Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023
and
Report Thereon

LANE & COMPANY

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

5335 WISCONSIN AVENUE, N.W.

SUITE 440

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20015

TEL (202) 617-2615 FAX (202) 217-1564

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of The George Mitchell Scholarship Fund of the US-Ireland Alliance

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the George Mitchell Scholarship Fund of the US-Ireland Alliance (the Fund), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2023, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of December 31, 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Fund and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Washington, D.C. April 26, 2024

L. Comany

-2-

Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2023

ASSETS

	Matching		
	Investment	Fund	
	Account	Accounts	Total
Investments	\$ 6,222,689	\$ 2,921,305	\$ 9,143,994
Total Assets	6,222,689	2,921,305	9,143,994
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>			
Due to US-Ireland Alliance			
Total Liabilities	-	-	-
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	6,222,689	2,921,305	9,143,994
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 6,222,689	\$ 2,921,305	\$ 9,143,994

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Investment Account	Matching Fund Accounts	Total
Income			
Dividends and interest	\$ 199,509	\$ 73,024	\$ 272,533
Net realized gains on investments	186	1,745	1,931
Net unrealized gains on investments	409,605	359,936	769,541
Less: Investment advisory fees	(20,624)	(9,376)	(30,000)
Total income	588,676	425,329	1,014,005
Expenses			
Administrative expenses	5,765	5,765	11,530
Total expenses	5,765	5,765	11,530
Change in net assets	582,911	419,564	1,002,475
Transfer to US-Ireland Alliance	-	-	-
Net assets - beginning of year	5,639,778	2,501,741	8,141,519
Net assets - end of year	\$ 6,222,689	\$ 2,921,305	\$ 9,143,994

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

1. Organization

The George Mitchell Scholarship Fund (the Fund) was established on March 8, 1999 with a \$2,767,400 endowment from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ireland (the Ministry) to the US-Ireland Alliance (the Alliance), a non-profit organization, headquartered in Arlington, Virginia. The Fund, segregated from the other assets of the Alliance, is maintained to generate earnings, from which scholarships are provided to American citizens with undergraduate degrees, to permit study at institutions of higher education in Ireland and Northern Ireland. On June 1, 2010, the original agreement that established the Fund in 1999 was replaced by a new agreement providing for an additional endowment from the Ministry in the amount of \$1,849,989 and additional periodic payments based on funds raised by the Alliance.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements of the Fund have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-14, *Presentation of Financial Statements for Not-for-Profit Entities*. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when incurred. Fund assets are reported at fair market value.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. However, management does not believe that actual results will be materially different from those estimates.

Tax Status

The Fund is part of the US-Ireland Alliance, an organization exempt under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, income of the Fund is not subject to federal or state income tax, unless it constitutes unrelated business taxable income, which has not been the case for any income of the Fund since its inception. Management annually reviews its tax positions and has determined that there are no material uncertain tax positions that require recognition in the financial statements.

Functional Expenses

The Fund's expenses for 2023 consisted of administrative expenses only. On a functional basis, these expenses are considered to be entirely general and administrative.

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

3. Transfer to US-Ireland Alliance

Excess earnings from the Matching Fund Account of the Fund, may be used for educational purposes and programs of the Alliance. The calculated excess earnings are transferred in the year following the year in which they are earned. During 2023, there were \$0 excess earnings transferred to the Alliance as the 2022 excess earnings calculation resulted in \$0 excess earnings.

4. Fair Value Measurements

The Fund has implemented Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820 Fair Value Measurements. ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. ASC 820 uses the following prioritized input levels to measure fair value. The input levels used for valuing investments and cash equivalents are not necessarily an indication of risk.

Level 1 – Observable inputs that reflect quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets such as stock quotes;

Level 2 – Includes inputs other than level 1 inputs that are directly or indirectly observable in the marketplace such as yield curves or other market data;

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs which reflect the reporting entity's assessment of the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability including assumptions about risk such as bid/ask spreads and liquidity discounts.

	<u>Level 1</u>	Level 2	Level 3	<u>Total</u>
Equities Fixed Income	\$ 3,799,564 5,344,430	\$ 	\$ 	\$ 3,799,564 5,344,430
Total	\$ 9,143,994	\$	<u>\$</u>	\$ 9,143,994

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

5. Investments

Investments are stated at fair value and consisted of the following at December

31:

	<u>Market</u>	Cost
Equities Fixed Income	\$ 3,799,564 	\$ 2,709,217 _5,996,134
Total	<u>\$ 9,143,994</u>	\$ 8,705,351

6. Liquidity

The Fund strives to maintain liquid financial assets sufficient to cover near-term general expenditures. Financial assets consist of investments and due from US-Ireland Alliance. The following table reflects the Fund's financial assets as of December 31, 2023.

Investments	\$ 9,143,994
Due to US-Ireland Alliance	 (-)
Financial assets available to meet cash	
needs for general expenditures within	
one year	\$ 9,143,994

7. Subsequent Events

In preparing these financial statements, the Fund has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through April 26, 2024, the date the financial statements were available for issue. There were no events or transactions that were discovered during the evaluation that required further disclosure.