

Professor Christine Kinealy

Ph.D. Irish Historian. Founding Director of Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University. Director of African American Irish Diaspora Network.

Since completing her PhD at Trinity College in Dublin, Professor Christine Kinealy has worked in educational and research institutes in Ireland, England and, more recently, in the United States. In September 2013, Christine was appointed the founding Director of Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut, a position she continues to hold.

Christine has published extensively on modern Ireland, her books including *This Great Calamity. The Great Famine in Ireland* (1995 and 2006), *The Hidden Famine: Hunger, Poverty and Sectarianism in Belfast 1840-50* (with Gerard MacAtasney, 2002) and, with artist John Walsh, a graphic novel, *The Bad Times or An Drochshaol* (2016). The latter was written for, and about, young adults. Christine's work in promoting a greater understanding of the tragedy of the Great Famine and its transgenerational legacies has resulted in a number of conferences and publications that have brought together some of the most important scholars on this topic. Recent publications—also inspired by the selflessness of front-line workers and others during the COVID-19 pandemic—include the edited collections, *Heroes of Ireland's Great Hunger* (2021) and *More Heroes of Ireland's Great Hunger* (2022). She also serves on the boards of the Irish Great Hunger Memorial in Philadelphia and the International Archive Committee of the National Famine Museum in Ireland. In 2017, Christine received an Emmy for her contribution to the documentary, 'The Great Hunger and the Irish Diaspora'.

Christine's more recent research is on the abolition movement in Ireland and her publications include *Frederick Douglass in Ireland. In his own words* (2018) and *Black Abolitionists in Ireland* (2020). In May 2021, Christine launched the Frederick Douglass Walking Trails in Dublin, Belfast and Cork, which are part of a larger project to create a Frederick Douglass Way in Ireland. Collectively, they will trace the places visited by Douglass on his 'transformative' visit to Ireland in 1845 and 1846, which, he admitted, was a significant step in becoming an international champion of human rights. In 2020, Christine was appointed a Director of the newly-founded African American Irish Diaspora Network.

In 2018, Christine was named an international ambassador for Belfast. In 2021, she received the prestigious Gold Medal Award from Eire Society of Boston. In 2022, Christine was named the *Irish Echo's* (New York) person of the year. She has frequently been included in the Top 100 Educators in Irish America.