



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### Event Details

<b>Date:</b>	Sunday, December 1, 2019
<b>Time:</b>	12.00 – 6.00 pm
<b>Location:</b>	The Commodore John Barry Arts & Cultural Center 6815 Emlen Street, Philadelphia, PA
<b>Details:</b>	<a href="https://theirishcenter.org">https://theirishcenter.org</a>

### **First Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Open House at Philadelphia's Irish Center**

**Philadelphia, PA (22 November 2019)** – On Sunday, December 1, 2019, the Commodore John Barry Arts & Cultural Center, also known as the Irish Center, will host an Open House from noon to 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. There will be something for everyone. In the Fireside room, the Vince Gallagher Band, Theresa Flanagan Band, the Jamieson Sisters and others will perform during the early afternoon, culminating with an Irish session led by Hollis Payor (from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.) – not to be missed.

Start your Christmas shopping or just pick up some goodies for yourself at the Christmas Market in the Barry room. Come to see the beautiful jewelry of Bette Conway and hand-made candles made by Maureen Berry Connor. Bewley tea will be at the Christmas market selling tea, jam and other yummy treats. Linda Maguire will bring her one-of-a kind antique jewelry. Marita Krivda's book Irish Philadelphia is a wonderful Christmas gift idea. Nicole Harper Design has Christmas wreaths and ornaments and a whole lot more. JT Irish Apparel has everything you ever wanted in Irish t-shirts and sweatshirts. The Irish Coffee Shop will be selling all kinds of Irish goodies just in time for the holidays. In addition, you will have the opportunity to purchase an Irish Center T-shirt or a ticket to the Dublin City Ramblers In Concert at the Irish Center in March.

The Irish Center's huge Ballroom will be filled with fun activities. The back will be kid-central – with tons of arts and crafts for all ages, games, **a bouncy castle**, children story book area, a Christmas movie and a visit from **Santa and Mrs. Claus at 2:00 p.m.**

Various Irish organizations will be present to showcase what their group does for an in the community – if you were curious about the Delco Gaels, the Irish Edition, Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Mayo Association, the Donegal Association or the Irish American Business Chamber, please come to find out about the wonderful things each of them does in the community. AOH Danny Brown will be on sight – one of their members Jimmy Boyce is spearheading the renovation of the library at the Irish Center. The Irish Diaspora Center (formerly known as the Irish Immigration Center) will be able to answer your questions on their recent name change and all the services it provides to the Irish diaspora. There will be brochures about the Ireland Funds – Young Leaders of Philadelphia and Museum of American Revolution and many other organizations.

John Shields and his Circle of Friends dancers will also be in the Ballroom from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. – fun to watch and learn. Throughout the day there will be light food and snacks available for purchase in the Ballroom. The Christmas tree lighting will take place at 3:30 p.m. Raffle basket winning tickets will be pulled at 3:45 p.m. Let's all get into the holiday spirit with a wonderful day at the Irish Center! See you there.

### **About the Commodore John Barry Arts & Cultural Center**

The Commodore John Barry Arts & Cultural Center is a 501 ( c)(3) organization whose mission is to teach, celebrate and promote Irish art, culture and heritage. Our mission is in action daily - - **there is always something happening at the Irish Center!**

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