

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a stone archway. Through the arch, a Celtic cross stands on a grassy area. In the background, there are stone buildings and trees under a bright sky. The text is overlaid on this image.

New York City Department of Education  
Emerald Society

Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance  
Friday, March 10, 2023

**2023 Honorees**

Heather Adelle

Erin Betito

Patrick Burns

William Carroll, Sr.

Anne Kirrane

Stephen O'Brien

Michael Sill

Terrace on the Park  
52-11 111<sup>th</sup> Street  
Queens, New York 11368

# *CSA salutes the NYC DoE Emerald Society 2023 honorees*

**Michael Sill** Assistant Secretary, UFT  
**IRISH PRO DEO ET PATRIA**

**Stephen O'Brien** Director, Strategic Practices & Policy  
**IRISH ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR**

**Heather Adelle** Principal, John Dewey High School  
**IRISH HS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

**William Carroll, Sr.** Retired Custodian Engineer, IS 88K  
**IRISH CUSTODIAN OF THE YEAR**

**Patrick Burns** Principal, IS 217Q  
**IRISH MS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

**Anne Kirrane** Principal, 81X  
**IRISH ES PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

**Erin Betito** Teacher, P224Q  
**IRISH TEACHER OF THE YEAR**



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New York City Department of Education  
Emerald Society  
P.O. Box 604195  
Bayside, NY 11360  
Website: [www.emeraldsocietynycdoe.com](http://www.emeraldsocietynycdoe.com)  
Donna M. McGuire, President



March 10, 2023

Dear Fellow Emeralds and Guests,

### Emerald Society Officers

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Donna M. McGuire

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It is my honor to welcome you to the 51st annual Emerald Society of the New York City Department of Education's Award Ceremony and Scholarship Dinner Dance. Thank you for being here tonight to help us celebrate this historic and memorable occasion! Our educational organization is one of the oldest in NYC and it is due to the dedication of its members who highlight and celebrate Irish culture and accomplishments within our city's great educational system.

The NYCDOE Emerald Society is committed to maintaining the mission and vision of our cultural society, which is to celebrate Irish culture, promote collegiality, community and unity among all of our colleagues. To this end, we are inclusive of our Irish and honorary Irish brothers and sisters of the various New York City unions! In fact, our organization has been in existence for over fifty years, because we celebrate our culture, recognize and honor the contributions of all its members within the largest educational community in the world.

Tonight let us honor and celebrate the academic achievements of our scholarship recipients, as well as the dedication and leadership of our honorees. In addition, we highlight and acknowledge the dedication and passion that each of our honorees demonstrate, while also celebrating our distinct culture and the traditions that unite us.

This evening we are fortunate to have our brothers and sisters from all unions with us, including Local 891, Local 94, UFT, DC 37 and CSA. At this time, please remember that all of our Irish ancestors took an important role in establishing the unions that we are all proud of today. All our American unionist forefathers and foremothers worked to establish a solid foundation for us and the generations that would follow. It is now our turn to create ways to maintain and sustain our heritage, and celebrate our educational accomplishments. In addition, we need to continue the unity that has been established, for everyone, all Irish and Honorary Irish, and for our great city's future!

Slainte,

*Donna McGuire*

Donna McGuire  
President

**New York City Department of Education Emerald Society  
Scholarship Dinner Dance  
Terrace on the Park  
March 10, 2023**

**Program**

**Cocktail Hour**

*Liam Woods, Patrick Mangan, Sean McNally*

**Color Guard Procession**

*Richie Niccolich and Michael Cleary*

**National Anthems**

**Blessing**

*Father Christopher Heanue*

**President's Welcome**

**Scholarship Awards**

**Presentation of Honorees**

**Raffle**

**Dancing**



## Award Recipients 2023

**Irish Pro Deo et Patria** *Michael Sill – Assistant Secretary, UFT*

**Irish Administrator of the Year** *Stephen O'Brien – Director, Strategic Partnerships & Policy*

**Irish HS Principal of the Year** *Heather Adelle – Principal, John Dewey High School*

**Irish Custodian of the Year** *William Carroll, Sr. – Retired Custodian Engineer, IS 88K*

**Irish MS Principal of the Year** *Patrick Burns – Principal, MS 217Q*

**Irish ES Principal of the Year** *Anne Kirrane – Principal, 81X*

**Irish Teacher of the Year** *Erin Betito – Teacher, P224Q*

## Scholarship Recipients 2023

**Emma Cullinan**                      **Helen Marie McMahon Scholarship**

**Caterina Cirone**                      **James Dougherty Scholarship**

**Bridget Motley**                      **Bridget Laura O'Shea Scholarship**

*The Officers, Trustees and Members of the Emerald Society offer our congratulations on your achievement and wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.*

## The NYCDOE Emerald Society is grateful for the Celtic sound...



### Cocktail Hour

**Patrick Mangan** - Two-time All-Ireland fiddle champion Patrick Mangan is from Brooklyn, New York, where he was introduced to traditional music at an early age. He grew up playing alongside legendary Irish musicians from both sides of the Atlantic. At sixteen, Patrick appeared in “Riverdance on Broadway,” becoming the youngest fiddler in the show’s history. Since then, he has toured extensively with “Riverdance” and other luminaries of Celtic music, playing to enthralled audiences around the world. At home in New York, Patrick hosts many of the city’s top Irish music sessions and plays in the hit Broadway musical “Come from Away.”

