We warmly welcome Emma Dabiri as our 2022 Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Chair of Irish Studies! Author, scholar, and broadcaster, Emma is teaching two courses this semester, one in creative non-fiction writing and the other comparing literary revivals in Dublin and Harlem in "Green and Black: Irish and Africana Literature and Culture," as well as writers from other periods.

Emma Dabiri’s a public talk at Villanova will take place on March 15 in the Connelly Center as part of the Literary Festival. And, on April 4, she will talk on stage with sociologist, Dr. Kimberly DaCosta (NYU) from the African-American Irish Diaspora Network. She has deepened many conversations about race and belonging in the United Kingdom and in her native Ireland through her work as an author and BBC broadcaster. In Irish Studies, her work is having an enormous impact on how we study and celebrate Irish identities.

This March we will exhibit a newly discovered 15th-century Irish chalice on campus. The silver chalice was purchased by Irish entrepreneur and art collector Martin Dunphy, who has entrusted Villanova for its first public display. We welcome our community to join us for the opening on March 9, when Villanova scholars will discuss its significance of this rediscovered religious treasure.

We look forward to welcoming you to our all spring semester events, which also include local scholar Michael Mullan, PhD, from Swarthmore. The complete list is below. Please remember that President Peter Donohue continues to require mask-wearing on campus. All community members, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask indoors in publicly accessed spaces, unless actively eating or drinking.

Joseph Lennon, PhD, Emily C. Riley Director

---

**Study Abroad Scholarship & Application Deadlines**

We are resuming our study-abroad programming this summer! Please see below for dates and deadlines and, students, stay tuned about future information sessions or reach out for information.

**Paid Internship at the Jackie Clarke Museum and Library in Ballina, Co. Mayo**

The graduate-level internships provide
opportunities for professional development in Irish Studies while living and working abroad. Interns serve as Archives Assistants at the museum, which houses a unique and important collection of manuscripts, printed materials and artifacts. Advanced undergraduates may also apply.

EXTENDED Deadline: February 10, 2022

Summer Learning Communities Abroad Internship in Dublin
The Learning Communities Abroad Program (LCA) provides first-year Villanova students the unique opportunity to explore and challenge their career assumptions through a 3-credit international work experience in Dublin, Ireland, while also introducing them to the various forms of expressions of traditional and contemporary Irish identity and culture through a 3-credit course on literature, music, and the arts. Deadline: February 15, 2022

Summer Studio in Irish Theater
From the studio to the stage, graduate students will study the workings and history of Ireland's world-class national theatre while developing their own theatre skills, knowledge, and practice. Student work will culminate in a showing of final work in the Lir, Ireland's National Academy of Dramatic Art and guided by Abbey Theatre professionals. Deadline: April 1, 2022

Summer Irish Studies in Galway
The Villanova Irish Studies Summer Program will introduce students to Ireland's history, literature, society and archaeology through a 10-day Orientation in Dublin, and the Aran Islands, and one month of coursework at the National University of Ireland, Galway Summer School in Irish Studies. Deadline: April 1, 2022

Irish Studies in Galway (Fall 2022)
Spend a semester studying in Ireland's "Cultural Heart" at the National University of Ireland (NUI), Galway. Located in the west of Ireland, with deep and rich connections to Irish culture, NUI Galway offers a diverse curriculum which can accommodate most Villanova majors including Sciences and Engineering. Deadline: April 15, 2022

NEXT YEAR: Creative Writing Returns to the Seamus Heaney Centre in Belfast for Spring Break!

Wednesday, February 16: Michael Mullan Lecture
Michael Mullan, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Swarthmore College, will deliver a talk on his recently published study, *The Philadelphia Irish: Nation, Culture, and the Rise of a Gaelic Public Sphere*.

Dr. Mullan, a long-time Philadelphia-area native, will talk with students and community members about the history of the Irish in Philadelphia and its environs.

**St. Rita's Community Room, 4:00 p.m.**

---

**Wednesday, February 23: Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Traditional Music Session**

Join the Center for our Irish language instructor, James O'Connell, for an evening of live Irish traditional music by the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley group, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. Come join the craic!

Also, if you are interested in joining an introductory Irish-language discussion group, please reach out to James.

