

IRELAND'S GREAT HUNGER MUSEUM

THANK YOU FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Summer 2014

As Ireland's Great Hunger Museum approaches the beginning of its third year, I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the many friends and donors of the museum who have supported it since its opening. Through your enthusiasm, feedback and support, the museum has welcomed thousands of visitors and groups, hosted myriad events, and continues to acquire fine works of art, which strengthen its collection.

I have some great news to share! Recently, due to the generosity of the donors listed on the attached document, we acquired William Oliver's *The Irish Piper* (1874), a painting that addresses the revival of social and cultural life in Ireland in the post-Famine period. We are excited to have this fine painting join the museum collection. It is currently on view, and I invite you to please come see it.



Hearing your family stories and Famine memories has not only been humbling, but confirms the importance of getting the story of the Great Hunger right, for our generation and future generations. Many of you have expressed your gratitude for the development of the museum and the works in its collection. I share with you the belief that the museum is here to bear witness to those who have come before us. Due in large part to your continued generosity, the museum

continues to fulfill its mission of educating the world about this tragic time in Ireland's history, and of showcasing superb work by Irish and Irish-American artists.

Looking Ahead to 2015

We continue to build on the progress made thus far, and offer a variety of events for all ages. In addition, we are launching a museum publications program. The first phase of this includes four essays on different aspects of the Famine written by renowned Irish professors, cultural theorists and art historians. We will be hosting our first symposium with many leading Famine scholars. More details to follow in the fall.

Thank you again for your interest. I assure you that your support has accomplished a great deal, and we still have much to do. To offer your support, please visit the museum website at www.ighm.org. Or mail a check made payable to "Ireland's Great Hunger Museum" to Ireland's Great Hunger Museum, 3011 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT 06518-0198.

I look forward to seeing you at the museum again. Please contact me at any time about our activities, or if I can be of assistance in any way.

Grace Brady
Executive Director

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