



University of St. Thomas 2013 Annual Irish Gala  
Friday, November 22, 2013  
The Houstonian Hotel, 6:30 pm

### *Auction Highlights*

*Enjoy a Sneak Preview of Our Exciting Big Board Items!*



### **Big Board #1 Ireland East to West**

*Arrive Dublin, Tour Counties Donegal, Sligo, and Mayo, and Depart Shannon*



**Day 1:** Two people arrive in Dublin and begin a **nine-day/eight-night** Ireland experience. Walk around Trinity College and behold Ireland's largest book collection in the Long Room of the Old Library. View Trinity's greatest treasure, the 8<sup>th</sup> century hand-illuminated Book of Kells containing the four gospels. Take in some of the key sites, including St. Patrick's Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral and St. Stephen's Green. Tour the National Treasures at the National Museum and take a walking or bus tour of Dublin. Stay overnight at the Brooks Hotel. Dine in one of Dublin's outstanding gourmet restaurants or take in an evening of "Food, Folklore and Fairies" at the Brazen Head, Dublin's oldest pub.

**Day 2:** Travel to County Donegal for a two-night stay at the Mill Park Hotel in Donegal Town. On the way, visit the scenic lake lands of County Fermanagh or stop at the award-winning emigration and folk museum at the Ulster American Folk Park near Omagh. Wander through the streets of Donegal Town and step into the past.

**Day 3:** Explore the beautiful coastlines and mountains of Donegal, visit Irish language speaking villages, such as Glencolmcille, and purchase luxurious Donegal sweaters in Gweedore. Or drive to Derry/Londonderry to see the ancient walled city.

**Day 4:** Move to lush green County Sligo, where you will stay at Markree Castle for two nights. For literature enthusiasts, Sligo is the final resting place of poet William Butler Yeats in Drumcliffe under Ben Bulbin Mountain. Along the way, you may pass stunning waterfalls and lake islands memorialized in his poems.

**Day 5:** Optional tours include stopping at Boyle Abbey and driving around Lough Key and Lough Key Forest Park in County Roscommon. Take time to wander the picturesque village of Carrick-on-Shannon in County Leitrim. If you are feeling adventurous, visit County Fermanagh's Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark, which boasts some of Europe's finest caves allowing visitors to see an extraordinary underworld of waterfalls, rivers and winding passages.

**Day 6:** Make your way to Knockranny House Hotel and Spa in Westport, County Mayo where you will spend two nights. Optional touring en route includes a trip to Achill Island, which is connected to the mainland by bridge. Visit Westport House and the enchanting heritage town of Westport. Water sports are common in this beautiful coastal region.

**Day 7:** Options include a day tour to the rugged countryside of Connemara and a visit to the charming village of Clifden. Stop at Kylemore Abbey and view Killary Harbour—Ireland's only Fjord.

**Day 8:** On your final full day in Ireland you will travel to Carrygerry Country House in County Clare. Along the way, take time to feel the Atlantic breeze on your face on the majestic Cliffs of Moher, pass through The Burren National Park and have lunch in the cultural city of Galway. Visit the remains of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Spanish Arch and see St. Nicholas' Church. Carrygerry is surrounded by some of the finest golf courses in Ireland. You may choose to dine in the hotel's award-winning Conservatory Restaurant overlooking the River Shannon.

**Day 9:** Return from Shannon Airport.

The package includes up to 210,000 miles on United Airlines sufficient for some business class and most economy flights, a rental car with automatic transmission for the duration of your visit and four-star accommodations with breakfast. *Subject to availability.*

*Courtesy of Curtis Huff*



**Big Board #2**  
**Ireland Midlands, South and Southwest**  
*Counties Tipperary, Cork, Clare and Limerick*



**Days 1-3:** Two people arrive in Shannon and begin your **eight-day/seven-night trip** to Ireland. Collect your rental car at Shannon Airport. The first stop of your adventure will be in Cashel, County Tipperary. Spend three nights at Bailey's Cashel Hotel. Over the next few days, wander the streets of Cashel town and explore some of the wonders of the midlands: The Rock of Cashel, Holy Cross Abbey, Cahir Castle and Swiss Cottage. Take in some traditional Irish music, song and dance and experience a fine multi-media exhibition at the Brú Ború. Venture on day trips to Waterford or Kilkenny. Dine one evening at the elegant Chez Hans Restaurant located in a former church with a complimentary 100 Euro gift certificate.

