

NIAF, DE LAURENTIIS TO BESTOW FILMMAKING GRANTS

The National Italian American Foundation and acclaimed Italian movie producer Aurelio De Laurentiis are accepting applications for the inaugural NIAF/De Laurentiis Film Prizes. The annual grant program will provide funding and mentorship opportunities to emerging filmmakers looking to tell compelling stories on Italian and Italian-American themes. The program will award \$10,000 production grants to five recipients annually. Grantees can use the funding to produce short fiction and nonfiction films that capture the richness of Italian or Italian-American history and heritage. For more, visit niaf.org, go to Programs and then to the NIAF/De Laurentiis Film Prizes.



The NIAF/De Laurentiis Film Prizes
 Supporting aspiring filmmakers
 with the chance to win a **mentorship** opportunity
 with **Aurelio De Laurentiis** and a **grant for \$10,000**



RUSSO KNIGHTED BY PRESIDENT OF ITALY

Basil M. Russo was inducted as a Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana on Oct. 8 at Angelo's Nido Italia in Cleveland. The honor was bestowed on behalf of Italian President Sergio Mattarella by Detroit Consul General Allegra Baistrocchi. The highest-ranking honor of the republic, the cavaliere is awarded for "merit acquired by the nation" in a variety of fields. Russo is the national president of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America and the president of the Conference of Presidents of Major Italian American Organizations. A Cleveland attorney, he served as the majority leader of the Cleveland City Council and as a judge for both the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas and Ohio's Eighth District Court of Appeals.

LACCETTI FOUNDATION TO SPOTLIGHT TERRAZZO, MOSAIC

The Laccetti Foundation has launched a major initiative aimed at spotlighting the arts of terrazzo and mosaic and commemorating the important role of Vincenzo Pellarin in the transfer of technology, expertise and artisans from Italy to America. A master at both crafts, Pellarin was the owner of Pellarin & Co. Roman and Venetian Marble Mosaic and Terrazzo in turn-of-the-20th-century New York City. Succeeding generations of the family lived in Union City, New Jersey. The foundation will present Union City with a terra-cotta-adorned sundial in conjunction with its Earth Day activities and work with the William V. Musto Cultural Center of Union City and the mayor's office to involve the schools and the general public in projects relating to the art of terrazzo. (laccettifoundation.org)




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