**Sean McNally** is a heavy-handed musician, boisterous singer-songwriter, and all-around performer living and working out of New York City. On any given night, you can find him lashing out songs in the pubs and clubs of the city he calls home, or somewhere on the road doing just the same.

**Liam Woods** is an eighth grader at Xaverian Genesis. His instruments are the guitar, piano and banjo. Liam is currently in the St. Cecelia’s Grúpaí Cheoil (group band).



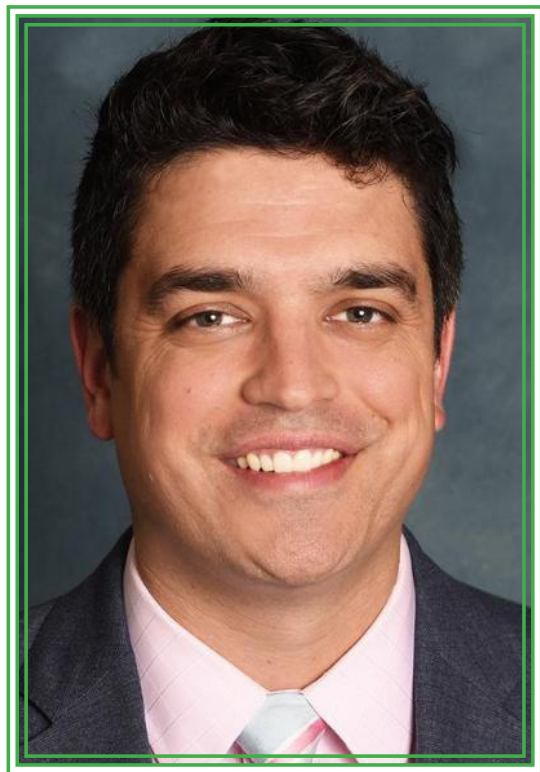
### Color Guard Procession

**Michael Cleary**– Bagpiper, Manhattan College Pipes and Drums

**Richie Niccolich** – UFT Bagpiper and Pipe Major, Manhattan College Pipes and Drums



*Pro Deo et Patria Award*  
***Michael Sill***  
*Assistant Secretary, UFT*



Mike Sill is the UFT's assistant secretary and also serves as the director of personnel, payroll and special projects. Elected to office in 2019, he is serving his second term. Mike received his bachelor's degree in English from Northeastern University and his master's in teaching from Pace University.

With in-depth knowledge of the Department of Education-UFT contract and with a command over the member-related issues concerning working conditions, pay and the implementation of various union and management agreements, Mike serves as the primary point of contact with the DOE and is a chief negotiator. Crucially, during the pandemic, Mike was part of the senior team that negotiated working conditions and special payments in the new virtual and hybrid context.

As director, Mike has the pleasure of leading a team of hardworking full-time and part-time UFT staff who serve as fixers when members experience problems with leaves, tenure, licensing/certification, salary and the like. Mike's portfolio includes the implementation of UFT initiatives such as paid parental leave, new school hiring committees, Teacher's Choice and the Absent Teacher Reserve. At the bargaining table, he has represented members on issues ranging from paid parental leave to the Bronx Plan to the career ladder. In addition, at arbitration hearings, Mike often appears as an expert witness on behalf of members.

Prior to becoming director, Mike taught English language arts at Automotive HS in Brooklyn, where he spent most of his teaching career. While an elected UFT delegate at Automotive, Mike fought against a succession of DOE initiatives that worked against the interests of our members — including Restart, Transformation and Turnaround — and effectively kept the staff together through three principals and more than a dozen assistant principals in a four-year period. With the help of the UFT and the community, Automotive stayed open despite the Bloomberg-era DOE's constant course changing and mismanagement. Mike later transferred to Spring Creek Community School in East New York, where he was a founding staff member and chapter leader. In 2013, following a brief stint as a UFT PM staffer, he secured a full-time union position specializing in personnel issues.

Mike and his wife, Karina, are the proud parents of four children: Valeria, Michael Jr., Mia and Matthew.

*New York City Department of Education Emerald Society*



## *Irish Administrator of of the Year*

# *Stephen O'Brien*

## *Director, Strategic Partnerships & Policy*

Stephen O'Brien is the Director of Strategic Partnerships and Policy at the Office of Food and Nutrition Services, New York City Department of Education. Over the past three decades, Stephen has served the students of New York City in various roles including the Director of Food and Menu Management, Regional Director for the Borough of Manhattan, Deputy Director of Field Operations, Technical Assistant Supervisor, and School Food Service Manager. Stephen works with a dedicated team to improve school meals for the 1.1 million New York City children in all of the 32 school districts. He has a

broad understanding of the complexities involved in delivering a quality service to students. He has overseen several changes and transformed school meals and cafeterias making them a model for districts across the country including: using more locally sourced foods, cutting out artificial ingredients, bringing salad bars to all schools, serving whole grains, getting compostable plates and utensils into cafeterias, developing a citywide emergency response plan and getting students engaged in the meal service. Mr. O'Brien has been honored for his work and participates in conferences and events that educate communities about school meals and nutrition education programming as well as model practices for engaging and educating parents about School Meals. He is a founder and key leader within the Urban School Food Alliance, a collection of the largest school districts in the United States, where he supports large scale market change to improve the quality of meals offered nationally.

