20 FEMALE JOURNALISTS TO FOLLOW THIS NOLLAIG NA MBAN

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INTRODUCTION

Happy Nollaig na mBan – or ‘Women’s Christmas’ to any readers from abroad. There are many female journalists doing incredible work in the media industry and we here at MediaHQ want to tip our hat to them.

While there’s a very high calibre of media professionals out there, these journalists caught our eye as they are making strides across the media industry.

MediaHQ presents 20 female journalists to follow this Nollaig na mBan.
Shamim Malekmian is a Senior Reporter with Green News. Through her work with Green News, Shamim draws attention to environmental issues in the Irish media landscape, with the hopes of working to improve our relationship with the natural world.

Shamim also contributes to the Irish Examiner, Cork’s Evening Echo and the Dublin Inquirer. Shamim is also drawn to what she refers to as “stories about underdogs” and has written on issues around homelessness, mental health, and social injustice.

Una Mullally is a journalist and broadcaster for The Irish Times and The Guardian. She primarily writes features and is particularly interested in popular culture, music, contemporary theatre, online trends, television, feminism and LGBT issues. Una also wrote In the Name of Love (2014), a book documenting the movement for same-sex marriage in Ireland.

Before writing for The Irish Times, she was a staff reporter and columnist with The Sunday Tribune and a columnist with The Dubliner. She frequently appears on various national media outlets and presents an alternative music programme for TG4 called Ceol ar an Imeall (Music on the Edge).
Ellen Coyne is a Senior Journalist with the Irish Edition of The Times. Ellen covers politics and current affairs and her 2016 coverage of abortion clinics who dealt false information to vulnerable women made headlines across the nation.

She worked at BBC Wales as a political and general news reporter for about three years after graduating, and in early 2015 she moved back to Dublin to work for The Times when they set up the Irish edition.

Róisín Ingle is the daily features editor of The Irish Times and contributes features and news to the paper and its weekend Irish Times Magazine supplement, which she edits. She also produces the Irish Times ‘Women’s Podcast’ and hosts her own weekly podcast series ‘Róisín Meets.’

Róisín is also an accomplished author, having most recently co-written a book in 2015 with Natasha Fennell on mother-daughter relationships, entitled The Daughterhood.
Sorcha Pollak is a print and online reporter who joined the Irish Times in January 2014. Sorcha is the writer of the newspaper’s New to the Parish series in which newcomers to Ireland talk about the joys and challenges of their new lives. She is interested in social affairs, particularly immigrant communities living in Ireland, human rights and cultural affairs and is also a contributor to the Irish Times ‘Women’s Podcast’.

Before joining the Irish Times Sorcha worked as a reporter for TIME Magazine and a researcher with the Guardian newspaper. She speaks Spanish, French and Irish and has an MSc in Media, Communication and Development from the London School of Economics. Sorcha also holds a BA in European Studies from Trinity College.

Martina Devlin is a columnist for the Irish Independent for the past thirteen years. Martina’s column focuses on current affairs and has been awarded as columnist of the year at the National Newspapers of Ireland.

The Omagh native is also a best selling author, with ten book titles under her name including her latest book Truth Dare. Other titles include The House Where it Happened, Ship of Dreams and Banksters, which she co-wrote with RTÉ’s David Murphy. Martina is the Vice-Chairperson of the Irish Writers Centre and has also been a resident writer at the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco. Grace has a BA in English Literature and Letters from Birkbeck University of London and MPhil in Anglo Irish Literature from Trinity College Dublin.
Mary Kennedy is a broadcaster and co-presenter of Nationwide alongside Anne Cassin. Mary has presented a number of TV programmes for RTÉ, most notably the Eurovision Song Contest in 1995 and her own Saturday night chat show, Kennedy.

Mary began her career in broadcasting in 1978 as a continuity announcer for RTÉ and later becoming newscasters as part of RTÉ News. Mary has been at the forefront of Irish media for major state events such as Queen Elizabeth II’s visit to Ireland and also covered the death of former Irish President Patrick Hillery. Mary is also a judge for the annual Rose of Tralee competition.

Rosaleen McMeel took over as editor for Image magazine in January 2014. Her goal was to “improve on a classic and keep the integrity of the brand”, while still giving Ireland’s leading lifestyle and fashion magazine the makeover it needed.

Rosaleen has previously worked as deputy editor on both Stellar and TV Now magazines. She has also contributed to the lifestyle sections of national Irish news websites like Independent.ie.
Dearbhail McDonald is the Group Business Editor at the Independent News and Media Group. Dearbhail was previously the Associate Editor and Legal Editor of the Irish Independent, which she joined back in 2006.

Prior to this, she made her name as a news reporter for the Sunday Times. She is an Eisenhower Fellow, a graduate of Trinity College Dublin and DCU, and has won a series of awards for her legal affairs coverage at The Independent. Dearbhail is also a former Young Irish Medical Journalist of the Year. Dearbhail was the 2017 recipient of the Mary Cummins Award for Women of Outstanding Achievement in Media.

