



# Michael F. Crowley Lectures

First Program of the 2018-2019 Series ~ Our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual

## *Frederick Douglass and Ireland*

A presentation by: **Christine Kinealy**

Wednesday, September 26, 2018 ~ 6:00 p.m.

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

In August 1845, a young fugitive slave arrived in Dublin to oversee the publication of his best-selling life story, *The Narrative of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself*. Seven years earlier, Douglass had escaped from slavery, but the Fugitive Slave Act meant that he remained in danger of being captured and returned to his 'master.' His work as a lecturer for the American Anti-Slavery Society and the success of his *Narrative* increased this risk and so he was persuaded to travel to Britain, where he would be safe. However, an Irish Quaker printer, Richard Webb, who was also an ardent abolitionist, offered to reprint the book, and thus provide Douglass with an income. So, two days after arriving in the transatlantic port of Liverpool, Douglass travelled to Dublin. He had intended to stay for four days, but remained in the country for four months, describing these four months as "the happiest times" in his life. Moreover, for the first time in his life, he felt truly free and like "a man, and not a color."

This presentation will explore Douglas's time in Ireland and his life-long fascination with the country and its people.

**CHRISTINE KINEALY** is the founding director of the Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University. She is an authority on Irish history and is the author of 20 books and numerous scholarly articles on Irish and Irish American history. In 2011, Kinealy was named "one of the most influential Irish Americans" by Irish America magazine, and, in 2014, "Woman of the Year" by the Irish American Heritage and Culture Committee of the New York Department of Education. Her most recent work is *Frederick Douglass and Ireland. In His Own Words* (2 vols, Routledge, 2018). She is also curator of a year-long exhibition at Quinnipiac University entitled *Frederick Douglass in Ireland: "The Black O'Connell."*

*A reception with light hors d'oeuvres will be held following the lecture. Cash Bar*

### **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**Email/Computer Users:** Please visit [www.NewportIrishHistory.org](http://www.NewportIrishHistory.org), click "Lectures" page, then click on the link to Reserve, under the listing for the Sept. 26 lecture. You will receive an immediate confirmation via email.  
**To Reserve by phone:** Please phone Ann at (401) 841-5493. Be sure to leave your name, phone, # in your party.

**Museum Members**—\$5 donation **Non-members**—\$20 donation, applicable to a 1-year Individual membership.

\* *Wheelchair accessible via elevator to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. All enter via Hall of Fame archway*