



Dr Beate Schuler, Provost's Council member & Kate Bond, Director of Advancement at Trinity Development & Alumni

Photos: Naíse Cúlhané

# Inspiring Generations

The Campaign for Trinity College Dublin

Our ambitious goals are:



€400 million in donations



150,000 volunteer hours

Kate Bond, Director of Advancement at Trinity Development & Alumni, introduces *Inspiring Generations* – the first comprehensive philanthropic campaign in Trinity’s history.

**T**his is an exciting time for Trinity: we have an ambitious vision for the future and a clear road-map of how to realise it. But it's also a challenging time, with intensifying global competition among universities. We need to rally a worldwide community of alumni and friends who will provide a solid bedrock of support, enabling Trinity to maintain and advance our excellence across education and research and continue to represent Ireland as a leading global university. It's the powerful combination of philanthropy and a committed volunteer base, together with public funding, that will achieve this.

With the public launch of our first philanthropic campaign, *Inspiring Generations*, we're calling on alumni and friends to come together, creating the groundswell of support that will enable Trinity to flourish into the future. This is the largest philanthropic campaign ever launched in Ireland and the fourth-largest in Europe: our aim is to inspire €400m in donations and 150,000 volunteering hours. These are ambitious goals, but we believe they're achievable if together, we harness the great goodwill that exists towards Trinity among alumni and friends around the world.

Every contribution, whether of time, expertise or a financial donation, will be very welcome and will make a real difference. Volunteers can engage with Trinity in

a myriad of ways: mentoring students and societies on campus, running our international network of alumni branches and talking to prospective Trinity students abroad are just a few of the invaluable supports they can offer. When it comes to financial support, even the smallest gift can help transform the life of a Trinity student today or can advance Trinity towards the achievement of the major Campaign projects that you will read about within these pages.

**Why are we doing this now?**

Today more than ever, the support of a committed base of alumni and friends is of critical importance to Trinity, as it is to all the leading universities of the world. Together, they enable Trinity to do many things that would not otherwise be possible. The gift of time from volunteers adds immense value to the experience of Trinity students and helps to enhance our international reputation. Financial support

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Launch of *Inspiring Generations* in Trinity's Public Theatre



Joe McGovern, Benita Mbu, Joe Veselsky & Adam Fodor



Leah Kenny, Eoin Caffrey, Fergal Naughton & Sharon Ní Bheoláin



supplements other income, kickstarts major developments and very importantly, can enable us to leverage additional funding from other sources: the State, research grants and bank lending. It also plays a crucial part in enabling Trinity to attract brilliant people and give them the freedom to work on research that can yield world-changing results and contribute to Ireland's economic success and reputation.

Philanthropy is not new to Trinity. The University has survived and thrived through the centuries with the help of benefactors, who believed in the importance of Ireland having a world-class university to act as an independent centre of education, learning and research excellence. From the bequest of James Ussher's 10,000-volume private library in the 17th century, to 20th-century benefactors including those who enabled Trinity to build the O'Reilly Institute, the Panoz Institute, and the Smurfit Genetics Institute, Trinity would not be the place that it is today without support from friends and alumni.

Over the last twenty years, as Ireland has changed and evolved, become more closely linked to Europe and the global economy and come through a major financial crisis, we have been working diligently with a growing group of people who want to support Trinity. Their conviction has encouraged us to take this campaign public, calling on alumni and friends around the world to join in support of *Inspiring Generations*.

### What will *Inspiring Generations* achieve?

The great universities of Europe have endured for centuries through times of social turbulence, war and economic crisis partly because they have never been solely dependent on government funding. Different governments have different priorities: one may invest in

education and research into climate crisis, its successor may not. But research and education are long-term games. *Inspiring Generations* will enable Trinity to continue its ground-breaking work in widening access to education, inspire many future generations of students and give talented researchers the freedom to pursue ideas that could change the world.

Ideas like those of William Rowan Hamilton, the Trinity Professor of Astronomy still revered by mathematicians and scientists around the world for his 1843 discovery of the Quaternion formula that enabled space flight and the development of quantum mechanics; or Trinity graduate Professor William Campbell, joint winner of the Nobel Prize in 1954 for his discovery of a treatment that has saved many millions of people around the world from river blindness.

***“Inspiring Generations will ensure that Trinity can continue to make a positive impact on the world today and for many future generations.”***



Leah Kenny, Fergal Naughton,  
Senator Lynn Ruane,  
Provost Patrick Prendergast,  
Kate Bond & Eoin Caffrey



Across Trinity today, researchers are doing exciting work with real potential for positive impact on the world. In the sciences, just some of the areas where Trinity is at the cutting edge include research into cancer, dementia and motor neurone disease, where our teams are working to identify causes, improve our defences and, ultimately, discover cures.

The complex global challenges facing a rapidly changing world demand new thinking and collaboration across disciplines to find solutions that work. Trinity is at the forefront of this shift to interdisciplinary work; for instance, researchers from the Arts and Humanities are exploring how humanity will interact with Artificial Intelligence, leading an international team working to identify and address the root causes of crises of democracy and driving the development of Digital Humanities and Environmental Humanities.