Amy O’Connor is a freelance journalist and copywriter. Amy has written for a number of national publications including TheJournal.ie, Joe.ie, and the Irish Times, focusing on topics such as food, lifestyle and pop culture. Amy writes a weekly column for TheDailyEdge.ie. She has BA in Communications from DCU.
Clara Rose Thornton is a spoken word artist, culture journalist, event organiser, and RTÉ radio and television broadcaster. Her work focuses on the arts and their intersection with social justice, identity politics, history, and place.

Clara Rose frequently contributes to RTÉ radio programmes including The Ryan Tubridy Show, The History Show and Arena. Clara Rose’s print cultural criticism is published internationally, including in the Irish Independent and the Irish Times.

Christine Bohan is the Deputy Editor for TheJournal.ie. Christine graduated from DCU with an MA in Journalism in 2007 and began writing news and business features for The Irish Times and The Sunday Tribune.

She moved to London in 2010 to work at The Guardian on the Comment desk but came back to Dublin a year and a half later to join TheJournal.ie.
Sarah McInerney is a broadcaster and journalist with extensive experience in print, radio and television. She was recently appointed solo host of RTÉ Radio 1’s The Late Debate, starting in September 2018. She also presents The Sunday Show on Virgin Media One and is a regular columnist for The Sunday Times. Previously, Sarah was the presenter of Newstalk Drive, which won IMRO Current Affairs Show of the Year in 2017. Sarah was also awarded IMRO News Broadcaster of the Year 2017.

Before moving to broadcast, Sarah was Political Correspondent with The Sunday Times for eight years, having previously worked as a news reporter in The Sunday Tribune. She is the author of ‘Where No-One Can Hear You Scream’ (2008), a book about women who were killed or disappeared in the Dublin/Wicklow mountains since 1925.

Miriam Kerins is the deputy editor of the Travellers’ Voice - an educational and informative magazine which has been considered an educational tool for service providers that have direct contact with members of the Traveller community.
Caitriona Perry is a presenter for RTÉ’s ‘Six One News’. Caitriona was involved in the early start-up days with the NewsTalk radio station where she worked for nearly three years as a roving reporter and assistant programme producer. She then went to work for Today FM as Health and Industrial Relations reporter before becoming the station’s Courts Correspondent.

Caitriona joined RTÉ in 2007 as a reporter on the ‘News at One’ before she was appointed Washington Correspondent in 2014, replacing Richard Downes. In this role, Caitriona was involved in breaking news; compiling and recording radio and television news packages; on-air live reporting, in-studio and on location right across the United States.

In 2017, Caitriona Perry replaced Bryan Dobson as the presenter of RTÉ’s Six One News, alongside Keelin Shanley.

Colette Fitzpatrick is the senior news anchor with Virgin Media News and presents the news bulletins at 12:30 and 17:30 each day. Colette was previously a presenter on Ireland AM, the co-presenter on Pat Kenny Tonight, and one of the presenters on Newstalk Breakfast.

Colette began her broadcasting career at East Coast FM and previously worked in the newsroom in Today FM before joining Virgin Media. She is a journalism graduate from DIT.
ANDREA GILLIGAN – @ANDREAGILLIGAN

Andrea Gilligan hosts the ‘Breakfast Briefing’ and ‘Between the lines’ on Newstalk. She has worked with the station for a number of years as Duty News Editor and as a reporter for Pat Kenny.

Before Newstalk, Andrea was Deputy News Editor and reporter for Northern Sound. She also worked as News Editor for Ocean FM and a freelance multimedia journalist for RTÉ. Andrea is a graduate of NUIG and has an MA in Journalism.

KATIE HANNON – @KATIEGHANNON

Katie Hannon is the presenter of the ‘Late Debate’ on RTÉ Radio 1. Katie has worked on Prime Time as Political Correspondent, having previously been Political Correspondent of the Evening Herald and the Irish Examiner and Political Editor of the Irish Mail on Sunday.

She is the author of The Naked Politician (2004), an account of the reality of life in the trenches of Irish politics. Since joining Prime Time as a reporter in 2004 she has covered a wide variety of issues including major investigations into banking, failures in child protection, vaccine trials in children’s homes, and the Garda whistleblower controversies.

She has won the Irish Goods Council Young Journalist of the Year, the John Healy National Print Award, Story of the Year in the 2012 GSK Medical Media Awards, and 2017 Justice Media Award for television news.
Jessica Kelly is technology correspondent for Newstalk and produces and presents her own weekly show ‘Tech Talk’ on Newstalk. She previously has worked as a researcher with the ‘Pat Kenny Show’ on Newstalk and a tech reviewer on ‘The Right Hook’. Jessica also regularly contributes to The Sunday Business Post.

Francesca Comyn is a legal affairs correspondent working at the Sunday Business Post. Prior to this she worked as a broadcast and online journalist and held the position of Courts Correspondent with Newstalk. Francesca was shortlisted for best Broadsheet Feature at the Newsbrand Ireland Journalism Awards 2018 for her article ‘The inside story of an acquittal - Beyond a Reasonable Doubt.’