**Day 4:** Travel to Kinsale, where you can tour art galleries, dine in gourmet restaurants and stay in the historic Perryville House for two nights.

**Day 5:** From Kinsale, you have many choices for exploring: In County Cork, tour Blarney Castle, kiss the Blarney Stone (if you like) and shop in the famous Blarney Woolen Mills. Or drive to County Clare and take a Killaloe River Cruise and venture out into the spectacular Lough Derg. Stroll the streets of the ancient heritage town of Killaloe, the ancestral home of Brian Ború, Ireland's most famous High King. Visit King John's Castle and the Hunt Museum in Limerick City or see the sites in Cork City.

**Day 6:** Make your way to Adare, County Limerick, and drive through the lush farmlands along the River Maigue in Ireland's Golden Vale. On your way, travel through the mysterious Burren and stop at the stunning Cliffs of Moher in County Clare. Take in the breath-taking beauty of the seaside village of Doolin. Return to the beautiful Dunraven Arms Hotel in Adare for two nights.

**Day 7:** Take a day trip to the cultural city of Galway on picturesque Galway Bay, visit the remains of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Spanish Arch and St. Nicholas' Church and lunch in one of Galway's streetside cafes. On the way back to Adare, you may want to visit Bunratty Castle

and Folk Park and enjoy a medieval banquet or a folk music and dance performance over dinner.

**Day 8:** Return home from Shannon Airport.

The package includes up to 210,000 miles on United Airlines sufficient for some business class and most economy flights, a rental car with automatic transmission for the duration of your visit and four-star accommodations with breakfast. *Subject to availability.*

*Courtesy of Bailey's Hotel Cashel, Jes and John Hagale and Curtis Huff*



### **Big Board #3**

#### ***Swan Lake: An Evening for 4 at the Houston Ballet***

*Includes dinner in the Wortham Theater Founders' Salon*

*Catered by Michael Nee of Elegant Events and Catering by Michael and a*

*Once-in-a-Lifetime Private Viewing of a Studio Ballet Rehearsal*



Four people will be treated to a delicious three-course dinner in the Wortham Theater Founders' Salon catered by Michael Nee of *Elegant Events and Catering by Michael*. Dinner is complimented by a bottle of house wine. Experience the best seats in Wortham Theater with four center Founders' Box tickets to the Houston Ballet performance of *Swan Lake* on June 13, 2014. Prior to your night at the Ballet, four guests will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of attending a private viewing of a studio ballet rehearsal of *Swan Lake* between May 7 and June 5, 2014.

*Courtesy of Elegant Events and Catering by Michael, Curtis Huff and Houston Ballet*



#### **Big Board #4**

### ***Dinner with for 4 with Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza and Fr. Brendan Cahill***

*Hosted by Jes and John Hagale in their home*



Four guests will have the opportunity to enjoy a sumptuous three-course dinner in the home of Jes and John Hagale on **Saturday, February 8, 2014**. Honored guests include Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza and Fr. Brendan Cahill, who will join you as dinner companions with Jes and John Hagale.

*Courtesy of Jes and John Hagale*



#### **Big Board #5**

### ***Dinner with for 4 with Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ivany UST President and First Lady***

*Hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ivany and the University of St. Thomas  
at Link Lee Mansion - Catered by Tony's*



Four guests will join Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ivany, President and First Lady of University of St. Thomas, in the historic Link-Lee Mansion for a three-course, seated dinner. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the iconic Link-Lee Mansion, which recently has been renovated in honor of its centennial milestone. Guests will enjoy culinary creations from Tony's, known for providing guests with world-class fine dining, from the highest quality ingredients to innovative haute cuisine. *Mutually agreeable date.*

*Courtesy of University of St. Thomas and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ivany*



**Big Board #6**  
***3-Day Heavenly Hill Country Retreat at the  
Beautiful Celtic Crossing Ranch***



Enjoy an amazing three-day weekend at *Celtic Crossing Ranch* in a fabulous four bedroom, three and a half bathroom get-away. Located in the Heart of the Hill Country, approximately 17 miles south of Fredericksburg, Texas, the ranch boasts magnificent amenities that will make for a most enjoyable stay. Whether you are hiking the surrounding hills, fishing the well-stocked lake, lounging out by the pool or fire pit, enjoying the Jacuzzi, perfecting your cooking skills at the outdoor kitchen, or kicking back in this Hill Country retreat, you will be surrounded by scenic landscapes and extraordinary wildlife. *Mutually agreeable date.*

*Courtesy of Kari and Sean Tracey*



**Big Board #7**  
***Notre Dame Fighting Irish***



Get ready to support the Notre Dame Fighting Irish with four preferred-seating tickets to the November 15, 2014 home game against the Northwestern Wildcats. The package includes accommodations for Friday and Saturday nights in a two-bedroom suite at Varsity Club of America. The suite sleeps four, with two king-size beds, and is equipped with a full kitchen, dining area and small living room. You also will have access to the Varsity Club bar, swimming pool and exercise area.