Stephen began his career in September of 1991 overseeing the food programs at Brandies High School, Westside High School and The Mickey Mantle School. As a trained chef and certified secondary education teacher Stephen understood the importance of feeding students a satisfying meal so they had the nutrients to learn and grow while supporting the academic goals of the school community. Stephen quickly learned that each school is a unique complex environment where students are nurtured in several ways to learn new things and become productive residents of New York City.

Born to Peter and Bernadette O'Brien, Stephen is the youngest of five children, three brothers and one sister. His Irish heritage contributed significantly to the way he approaches life. His grandfather, Michael O'Brien and grandmother, Elsie Foley immigrated to the United States. Stephen's grandmother, Ms. Elsie Foley was born County Kerry, Ireland in the year 1900. One of 5 children, Elsie immigrated to the United States at the age of 17 hoping to find opportunity and freedom. His grandfather, Michael O'Brien was born in County Claire Ireland in 1893. He came to America passing through Ellis Island in 1920. They met in New York, were married over 60 years and raised four children together in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. They were always proud of their Irish heritage and to be Americans. Doing good for others was and still is a central value in the O'Brien family.

Stephen and his wife Kristen will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary this summer. They love their NYC community, extended family and friends and enjoy cooking, traveling and spending time at the beach.

*New York City Department of Education Emerald Society*





## *Irish HS Principal of the Year*

# *Heather Adelle*

## *Principal, John Dewey High School*



Heather Adelle has been working in education for over 20 years, beginning her career in proud service to D21 Brooklyn south schools that she attended as a student. She spent 15 years as an elementary and middle school teacher, during which time she grew into leadership roles as a teacher lead and coach for staff.

In 2016, Mrs. Adelle became assistant principal at John Dewey High School, where she served as an innovative leader for curriculum and teacher development in English and English as a New Language (ENL). In September 2021, she humbly accepted the role of proud principal of John Dewey High School, a community of roughly 2200 students. During her short tenure, she has worked to expand career and college opportunities for her students through various initiatives and certifications that serve the six learning academies of John Dewey.

Mrs. Adelle's educational philosophy is based on her uncompromising belief that all children can learn and be successful, confident and responsible individuals who can reach their highest potential when held to high expectations and given appropriate support and interventions that are designed to meet their individual needs. Her educational experiences have allowed her to collaborate with a diverse group of people, such as teachers, staff, and community members, to increase student achievement and social emotional well-being.

Mrs. Adelle earned a Bachelor's Degree in Child Study from St. Joseph's College in 2000, and a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Touro College in 2003. After several years of teaching and leadership, she pursued her School Based Leadership license through a second Master's program at Touro College.

*This Page was Reserved*

*for*

*Irish Custodian of the Year*

*William Carroll, Sr.*

*Retired Custodian Engineer, IS 88K*

## *Irish MS Principal of the Year*

# *Patrick Burns*

## *Principal MS 217Q*



Patrick Burns is a distinguished educator and leader who has made a significant impact on the education landscape in New York City. Born on June 27th, 1971, in Queens, NY to Irish immigrants, Mary Burns and Patrick Burns, Patrick's upbringing in a family that valued education and hard work set him on the path to become a dedicated educator.

After completing elementary school and secondary school at PS 152, JHS 125, and Monsignor McClancy Memorial HS, respectively, Patrick pursued higher education at Bernard M. Baruch College, CUNY, where he received his BA and Masters in Educational Administration. He began his teaching career as a mathematics teacher at JHS 190 in District 28 Queens in 1995. He later became the Assistant Principal of Robert A Van Wyck Middle School 217 in District 28 in 2004, and was appointed as the Principal in 2008.

At MS 217, Patrick and his colleagues are committed to supporting students as they find their voice and engage in promoting integrity, critical thinking, kindness, reflection, and the responsibility for others and the Earth. Together, they have been at the forefront of edtech implementation, piloting numerous edtech initiatives, including being selected in 2010 as one of the first of twenty schools in NYC to implement a one-to-one laptop environment for students. Today the students of MS 217 are involved in advanced mathematics courses, app design, drone programming, collaborating with higher education universities on artificial intelligence, and a trusted partner with Google. In addition, the school community is dedicated to providing their students a strong academic foundation and arts driven experience, as well as daily opportunities for students to develop their social competencies. Patrick counts himself very lucky to work daily with amazing educators and to serve a beautiful community.

Patrick's exceptional leadership and commitment to innovation have made a lasting impact on the education community in NYC and beyond. He has received the NYCDOE Tech Leadership award, serves as director of professional learning for the Middle School Principals' Association, and has been identified as a model principal. He has served as a mentor Principal for 10 years in the CSA Advanced Leadership Program for Aspiring Principals and has served on the NYC Mayor's Principal Working Group on School Climate.

