



## **Celebrate Sober St. Patrick's Day® in a Gilded Age Mansion**

***Irish culture takes center stage right where  
New York's St. Patrick's Day Parade ends,  
at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Fifth Avenue and 79<sup>th</sup> Street***

**15<sup>th</sup> annual alcohol-free, family-friendly festivities showcases world-class Irish musicians, step dancers, and storytellers, joined by Ukrainian dancers**

NEW YORK (Feb. 24, 2026) — Where the New York's St. Patrick's Day Parade ends on Fifth Avenue at 79<sup>th</sup> Street, the 15th Annual Sober St. Patrick's Day® Grand Celebration gets underway at the landmark Gilded Age mansion of the Ukrainian Institute of America. The lively showcase of Irish music, dance, storytelling, and heritage, in a joyful, alcohol-free atmosphere sells out in advance each year.

"It's our biggest talent lineup, our best location, and best venue in 15 years," said Sober St. Patrick's Day founder William Spencer Reilly. "The Ukrainian Institute of America is not only welcoming us to use all four floors and nine state rooms of its magnificent mansion, but they are also partnering with us for an interactive, immersive Irish celebration with cross-cultural Ukrainian accents."

Ukrainian Institute of America Executive Director Lydia Zaininger said, "We are excited to greet the New York Irish community on its biggest day, as Ireland and Ukraine, nations shaped by struggle yet defined by their unbreakable spirit, stand together in friendship, bound by shared histories and a profound respect for each other's courage and culture."

Underscoring Ukraine's current struggle and the two countries' shared history of famine, foreign occupation, and resolute spirit, Irish community leaders and Ukrainian dignitaries will join hands in solidarity at the "Bilateral Meet & Greet" at the venue on March 17<sup>th</sup> between Noon and 1 PM (by invitation only).

Headlining this year's Sober St. Patrick's Day Grand Celebration are famed Irish and Irish American performers, including:

- **Rory Makem**, Legendary Irish Folk Singer
- **John Whelan**, Seven-time All-Ireland Champion Button Accordionist
- **Brian Conway**, Five-time All-Ireland Champion Fiddler
- **Mary Courtney**, Celebrated Irish Singer
- **Donny Golden School of Irish Dance**, Award-Winning Irish Step Dancers
- **Jerry O'Sullivan**, America's Premier Uilleann Piper
- **Brendan Dolan**, Award-winning Pianist and Keyboard Player



- **Flynn Cohen**, Guitarist & Singer
- **Dan Hunt & Irish Arts Center Set Dancers**
- **Cast Members of *Parcel for America***
- **John Duddy** and **Doireann Mac Mahon** perform an excerpt from the play *Hunger*
- **Susan Davey**, St. Brigid's Storyteller
- **Lisa McLeary**, Visual Artist
- **Ukrainian Folk Dancers**
- **Loretto Leary** of Ireland's Great Hunger Museum of Fairfield
- **Seamus O'Farrell**, Storyteller
- **Mark Mitton**, Master Magician
- **And More**--actors, musicians, dancers, and surprise guests

A television and theater producer, Reilly founded Sober St. Patrick's Day to elevate Irish arts and entertainment over the holiday's tragic association with binge drinking particularly among the young.

The organization's executive director Christine Harrington said, "At its heart, Sober St. Patrick's Day is a cultural celebration honoring Irish tradition, music, story, history, and hospitality, where everyone can enjoy the day in a safe, healthy, family-friendly, alcohol-free environment. We create a shared, joyful experience that is vibrant and intentional, demonstrating that culture, connection, and meaning thrive when they are placed at the center."

Bagpiper Donal Morrissey will again lead the Sober St. Patrick's Day contingent up Fifth Avenue in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Grand Marshall is Sally Corbett-Turco, Executive Director of "Stepping Stones®, the historic home of Bill & Lois Wilson," co-founders of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon. Register at [www.soberstpatricksdays.org](http://www.soberstpatricksdays.org).

#### **Event Details:**

- **What** – 15<sup>th</sup> annual Sober St. Patrick's Day celebration of Irish heritage and culture with famed Irish musicians, step dancers, entertainers, and surprise guests with light bites, desserts, mocktails, and other non-alcoholic refreshments included
- **When** – Tues., March 17, 2026, 4:30 to 7:30 PM
- **Where** – The Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E 79 St. at 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, NY, NY
- **Tickets** – \$45 for adults, \$40 for seniors, students, and UIA members, \$25 for children. The event sells out each year, so guests should get tickets in advance at [www.soberstpatricksdays.org](http://www.soberstpatricksdays.org)
- **March in the Parade with Sober St. Patrick's Day** – Register at [www.soberstpatricksdays.org](http://www.soberstpatricksdays.org)

**About Sober St. Patrick's Day:** Sober St. Patrick's Day's mission is to reclaim the true spirit of St. Patrick's Day by changing the perception and experience from an occasion for binge drinking and-misuse of alcohol and other drugs to a celebration of the richness of Irish culture



and the legacy of St. Patrick. It is a 501(c)(3) organization. Please visit [www.soberstpatricksday.org](http://www.soberstpatricksday.org) for more information.

**Media contact:** John Lee at [johnleemedia@gmail.com](mailto:johnleemedia@gmail.com), 917-653-3444