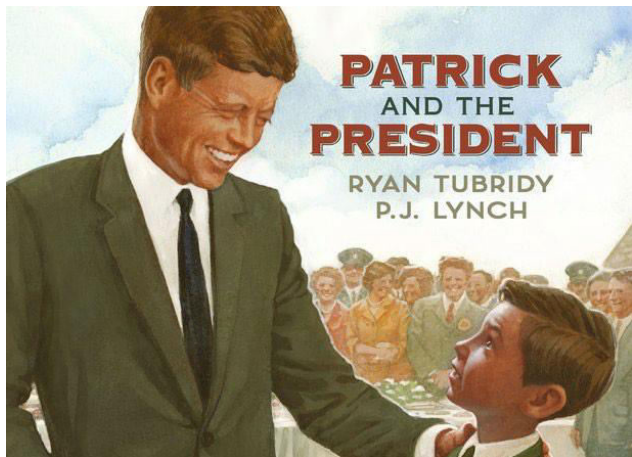
Dr. Robert M. Mauro

Executive Director of the
Irish Institute and Global
Leadership Institute at
Boston College



John McGuirk

Political Commentator
& Vice President
for Corporate
Communications with
Rivada Networks



Saturday Evening 9th @ 6pm

Venue: New Ross Library

CHILDREN'S BOOK EVENT
With Ryan Tubridy & P.J. Lynch



Broadcaster Ryan Tubridy has long-time championed children's reading and is now himself a children's author. At this special Kennedy Summer School event at New Ross Library, Ryan and Children's laureate P.J. Lynch will do readings and take question from an audience of children and adults.



Together they have created a picture book about President John F. Kennedy's return to his ancestral home in Ireland. It is a captivating story that beautifully evokes a seminal moment in the life of JFK through the eyes of a young boy.

It captures the fevered excitement in the build-up to JFK's visit – all evoked through the eyes of a young boy called Patrick who wants to know, more than anything, what it would feel like to shake the President's hand.

Rooted in historical fact, and marking the centenary of JFK's birth, it offers readers a very pure and personal take on JFK's visit to County Wexford.



Saturday 9th @ 8pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

Kennedy Summer School Closing Event AN AUDIENCE WITH RYAN TUBRIDY ON JFK AND MUCH MORE

Ryan Tubridy will talk about his passion for US politics and culture and all things Kennedy, and on his research for his best-selling and award winning book '*JFK in Ireland: Four Days That Changed a President*' published in 2010. He will tell of the inspiration behind his recently published children's book '*Patrick and the President*', illustrated by P.J. Lynch. He will also take audience questions on memorable moments from his broadcasting career, including his current role as a day time radio presenter and presenter of the Late Late Show.

Ryan Tubridy and P.J. Lynch speaking at the JFK Library in Boston with Kevin Cullen, Boston Globe journalist and 2016 KSS Speaker.



JFK SUMMER SCHOOL 2016



Boston Globe journalist, Kevin Cullen and Martin O'Malley, former Maryland Governor and Democratic presidential candidate catch up at the Kennedy ancestral homestead.



A full house in St. Michael's Theatre for the 2016 Kennedy Summer School opening night.



Checking out the 'Clinton V Trump' ice creams at Deegan's Deelsh are Larry Donnelly NUI Galway & KSS Director, Willie Keilthy, Chairman KSS, Karen O'Connor project manager KSS and Noel Whelan KSS Founder.

A Celebration of Wexford's Youth Musicians

Throughout the weekend the Kennedy Summer School programme will feature a number of special performances which will celebrate the extraordinary talent of Wexford's young musicians.



The New Ross Pipe Band



Danescastle Music Group



The Wexford Youth Orchestra String & Flute Quartet

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Thursday 7th September 6pm

Venue: New Ross Library

Launch of the New Ross Kennedy Book and Research Archive

Speakers: Professor Richard Aldous, Dr. David Woolner
Followed by a reception

Thursday 7th September 8pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

Official Opening Katherine Zappone Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

Followed by

Edward M. Kennedy Lecture 2017

Special Film Screening of '*Condemned to Remember*'

Chair: Peter Cassells

Speakers: Tomi Reichental, Shaykh Dr Muhammad Umar Al-Qadri

Friday 8th September 10am

Venue: St Mary's Secondary School

Secondary Schools' Event Building Resilience

Niall Breslin (Bressie)

What Do You Want To Do When You Grow Up?

Sinead McSweeney

& more speakers to be confirmed

Friday 8th September 12pm

Venue: The Tholsel, New Ross

Arts and Disability - Extending Access

Featuring: Pádraig Naughton, Elizabeth Whyte,
Senator John Dolan

& more speakers to be confirmed

Friday 8th September 2.30pm

Venue: Kennedy Homestead, Dunganstown

The Dunganstown Tea Party

Featuring: Paul Kelly, Kevin Dundon, Mike O'Connor
& more speakers to be confirmed

Friday Evening 8th September 6pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

Brexit & Borders

Speakers: Bertie Ahern, Mark Durkan, Tony Connelly,
Verona Murphy

7pm Food for Thought, a break for wine & light snack

Friday Evening 8th September 7:30pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

"The Man Behind the Words: Speech Writing For President Obama"

Cody Keenan

Friday Evening 8th September 8:30pm

Venue: St. Michael's Theatre

The Summer School Interview

Ian Paisley MP in conversation with Noel Whelan

Saturday 9th September 11am

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

Kennedy Summer School History Symposium: John F. Kennedy 1917-2017

Chair: David McCullagh

Keynote: John F. Kennedy's Life and Legacy-Professor Robert Schmuhl
Was JFK a Great President-Felix M. Larkin
Ireland in the Kennedy Era-Mary E. Daly

Saturday 9th September 12pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

"The Causes That Endure"

Bob Shrum

Lunch Break 1.00- 2.00pm

Saturday 9th September 2pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

Irish Politics Session: Budget, Brexit & Better Politics

Chair: Sarah McInerney Newstalk

Speakers: Regina Doherty TD (Fine Gael),
Joan Burton TD (Labour), Lisa Chambers TD (Fianna Fail),
Mary Lou McDonald (Sinn Fein)

Saturday 9th September 3pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

Translating Trump's America for the Irish Audience

Caitriona Perry

Coffee Break 4pm

Saturday 9th September 4.30pm

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

US Politics Session: Donald Trump and The US Presidency

Short presentations and extended panel discussions

Speakers: Bob Shrum, Bob Schmuhl, Gina London, John McGuirk,
Dr. Robert Mauro

Saturday 9th September 6pm:

Venue: New Ross Library

Children's Book Event "Patrick And The President"

Ryan Tubridy & P. J. Lynch

Saturday 9th September 8pm:

Venue: St Michael's Theatre

Closing Event

An Audience with Ryan Tubridy on
JFK and Much More



Ticket Prices

Tickets: St. Michael's Theatre.

Box Office +353 (0)51 421255 or online at www.kennedysummerschool.ie


- Friday & Saturday Ticket €37.50
- Friday ONLY €20 or Saturday ONLY €25
- Individual Events €12.50
(Places must be booked in advance)
- Thursday Events and Saturday's Children's Book Event are free events, but booking is essential, to book contact karen@kennedysummerschool.ie

The Kennedy Summer School

35 South Street, New Ross, Co. Wexford

info@kennedysummerschool.ie T. +353 (0)89 206 7886

 www.facebook.com/KennedySummerSchool

 Twitter; @JFK_SS

Supported By