Patrick is married to his childhood sweetheart Annie, and is the proud father of his two amazing daughters, Maya and Kayley. Overall, Patrick has dedicated his life to education, striving to make a difference in the lives of his students, their families, and his colleagues. He is truly honored and grateful to be recognized by the New York City Department of Education Emerald Society, and is proud of the rich Irish tradition of hard work, determination, and a good sense of humor.

*New York City Department of Education Emerald Society*



## *Irish ES Principal of the Year*

# *Anne Kirrane*

### *Principal, 81X*

Anne Kirrane was born in County Mayo, Ireland where she spent her early childhood with her parents and five siblings. Her family was historically vested in the education of young people and worked diligently to ensure that their children received a stellar education. After Anne completed elementary school, she attended Saint Mary's boarding school where she received a rigorous education including the study of Latin, French, and the Irish Language. Her education was enriched by the arts during her time at Saint Mary's. She studied piano and violin and was a member of the orchestra and drama club. She also received instruction in Irish dancing and participated in numerous performances and competitions. Anne's education of Irish culture was further enriched by spending her summers in the Gaeltacht, where she studied Irish history and music. After high school, Anne attended St. Joseph's College where she studied Liberal Arts. The following year she joined her family in New York to continue her studies at Fordham University where she earned her bachelor's degree with a major in mathematics. Later, she earned a Master's Degree in Mathematics and a Master's Degree in School Administration.

During the past eleven years, Anne has worked as the principal of P.S. 81, Robert J. Christen School. Prior to her becoming principal, she had been assistant principal at P.S. 81 for nine years and worked as a math teacher and math coach the previous ten years. Anne leads with her heart. Her goal is to know all of her seven hundred students and support them and their families. She is passionate about her mission to provide every student with a safe, equitable and child-centered educational experience while preparing them to be compassionate, civically-minded, productive members of society. The culture that she has created is evident from the moment you enter the school. Students are greeted by name every day with a warm smile from Anne. Her open-door policy and the inviting climate she has created set the tone for the entire school community. Her office is a place where students come to visit, share their work and feel confident that Anne is there to help and guide them when they need support or simply to share a positive learning experience. Her strong strategic leadership is the reason that P.S. 81 continues to maintain its high performing status.

Anne provides extensive professional development for all staff members. She continues to refine her own practice in order to stay on the cutting edge of effective leadership. Over the years, she has participated in professional development and learning opportunities with leading educational institutions. Notably, she has received training from the Epicenter for Creative Learning and has completed a number of courses at Harvard University. As instilled in her during her educational journey in Ireland, Anne strives to be an example to her school community that we should never stop learning.

Anne resides in Kinnelon, New Jersey with her husband, Lawrence. Together they are the proud parents of Sean, Erin, Tara and Eileen. They are doting grandparents to Elliott, Emily, Tessa, Izzy and angel Conor. During Anne's limited free time, she is committed to spending time with her family and friends, both here and in Ireland.

Anne would like to extend her gratitude to the Emerald Society for this honor. Anne is proud of all the work that the Emerald Society organization does to support students.





## *Irish Teacher of the Year*

# *Erin Betito*

## *Teacher, P224Q*



Erin Betito is an English as a New Language Teacher at P224Q, a District 75 school in Bellerose, Queens. She has over a decade of experience working to help students learn how to communicate in English. In District 75, each child is very unique.

Some students use pictures, AAC communication devices and sign language to express themselves. Erin enjoys discovering what brings each child joy. Teaching through joyful and creative lessons helps unlock students' wonder and keeps them wanting to learn more.

She loves to connect to the experience of her own family's immigration to America when working with each of her students and their families. On her paternal side, her ancestors emigrated from Ireland several generations ago. Her maternal grandparents were both from Ireland; Bernadette, her grandmother, was from county Fermanagh and John, her grandfather, was from county Longford. They met in NYC at a Ceili dance and were married in 1948. They went on to raise 6 children in Queens and eventually in Poughkeepsie NY. From these six children they had 13 grandchildren.

Erin was born and raised in Queens where she attended NYC DOE public school. She fell in love with teaching while fulfilling high school service hours at The Samuel Field Y after school program. She went on to obtain a Bachelor's in Childhood Education and Multicultural Literature.

After student teaching, she realized her heart was set on working with English Language Learners. She went on to pursue a Masters degree in Teaching English to Speakers of other languages. Erin feels that working with children that are new to this country and to the English language is a privilege. It gives her the opportunity to always make sure the classroom is a welcoming, fun and engaging place to make sure our city's newcomers always know they belong.

In addition to her teaching role, Erin is also a UFT Chapter Leader at her school. She loves assisting and representing her members. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, going to concerts and being out in nature.

# SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS 2022/2023

## ROYAL EMERALDS (\$500 OR HIGHER )

LIVINGSTON FAMILY\*\*IN MEMORY OF HELEN MARIE MCMAHON  
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## EMERALDS ( \$100 OR HIGHER )

IN MEMORY OF JACKIE KEANE  
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## IRISH HARPS ( \$50 OR HIGHER )

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NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
EMERALD SOCIETY  
ON THEIR**

**ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER DANCE**

**BROOKLYN NAVY YARD,  
63 FLUSHING AVENUE  
BUILDING 292, SUITE 401  
BROOKLYN, NY 11205**

**718-455-9731**

*Congratulations to*  
**The Emerald Society NYC DOE**

*and*

*Congratulations to*

**Patrick Burns**

*Annie, Maya, Kayley & Mom*

**THE UNITED FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
SALUTES  
NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION EMERALD SOCIETY  
ON ITS  
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP  
DINNER DANCE**



**We join in celebrating  
IRISH PRO DEO ET PATRIA  
MICHAEL SILL, UFT ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
IRISH TEACHER OF THE YEAR  
ERIN BETTO, P224Q  
and all the other worthy honorees!**



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*A Union of Professionals*

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*Congratulations*

**Patrick**

*Helen & Tom Higgins*  
*Tommy & Jillian*  
*Tara, Ben & Blake*

***THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION***

***EMERALD SOCIETY***

at its Gala Jubilee Dinner Dance

takes great pride in honoring the following individuals  
for their contributions to the educational experience of  
New York City students.

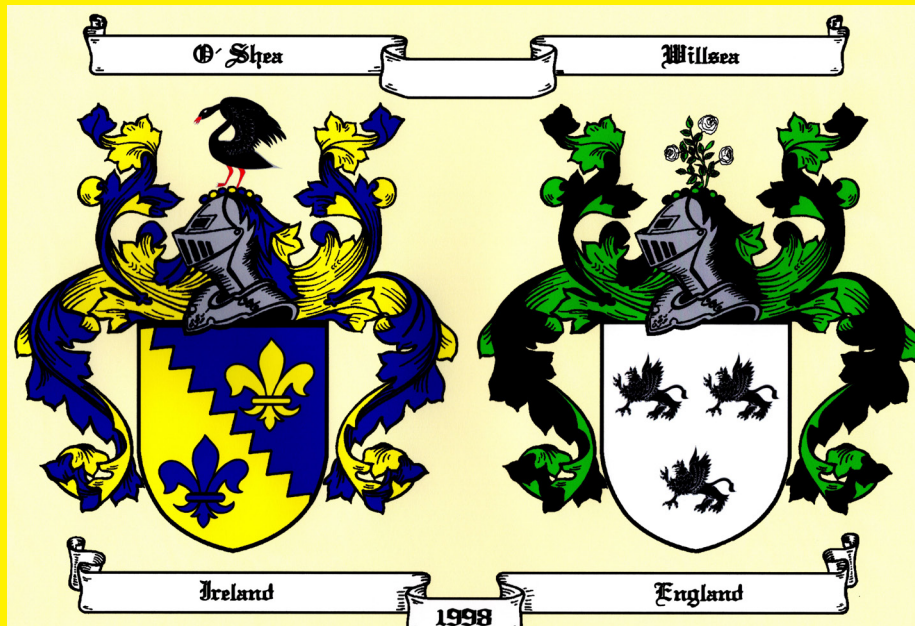
***Michael Sill  
Stephen O'Brien  
Heather Adelle  
William Carroll, Sr.  
Patrick Burns  
Anne Kirrane  
Erin Botito***

We wish also to congratulate our scholarship winners  
for their awareness of the importance of preserving  
their Irish heritage.

***Emma Cullinan, Caterina Cirone & Bridget Motley***

**Gratefully,**  
***Donna McGuire***  
**President**





*Congratulations to*

**Bridget Motley**

*Winner of the 2023*

**Bridget Laura O'Shea Scholarship**

*The O'Shea, Willsea, and Mangan Families  
wish you every blessing of health, happiness, and success!*





## Grand Council of United Emerald Societies Inc.

PO Box 124 Woodlawn Station, Bronx, NY 10470

Reorganized in 1975

Ní neart go cur le chéile

There is no strength without unity

[www.gcues.org](http://www.gcues.org)

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# CONGRATULATIONS

## Michael Sill

## Stephen O'Brien

## Heather Adelle

## William Carroll

## Patrick Burns

## Anne Kirrane

## Erin Betito

## Fraternally,

## Martin Bellew

## Martin Bellew

## President





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Middle School Principals' Association of the City of New York

Congratulations to

***Patrick Burns***

Principal of Middle School 217Q,

The Green Magnet School for Career Exploration,

for being selected as the

**Irish MS Principal of The Year.**

The Middle School Principals' Association  
is very proud of you and all of your accomplishments.

We are even prouder to have you as a  
member of our organization.



# *Comhghairdeas*

to

## ***Tonight's Honorees***

*Michael Sill  
Stephen O'Brien  
Heather Adelle  
William Carroll, Sr.  
Patrick Burns  
Anne Kirrane  
Erin Botito*

*Pete and Kathy McNally*



*Comhghairdeas do Chach!*  
*Beannachtai na*  
*Feile Padraig oraibh!*  
**EIRE GO BRACH!**

*Congratulations to All!*  
*St. Patrick's Day Blessings to you!*  
**IRELAND FOREVER!**

*Dr. Mary McInerney. Tom McInerney*  
*and Family*

*Congratulations*

to

**Patrick Burns**

for being selected as

**Irish MS Principal of the Year**

We are all very proud of you  
and your accomplishments!

