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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Ambassade de France en Irlande



IRISH HOSPITALITY INSTITUTE

1966 - 2016

French Ambassador of Ireland and IHI host an evening in the Residence of France



Back row: Alan Smullen, General Manager, The Croke Park Hotel- The Doyle Collection, Hugh Murray, Founder Director Classic Drinks, Shane Browne, DIT, Paul Fitzsimons, DIT, Katie Scanlan, DIT. Front row: Clement Ryan, Programme Chair School of Hospitality Management, Dominic Dillane, Head of School, Tourism & Hospitality Management at DIT, Martin Mangan, General Manager, Conrad Dublin & IHI President, Mrs. Jean-Pierre Thebault, Mr. Jean-Pierre Thebault, French Ambassador of Ireland, Caroline McDevitt, DIT, Conor Bartley, Team Captain, DIT, Natasha Kinsella, CEO of Irish Hospitality Institute.

Last night, Thursday the 21st of April over 80 invited guests attended the Residence of France, Ailesbury Road, Dublin in light of the 2016 edition of Good France/ Gout de France in order to celebrate the winners of the 31st Irish Hospitality Institute (IHI) National Hospitality Business Management Game Winners and to promote the France-Ireland Network for Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism.

The French Ambassador of Ireland and Mrs. Jean-Pierre Thebault, together with IHI had the pleasure of organising a very special Domaine Laroche Chablis wine and food pairing reception at the Residence for all invitees with thanks to Classic Drinks. The following wines of Domaine Laroche were tasted by guests on the night; Chablis Saint Martin,

Premier Cru Les Vaudevey, Premier Cru La Chantrerie, Premier Cru Les Vaillons Vieilles Vignes and Grand Cu Les Blanchots.

The evening's focus was to celebrate the team of 5 students from the B.Sc in International Hospitality Management, representing Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) who were selected as the outright winner of the 31st IHI National Hospitality Business Management Game 2016, in association with our new sponsor 2016, The Doyle Collection at The Croke Park Hotel on 7th of March last.

The evening gathered professionals from the catering and hospitality sectors as well as academics from the Irish Institute of Technologies. This was an opportunity to strengthen the new France-Ireland Network for Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism (FICAHT) which aims at bringing together French and Irish Higher Education Institutions delivering training in culinary arts, hospitality and tourism. This event was hosted under the Good France / Goût de France scheme which each year celebrates the taste of France in over a 1,000 restaurants worldwide.

In addition to the food and wine pairing, to commend the winning team from DIT, captained by Conor Bartley along with his fellow team mates Shane Browne, Paul Fitzsimons, Caroline McDevitt and Katie Scanlan as well as tutors Clem Ryan and Dominic Dillane had the chance to attend a masterclass prior to the event. The masterclass was hosted by the acclaimed Gregory Viennois, the chief winemaker of Laroche Chablis who was responsible for leading the company to be voted France's winemaker of the year in 2015. The masterclass included a focus on the terroir and winemaking techniques and traditions of Chablis from Chablis AC to Grand Cru.

Speaking at the evening, the French Ambassador to Ireland said: "We are delighted to host at the Residence of France the winners of the 31st IHI National Hospitality Business Management Games. Their presence tonight illustrates the importance of education and training in the culinary arts, hospitality and tourism sectors as well as the Irish young talents. As two culinary destinations, both France and Ireland share a love for gastronomy and hospitality. The innovative French-Irish Erasmus+ programme dedicated to promote exchanges between professionals of these sectors between the two countries will further boost the hospitality sector. We welcome the commitment expressed by the Irish Hospitality Institute to actively participate in this programme together with the training centre so contributing to develop new employment opportunities."

Natasha Kinsella, CEO, IHI on behalf of the Institute sincerely thanked the support given by the Ambassador and Mrs. Jean-Pierre Thebault for hosting such a prestigious event at their residence. This new collaboration was key to foster the educational focus and promote the possibilities for Ireland with the French-Irish Erasmus+. In regard to IHI the National Management Business game in its 31st year recognised graduates from the colleges participating and this event was a new experience for this year's winning team from DIT supported by Doyle Collection and the Embassy. A master class was held prior to the main event specifically for the winning team organised by Classic Drinks with LaRoche and the added prize with a visit to be conducted within the summer will provide the students will an experience to cherish for life.

Also speaking on the evening was Hugh Murray, Founder Director at Classic Drinks: "We are very honoured to be the importer of these fantastic historic wines and to have had this incredible opportunity to have Gregory over in Ireland to present these wines with the Ambassador to the winning students and key industry heads. We much remember that

France has had a huge influence on the world of wine creating standards and regulations and of course some of the world's most famous and sourced after wines. These situations are usually once off events and it is one that we are very proud to be associated with. Education is the future of our industry and to have students who are so passionate about what they are doing with a willingness to learn and travel will have a huge benefit to both the wine and service industry in the future. It was a most enjoyable evening and definitely one for the scrapbook. For Domaine Laroche it was experience that they truly enjoyed and were so delighted to present in the Ambassador's residence".

A special thanks to Riedel for providing the glasses and to Classic Drinks for arranging such a fabulous wine selection courtesy of Laroche Chablis and to the Ambassador of France in Ireland and Mrs. Jean-Pierre Thebault for hosting such a wonderful evening.

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, The Irish Hospitality Institute was founded in 1966 as the professional body for managers in the hotel, catering and tourism industries, to promote professional development and standards amongst its membership and in the hospitality industry.

For further information, please contact:

Irish Hospitality Institute: Megan Nally, Membership & Events Executive
Tel: 01 662 4790 | Email: accounts@ihi.ie

