



THE NATIONAL
ITALIAN AMERICAN
FOUNDATION

1860 - 19TH STREET, NW
AMB. PETER F. SECCHIA BLDG.
WASHINGTON, DC 20009-5501

202 / 387-0600
FAX: 202 / 387-0800
WWW.NIAF.ORG

Dear Italian American Organization:

The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) is pleased to provide the opportunity for your Italian American organization to **double** its current scholarship program, through matching funds which NIAF is offering to a select group of clubs that share our commitment to education. As you may already know, the internationally recognized NIAF Scholarship Program awards approximately 1 million dollars each year in scholarships and grants. Among the beneficiaries are outstanding university students, helping defray some of their educational expenses. As tuition costs continue to rise, students begin to need scholarships in larger amounts.

Matching scholarships are one way the NIAF works to address this need for increased financial assistance -- we team up with other organizations that wish to assist students with their educational costs in order to provide more substantial scholarships. By collaborating with the NIAF, you would not only **double** the amount of each of your organization's scholarship award, but you would also gain invaluable assistance in the promotion and administration of the scholarship funds.

Our program can bring national recognition to your scholarship program, while ensuring that the funds return to your local community. Furthermore, all the funds you contribute toward the matching scholarship go directly to the student for tuition costs – we absorb all administrative fees associated with running the program.

I have attached a list of guidelines for NIAF Matching Scholarships. If these guidelines are in line with your organization's donation policies, and if you qualify, I encourage you to consider joining with the NIAF in a matching scholarship. To do so, you need only to complete the Matching Scholarship Donation form. If, at this time, our matching program does not suit your needs, I encourage you to consider it for next year.

Thank you again for your interest in working with the NIAF to assist outstanding students with their education. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Serena Cantoni'.

Serena Cantoni
Director, Scholarships and Grants



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Benefits of Establishing a NIAF Matching Scholarship:

- Doubling your club's contribution, important for increased costs of schooling.
- Complete administration of your scholarship funds with no administrative fees.
- National recognition through the NIAF for your scholarship program.
- Access to a large nationwide pool of student applicants or simply those in your state or local area. In the year 2003, over 6,000 students applied to the NIAF Scholarship Program.
- Ensuring that monies provided by your organization and the NIAF is going back to students in your community.

Your organization will receive:

- An annual stewardship report with detailed information on your scholarship's financial standing and on the recipient of your award.
- A personalized thank you letter and picture from the recipient of your scholarship.
- A personal narrative written by the student upon the completion of the academic year describing the benefits of receiving your scholarship.
- An invitation to our annual NIAF Educational Luncheon, part of our NIAF Annual Convention and Gala weekend in October.
- Recognition as a NIAF Scholarship Program donor in our Annual Gala Journal Booklet and our NIAF Scholarship Website.
- Local press releases highlighting your organization's contribution and the recipient's achievements.
- Assistance in organizing local award ceremonies with local dignitaries.



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National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) Matching Scholarship Guidelines

- **Awards:** NIAF matching contributions are available in increments of \$2,500 for scholarship awards of \$5,000. (For example, if your organization donates \$5,000, the NIAF matches that \$5,000 to make 2 awards of \$5,000 each, making a total of \$10,000 distributed to students)
- **Contribution deadline:** May 30, 2005
- **Scholarship parameters:** Eligible applicants must qualify for a NIAF General Category I or II Scholarship (see attached NIAF Scholarship Facts Sheet). Your matching organization may specify up to two additional qualifications (i.e. permanent domicile, academic institution, financial need, etc.).
- **Applicant review process:** Students apply to the NIAF Scholarship Program. All applicants qualifying for the matching scholarship compete against each other based on academic merit. We welcome applicant referrals from the matching organization. However, applications, including essays, transcripts and teacher evaluations are judged blindly.
- **Use of funds:** 100% of the funds contributed by the your organization go directly to the student for educational expenses. The NIAF absorbs all administrative fees associated with running the program.
- **Award process:** Your organization sends its contribution to the NIAF by the deadline listed above. The NIAF then distributes the award to the student in late August or September. All money is provided directly to the academic institution in the name of the recipient, with a letter detailing how those funds may be used.
- **Scholarship Eligibility and Conditions:** Please refer to the attached brochure for a complete description of scholarship eligibility requirements and conditions for scholarship winners. Or, visit our scholarship web site: www.niaf.org/scholarships for more information.



Matching Scholarship Donation Form

Name of Donor(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Scholarship Title: _____
(e.g. The Orlando Italian Society Scholarship)

Date Established: _____

Student Selection Criteria (all applicants must meet the NIAF basic application requirements to prove outstanding academic standing). Check two that apply:

- Academic Institution _____
- State of Permanent Residence _____
- Major or Field of Study _____
- Financial Need
- Italian American Heritage
- Other _____

Total Amount Pledged: \$2,500 \$5,000 \$7,500 other: _____

Person(s) to receive annual stewardship report:

Name(s): _____
Address: _____

*Please return completed for to Serena Cantoni, Director, Scholarships & Grants
National Italian American Foundation, 1860 19th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009
Make checks payable to The National Italian American Foundation*