*The Tarrant and Benn  
Families*





***Catholic Teachers Association***  
of the Diocese of Brooklyn, Inc.  
**Patrick Burns, President**

191 Joralemon Street Brooklyn, NY 11201  
email: teachers191@yahoo.com

*We Congratulate*  
**The New York City Department of Education**  
**Emerald Society**  
*on the Occasion of their*  
**51<sup>st</sup> Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance**

*and*

*We Extend Our Very Best Wishes*  
*to Your Honorees*

***Michael Sill***  
***Stephen O'Brien***  
***Heather Adelle***  
***William Carroll, Sr.***  
***Patrick Burns***  
***Anne Kirrane***  
***Erin Botito***

*New York City Department of Education Emerald Society*



## Patrick

*Congratulations on being recognized  
for your contributions  
to such a wonderful organization.*

*Love,*

*Aunt Joan*

*Tim*

*Marie, Sophie*

*Brian, Helen, Gemma and Olivia*



# Patrick

*Congratulations on being honored as  
The 2023 Middle School Principal of the Year.*

*We are all so very proud of you  
and your achievements.*

*Love,*

*Aunt Frances*

*and The Arriaga and Villarreal Families.*



*Congratulations*

**Stephen J. O'Brien**

*Upon receiving*

*The Emerald Society's*

**ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

*We are all very proud of you.*

*The O'Brien Family*

Congratulations  
to the Winner of the  
James F. Dougherty  
Scholarship

*Caterina Cirone*

From your friends at





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**Congratulations  
To the  
Emerald Society  
Of the  
New York City  
Department of Education  
2023 Honorees**

**&**

**2023 Scholarship  
Award Recipients!**

## **The Irish American Heritage and Culture Committee**

*wish to share a special congratulations to all the honorees*

**Michael, Stephen, Heather, William, Patrick, Anne, and Erin**

*Thank you for your service and contributions made to the  
New York City Department of Education*

*Congratulations to the scholarship award recipients*

**Emma, Caterina, and Bridget**

**Irish American Heritage and Culture Committee members**

*Kathleen Snow, Thomas Murphy, Ann Garvey,  
Bettyanne McDonough*



Emerald Society

# Joe's

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*Congratulates*

## New York City Department of Education Emerald Society 51st Annual Scholarship Gala



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## Bridget Shea Motley

**Congratulations on your scholarship award.**

We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments.  
You never cease to amaze us with all of your determination.

Continue to be proud of your Irish heritage,  
for your roots are strong and empowering...just like you.

*Wherever you go and  
Whatever you do,  
May the luck of the Irish  
Be there with you.*

**We Love You Always,  
XOXOXO**

*Mom, Dad, Shannon, Abigail & Pop*

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THE  
*Irish Brigade*  
NYC



## ***Congratulations Heather Adelle***

To my loving wife,  
I cannot put into words how proud I am of you. Watching you from the start of your journey to where you are today has proven what I knew all along. You have always been destined for greatness. I can't wait to see what you do next. The children and I are extremely proud of you.

Love you always,  
Brian

To our amazing mother,  
Congratulations on being honored today. We have seen you grow just as much as you have seen us grow throughout the years. We remember when you were a teacher in a middle school and we would ask you what subject do you teach, now you're the principal of a vast high school and you're doing better than ever. Your passion to constantly improve your environment is truly remarkable and admirable. You work every day to impact the lives of everyone around you. We hope one day we can stand for ourselves and carry ourselves the way you do. We take great pride in you being our mother and we can't wait to see what else you have in store for the rest of your career.

We love you mom,  
Brianna & Frankie





*We Extend our Most Sincere Congratulations  
to*

**Anne Kirrane**

*on Being Selected as*

**Irish Elementary School  
Principal of the Year**

**Thank you for  
“Lighting the Way for Our Leaders of Tomorrow”**



*From: Maribel, Gina, Mari, Carmen  
and  
The Community School District 10  
Lighthouse Team*



Congratulations to my Uncle  
**William Carroll, Sr.**  
upon being named  
**The Irish Custodian of the Year**  
by the  
**NYC DOE Emerald Society**  
and Best Wishes  
to all the Other Honorees  
and Scholarship Winners



**ROBERT**  
**CARROLL**

ASSEMBLYMEMBER // 44TH DISTRICT

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF ROBERT CARROLL

*New York City Department of Education Emerald Society*

# Comhghaireas Heather Adelle on your well deserved honor as Irish High School Principal of the Year



We're so proud to support you as your  
cabinet.