**Dougherty Hall, East Lounge, at 6:00 p.m.**

**Contact:** james.oconnell@villanova.edu

---

**March 2 - May 2: Martin Dunphy Irish Chalice Exhibit**

Irish entrepreneur, Martin Dunphy, will loan a newly discovered 15th-century silver Irish chalice to Villanova's Art Gallery. The exhibit, "A Thirst for the Divine," will paired with an exhibit of a contemporary fiber and cloth artist of Laurie Wohl.

The *Irish Independent* newspaper reported on the chalice's find in England: "The historical piece had been stored by the owners in a cardboard box in a garden outbuilding for years as they had no idea how rare and important it was." We are proud to be the first university or museum to exhibit the chalice.

Laurie Wohl's *Birds of Longing: Exile and Memory* has been described as "stunningly beautiful "Unweavings," interweaves Christian, Jewish and Muslim spiritual writings from the Convivencia in Spain (8th-15th centuries) with contemporary Middle Eastern poetry.

This incredible double exhibit will be opened with talks by Villanova faculty with expertise...
in medieval art and history. The exhibit will run March 9-April 20, 2022.

Opening - March 9 at 6:00 p.m., at Villanova Art Gallery, Connelly Center

---

**Tuesday, March 15: Emma Dabiri, Charles A. Heimbold, Jr. Chair of Irish Studies, Reading**

Join us for our annual reception, reading, and talk by the Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Chair for Irish Studies. This year's Chair, Emma Dabiri, brings an invaluable voice and analysis of Irish culture and history to her readers.

Her first book, *Twisted*, offers an analysis of African hair traditions, wound into a memoir about growing up in Dublin. This as well as a richly detailed and scholarly history is written in literary prose with a fresh voice. Her second book, provocatively titled, *What White People Can Do Next* is both practical text and personal story. Like *Twisted*, the prose is alternately wry and moving, cutting and encouraging. Anything but complacent, her writing asks us to challenge long-held assumptions about race. Join us to warmly welcome Emma to Villanova's campus!

Reception - 6:00 p.m.  
Reading - 7:00 p.m.  
Presidents' Lounge, Connelly Center

---

**Monday, April 4: Conversation with Heimbold Chair, Emma Dabiri**

The Irish Studies Heimbold Chair, Emma Dabiri, will talk with Kim DaCosta, PhD, about the newly formed African-American Irish Diaspora Network on which Dr. DaCosta sits as a board member. Associate Director, Jennifer Joyce, PhD, will moderate the discussion.

**Dr. DaCosta** is the author of *Making Multiracials: State, Family, and Market in the Redrawing of the Color Line* and teaches sociology at New York University. Emily C. Riley Director, Joseph Lennon, PhD, recently talked with Dr. DaCosta on our Villanova Podcast series.

Falvey Library, Speaker's Corner, at 6:00 p.m.

---

**Wednesday, April 20: "The Politics of the Irish Harp Symbol from Henry VIII to Brexit" Lecture with Mary Louise O'Donnell**

**Mary Louise O'Donnell**, Ph.D. is a harpist, musicologist and Fulbright scholar 2019/2020. Her first book *Ireland's Harp: The Shaping of Irish Identity c. 1770 to 1880* was published by UCD Press in 2014 and she has also published widely on topics relating to Irish cultural history, semiotics, and performance studies. Mary Louise and her sister Teresa recently completed the recording of an album which includes compositions for pedal harp, portable Irish harp, and voice to harp accompaniment by the nineteenth-century Irish composer Charles Egan.

Falvey Library, Speaker's Corner, at 4:00 p.m.
## Spring 2022 Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>Michael Mullan Lecture</td>
<td>St. Rita's Community Room, at 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Trad Music Session</td>
<td>Dougherty Hall, East Lounge at 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2- April 20</td>
<td>Martin Dunphy Irish Chalice Exhibit</td>
<td>Connelly Center, Art Gallery Opening on March 9 at 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Emma Dabiri, Charles A. Heimbold, Jr. Chair of Irish Studies, Reading</td>
<td>Connelly Center, Presidents' Lounge Reception at 6:00 p.m. Reading at 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Conversation with Heimbold Chair, Emma Dabiri and Kim DaCosta, PhD</td>
<td>Falvey Library, Speaker's Corner at 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>&quot;The Politics of the Irish Harp Symbol from Henry VIII to Brexit&quot; Lecture with Mary Louise O'Donnell</td>
<td>Falvey Library, Speaker's Corner at 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit our website
Stay Connected

[Facebook](#)  [Twitter](#)  [Instagram](#)