

MARTIN J. KELLY
IRISH CULTURAL SOCIETY
WRITING CONTEST 2022

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all students in grades 9 through 12 in the schools in Nassau County.

PROJECT: A creative description of each of the eleven iron workers on a beam as shown in the iconic photograph, “Men at Lunch.” The photograph is included with these materials.

Contest entrants will choose one of the eleven men in the photograph to be the one who describes each of the other men. The narrator must be an Irish immigrant and at least one of the other men must be an Irish immigrant. The narrator will tell the reader about himself and about the other men. The narrator’s personality will come through in his description of the other men. (500 – 750 words)

USEFUL RESOURCES: There are many resources on the internet under the title Men at Lunch. There is a documentary entitled “Men at Lunch” which presents the producer’s discoveries as he pursued the many unknowns of the photograph. See **Helpful Hints** on our web site, www.irish-society.org, for references and suggestions about how to approach the writing of the contest entry.

CRITERIA: The judge will rate most highly those entries which skillfully bring the narrator to life. The evidence which shows the writer knows about immigrant labor, especially in construction, will be recognized by the judges and highly valued. The judge will look for the authentic hand of the writer in the style of the entry. See **Helpful Hints** for more information, www.irish-society.org.

ENTRY FORMAT: Typed, writer’s name at
end of entry; no school identification

DEADLINE: March 17, 2022

COVER SHEET: Writer’s name, address, home phone, email address, school name; sponsoring teacher. (No plastic covers, please.)

PRIZES: 1st \$200; 2nd \$150 (two awards); 3rd \$125 (two awards);
Honorable Mention \$40 (thirty awards)

A gift of books will be sent to the school libraries of all students who enter this contest.

NOTE WELL: Save a copy of your entry as entries will not be returned. Thank you.

All entrants will receive a Certificate of Merit

Sponsor: **The H. W. Wilson Foundation**

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

Irish Cultural Society
Box 247
Garden City, NY 11530