## Slainté

J. Antonucci	J. Henry
M. Barros	A. Houston
D. Balsamo	J. Messinger
P. El Amri	L. Orsini
B. Frias	J. Simon
J. Getreu	N. Woods



## CONGRATULATIONS 2022-23 Honorees

<b>Irish Pro Deo et Patria</b>	<i>Michael Sill – Assistant Secretary, UFT</i>
<b>Irish Administrator of the Year</b>	<i>Stephen O'Brien – Director, Strategic Partnerships &amp; Policy</i>
<b>Irish HS Principal of the Year</b>	<i>Heather Adelle – Principal, John Dewey High School</i>
<b>Irish Custodian of the Year</b>	<i>William Carroll, Sr. – Retired Custodian Engineer, IS 88K</i>
<b>Irish MS Principal of the Year</b>	<i>Patrick Burns – Principal, MS 217Q</i>
<b>Irish ES Principal of the Year</b>	<i>Anne Kirrane – Principal, 81X</i>
<b>Irish Teacher of the Year</b>	<i>Erin Betito – Teacher, P224Q</i>

**SLAINTE' FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL ASSISTANT  
PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION (HSAPA)**

*Congratulations to our Honorees*

*Michael Sill  
Stephen O'Brien  
Heather Adelle  
William Carroll, Sr.  
Patrick Burns  
Anne Kirrane  
Erin Botito*

***THE HUNGERFORD SCHOOL***

*Kristin Mc Hugh, Principal*





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Thomas A. Edison Vocational High School,  
Moses Ojeda, Principal**

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*In Loving Memory of a Beautiful Person*

*Kathleen Marie Howley*

**1933-2010**



*Gone but not forgotten*

*Michael E. Howley*

Congratulations to  
**Stephen O'Brien**

*for being selected as*

**The Irish Administrator of the Year**

*We are very proud of you and all of your accomplishments.*

*We appreciate all you do for the students of New York City.*

*Love,*

*Eva Sanabria Delgado, Alex Anqueira, Demetria Menoutis,  
Kristen O'Brien and the proud O'Brien/Stewart Family*

---

***Happy St. Patrick's Day***

***to All***

***Bill Meehan***

***Declan Meehan Curtis Maura Ann Curtis***

***Sean Patrick Curtis***





NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
EMERALD SOCIETY  
PO Box 604195  
Bayside, NY 11360  
Website: www.emeraldsocietynycdoe.com  
Donna M. McGuire, President



MEMBERSHIP FORM  
2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

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Dues are also payable on the following link:  
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Information regarding tickets and membership  
will also be available on our website:  
<https://www.emeraldsocietynycdoe.com/>

I would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## The Potato

Many often refer to the potato as the Irish vegetable. Others are surprised to learn that the potato was not originally from Ireland. The potato was domesticated over 8,000 years ago. The Incas of the Andes in Peru, South America were the first known people to farm and eat potatoes. They called this tuber vegetable batata. It was observed by Spanish chroniclers that the Incas cooked potatoes and also preserved the potato by dehydrating it. Spanish Conquistadors looking for gold, found the Inca's potato. They were amazed that the potato helped to relieve and prevent scurvy and soon the potato was a staple on Spanish ships. The Conquistadors took the potato home to Spain. From there it spread to other countries. When it arrived in England, the name was changed to potato. The potato was introduced to North America and eventually spread worldwide.

There are many stories of how the potato arrived in Ireland. Two of the most common stories are that some damaged ships of the Spanish Armada landed on the coast of Ireland and locals found the potato supplies in the damaged ships. Another story is that in 1589, Sir Walter Raleigh planted 40,000 acres of potatoes in County Cork. In Ireland, from 1590 onwards, the potato grew for about 80 years in Munster as a garden crop before it spread. Farmers were amazed that they could grow double the number of potatoes as other crops.

When the potato was introduced in different countries, the citizens were suspicious. Different leaders had to be creative in the way they introduced the potato to society. Frederick the Great realized his nation could be fed by using the potato and planted a royal field of potatoes in his garden and had it

guarded. Of course, the locals began stealing the potatoes for their own gardens and the plants spread and the people were fed as a result. In 1719, Scotch-Irish Immigrants in New Hampshire planted potatoes. President Thomas Jefferson arranged to have potatoes served at dinners at the White House and then the potato became popular.

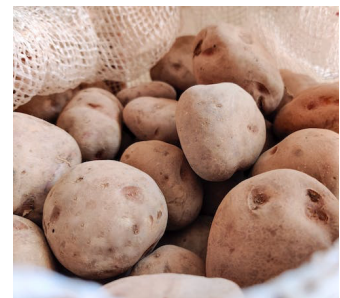
The 1700's in Ireland found that the potato was a staple food of the rich and poor. However, the first Irish Famine of 1740-1741 known as Bliain an Air in Irish meaning Year of the Slaughter was caused by weather, poor grain harvests, shortage of milk and damage to the potato crop. 13-20% of the population died from starvation and disease due to the lack of food – the potato.

The Great Hunger (An Gorta Mor) 1845-1852 is also known as the Famine. This was caused by an infection in the potato crop over several years. The Irish peasant diet was the potato which provided nutrition and vitamins to the poor farmer peasant. While the Irish starved, food from Ireland protected by Queen Victoria's guards was exported to England and there were strict government regulations which did not support the poor nor the starving Irish. While there is no actual account, historians estimate one to possibly three million died of starvation. At least another million people emigrated to North America and Australia.

Today the potato is the fifth most important world wide crop after wheat, corn, rice and sugar cane. Today more than one billion people eat potatoes worldwide and globally more than 300 million metric tons of potatoes are harvested.



**Enjoy your potatoes tonight!**



## Apologies

If some spelligs not quite rite or a word  
Or line askew,

Accept our sincerest apologies,  
We're sorry it had to be you!

