

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the Pittsburgh Irish Festival will be held September 11-13, 2015 at the Riverplex and this year is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, for a quarter of a century, this lively festival has celebrated the heritage and culture of Ireland through music, dance, food, language, sports, and history; the event has become one that attracts not just those of Irish ancestry, but of people with all ancestries from across our community; and

**WHEREAS**, this year, festival events and activities include children's Irish arts and crafts, Blarney Bingo, Hedge School, a cultural and dance stage, an Irish author's corner, beverage tasting, a storyteller, dancing, and music; there will also be a Gaelic Mass held on Sunday, September 13; and

**WHEREAS**, the Irish immigrants that relocated to this area left their families, homes, possessions, and everything they knew to start a new life, and this spirit of determination and courage can still be seen in their ancestors today; strong Irish influences can be seen through the region with approximately 15 percent of Allegheny County residents claiming Irish ancestry, making Irish the second-highest ancestry group within the county; and

**WHEREAS**, Allegheny County is proud to be the home of so many who claim Irish ancestry; the Pittsburgh Irish Festival has become a staple in our region and we are thankful for its ability to educate our residents on Irish history and culture.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby congratulate the Pittsburgh Irish Festival on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and commend all those involved in creating such a successful and wonderful celebration.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

*Rich Fitzgerald*

---

Rich Fitzgerald