



IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREAKFAST CELEBRATION

Union League Club of Chicago | March 16, 2018



Program speakers and distinguished guests, including Alderman Pat O'Connor, Minister Ciarán Cannon, Justice Anne Burke, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza, and Alderman Ed Burke

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREAKFAST 2018

The Union League Club of Chicago was alive with Irish spirit for the Partnership's annual St. Patrick's Day Breakfast on March 16th. Nearly 400 Partnership supporters enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate the holiday, network, and reconnect with friends.

In commemoration of the upcoming twentieth anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday agreement, all guests received a copy of the signatory page of the Agreement. The Partnership will be honoring this occasion with an upcoming publication reflecting on twenty years of work in Northern Ireland.

Dr. Maeve Liston, Professor at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick and the coordinator of the Partnership's STEM program in Munster, presented on the impact of the Partnership's programs in science teacher training and STEM education outreach. She discussed her work promoting the integration of robotics in the curriculum through a free summer course for local teachers partially funded by the Partnership.

Ciarán Cannon T.D., Irish Minister for the Diaspora and International Development, emphasized the invaluable role that the Diaspora plays in supporting causes across Ireland. He specifically highlighted the impact of the Diaspora in building peace in Northern Ireland, and called for renewed commitment in honor of the twentieth anniversary of the peace agreement.

CEO Mary Sugrue thanked everyone for coming and discussed the Partnership's impact in promoting education and community development. In commemoration of the anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, she emphasized the importance of working with schools of all affiliations in Northern Ireland and of maintaining funding of cross-community initiatives.

The Partnership would like to thank **Alderman Ed Burke** for serving as the **Master of Ceremonies**; his efficient management style was greatly appreciated as the breakfast finished in a record-breaking hour and a half flat!



Irish Minister Ciarán Cannon gave the keynote address, thanking the audience for their overwhelming solidarity with Ireland and urging continued support



Dr. Maeve Liston provided a grassroots account of the Partnership's work promoting science education in Munster



Alderman Patrick Daley Thompson presents Alderman Ed Burke with a gift in recognition of his fifty years of public service



View the gallery at www.irishap.org and www.facebook.com/irishamericanpartnership

Thanks to all those who attended

The Irish American Partnership's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

The Irish American Partnership works to empower the next generation of Irish leaders by supporting educational initiatives and community development programs in **Ireland, North and South**. The Partnership provides forums for visiting leaders from Ireland to speak in the U.S., connecting Irish-Americans with their heritage and promoting economic development through tourism, trade, and mutual exchange.



Alderman Ed Burke served as the Master of Ceremonies



Raffle winner Chris Trengove with Justice Mary Jane Theis and Marie McKown from Tourism Ireland



Father Jack Clair offered the benediction



Catherine O'Connell gave a beautiful performance of the American and Irish National Anthems



Partnership Board Chair Mike Clune with his guests



Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen Mary Kate Manion and her court

THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

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