*Courtesy of Lori and John M. Kelly*



**Big Board #8**  
***Boston, Here We Come!***



Situated on one of the oldest wharfs in the nation, the luxurious landmark Boston Harbor Hotel will be the destination for two people for two nights. The hotel overlooks Boston Harbor and the Rose Kennedy Greenway. It is part of the quaint shops and restaurants that compose the famous Rowes Wharf, near Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Quincy Market. Boston Harbor Hotel was awarded the Forbes Travel Guide Five Star Award, and is listed by *Condé Nast Traveler* as one of the “World’s Best Places to Stay.” The hotel offers outstanding cuisine from nationally recognized chef Daniel Bruce and an on-site health club, fitness center and spa.

*Courtesy of the Boston Harbor Hotel and Curtis Huff*



**Big Board #9**  
***Florida Fun in the Sun***



Soak up the sun with a three-night stay for four in a Fort Lauderdale, Florida “Everglades House” Condominium. This beautiful two-bedroom condo with king beds is located on the 17th Floor. The Everglades House has a pool and beach access.

*Courtesy of Susan and Jim Power*



**Big Board #10**  
***Galveston Getaway***

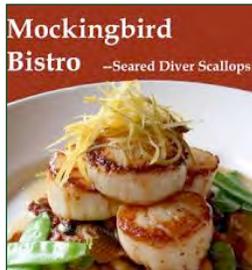


Gather your friends and family for a three-night stay in a beautiful three-bedroom, three-bathroom home in Pirates Cove, Galveston. During your stay, stroll on the new Pleasure Pier and experience all that Galveston has to offer!

*Courtesy of Susan and Jim Power*



**Big Board #11**  
***Chef's Tasting at Mockingbird Bistro***



Six people will enjoy a special Chef's Tasting at Mockingbird Bistro and Wine Bar. The tasting includes wine. Enjoy an evening that is sure to please in this lovely restaurant!

*Courtesy of Mockingbird Bistro and Wine Bar*



**Big Board #12**  
***Root on the Rockets!***



Get in the spirit with two Houston Rockets tickets for the Tuesday, January 28, 2014 home game against the San Antonio Spurs. Package includes a parking pass as well as an autographed Houston Rockets poster.

*Courtesy Coats Rose and Houston Rockets*



**Big Board Baker's Dozen**  
***Framed Original Certified Antique 1688 Map of Ireland***



*(Not actual photo of map)*

This beautiful copper engraved Original Map of Ireland is from the famous “A Description of the World” and is part of the Robert Morden Collection, 1688 (First State). Source: Bonar Law, p. 69. The map is printed on heavy bright, nice quality paper with modern hand coloring. The map is in very good condition. Certificate of Authenticity: Certified by Old Irish Maps. Framed in a tasteful gold wooden frame with conservation matting and UV filter glass.

*Courtesy of Andy Bradbury and Arden's Picture Framing*



## **Paddles Up For Scholarships and Program Support**

Get ready to raise your paddles to provide students with scholarships and student support to study abroad in Ireland and Northern Ireland or to take Irish Studies courses at UST.

Our study abroad programs create once-in-a-lifetime experiences for our students, leading them to pursue advanced degrees and careers in business, marketing, international studies, peace and reconciliation, history, politics, literature and many other areas.

Summer Study Abroad Programs cost at least \$6,000 per student for tuition, airfare and accommodation. Full semester abroad programs cost \$9,000 for airfare and room and board, not counting tuition. The Flynn Center also provides additional support to these programs to keep them affordable to students.

We also host one student a year from Northern Ireland to study business on a full tuition scholarship, which currently is \$28,240 per year.

There will be an opportunity in the Silent Auction Room to pre-bid on Paddles Up and we'll be raising Paddles in the Ballroom during the Live Auction!

Please help us make our students' dreams come true!

Thank you for your generosity!