



STATE OF NEW YORK

GEORGE E. PATAKI  
GOVERNOR

September 2 – 5, 2004

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings and warm regards to all gathered for the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual North American Festival of Wales, which this year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (WNGGA).

The Empire State is privileged to welcome outstanding organizations that serve not only the cultural and social interests of its members, but also share their wonderfully rich traditions with the community-at-large. The splendid legacy of Wales, renowned for the abundance of its historical, cultural and musical achievements, is alive and vibrant today in the best that Wales shared with North America – its sons and daughters.

New York is especially pleased that the WNGGA has come back to the state where your esteemed association was founded. The year 1929, on Goat Island in the Niagara River, saw the auspicious inception of this harmonious group which works diligently to preserve and promote the singing of Welsh hymns in Welsh and English. This happy meeting is a singular expression of Welsh culture and language in North America. In lifting so many fine Welsh voices, your commitment to the musical artistry which turns dozens of individuals into one perfect instrument is an inspiration to all.

No greater honor can be bestowed upon a person than recognition by friends and colleagues for the meaningful contributions of a busy, productive and successful life. I join with you in commending Ellis Jones, Executive Director, 1998-2003, as the deserving recipient of the National Welsh American Foundation Heritage Award and note that the 73<sup>rd</sup> Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu pays tribute to Nelson Llewellyn, Executive Director Emeritus, 1983-1998. It is most fitting and appropriate that you acknowledge these two well-respected members of a fortunate community of Welsh men and women and Welsh descendants, whose effective leadership and impressive accomplishments have had both local and far-reaching impacts for two decades.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, I extend best wishes for an enjoyable, productive and memorable festival, and for some wonderful times savoring the local flavors and all the spectacular attractions that Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Upstate New York have to offer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "G. E. Pataki". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER STATE CAPITOL ALBANY 12224  
<http://www.state.ny.us>



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 2, 2004

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 215  
Hartland, MI 48353-0215

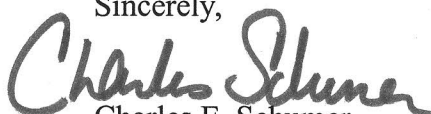
Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and the North American Festive of Wales 2004. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of your organization.

Since its inception, the Welsh National Gymanfa Gamu Association has dedicated itself to the preservation and promotion of Welsh heritage and culture. The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association has established itself as a leader within the Welsh-American community, committed to promoting the Welsh identity through the preservation of the Gymanfa Ganu and through education and increased awareness. This unique gathering in honor of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association's 75 years of history serves as a wonderful celebration of community spirit and strength.

Again, congratulations on this special occasion. I know the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association will continue to serve the needs of the Welsh-American for many more years to come.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



CITY OF BUFFALO  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ANTHONY M. MASIELLO  
MAYOR

June 2, 2004

**Dear Attendees:**

Welcome to Buffalo, New York -- the city that's **Easy to Love**. We welcome the **Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association** to Buffalo for the **North American Festival of Wales 2004** from September 2-5, 2004. We are fully prepared to demonstrate why Buffalo is known nationally as "**The City of Good Neighbors.**"

While you are here, you will learn more about why Buffalo is *Easy to Love*: our history as the gateway to the West; our geography, adjacent to the largest body of fresh water in the world and astride the most traveled border crossing into Canada; our heritage, reflected in the architectural legacies left by renowned geniuses such as E.B. Green, H.H. Richardson, Louis Sullivan, Frederick Law Olmsted and Frank Lloyd Wright; our great colleges and universities, and most of all, our pride in being a great city, reflected in the faces of warm, friendly, helpful people who want to make your stay memorable and enjoyable. And by the time you leave, we hope to have given you a lot of reasons to come back.

Set aside some time to explore our waterfront; one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World a 25 minute drive to the Falls at Niagara; sample the diversity of our excellent restaurants, enjoy the excitement of our Theater and Entertainment Districts and tour our City Hall. The view from the 26th Floor Observation Deck is spectacular. But above all, set aside some time in the future to come back and see us again.

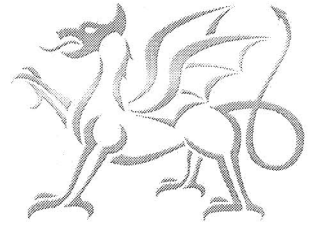
Best wishes and good luck.

**Cordially,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony M. Masiello".

**Anthony M. Masiello**  
Mayor

**Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM**  
First Minister/Prif Weinidog Cymru



**From the Assistant Private Secretary**  
Oddi wrth Ysgrifennydd Preifat Cynorthwyol

**Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru**  
**Welsh Assembly Government**

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Cardiff CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd  
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Tel/Ffôn: 029 2089 8740

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Email/Ebost: [hilary.walker@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:hilary.walker@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

Huw Williams  
2925 Champagne Court,  
Cumming,  
Georgia 30041  
USA

21 June 2004

Dear Mr Williams

**NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES**

As requested by Alan Upshall I am sending direct to you a letter from the First Minister of Wales for inclusion in the North American Festival of Wales Program for Buffalo 2004.

Yours sincerely

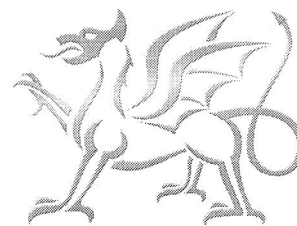
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hilary Walker".

**HILARY WALKER**  
Assistant Private Secretary to the First Minister  
Ysgrifennydd Preifat Cynorthwyol i'r Prif Weinidog



**BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL**  
**INVESTOR IN PEOPLE**

**Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM**  
First Minister/Prif Weinidog Cymru



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
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North American Festival of Wales  
Buffalo, NY

2004

*Ammwyl Gyfeillion*

I wish you an enjoyable and successful 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary North American Festival of Wales in Buffalo, New York celebrating three quarters of a century of cultural achievement since the first Cymanfa Ganu in Goat Island, New York in 1929.

On March 1<sup>st</sup> 2004, we opened the Wales International Center in New York, a new home for the Welsh Assembly Government, WalesTrade International and the Welsh Development Agency and where the Wales Tourist Board also has a presence. Much has happened since I sent my First Minister's greetings to the Vancouver Festival last year reflecting a new mood of self-confidence and optimism in Wales. The Wales International Center will strengthen Wales' marketing efforts in North America which should lead to increased prosperity and jobs in Wales.

Recently, the new \$180 million international centre for the arts in Cardiff Bay, the Wales Millennium Centre, began its countdown to opening. The key to its door was launched on a global journey that will take in five continents and pass through the hands of eminent performers, musicians, artists, conductors and politicians before returning to Wales for the grand opening on November 26 2004.

Another exciting project soon to be completed is the \$18 million Phase 1 of the new National Children's Hospital for Wales.

In May of this year, I signed a Memorandum of Understanding between Wales and Latvia. It was the first of its kind between Wales and a full member of the European Union and is a reflection of Wales' growing stature in Europe.

The record company, Universal, recently signed up the Neath-born soprano, Katherine Jenkins, for £1 million and Microsoft has begun work on a new Welsh language version of Windows.

There is a wind of change blowing in Wales and the new North American Festival of Wales is embracing this. I am particularly delighted that the Wales International Center, in association with the Welsh broadcaster, S4C, has been able to work with the North American Festival of Wales organisers to bring new ideas and activities to Buffalo such as the Antiques Roadshow and the 'Welsh Cinema' filmfest. I hope they prove to be successful events.

Pob dymuniad da I chi am Wyl bleserus iawn.

*Yn ddifffusent*

*Rhodri Morgan AC*