

SPECIAL GUESTS



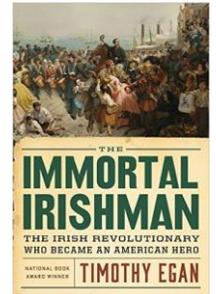
MINISTER KATHERINE ZAPPONE - Katherine Zappone is the Irish Government Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and is an independent member of the Dáil (Irish parliament). Living in Ireland since 1983, Zappone was born in Spokane but grew up in Seattle, attending St. Luke Grade School, Holy Names High School and Seattle University. She was also educated at Boston College, The Catholic University of America and University College Dublin. While serving as CEO of the National Women's Council of Ireland, she represented its membership in Ireland and internationally, contributed to public policy-making and directed its research program. She has also taught ethics, practical theology and education in Trinity College Dublin. We're delighted to welcome her back to Seattle.



MAYOR NOEL LARKIN - First elected to Galway City Council in 2014, Noel Larkin was elected Mayor of Galway City on 10th June 2016. A successful businessman and entrepreneur, Noel is Managing Director of Larkin Engineering, a leader in the Irish Steel Fabrication and Street Furniture markets. He established the company in 1985 and produces a full range of high-quality Street Furniture and Outdoor Street Products at his 20,000 square ft. premises outside Galway City. Noel is a member of many local organizations and development committees in the Galway area, and serves on the Board of Management of Galway Community College. He is also a Founder member of the Corrib Lions Club in Galway. He is married to Rita and they have three children, and this is his first ever visit to Seattle.



TIMOTHY EGAN - Timothy Egan comes from a family of nine, from a mother who loved books and a father with the Irish gift of finding joy in small things. He is the author of eight books, his most recent being *THE IMMORTAL IRISHMAN*, about Thomas Francis Meagher, the Irish revolutionary who led the Irish Brigade in the US Civil War. Egan's book on Edward Curtis, *SHORT NIGHTS OF THE SHADOW CATCHER*, won the Carnegie Award for best nonfiction, and his account of the Dust Bowl, *THE WORST HARD TIME*, won the 2006 National Book Award. A lifelong journalist, Mr.



Egan now writes for *The New York Times* where he shared a 2001 Pulitzer Prize with other reporters. Egan is very proud of his Irish heritage, and is descended on his mother's side from the Galway Lynchs, one of the famous 14 Tribes of Galway.



GEOFFREY CASTLE - "*Seattle honors Ireland*" has been a theme of renowned violinist and producer Geoffrey Castle for the past 12 years since the inception of his first "*St. Patrick's Celebration*" in 2005, followed shortly thereafter by his Celtic Christmas Celebrations which just completed their 9th successful theater season. This year, Castle is releasing his 12th Album "*Celtic Night*", scheduled for release on St. Patrick's Day 2017. In December, Castle and the amazing members of the Seattle Irish Dance Company, were featured on KONG-TV "*Seattle Refined*", and "*Band in Seattle's Christmas Special*" on CW11. For the Friends of St. Patrick Dinner, Castle is bringing the band and vocalist

featured on "*Celtic Night*" plus the dancers of the Seattle Irish Dance Company. Find out more about Geoffrey Castle at www.GeoffreyCastle.com