

# Sister City Agreement

between the  
**City of Galway, Republic of Ireland**  
 and the  
**City of Menlo Park, California, United States of America**

**Whereas**, the City of Menlo Park in the State of California, United States of America, is represented by the Honourable Mayor Rich Cline and the City of Galway in the Republic of Ireland is represented by the Honourable Mayor Frank Fahy; and

**Whereas**, the cities of Menlo Park and Galway share a historical bond that dates back over 150 years when two Galway-men, Dennis J. Oliver and Daniel C. McGlynn, from the village of Menlo in the city of Galway, travelled to California and purchased a ranch they named Menlo Park; and

**Whereas**, a joint interest in establishing a protocol of friendship guided by the desire to establish friendly relations and cooperation between the cities of Galway and Menlo Park, which reflects the interests and efforts of our governments to strengthen friendly relations between the Republic of Ireland and the United States of America; and

**Whereas**, friendship and cooperation between Galway City and Menlo Park will contribute to the development and strengthening of relations between our two countries; to the consolidation of peace all over the world; and to the growth and improvement of humanity; and

**Whereas**, the mutual interests of the citizens of Galway City and Menlo Park towards each other's life and culture, manifested in the representative bodies of the Galway City Council and the Menlo Park City Council, in the efforts of friendship and cooperation, have decided and agreed to the following;

## ARTICLE 1

The Agreement is designed to determine the main spheres of cooperation and exchange between Menlo Park and Galway City, within the framework of existing relations between our countries and with the purpose of enriching them and giving them a more lively and dynamic character, taking into account all of the values of life and interests of both cities, thereby increasing mutual respect and regard for the shared history, customs and ways of life.

## ARTICLE 2

In order to implement the Agreement, Galway City and Menlo Park will develop an appropriate program of cooperation and exchanges. Under the Program of Cooperation and Exchanges, Galway City and Menlo Park agree to implement an ongoing, substantive exchange of both information and representatives in the fields of culture, economy, education and scholarship, history, science, sports, tourism, community life and the activities of the respective City Councils and their various departments. Menlo Park and Galway City agree that these exchanges may take various forms, including bilateral meetings, celebrations, concerts and performances, exchanges of exhibitions, films, literature and other articles of culture, collaboration between educational institutions, joint research and economic projects, professional seminars, tour groups, and official delegations.

## ARTICLE 3

To encourage the broadest possible participation of the citizens of Galway City and Menlo Park in the activities outlined in the Agreement, each city shall endeavour to:

- a) Promote a positive atmosphere of cooperation and mutual understanding, encourage the participation of the broadest spectrum of the population in Sister City exchanges, and foster a free and open exchanges of ideas, values and experiences.
- b) Encourage free contact between groups and individuals of the two cities, within the framework of the Agreement.
- c) Regularly inform the citizens of their respective cities and each other about Sister City activities, and promote and exchange print and broadcast media reports on Sister City activities in both cities.

## ARTICLE 4


Galway City and Menlo Park agree that, in order to implement the Agreement, each city will work with the representatives of a recognized association, commission or non-profit organization to:


- a) Develop and manage the proposed Programs of Cooperation and Exchanges.
- b) Act as official representation for their respective City Council in the facilitation of the ongoing aspects of the Sister City relationship, and periodically report to them.

## ARTICLE 5

The Agreement shall come into effect after its adoption by the City Council of the City of Galway and by the City Council of the City of Menlo Park, and shall be deemed in effect on June 03, 2016, and shall remain in effect thenceforth.

In confirmation thereof, we have signed this Agreement today, in two copies both being identical and equally valid.

  
 Frank Fahy  
 Mayor  
 City of Galway

  
 Rich Cline  
 Mayor  
 City of Menlo Park