

Annual General Meeting of NALA

Saturday 24 April 2021, 11.00am – 12.00pm

The following have been nominated for the positions vacant on the Board of NALA.

A. Vice Chairperson – one nomination received for one vacant position:	
Nominee	Proposed and seconded by:
Maria O’Gorman	Ciaran Casey and Anna Tuohy Halligan
<p>Maria O’Gorman is from Listowel in County Kerry. For many years she worked as an accountant for a manufacturing company. She does a lot of work in the adult education sector and represents adult learners on a variety of committees and she is on the board of Kerry Education and Training Board (ETB). Maria is also on the board of Irish Rural Link, which is the national network representing rural communities.</p>	

B. Honorary Treasurer – one nominations received for one vacant position:	
Nominee	Proposed and seconded by:
Ciaran Casey	Margaret Kelly and Kevin Kelly
<p>Ciaran Casey is the Head of Digital Channels at AIB where he has responsibility for Mobile and Internet Banking, iBusiness Banking and Group Websites. Prior to this he held a number of roles across the Products and Propositions functions with his most recent previous role being Group Head of Deposit and Current Account Products. Ciaran is a Chartered Banker and Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholder. Ciaran joined the Board of NALA in March 2020.</p>	

D. Members on Board – four nominations received for five vacant positions	
Nominee	Proposed by and seconded by:
Celia Rafferty	Fionnuala Carter and Sian Crowley
Mary Maher	Gwen Redmond and Kevin Kelly
Catherine Devlin	Maurice Sammon and Michael Duffy
Lynne Keery	Sinead Morgan and Donal Walsh
<p>Celia Rafferty is an Adult Education Officer (AEO) with the City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDETb). Her work involves the management of adult literacy, community education, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), adult education guidance, skills for work and various basic education programmes delivered by the Adult Education Service. Prior to being an AEO she was an Adult Literacy Organiser (ALO) and literacy tutor with CDETb. She has in excess of twenty-five years of experience in the field of adult literacy and community education. She is a former member of the NALA executive where she represented NALA on two different EU Grundvig Projects: one on Family Literacy and another on Dyslexia. She would very much welcome the opportunity to join the Board and help further the work of NALA.</p>	

Mary Maher is Director of the Dublin Adult Learning Centre (since 1993). She has over 30 years of experience in adult and community education. She started her career working with the Travelling community and spent 5 years working with early school leavers and has working in the north inner city for 27 years in her current position. She was chairperson of NALA for 6 years (1997-2003). She is passionate about adult and community education and its role in combatting inequalities and exclusion. She believes it has a huge role to play in breaking the cycle of intergenerational disadvantage. DALC strives to put the learner at the centre of all its work, which is underpinned by values of inclusion, social justice and transformation. Lifelong learning for sustainability and digital literacy are central themes in DALC's current Strategic Plan.

Catherine Devlin is an adult literacy student from Buncrana in County Donegal. She worked in a shirt factory from the age of 15 years having left school early after struggled daily at school. Catherine started back to education in 2013 on the 'Learning for Living' programme with Donegal Education and Training Board (ETB). She worked her way to doing the Junior Certificate through day, night and summer classes. She really enjoyed learning this second time around. She found that tutors had kindness, patience and an understanding of pupils who had struggled at school from an early age. This made going back to education a pure joy for her. In 2017, Catherine gave a talk at an ETB event in Letterkenny and then joined NALA's Student Subcommittee. She is currently vice-chairperson of the Subcommittee. She looks forward to being the link between the Student Subcommittee and the Board and learning more about all NALA's work.

Lynne Keery has worked in Adult Education since 1995 when she began teaching with Co. Louth VEC, and she now works as Adult Education Officer with GRETB. Throughout her time in Adult Education, she has taught many learners across various services - Literacy, BTEI, VTOS. She has seen how in life people face many barriers when participating in society, accessing education, or getting a job and sometimes the barrier caused by literacy difficulties can be the most restricting. It can stop people from considering applying for a course, it can impact on individual confidence in short it can prevent people from achieving their potential. Ensuring that every person that needs literacy help can access that at a time that suits, in a place that suits and in a way that suits is one of Lynne's fundamental beliefs and it is important that this work is supported.

As the number of candidates is not more than the number of positions vacant there will be **no election** for Vice Chairperson, Treasurer or Members to the Board of Directors.