Our Scholarship Dance becomes less sweet  
When someone "beefs" about his seat.  
We'll praise the day that some inventor  
Will plan a room, all "dead-center".

In short, a room so well designed,  
There's none in front and none behind.  
None too near the band or kitchen door,  
None too far from the dancing floor.

You asked to sit with Pat and Mabel,  
And find they're at another table.  
Removed by far, a mile or two,  
Yet, they're supposed to sit with you.

We've labored long with zeal and love  
To make the dance delightful.  
We hope you liked the drinks, the jokes,  
And where you spent the night full.



# The American Irish Teachers Association

*Sends Best Wishes*

*to the*

**NYC DOE Emerald Society**

*and Congratulations*

*to all*

**The Honorees**

**at the Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance.**

**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

**Doris Marie Meyer, *President***

**Martin Fitzpatrick, *Vice President***

**Colin F. Harte, *2nd Vice President***

**Charlotte Murray, *Treasurer***

**Deborah Shea, *Secretary***

**Maura Mulligan, *Corresponding Secretary***

## Traditional Irish Blessing

May the blessing of Light be on you  
Light without and light within,  
May the blessed sunlight shine on you  
And warm your heart till it glows like  
A great peat fire, so that the stranger  
May come and warm himself at it,  
And also a friend.

And may the light shine out of the two eyes of you,  
Like a candle set in two windows of a house,  
Bidding the wanderer to come in out of the storm.

And may the blessing of the Rain be on you  
The soft sweet rain. May it fall upon your spirit  
So that all the little flowers may spring up,  
And shed their sweetness on the air.

And may the blessing of the Great Rains be on  
You, may they beat upon your spirit  
And wash it fair and clean,  
And leave there many a shining pool  
Where the blue of heaven shines,  
And sometimes a star.

And may the blessing of the Earth be on you  
The great round earth; may you ever have  
A kindly greeting for them you pass  
As you're going along the roads.

May the earth be soft under you when you rest upon it,  
Tired at the end of the day,  
And may it rest easy over you when,  
At the last, you lay out under it;  
May it rest so lightly over you,  
That your soul may be out from under it quickly,  
And up, and off, and on its way to God.



**“Most of my life I’ve been called a lunatic because I believe I am my brother’s keeper...You will get only what you are strong enough to take. You will have to fight for your rights - they will never be given to you. And you cannot win if you fight alone.”**

**- Michael Quill, founder of the Transport Workers Union of America**

**“The Labor Movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress.”**

**- Dr. Martin Luther King, civil rights icon**

**“No one else would deal with my son. No one. This could never happen in my country - we have nothing like these New York public schools especially for kids like him. I thank you, I thank the school, I thank the Teacher’s Union, the UFT...thanks to District 75, my son is in college. I just want you to know how happy I am. God bless you all.”**

**- District 75 parent**





# The Star Spangled Banner

Oh, say! can you see by the dawn's early light  
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming;  
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,  
 O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?  
 And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there:  
 Oh, say! does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

# The Irish National Anthem

## As Gaeilge:

Seo dhibh a chairde duan Oglaih,  
 Cathreimeach briomhar ceolmhar,  
 Ar dtinte cnamh go buacach taid,  
 'S an speir go min realtogach  
 Is fonnmhar faobhrach sinn chun gleo  
 'S go tiunmhar gle roimh thiocht do'n lo  
 Fe chiunas chaomh na hoiche ar seol:  
 Seo libh canaidh Amhran na bhFiann

## Curfa:

Sinne Firnna Fail  
 A ta fe gheall ag Eirinn,  
 buion dar slua  
 Thar toinn do rainig chugainn,  
 Fe mhoid bheith saor.  
 Sean tir ar sinsir feasta  
 Ni fhagfar fe'n tioran na fe'n trail  
 Anocht a theam sa bhearna bhaoil,  
 Le gean ar Ghaeil chun bais no saoil  
 Le guna screach fe lamhach na bpilear  
 Seo libh canaidh Amhran na bhFiann.

Cois banta reidhe, ar ardaibh sleibhe,  
 Ba bhuachach ar sinsir romhainn,  
 Ag lamhach go trean fe'n sar-bhrat sein  
 Ta thuas sa ghaoith go seolta  
 Ba dhuchas riamh d'ar gcine chaidh  
 Gan iompail siar o imirt air,  
 'S ag siul mar iad i gcoinne namhad  
 Seo libh, canaidh Amhran na bhFiann.



## English:

We'll sing a song, a soldier's song,  
 With cheering rousing chorus,  
 As round our blazing fires we throng,  
 The starry heavens o'er us;  
 Impatient for the coming fight,  
 And as we wait the morning's light,  
 Here in the silence of the night,  
 We'll chant a soldier's song.

## Chorus:

Soldiers are we  
 whose lives are pledged to Ireland;  
 Some have come  
 from a land beyond the wave.  
 Sworn to be free,  
 No more our ancient sire land  
 Shall shelter the despot or the slave.  
 Tonight we man the gap of danger  
 In Erin's cause, come woe or weal  
 'Mid cannons' roar and rifles peal,  
 We'll chant a soldier's song.