



US-IRELAND ALLIANCE

The US-Ireland Alliance cordially invites you to join us for

An Evening with Irish Senator David Norris

Tuesday, July 21, 2009

Sir Francis Drake Hotel, Union Square

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

David Norris is a member of the Irish Senate, a former Senior Lecturer at Trinity College Dublin, and a civil rights activist. In the Senate, he is a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs, a committee he helped found.

Founder of the Campaign for Homosexual Law Reform, Senator Norris was the first openly gay person to be elected to public office in Ireland. In the 1980's, he took the Irish Attorney General to the High Court in an effort to decriminalize homosexuality. The High Court ruled against him, as did the Supreme Court on appeal. He then took his case to the European Court of Human Rights and in 1988, the Court ruled in his favor finding Ireland in contravention of the European Convention on Human Rights. Mary Robinson, who later became Ireland's President, served as David's lawyer. The Irish law was repealed in 1993.

An active advocate for the preservation of Irish Georgian buildings, Senator Norris was a member of the Irish Georgian Society and Founding Chairman of the North Great Georges Street Preservation Society. A well-known Joycean scholar, he is a member of the board of the James Joyce Cultural Centre, Dublin, and plays a large part in Dublin's annual Bloomsday celebrations. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin with a degree in English Literature and Language, he taught at Trinity from 1968 to 1996. He represents the graduates of Trinity in the Seanad. He hosts his own Sunday morning talk show on Newstalk and is a regular guest on many Irish television panels and comedy shows.

Event Committee:

Bevan Dufty – San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 8

Scott Ellingson – Baker & McKenzie

Sean Elsbernd – San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 7

Mark Kelleher – Sr. Director of Development, SFSU

David Kirk - private investor

Tom McEnery - former mayor of San Jose, member of US-Ireland Alliance advisory board

Robert Martin – Signal Demand

Mark Nagel - member US-Ireland Alliance board

Kevin Shanahan - VP Sales, 365 Main

Laela Sturdy - former Mitchell Scholar, West Coast Regional Sales Manager, YouTube

Kevin Winston – EVP & MD, Porter Novelli

Sponsors: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs; American Airlines

The US-Ireland Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Website: www.us-irelandalliance.org