The fourth annual Belfast International Homecoming Conference brings together leaders of change from across the world to build a better Belfast.

We believe that the Diaspora have a key role to play in the transformation of our city and much of the groundwork has already been done. Over the next three days, at venues across the city, we will cement existing relationships and forge new friendships, working from those foundations towards a peaceful and prosperous society and Building Belfast Together.
**Wednesday 4th October, 2017**

**6:30pm Opening reception for our Diaspora guests**  
*Duncairn Culture and Arts Centre*  
*Host: Howard Hastings*  

**Welcome:** Rev. Bill Shaw, Director Duncairn Culture & Arts Centre  
and Cllr Mairéad O’Donnell, Chair of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, BCC

**Special Guest Speaker**  
Basque Lessons for Belfast — Leading the 21st Century City:  
Gorka Urtaan, Mayor of Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque Country  
*Special Performance by Joby Fox & Friends*

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**Thursday 5th October, 2017**

**8am-10am Ulster Bank Breakfast Discussion & Workshop**  
*entrepreneurial Spark, Belfast Hub, Lombard House, 10 Lombard Street*  

Packing a Punch as an Entrepreneurial City: A panel discussion on how Belfast's  
Entrepreneurial ecosystem is making its presence felt internationally.  
**Speakers:** Lynsey Cunningham, Ulster Bank, Matthew Teague, John Ferris  
Entrepreneurial Spark, Liam Brogan, Ireland Craft Beers, Kieran Kelly, Ark Net, Christine Boyle, Senergy, Jayne Brady, Kernel Capital, Jack Butler, MRP, Philadelphia

**11am-3pm Legal Symposium**  
*The Inn of Court, The Royal Courts of Justice, Belfast* *Cpd Eligible*  
Legal Resolutions to Political Problems, Opening Remarks by Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Sir Declan Morgan QC

**11:30am-3pm The West Awakes**  
Historical walking tour of West Belfast with local historian Joe Austin.  
Welcome by Paul Maskey MP. Finishes with a ‘boiler’ and stew in McEnaney’s.

**11am-1:30pm Opening of the new Concentrix offices**  
*Concentrix, Maysfield, 49 East Bridge St., Belfast BT1 3NR*

**6:30pm-8:30pm Reception with US Consul General, Dan Lawton**  
(Invitation Only)  
Speakers: Sarah Delude International Business Strategy Manager, City of Boston,  
Councilman Robert Swope, Nashville, Máire Thompson, Principal Malone College

**The Belfast Bee:** A Cocktail by Francis Schott, Mixologist, New Jersey.  
*A Belfast twist to the classic 1930’s Bee’s Knees Cocktail. (Jawbox ‘Belfast Cut’ Gin, Local Honey, Lemon and local herbs)*

**9pm Conference Club**  
*Bullitt Hotel, Main Lobby Bar, 40a Church Lane*
Friday 6th October, 2017
The Drawing Offices, Titanic Hotel, Belfast • 7:45am-3.00pm

8:00am Business Breakfast
Building World-Class Companies in a Transformed Belfast
  Chair: Jackie Henry, Senior Partner Deloitte
  Prof Gerald A. Hanweck Jr., Hanweck Associates, New York
  Danny Moore, COO Options, Founder, Loughshore Investments
  Anne Gallagher, Director, Johnson Controls/TYCO
  Councilman Jim Shulman, Nashville Metropolitan Council

9:00am Official Opening: A Belfast Céad Míle Fáilte
Howard Hastings, Host, Belfast International Homecoming & Chair, Visit Belfast

9:10am Building Diversity into Belfast’s DNA
  Chair: Eamonn Mallie
  Lord Diljit Rana, Belfast
  Alan Esslemont, Director General, TG4
  Assemblyman Daniel O’Donnell, Chair, Tourism & Arts Committee,
   New York State Assembly
  Roisin McDonough, CEO, Arts Council NI

9:40am Building Bridges not Barriers in the Brexit Era
  Chair: Marie Macklin, Chair Macklin Enterprise Partnerships, Glasgow
  Michael Darcy, Programme Lead, IBEC/CBI Joint Business Council
  Stephen Kelly, CEO Manufacturing NI
  Glyn Roberts, CEO, Retail NI, Vice Chair, NI Stronger IN
  Richard Ramsey, Chief Economist, Ulster Bank

10:10am My Building Blueprint Soapbox
  The £260m University Challenge
  Paddy Nixon, Vice-Chancellor and President, Ulster University

10:20am Building Tomorrow’s Infrastructure: A Dublin-Belfast bullet train and more...
  Chair: David Gavaghan, CEO Aurora Capital, Chair CBI NI
  Chris Conway, CEO Translink
  Ardmhéara Micheál Mac Donncha, Lord Mayor of Dublin
  Stefan Sanders, Head of Rail Business UK, Middle-East and Africa, Arup
Friday 6th October, 2017

10:50am Conference Keynote
Randox: Leading From The Front
Dr Peter FitzGerald CBE FREng, Managing Director, Randox
Introduced by Ann McGregor, CEO NI Chamber of Commerce

11:05am Cranes Above Belfast (Video)
Intro: How Boston Got Cool. Brian Golden, Director Boston Planning and Development Agency
Chair: Paul McErlean, MD, MCE Public Relations
Brian Golden, Director Boston Planning and Development Agency
Conal Harvey, Deputy Chairman, Titanic Belfast and Director, Harcourt Developments
Paul Beacom, McAleer & Rushe
Rhona Quinn, MD QMAC Construction

11:35am Building Our Economy Through The Big Screen (Showreel)
Richard Williams, CEO, NI Screen

11:45am Building a Tourism Sector to Drive the New Economy
Chair: Kerrie Sweeney, CEO, Titanic Foundation
Graham Keddie, CEO, Belfast International Airport
Siobhan McManamy, Head of Markets, Tourism Ireland
John McGrillen, CEO, Tourism NI
Harry Connolly, Executive Director, Fáilte Feirste Thiar
Gerry Lennon, CEO, Visit Belfast

12:20pm My Building Blueprint Soapbox
European Capital of Culture Bid 2023
Cllr Nuala McAllister, Lord Mayor of Belfast
Cllr Maolíosa McHugh, Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council

12:40pm Dragons Den
Four Belfast start-ups will pitch for 60 seconds and take three minutes of questions from the dragons. The winning start-up will win a funded trip to New York with a return flight with Norwegian Air and accommodation for two nights. During the visit, the winning start-up will meet with entrepreneurs and funders in the city who will discuss their plans and detail their own path to success.

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Pitching Start Ups: Moment Health • Scileads • TapSOS • Uleska
Dragons: Jerry Hanweck, President, Hanweck Associates, New York • Emer Hinphrey, Managing Partner, Think People • Des Lamph, McDonald’s franchisee

1pm-2pm Networking Lunch
Speaker: Suzanne Wylie, CEO, Belfast City Council
Leveraging Tourism and The Arts to Build Cross-Community Bridges.

(Room: The Boardroom)
Co-Chaired by Kevin Gamble, Director, Féile an Phobail & Maurice Kinkead, CEO, EastSide Partnership. Contributors: Paul Maskey, MP, Chair of Fáilte Feirste Thiar, Caitriona Lavery, Hastings Hotel Group, Brónagh Lawson, Ann MacReynolds, CEO The MAC, Sorcha Wolsey, Beannchor Group, Joby Fox, singer/songwriter & Director of the Folktown Initiative, Colin Mountstephen, Deloitte, Laurie Scott, Director of Business Tourism, Visit Belfast

Building Creative Cities: Rethinking City strategies for growth through Culture, Arts and the Creative Industries.

(Room: Lord Pirrie’s Office)
Chaired by Cllr Mairead O’Donnell, Chair of City Growth and Regeneration Committee
Contributors: Mark Gordon, Scoredraw, Deepa Mann-Kler, Councilman Robert Swope, Metropolitan Council, Nashville, Brian Golden, Boston Redevelopment Authority

Coming Home: Building Partnerships with our 70 Million Strong Global Family.

(Room: The Chairman’s Office)
Chaired by Mike Rich, CEO IrishCentral.com, New York Contributors: Justin Rush, Director Abacus Recruitment, Deirdre Murphy, Counsel, Immigration Law, Seyfarth Shaw, London/Boston, Heather Cochrane-Cunningham, Executive Director, Sister Cities Nashville, Gareth Maguire, Sport Changes Life, Eddie Friel, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Ulster University University, Magee, Tami Ellen McLaughlin, IBO, New York, Brendan Finn, Chief of Staff, Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Office of Portland, Anya O’Connor, QUB, Lorraine Turner, NI Bureau, New York, Terry McKeown, Sailortown Regeneration Group

Banquet & Belfast Business Top 50 Awards

6pm The Great Hall, City Hall, Belfast
Compere: Aidan Browne, UTV
Welcome: Cllr Nuala McAllister, Lord Mayor of Belfast
Recipient of The Spirit of the Diaspora Award: Chris Caldwell, President, Concentrix, Fremont, California
Keynote Address: Derek Mackay MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution, Scotland

Close. Vote of Thanks from Belfast: Colin Anderson, CEO Anderson Spratt Group & Honorary Chair of The Belfast International Homecoming

This sumptuous gala event will see leading members of the Diaspora from across the globe join with local thought leaders and entrepreneurs to mark the end of the city’s premier business and investment conference. Guests will be treated to a four-course dinner highlighting the best of Irish food and drink as well as a stunning performance of Irish festival dancing from the Loughgiel School of Dance.