Interdisciplinarity is at the core of Trinity's landmark new E3 Institute that will tackle urgent global issues across Engineering, Environment and Emerging Technologies. E3 has been enabled by the single largest private philanthropic donation ever made in Ireland, the gift of €25m from the Naughton family. The E3 Learning Foundry on campus will educate the 21st-century engineers and scientists we need for a sustainable world. The E3 Research Institute will be the heart of Dublin's Grand Canal Innovation District, acting as a catalyst for collaboration between the enterprise, start-up and

research communities and playing a key role in Ireland's drive to become a European leader in innovation.

*Inspiring Generations* will benefit E3 and more key initiatives in education and research across campus, ensuring that Trinity can continue to make a positive impact on the world today and for many future generations.



Dr Stanley Quek & Dick Spring



Senator Ivana Bacik, Sharon Ni Bheolain, Catherine McGuinness & Senator Lynn Ruane

### How Can You Help?

People have many different motivations for supporting Trinity: many are proud of how Trinity represents Ireland on the world stage and recognise that innovation in Trinity strengthens our national economy; others want to support particular areas of research like cancer or sustainability; some want to develop education in their own fields, whether the Creative Arts, Medicine, Engineering or others. Many alumni choose to support students and societies in ways that would have made a big difference to their own student days, whether through scholarships, mentoring or offering financial support to the Trinity sports stars of today.

But the one thing all of our volunteers and donors have in common is that they want to make a positive difference and they believe that by joining together to support Trinity they will achieve just that.

There are many different ways you can join *Inspiring Generations*. Every contribution is very welcome and whether yours is the gift of time, expertise or finance, you will be playing a part in Trinity's role as a positive force in Ireland and the world.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kate Bond is the Director of Advancement at Trinity Development & Alumni.



Leah Kenny & Joe Caslin



Professor Maeve Lowery, Ann Dalton, Professor Aine Kelly, Lorcan Birthistle, Dr Stanley Quek, Professor Veronica Campbell & Professor Paul Browne





Artwork created  
by Joe Caslin

Photo: Naoise Cullhane

## The Youth Need to See Greatness Reflected in Our Eyes

**T**he *Youth Need to See Greatness Reflected in Our Eyes* was an artwork created by Joe Caslin at the Campanile in Front Square to celebrate the public launch of *Inspiring Generations*. Featuring Samuel Beckett, Nobel Laureate and one of Trinity's most celebrated alumni, alongside Trinity student Leah Kenny, who wrote her final year thesis on Beckett and his work, the piece was a visual representation of *Inspiring Generations*. It showed Beckett passing on his knowledge and inspiring the next generation to rise up and make their mark on the world.

Samuel Beckett graduated in 1927 and spent most of his life in France, but remained a lifelong supporter of Trinity. In 1969, the year he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, he gave important working documents to Trinity Library and later that decade he donated proceeds from the New York performance of his play, *Krapp's Last Tape*, to the fund that built Trinity's Berkeley Library. Today, our Library holds a unique collection of Beckett manuscripts and letters that inspires students and scholars from around the world.

Leah Kenny came to university through Trinity Access and has written about how Beckett's work seemed inaccessible to her at first, until she came to study his original manuscripts and letters in the Trinity Library. She brought her love of Beckett's work home to her grandparents for whom, she has written, watching *Waiting for Godot* was "like a key being turned in a lock, the lifting of an intellectual curtain".

Artist Joe Caslin describes the piece: "Trinity's Campaign, *Inspiring Generations*, highlights the University's past and present achievements as a means of charting its future. In the piece, Beckett looks directly at us and holds a pen pointing to his heart, but gestures towards Leah who, holding her thesis, represents a new generation of scholarship in Trinity. The other character in the piece, if you like, is the Campanile, representing Trinity as the constant source of inspiration – as people come and go, Trinity will continue to inspire many future generations."

# Get involved in Inspiring Generations

## Key Inspiring Generations Projects

### New Generations

- Academic Talent
- Scholarships
- Science Gallery Dublin
- Trinity Access
  - Transforming Education

### A Campus for the 21st Century

- E3 Institute and Grand Canal Innovation District
- Old Library Redevelopment and Research Study Centre
- Trinity Law School
- Trinity Business School

### Cherishing the Humanities

- Trinity Long Room Hub Arts & Humanities Research Institute
- Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation
- Trinity Centre for Asian Studies

### Healthcare Challenges of our Generation

- Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute
- Ageing Research

## Donate

There are many ways you can support *Inspiring Generations*. Every contribution, whatever the size, can have a life-changing impact.



## Volunteer



Choose how you would like to give your time. Become a mentor, join a local alumni branch or offer an internship. Find all the ways you can get involved on page 56.

## Find Out More

If you are interested in making a gift now, remembering Trinity in your will, volunteering or supporting the Campaign in any other way, please email [campaign@tcd.ie](mailto:campaign@tcd.ie) or find out more at [tcd.ie/campaign](http://tcd.ie/campaign).

**Inspiring Generations**

The Campaign for Trinity College Dublin