

BRIDGET COSTELLO - BIOGRAPHY

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Bridget Costello, is a native to Phoenix, Arizona and currently resides in Scottsdale, Arizona. She is 1982 graduate of Saint Mary's High School and she holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater Education from Arizona State University. Having a passion for education and elevating youth, she began her career as an English Teacher with the Mesa School District where she taught Accelerated English to 7th & 9th graders.

With a passion for helping others and wanting to expand her world view, she began her work with non-profit organizations. She served as the Regional Coordinator for The American Ireland Fund, an international charitable organization operating in eleven countries that has raised over \$300 million for worthy causes in Ireland. In addition to being the Regional Coordinator of the American Ireland Fund in Arizona, she also owned and operated her own special events company, Emerald Events, that organized large scale events such as The Saint Patrick's Day Parade & Faire with over 10,000 attendees as well as intimate affairs and fundraisers for organizations such as: Childhelp USA, Scottsdale Unified School District, The Irish Cultural Center and many others. During the dot.com wave she worked in internet sales and marketing as a Regional Director for Homestore.com.

She served as The Development Director for Saint Mary's High School in Phoenix, Arizona and the Children's Museum of Phoenix, where she raised sizable funds for the both organization's operating budgets. In 2008 she founded Emerald Consulting, a consulting firm that specializes in elevating non-profit organizations through inspiration and education. From 2014 to 2019 she served as the Director of Development for the YWCA and raised sizable funds to advance the mission of the YWCA to eliminate racism and empower women. Currently, she serves as the Director of Development for Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona.

Over the years she has invited hundreds of donors, volunteers and alumni to join in her passion of serving the community. She is the daughter of Jim and Judy Cunningham, co-founders of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Irish Cultural Center. She is married to attorney, Alan Costello for the past 30 years and they have two daughters, Tara Londen, married to Alexander Londen, and Kaileigh VanHorne, married to Richard VanHorne. Tara and Alex have two daughters, Emmeline Rose and Kennedy Kathleen. Kaileigh and Richard have a son, Brooks Norden. Bridget is the proud "Mimi" of 3 grandchildren.

Bridget currently serves on the Board of the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Irish Library and she serves on the Board of the Planned Giving Roundtable of Arizona she enjoys, singing, the theater, playing golf, fitness, playing with her grandbabies and spending time with family and friends.