



Michael F. Crowley Lectures

Our 5th Program of the 2013-2014 Series

Janet Nolan, Ph.D.

Thursday, March 27, 2014 ~ 6:00 p.m.

International Tennis Hall of Fame ~ Special Event Room
194 Bellevue Avenue, Newport*

Servants of the Poor:

Teachers in Ireland and Irish-America at the Turn of the 20th Century

Urged by their mothers to pursue an education, the “one thing they can’t take away,” the American daughters of Irish-born mothers are the unsung heroines of Irish achievement in the United States. While immigrant mothers often became servants of the American rich, their educated daughters became servants of the poor in America’s public schools.

By the first decade of the twentieth century, Irish-American women were the largest single ethnic group among teachers in cities such as Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco. In an era when social mobility was measured almost exclusively by the success of men, the teacher-daughters of Irish-born mothers led Irish America into the middle class. Professor Nolan will trace the evolution of this educational and occupational achievement across two generations of Irish women in the United States.

JANET NOLAN is professor emerita of Irish, Irish-American, and European history at Loyola University Chicago where she taught for almost a quarter of a century after receiving her PhD in history from the University of Connecticut. She has also just completed a year as an adjunct lecturer in European history at the University of Rhode Island. She is the author of two books, *Ourselves Alone: Women and Irish Emigration, 1885-1920* (UP of KY, 1989) and *Servants of the Poor: Teachers and Mobility in Ireland and Irish America* (Notre Dame UP, 2004), as well as numerous essays, articles, and reviews. She has given invited lectures in Ireland, Northern Ireland, England, Switzerland, throughout the United States, and on television and radio in both the United States and Ireland. She now lives in Portsmouth, RI. We welcome Dr. Nolan for her first speaking engagement with the Museum.

Following the lecture, a reception with light hors d'oeuvres will be held.

Reservations are required. Please call or e-mail Ann Arnold at 401-841-5493
or tpm1@earthlink.net

Museum Members – \$3 donation, applied to our venue fee

Non-members - \$15 donation, which can be applied to a 1-year Individual Membership.

* *Wheelchair Accessible via elevator to 2nd floor. All enter via Hall of Fame archway*