

Angelo Vivolo

Angelo Vivolo is a philanthropist, entrepreneur, and lifelong advocate for educational opportunity and promoting and supporting his Italian Heritage and Culture. Mr. Vivolo presently serves as the President of the Columbus Heritage Coalition, dedicated to preserving the legacy of Christopher Columbus. He was elected president of the National Columbus Education Foundation, funded by the 5 most influential Italian American organizations in the country. He has served as past President and the Chairman of the Board of the Columbus Citizens Foundation and the Columbus Day Parade in NYC. His focus is on preserving Italian Heritage and Culture and supporting Columbus Day and Statues.

Recently he was nominated and elected as a member of the City University of New York Board of Trustees. CUNY and its 25 schools are the country's largest group of higher education institutions. Mr. Vivolo serves on the Board of Directors of John Cabot University in Rome. As president of the Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation he leads a philanthropic organization that supports cultural programs in New York City schools which has funded more than \$3 million in scholarships. In 2019 he was appointed to co-chair the Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini Statue Commission. Mr. Vivolo is a 2005 recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and the Ufficiale dell' Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana, conferred by President Sergio Mattarella of Italy in 2018.

Mr. Vivolo, a graduate of Long Island University, started his professional career as a teacher in New York City public high schools in Brooklyn and Queens. He was appointed dean of a special intervention program for high-risk, academically underprepared teenage boys. He also took advanced courses in graduate programs at Hunter College and Brooklyn College.

After nearly a decade of teaching, Mr. Vivolo embarked upon a forty-year plus career in the hospitality industry as an acclaimed restaurateur and owner of five widely respected Manhattan restaurants. During this time, he served as a goodwill ambassador to New York's culinary industry, conducting seminars at public schools and supporting the culinary and hotel management program at the New York City College of Technology of the City University of New York. He has supported scholarships for students at the Culinary Institute of America, where he delivered the commencement address.

In addition, Mr. Vivolo is especially proud of having had the great honor of meeting with and directing all dining services for Pope Benedict in 2009 and Pope Francis in 2015 at the residence of the Nuncio during their three-day visits to New York City, along with his dear friend Lidia Bastianich.

Mr. Vivolo and his wife Denise of 45 years are blessed with a wonderful family and find special joy with their five grandchildren. He is inspired every day by his loving family.

Additional Distinctions:

Board of Trustees Member, CUNY, City University of New York

Board of Trustees Member, John Cabot University, Rome Italy

Board of Directors Member, Columbus Citizens Foundation

President, Columbus Heritage Coalition

President, National Columbus Education Foundation

President, Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation