

# NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION





## THE MISSION OF THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION

is to celebrate and advance the inspiring achievements and uplifting values of the Italian culture and presence in America and to strengthen and empower ties between the United States and Italy.





NIAF Headquarters at The Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Building

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Cover: Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni honors Columbus and the Italian American community at New York's Columbus Circle on September 19, 2023

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# Welcome from the President

Dear Members and Supporters,

It is my pleasure to present the 2023 Annual Report of the National Italian American Foundation. Thanks to the efforts of our committed Board of Directors, dedicated staff and generous membership, the past year marked a period of strong financial success for our foundation. For the second year in a row, operating revenue exceeded \$4,000,000 marking a decade long high. Meanwhile, membership revenue doubled between 2021 and 2023.

These financial tail winds enabled 2023 to be a year of numerous important accomplishments for the foundation as it fulfilled its revised mission to celebrate and advance the inspiring achievements and uplifting values of the Italian culture and presence in America and to strengthen and empower ties between the United States and Italy.

The more than three quarters of a million dollars provided by the foundation in grants and scholarships in 2023 constituted an eloquent testament to the realization of that mission as did the doubling of the number of students participating in NIAF's signature Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery program.

To promote the goals of the foundation, in 2023, I personally traveled across North America visiting Tampa, St. Louis, Boston, Palm Beach, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Chicago, Phoenix,

Philadelphia, New Orleans, Toronto, Miami and, of course, Washington D.C.

Among the results of these travels was the growth of NIAF's affiliate organization program which grew in 2023 from 27 organizations to 39 organizations in 16 states. For the first time, this past year student representatives of these affiliate organizations participated in the Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery thereby making the program truly national in scope and providing a substantial tangible benefit to the affiliate organization network which NIAF serves.

I am delighted to report that our foundation's standing in Italy has never been more prominent. In 2023, we were asked to sign comprehensive memorandums of understanding with the cities of Genoa and Naples, each of which saw great value in having a specific bilateral relationship with our foundation

In addition, we were lauded throughout the country for having raised more than \$80,000 in disaster relief to support NIAF's 2023 Region of Honor Emilia Romagna which was the victim of unprecedented flooding early in the year. Thankfully, by the time of our Board Mission to Emilia-Romagna in June, the flooding had abated and we were able to have a productive trip to this multi-faceted region along with a visit to the neighboring country of



San Marino and a stop in Rome where the Board met with the Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's Chief of Staff.

Our bonds with Italy rose to a new level this October when, at the Foreign Ministry in Rome, I personally signed a one-of-a-kind accord with Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani to have NIAF designated as an official American entity to promote 2024 as the "Year of Italian Roots Tourism" in the United States.

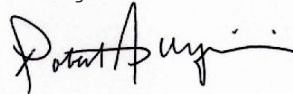
Also rising to a new high in 2023 was NIAF's reputation as a thought leadership organization. This was validated in the groundbreaking study which NIAF produced with the European House Ambrosetti on "Harnessing the Power of the Global Italian Diaspora" and by NIAF's acceptance to serve as a consultative organization of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Our foundation's Government Relations and Public Policy Committee, which is at the heart of so much of what we do, was engaged throughout the year hosting delegations of Italian parliamentarians and dignitaries, working with the Italian American Congressional Delegation and the Italian American Congressional Staff Association, all in the name of serving the Italian American community and strengthening the ties between the United States and Italy.

On the Columbus front, NIAF was able to affect the onset of renovations on the famous Columbus Statue at Washington's Union Station and we were very pleased to have been invited to join Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni as she showed her support for the efforts of the Italian community to preserve the Columbus legacy by placing a wreath at the Statue of Columbus in New York City's Columbus Circle.

No recap of 2023 would be complete without a few words about our 2023 Washington gala which was one of the most successful ever netting over \$1,000,000. The event was themed as a celebration of the Global Italian Diaspora and, for the first time, the dais saw representatives of the Italian communities from Argentina, Brazil, Canada and the United Kingdom. On that memorable October evening, the dais also saw a couple of other distinguished guests who chose to attend our gala—The President and First Lady of the United States. Perhaps the participation of President and Dr. Biden comprised the most fitting possible tribute to the high regard and great esteem in which NIAF was held on both sides of the Atlantic in the year 2023.

Thank you,



Robert V. Allegrini



NIAF President Robert Allegrini speaking at a conference of the Council for the United States and Italy at the Italian Embassy in Washington D.C. in February 2023



Local Washington D.C. NIAF DaVinci Council members toast to Italo American friendship at a luncheon held for visiting Italian parliamentarians at the Capitol Hill Club.



# Membership

The National Italian American Foundation comprises a community of members across the nation and the globe who embrace shared values, culture and traditions. Our expanding membership brings together thousands of Italian Americans, Italians and Italophiles inspired by their love of Italy to support the foundation's educational and cultural initiatives.

In 2023, the foundation earned over \$770,000 in membership revenue, the highest membership revenue in the past 15 years. Since 2019, NIAF membership revenue has increased by 102%.



From access to exclusive members-only events and prestigious programs, such as NIAF's Government Affairs events on Capitol Hill to NIAF's acclaimed Ambassador magazine, our members enjoy an array of special benefits and educational opportunities – while knowing that they are making a difference by supporting NIAF's mission. Numerous membership related events are held throughout the year, including the now legendary NIAF golf tournament at the Glen Oaks Club in Old Westbury, N.Y.

NIAF partners with businesses and organizations to offer discounts on programs, products and services to NIAF members. Member-benefit partners include travel services, dual citizenship services, and Italian gourmet and beauty products, just to name a few. In 2023, NIAF secured a new membership benefit with ITA Airways, offering NIAF members a 10% discount on non-stop flights from the United States to Italy.

NIAF is an inclusive organization that welcomes participation at a variety of support levels. We offer the opportunity to be engaged at a modest financial level for the benefit of students and teachers as well as at more substantial levels for our leadership and major donors.

NIAF New York Area Coordinators hosted a fundraising Pizza and Pasta Night on Long Island, N.Y., on February 6, 2023: (left to right) Chef Maurizio Venditelli, Mangia Bene Restaurant; Nicholas Caiazzo, NIAF Board Member; Anthony O'Boyle, Director of Public Affairs & Development; NIAF New York Area Coordinators Giuseppe Gregorio and Luca DiCiero.



New Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles receives a warm welcome by the National Italian American Foundation on April 11, 2023 at Il Fornaio Restaurant in Beverly Hills, Calif. (Left to right) Pete Melucci, NIAF Regional Vice President-Southwest; actor Joe Mantegna; former Los Angeles City Councilman Joe Buscaino; new Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles Raffaella Valentini; NIAF President Robert Allegrini; and Executive Director of the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles Marianna Gatto.



In July 2023, NIAF partnered with ITA Airways to launch exclusive offers to its members.

# NIAF AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS





# NIAF Affiliate Organization Program

The National Italian American Foundation's Affiliate Organization Program partners NIAF with local and regional charitable and fraternal organizations that share NIAF's mission to preserve and promote our Italian American heritage. NIAF Affiliate Organizations represent Italian American communities across the nation that exemplify not only the great achievements of our Italian immigrant ancestors but also the current strong ties between the United States and Italy. In addition to the benefits of shared collaboration and promotion, NIAF Affiliate Organizations are guaranteed the opportunity for one qualified student representing their community to participate in the annual Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery program – a two week all expenses paid educational and experiential trip to Italy.

In 2023, NIAF's affiliate program grew from 27 to 39 organizations nationwide, from 12 states to 16 states. Notable 2023 additions include Italian Community Services in San Francisco, Calif., Federazione Abruzzese del Michigan, and the Federation of Italian-American Societies of New Jersey.

In 2023, NIAF was proud to be a founding member organization of the Italian American Leadership Forum (IALF). The IALF The Italian American Leadership Forum (IALF) is an association of major Italian American organizations representing the needs of an estimated 18 million Americans of Italian heritage. The IALF serves as a mechanism to discuss, debate and act on the most important public policy issues facing our community. We are a coordinative body, providing a spiritual bond

that encourages, supports and assists the membership to build consensus and advance our shared goals.



Fisherman's Feast in Boston, Mass.



Casa Belvedere, Staten Island, N.Y., Motori D'Italia Event



Grant awardee the  
American Society of the  
Italian Legions of Merit  
at their annual dinner  
in Palm Beach, Fla.





# Grants and Major Gifts

## NIAF GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

To support NIAF's overarching mission of promoting and protecting the Italian American heritage, NIAF's Grants and Sponsorship Program plays an active role in the sponsorship of projects and events related to Italian and Italian American heritage, culture and history. In 2023, NIAF awarded over \$585,000 in support of a wide variety of causes, from grants that support the diffusion of the Italian language to grants that shed light on Italian history and support the understanding of the important geopolitical relationship between the United States and Italy.

## THE EUROPEAN HOUSE - AMBROSETTI PARTNERSHIP

NIAF awarded a major grant to The European House – Ambrosetti to publish a position paper on the significance of the geopolitical relations between Italy and its diasporic community. The foundation presented the report entitled "Harnessing the Power of the Global Italian Diaspora: How to Strategically Manage a Valuable Asset for the Country-System" at Ambrosetti's annual international economic conference in Cernobbio, Italy, on the shores of Lake Como in September. Conference panelists who discussed the significance of the report included Arancha González Laya (Dean, Paris School of International Affairs), Chris Miller (Professor of International History, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University; author of "Chip Wars"), and Joseph Stiglitz (Professor, Columbia University; Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences).

## THE NIAF CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The NIAF Congressional Fellowship Program celebrated its eighth year supporting the next generation of Italian American leadership. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Leonardo US, during the fall of 2023, NIAF placed two outstanding Italian American college students in the offices of members of the Italian American Congressional Delegation (IACD), providing the opportunity for first-hand experience in public service. Fellows learned about the legislative process, the issues facing Congress, and the operations of a Congressional office while working for an Italian American leader who has climbed the ladder of public policy success. Congressional offices which hosted NIAF Fellows in 2023 included Rep. Bill Pascrell Jr. (N.J.), and Rep. Jimmy Panetta (Calif.).



Grant recipient La Scuola d'Italia Galileo Galilei in Pittsburgh teaching young children Italian.

**NIAF** awarded more than a half a million dollars in grants in **2023**



Opera Italiana was one of the many organizations that benefitted from one of NIAF's major grants in 2023.



# Grants and Major Gifts

Thanks to Ambassador Peter F. Secchia's legacy gift, for the first time, NIAF hosted **TWO** Voyage of Discovery **TRIPS** doubling student participation in the program

The generosity of NIAF's donors is critical to supporting the Italian American heritage and advancing our mission to support the younger generation. Here at NIAF, we provide ample opportunity for potential donors to support the promotion of Italian American tradition and culture through outright giving and planned giving.

Your confidence in our mission, as embodied by your generous charitable support, enables us to be of even greater service in the future. By pledging a major gift, you and your family will leave a lasting legacy.

NIAF has received generous gifts from Ambassador Peter F. Secchia, Victoria J. Mastrobuono, Ernest L. Pellegrini and NIAF Chairman Emeritus Gabriel A. Battista. These donations provided the foundation with financial resources to run

its signature program, the Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery, host the Victoria J. Mastrobuono Education Luncheon, provide scholarships to deserving young Italian Americans and ensure our operations for years to come.

NIAF offers professional services to help customize gifts to fit specific criteria and ensure that donations support the NIAF mission and programs most important to the donor's interests. There are many giving options available that provide flexible planning strategies and can be tailored to your specific wishes.

## Organizations that benefitted from NIAF funding and grants in 2023:

American Italian Federation of the Southeast  
Associazione Amici della Cultura e della Storia  
Disabled American Veterans  
Child Help  
Columbus Citizens Foundation  
Comune di Castel Frentano  
Comune di Pacentro  
Documentary Film Fund  
Fisherman's Feast of Boston  
Friends of the John D. Calandra Institute  
Georgetown University Department of Italian  
International Friends of Verderame  
Italian American Alliance  
Italian American Museum of Los Angeles  
Italian American St. Joseph Society  
Italian Welfare League  
Jersey City Columbus Day Parade  
Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans  
La Scuola d'Italia Galileo Galilei  
Mid-Shore Community Foundation  
National Christopher Columbus Association  
National Museum of Women in the Arts  
National Symphony Orchestra  
Opera Italiana is in the Air  
San Francisco Italian Athletic Club  
Società Habilis Cooperativa Sociale  
The European House – Ambrosetti  
Toledo Museum of Art



NIAF Chair Emeritus  
Gabriel A. Battista



NIAF Donor  
Victoria J. Mastrobuono





NIAF President Robert Allegrini, NIAF scholarship recipient Brooke Steinweiss, NIAF Board Member Nick Caiazza and NIAF NY Committee Member Scott DiSarno at the 18th Annual NIAF New York Golf Tournament

# Scholarships

Launched in 1981, the NIAF Scholarship Program had humble beginnings awarding only four \$250 scholarships. Currently, between 60 to 70 scholarships are awarded annually each ranging from \$2,500 - \$12,000, to undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate, medical and legal students. Thanks to the generosity of NIAF donors, in 2023 the foundation awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarships to support the education of young Italian Americans. Through our robust scholarship program, we have put our youth first, helping to lessen the financial burdens many students incur while earning degrees.

## **NIAF FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AT LUISS GUIDO CARLI**

In the fall of 2023, NIAF helped two outstanding Italian American students pursue their dreams of earning a degree at Italy's No.1 private university, Luiss Guido Carli. Through this partnership, one Italian American undergraduate student and one Italian American graduate student received full-tuition scholarships to complete their degree at the Luiss's campus in Rome. NIAF is honored to offer this life-changing opportunity to two young Italian Americans.

## **NIAF NEW YORK GOLF TOURNAMENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

NIAF was proud to host its 18th New York Golf Tournament promoting membership in August of 2023. Using the proceeds raised from the tournament, NIAF awarded \$40,000 in scholarships to outstanding Italian American children pursuing an education through the Archdiocese of Brooklyn and La Scuola d'Italia Guglielmo Marconi as well as Italian American college students attending Saint Thomas Aquinas College and Monmouth University.

## **FULBRIGHT-NIAF GEORGETOWN RESEARCH LECTURESHIP IN EDUCATION**

In 2023, NIAF funded the third Fulbright-NIAF-Georgetown Research Lectureship in Education. Through a four-to-six-month lectureship at Georgetown University's Center for Child and Human Development, this program supports an Italian elementary-middle school teacher or university lecturer-researcher with research interests in early childhood intervention, teaching methodologies, special-needs education and the Montessori Method.

## **FULBRIGHT FONDAZIONE FALCONE—NIAF SCHOLARSHIP IN CRIMINOLOGY**

The Fulbright Fondazione Falcone—NIAF Scholarship in Criminology funds one American student and one Italian student to carry out research in criminology for six-to-nine months at "Fondazione Giovanni e Francesca Falcone" in Palermo, Sicily, and at a prestigious university in the United States. This award promotes the value of the rule of law and combats the mafia culture today.



The 2023-2024 and 2018-2019 recipients of the Fulbright-NIAF-Georgetown University Research Lectureship in Education, Carlotta Rivella and Ilaria Navarra, at the Fulbright 75th Anniversary celebration at Villa Taverna in Rome.



The students  
of group one  
enjoying  
pasta all'am-  
atriciana in  
Tivoli.





## The Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery



The students of group one learning about the history of the Archiginnasio of Bologna.

NIAF's signature Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery program enables young Italian Americans to connect with their ancestral roots overseas. Through this fully funded academic travel opportunity, college students can explore Italian culture and heritage firsthand.

By sending future generations to la bella Italia, this immersive summer trip strengthens students' bonds with the country of their ancestors. From guided tours of historic sites to meetings with local leaders and a service day, the packed itinerary fosters a profound appreciation for Italian heritage. Participants also give back through community service projects with schools and non-profits.

Thanks to a recent \$2 million commitment, NIAF expanded Voyage of Discovery dramatically in 2023. For the first time, 48 students participated, double the usual cohort. The trip focused on Emilia Romagna, NIAF's 2023 Region of Honor. Spanning two back-to-back sessions of 24 students each, the adventure commenced with four days embracing Rome's splendors.



The students of group two outside of the Pantheon in Rome.

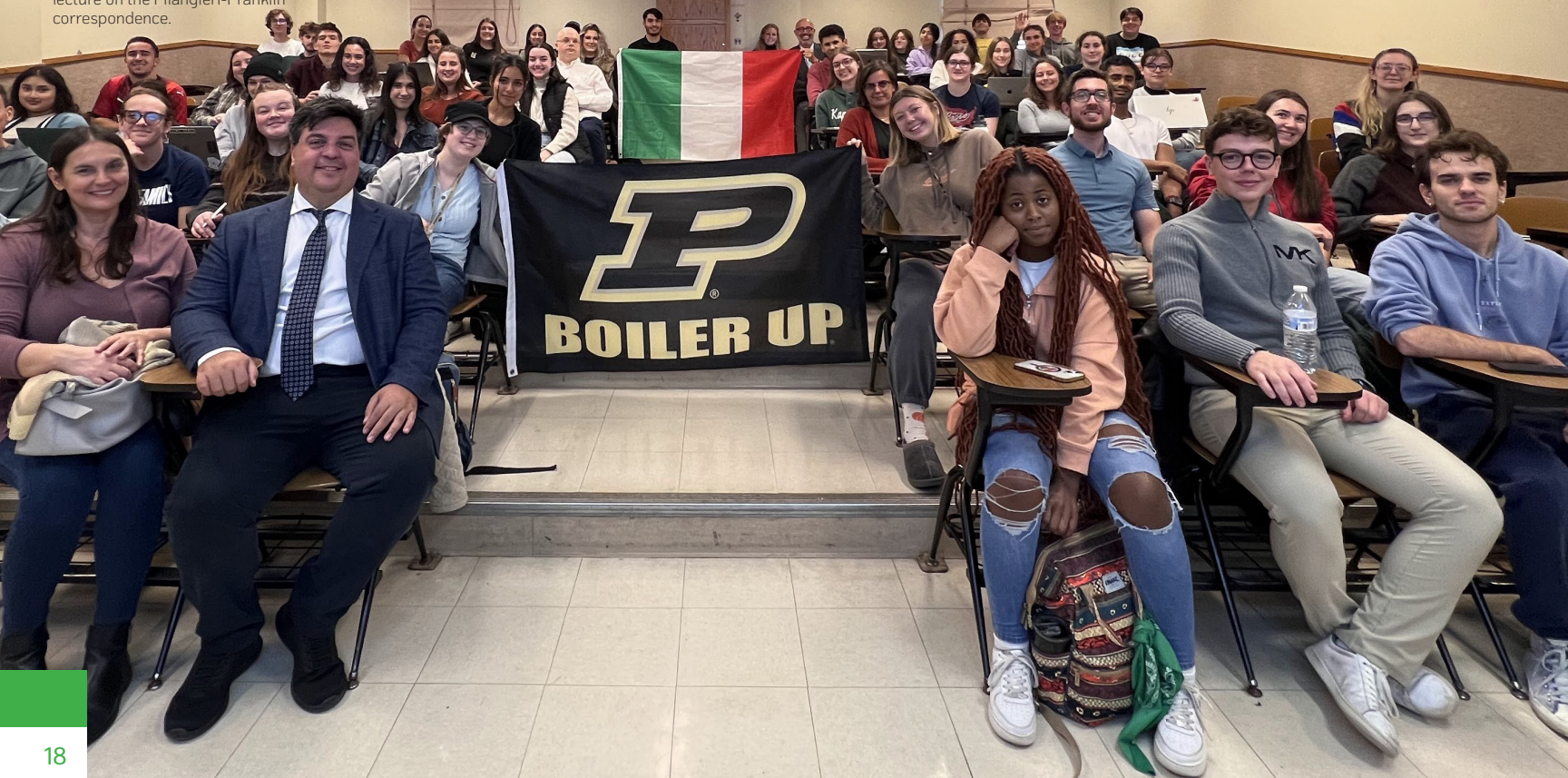


The students of group one in Bologna's Piazza Maggiore.

Going forward, this vital funding secures Voyage of Discovery's future. More students than ever will now discover their **ITALIAN ROOTS** through this life-shaping journey.



Professor Amedeo Arena with the students of the Italian Club of Purdue after giving a lecture on the Filangieri-Franklin correspondence.



# NIAF on Campus

The NIAF on Campus program empowers Italian American college students with the resources to support the success of university Italian clubs across the United States. Each year, NIAF on Campus supports 20 student-run Italian organizations nationwide. Each Italian club is eligible for up to \$1,500 in funding to carry out entertaining and educational Italian American events per academic year. By providing financial assistance to host events on campus, NIAF seeks to engage with college students at each university to maintain and promote the Italian American culture.

The program builds a network of students active in their Italian clubs at prominent universities across the country to share best practices, thus ensuring the success of each student-run Italian organization. In addition to providing each organization with the resources for it to thrive, the NIAF on Campus program gives young Italian Americans the opportunity to develop a more profound appreciation of their heritage that they will carry with them for years to come. By building awareness of the Italian American culture in universities across the nation, NIAF on Campus cultivates the next generation of Italian American leaders.



Professor Amedeo Arena presenting his work on the Filangieri-Franklin correspondence at Georgetown University.

In 2023, the NIAF Dr. A. Kenneth Ciongoli Colloquia series took place on select college campuses through the NIAF on Campus program. NIAF partnered with Amedeo Arena, Full Professor of European Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Naples Federico II, to lecture on the correspondence between Gaetano Filangieri and Benjamin Franklin during the time of the Philadelphia Convention. The lecture series was made possible thanks to the endowment fund of the late NIAF Chairman Emeritus Dr. A. Kenneth Ciongoli and the generous support of NIAF members. The endowment's purpose is to promote Western civilization's global contributions, including the role Italian Americans have made throughout our society.



Dr. Maria Teresa Sanhueza, Wake Forest University NIAF on Campus representative Joseph Doria, and Dr. Joseph Jorizzo, after hosting the presentation "Recovering the Lost Voices of Italian Immigration"

Since its relaunch in **2015** the NIAF on Campus program has worked with over **65** individual student-run Italian clubs at universities across the United States.





# New Partnerships & Initiatives

In 2023, NIAF established several exciting new partnerships and launched impactful initiatives to advance its mission. New cooperative organizations included the Municipal Government of Genoa, the City of Naples, the Council for the United States and Italy, and ITA Airways. NIAF also attained Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Notably, NIAF partnered with film producer Aurelio De Laurentiis to create the NIAF/De Laurentiis Film Prizes providing opportunity for aspiring filmmakers. NIAF also spearheaded fundraising to preserve Naples' art of Nativity scenes and signed an agreement with Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to promote roots tourism. Partnerships with Genoa and Naples further foster cultural and economic exchange and strengthen Italian American ties.

NIAF has established partnerships with various for-profit businesses that grant our members special discounts and perks. By offering savings on services, products, and experiences relevant to the Italian American community, these NIAF Member Benefit Partners provide valuable programming exclusively to card-carrying NIAF members.

Members can access partner discount codes and offers in the private members portal on our website. Our diverse group of participating companies includes travel agencies, dual citizenship application assistants, purveyors of Italian gourmet fare, wineries, fashion brands, and much more.

In 2023 alone, NIAF has expanded member savings with numerous popular Italian brands. Recent additions include a 10% ITA Airways discount on all flights plus 20% off flash sale airfares; fine Italian-inspired Delicacies jewelry at 15% off; Studio Legale Metta's legal representation for Americans in Italian courts, up to 10% off; 20% off orders from renowned Veneto panettone bakery Olivieri 1882; and 10% savings at specialty grocer Mediterraneo Foods.

President Robert Allegrini with Ambassador Maurizio Massari the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in New York.



NIAF, Naples, CON IL SUD Foundation, L'Altra Napoli, Botteghe di San Gregorio Armeno, and Manallart unite to fund the Neapolitan Nativity Art Academy.

Through these diverse alliances and endeavors, **NIAF** worked to celebrate Italian culture, empower youth, support careers, and build connections between Italy and the United States, all while making membership even more valuable.





ernobbio // September 1-2-3, 2023



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Acclaimed Corriere della Sera American Correspondent Federico Rampini (center) led the Ambrosetti Conference panel discussing the NIAF White Paper on "Harnessing the Power of the Global Italian Diaspora: How to Strategically Manage a Valuable Asset for the Country-System."

TEHA

TEHA

# The European House - Ambrosetti Partnership



(Left to Right) NIAF Chairman Emeritus Joe Del Raso, Board Member Maria Bartiromo, and NIAF President Robert Allegrini at the Ambrosetti Conference

In 2023, NIAF reaffirmed its partnership with European House Ambrosetti, Italy's leading think tank, by commissioning a white paper entitled "Harnessing the Strength of the Global Italian Diaspora: How to Strategically Manage a Valuable Asset for the Country-System," which sought to provide a blueprint for how the Italian government can maximize its use of the resource constituted by the 80,000,000 Italian descendants who live outside of Italy.

The White Paper debuted at Ambrosetti's annual international Cernobbio forum at the Villa D'Este hotel on the shores of Lake Como.

Entitled "Intelligence on the World, Europe and Italy," it was presented during the course of a panel discussion led by one of the leading Italian journalists based in America, Corriere Della Sera's Global Correspondent Federico Rampini.

During the course of the Forum, a copy of the White Paper was personally presented to the Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani by NIAF Chair Emeritus Joe Del Raso, President Robert Allegrini and Executive Committee Member Maria Bartiromo. Another copy was presented to forum attendee and former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi.

The White Paper was an immediate critical success in the media where it was excerpted in newspapers, magazines and talk shows across Italy. The White Paper was presented again by Ambrosetti President Valerio De Molli and Senior Partner Lorenzo Tavazzi at the 2023 NIAF Forum in Washington, D.C., where it inspired the theme of the 2023 NIAF Anniversary Gala, "A Celebration of the Global Italian Diaspora."

The success of the White Paper culminated in early 2024 when the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) asked Ambrosetti to present the

study during a conference at Palazzo Valentini in Rome on the subject of Fostering a Policy for the Italian Diaspora. The event saw the formal participation of the Italian the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, government leaders and representatives of the Italian regions and principal cities.



A copy of the White Paper was presented by NIAF President Robert Allegrini (left) and NIAF Chair Emeritus Joe Del Raso (right) to forum attendee and former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi.

**NIAF** reaffirmed its partnership with European House Ambrosetti commissioning a white paper entitled "Harnessing the Strength of the Global Italian Diaspora."





NIAF Italian American Congressional Delegation Christmas Dinner. (Left to right): NIAF Board Member Mike Ferguson, NIAF President Robert Allegrini, NIAF Vice Chair Anita McBride, NIAF Executive Vice Chair John Calvelli, Gayle Manchin, Senator Joe Manchin, NIAF Chairman Bob Carlucci, NIAF General Counsel Joe Lonardo, and NIAF Board Members Dr. John Rosa and Dominic Caglioti.



# Government Affairs & Public Policy Program

The NIAF Government Affairs Program serves as an important voice for the Italian American community in the nation's capital. NIAF works closely with the U.S. Congress, the White House, the Department of State, the United States' Embassy in Rome, and the Embassy of Italy in the United States. As a unified voice on issues of importance to Italian Americans, the foundation builds relationships with key decision makers on behalf of the Italian American community and serves as a resource for politicians, policy makers and diplomats.

NIAF has a close, collaborative relationship with the Italian American Congressional Delegation (IACD), a bi-cameral, bipartisan delegation composed of members of Congress who trace their ancestry to Italy and support the Italian American community. The delegation is co-chaired by Congressman Bill Pascrell Jr. of New Jersey and Congressman Mark Amodei of Nevada. The foundation works with the IACD to support legislation dealing with Italy and Italian Americans.



Local Washington, D.C., NIAF members and Congressional staff raise their glasses at the annual Sunset Aperitivo.



NIAF hosted a Sunset Aperitivo with Ferrero and Campari featuring special guest Congressman Jimmy Panetta. (Left to right) Gerald Kunde; Anita Bevacqua McBride, NIAF Vice Chair and co-chair of the NIAF Government Affairs and Public Policy Program; Congressman Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.); Congressman Jimmy Panetta (D-Calif.); Marco Barassi; and John F. Calvelli, NIAF Executive Vice Chair.





OCTOBER 06, 2023

## A Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2023

BRIEFING ROOM • PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

Today, we celebrate all the Italian Americans, whose courage and character reflect and help define our Nation.

In 1891, 11 Italian Americans were murdered in one of the largest mass lynchings in our Nation's history. In the wake of this horrific attack, President Benjamin Harrison established Columbus Day in 1892. For so many people across our country, that first Columbus Day was a way to honor the lives that had been lost and to celebrate the hope, possibilities, and ingenuity Italian Americans have contributed to our country since before the birth of our republic.

More than a century later, we mark Columbus Day with that purpose — celebrating the heritage of Italian Americans, whose hands helped build our Nation and whose hearts have always carried faith in the American Dream. For many Italian Americans, the story of Christopher Columbus' voyage — from the Spanish port of Palos de la Frontera on behalf of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II — remains a source of pride. It reflects the stories of trips across the Atlantic that so many Italian Americans grew up hearing at the dinner table, whether tales of ancestors who set sail on wooden boats across rough waters to begin new lives on our shores or grandparents who immigrated here with little more than hope in their hearts. These are stories of people leaving everything they knew and loved behind for the promise of opportunity in the United States.

Today, we honor those stories told around the dinner table and celebrate what these hopeful Italian American newcomers brought to our Nation. Italian Americans are educators, service members, doctors, engineers, artists, Government officials, and leaders and innovators in every field. The Italian American community is also a source of strength for our Nation's enduring relationship with Italy — an essential NATO ally and partner in the European Union. Together, we are working to address the challenges of our time, especially supporting the people of Ukraine in defense of their freedom.

America was founded on an idea: that we are all created equal, endowed by our creator with certain inalienable rights, and deserve to be treated equally throughout our lives. Though we have never fully lived up to that idea, our aspirations have never let us walk away from it either. Today, we honor all the Italian Americans who never walked away from our fundamental creed and who, for generations, have helped realize the full promise of our Nation.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage 531 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2023, as Columbus Day. I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

# Government Affairs & Public Policy Program

In 2023, NIAF expanded its Public Policy Program to include more events both on and off Capitol Hill. NIAF leaders and members engaged with Italian diplomats and legislators as well as Italian American government affairs and public policy professionals to discuss important policy matters concerning both the United States and Italy.

Notably, NIAF hosted its annual Sunset Aperitivo with co-sponsors Campari Group and Ferrero welcoming members of the Italian American Congressional Delegation and Italian American public policy professionals and U.S. government officials. NIAF also hosted a luncheon for Italian representatives of Parliamentary Group of Friendship Italy-USA of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Closing out the year, NIAF honored Senator Joe Manchin at our annual Italian American Congressional Delegation Christmas Party.



NIAF Board Members attended a White House Reception hosted by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden which began the festivities for the NIAF Anniversary Weekend. Seated in the Red Room of the White House are NIAF President Robert Allegrini, NIAF Vice Chair Anita Bevacqua McBride and NIAF Chairman Bob Carlucci. Standing left to right: NIAF Vice Chair Peter Arduini, NIAF Board Member Luis Tosi, NIAF Executive Vice Chairman John Calvelli, NIAF General Counsel Joseph Lonardo; NIAF Board Members Nick Sinatra, Dino Petrongolo, and Gerard Centioli; Nicolino Grigio, Board Member Emeritus Salvatore Salibello, NIAF Board Member Alfonso Ruffo, and NIAF Executive Vice President Frank Giordano.



NIAF Vice Chair Anita Bevacqua McBride, 2023 NIAF NCCA Essay Contest first place winner Logan Kneller, and NIAF Director of Scholarships, Grants and Youth Engagement Julia Kennedy, at the 2023 Columbus Day Celebration in Washington, D.C.





# Christopher Columbus Initiatives

As an organization devoted to the promotion and preservation of Italian American heritage, NIAF unequivocally supports maintaining both Columbus Day's status as a federal holiday and the statues erected in his honor across the nation.

Standing at the forefront of the efforts to preserve Columbus' legacy, NIAF worked closely with the White House Chief of Staff and Office of Public Engagement to craft the 2023 Columbus Day Proclamation, extolling the legacy of Italian Americans. Hours after the New York City Council introduced a bill proposing the removal of several historical monuments, NIAF leadership had the honor of participating in

a wreath laying ceremony with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni at New York's famed Columbus Circle.

In 2023, NIAF continued its partnership with the National Christopher Columbus Association (NCCA) to begin the renovations on the Columbus Statue at Union Station in Washington, D.C., and to sponsor an annual national essay contest on a topic related to Christopher Columbus for high school students throughout the United States. The 2023 essay topic was: When reflecting on Columbus's legacy, we tend to think about his impact in America. What were the effects of the discovery of America on Italy? How did Columbus's voyages

serve as the starting point for Italian-American relations?

Three outstanding essays are chosen from among the submissions to win a cash prize. The first-place winner received a \$1,200 prize and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C., in 2023 to read the essay at the Columbus Day event organized by the NCCA. The second-place winner received \$500, and the third-place winner received \$300. NIAF will continue to defend Christopher Columbus' legacy as an integral part of Italian American history.



NIAF Executive Vice Chairman John Calvelli and NIAF President Robert Allegrini with the wreath laid by Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni in New York's Columbus Circle



NIAF Executive Vice Chairman John Calvelli, Deputy Mayor of Genoa, Italy, Pietro Piciocchi, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and NIAF President Robert Allegrini

In 2023, **NIAF** was honored to stand alongside Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni at a wreath laying ceremony paying homage to the great navigator.



The Campari aperitivo hour at  
the 48th Anniversary Gala





# 48th Anniversary Gala and NIAF Forum

The highlight of every year for the National Italian American Foundation is its annual Washington D.C. Anniversary Gala and accompanying NIAF Forum. But 2023 proved to be an exceptionally noteworthy year for these signature NIAF events held on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel.

The theme of both the NIAF Forum and the gala was a celebration of the Global Italian Diaspora, and for the first time sitting on the gala dais were representatives of the Italian communities from Canada, Argentina, Brazil, and the United Kingdom, thus presenting the image of a united Global Italian Diaspora.

The day's NIAF Forum also featured panels presented by LUISS University, We the Italians and The European House Ambrosetti, all focusing on the theme of the global Italian diaspora. The Victoria J. Mastrobuono luncheon, an annual high point of the NIAF Forum, featured NIAF's own Vice Chair Anita McBride speaking about her new book "U.S. First Ladies: Making History and Leaving Legacies."

The luncheon discussion was the precursor to the visit at the NIAF gala of First Lady Dr. Jill Biden and the surprise visit of her husband President Joe Biden, who became the seventh U.S. President to attend the annual NIAF Anniversary Gala.

The 100th anniversary of the Italian Air Force was also celebrated at the gala with a visit by the Italian Air Force band and an address by its commander Lt. General Luca Goretti.



First Lady Dr. Jill Biden and the surprise visit of her husband President Joe Biden at the NIAF Anniversary Gala in Washington, D.C.

The NIAF Gala honored several distinguished individuals, including Gerry Cardinale, Founder and Managing Partner of RedBird Capital Partners; Stefano Domenicali, President and CEO of Formula 1®; Veronica Berti Bocelli, CEO of Almud Music Editions and Vice Chair of the Andrea Bocelli Foundation; legendary musician and songwriter Neil Giraldo; and Dr. Sara Farnetti, acclaimed medical doctor and scientist, for their outstanding achievements and contributions to various industries.

Also, during the gala, NIAF announced its newest partnerships with Aurelio De Laurentiis to offer grants to aspiring filmmakers, and an accord with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to launch Roots Tourism in 2024 for Italian Americans. The gala was further graced by the presence of special guests, including Jimmy Pitaro, Chairman of ESPN and Sports



President of Emilia Romagna Stefano Bonacini ceremonially opening an 80-pound wheel of the region's famous cheese.

Content at The Walt Disney Company, and iconic race car driver Mario Andretti. Italian actress Cristiana d'Anna, who portrays Saint Francis Cabrini in the film "Cabrini," delivered an inspirational speech celebrating the strength of Italian women.

The star-studded 48th Annual NIAF Anniversary Gala also proved to be one of the most lucrative in the foundation's history netting in excess of \$1,000,000 which constituted an eloquent tribute to the work of Gala Chairman Joe Del Raso and the entire NIAF Board of Directors led by Chairman Bob Carlucci.





NIAF's Annual New York Gala  
on April 20, 2023 at Cipriani  
42nd Street in New York



# NIAF Regional Galas

NIAF Arizona  
Regional Gala held  
on January 28, 2023  
at the Arizona Biltmore



For a second consecutive year, NIAF held an expanded series of regional galas and testimonial dinners across the country which honored and showcased worthy individuals while also raising funds for NIAF programs and providing a steady stream of income that helped allow the foundation to operate in 2023 unaided by loans or lines of credit.

January featured the NIAF Western Regional Gala in Phoenix where a sold-out crowd of 300 in the Grand Ballroom of the Arizona Biltmore hotel honored restaurateur Joey Maggione and his family, along with The Founders, one of the oldest and most prestigious Italian American groups in the city.

At the gala, NIAF launched the annual Chef Tomaso Maggione Culinary Excellence Award in honor of Joey Maggione's father Tomaso who had long been a NIAF supporter. A budget beating total of more than \$200,000 in net profit was made from the event. NIAF donated \$27,000 to the local Phoenix charity of Childhelp which exists to meet the physical, emotional, educational and spiritual needs of abused, neglected and at-risk children.

The annual New York Gala in April was another sell out with over 700 attendees at the beautiful Cipriani Midtown Location. Among 2023's New York Gala honorees were famed actor Tony Lo Bianco, philanthropist and activist Angelo Vivolo, Bloomberg Chief Operating Officer Beth Mazzeo, and CBRE Vice Chairman Silvio Petriello.

Meanwhile, in May 2023, the fabled Union League of Philadelphia was the location for a testimonial dinner honoring Philadelphia Eagles Head Coach Nick Sirianni and Dom DiSandro, Chief Security Officer and Senior Advisor to the General Manager of the Philadelphia Eagles. In addition to being attended by over a dozen NIAF Board Members, the dinner was also attended by fabled former Eagles head coach Dick Vermeil who had been honored at the same event the previous year. Once again, the event was a financial success netting in excess of \$100,000 for the foundation.

These regional events advanced NIAF's mission to celebrate the inspiring achievements of Italian Americans while also showcasing the truly national scope and reach of our foundation.



NIAF Board Members attend the Philadelphia Testimonial Dinner on May 20, 2023, held at the Union League Club.





# Mission to Italy



Luciano Pavarotti's widow Nicoletta Mantovani personally toured the NIAF Board delegation through the famed tenor's home in Modena which is now a museum.

In June, Board Members of the National Italian American Foundation participated in the annual Mission to Italy. It is a trip that allows NIAF's leadership to meet with business leaders and government officials to discuss key issues influencing cultural, economic and diplomatic relations between the United States and Italy. During the weeklong mission, the NIAF Board met with political and civic leaders from the central government in Rome along with Emilia Romagna, the 2023 NIAF Region of Honor, and the Republic of San Marino, to strengthen the ties that bind our nations.

While in Rome, the NIAF Executive Board Members were accorded the privilege of meeting with Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's Chief of Staff Gaetano Caputi at the Palazzo Chigi while another delegation of Board Members visited with federal legislators at the Italian parliament.

Also in Rome, the NIAF Board delegation presented a \$10,000 grant to Rome City Councilwoman Giulia Silvia Ghia for the restoration of the city's Villa Farnesina during the course of the annual "We the Italians" Gala held at the Club of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In Emilia Romagna, the Board delegation met with Regional President Stefano Bonaccini and presented him with a check for the first round of funding raised by NIAF to be used for relief of the historic flooding which befell on the region earlier in the year.

The Board then visited Bologna, Modena, Ravenna and Rimini taking in such highlights as the Ferrari factory and the home of Tenor Luciano Pavarotti where the NIAF delegation had the privilege of being toured by Pavarotti's widow Nicoletta Mantovani

A literal and figurative high point of the trip was a visit to the mountain top Republic of San Marino, the oldest country in the world where the NIAF Board was received by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Luca Beccari and feted at the country's most famous restaurant with spectacular views of the countryside below.

Once again, the mission to Italy generated considerable favorable media attention in Italy with major television coverage in Rome, Bologna and San Marino as well as print and digital coverage in cities throughout Emilia Romagna.



The NIAF Board Mission opening luncheon was hosted by the venerable Sovereign Order of Malta at the Order's embassy to the Holy See in Rome's opulent Palazzo Orsini.





The special NIAF Board delegation at the City Hall of Naples after the signing of an MOU with the city. From left to right, U.S. Consul General to Naples Tracy Roberts-Pounds, Joe Gulino, Alfonso Ruffo, Mayor of Naples Gaetano Manfredi, Massimo Petrone, Anita Bevacqua McBride, NIAF Chairman Bob Carlucci, Dr. Antonio Giordano, and NIAF President Robert Allegrini



# Connecting to Italy

During the course of 2023, NIAF connected with Italy in unique ways that reflected great luster on the foundation. In April 2023, a delegation comprised of NIAF Executive Vice Chairman John Calvelli and President Robert Allegrini signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Genoa for the joint promotion of Columbus, related initiatives as well as support for the City's National Museum of

Education, and for the famous Paganini Prize named for one of Genoa's greatest sons. A similar Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the City of Naples in June when a NIAF delegation led by Chairman Robert Carlucci pledged to support a number of Neapolitan initiatives including raising funds for the UNESCO Campaign to have the Christmas Cresche makers of San Giorgio named an intangible heritage of the world.



Signing of the agreement between NIAF President Robert Allegrini and Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani for the promotion of Roots Tourism in the United States.

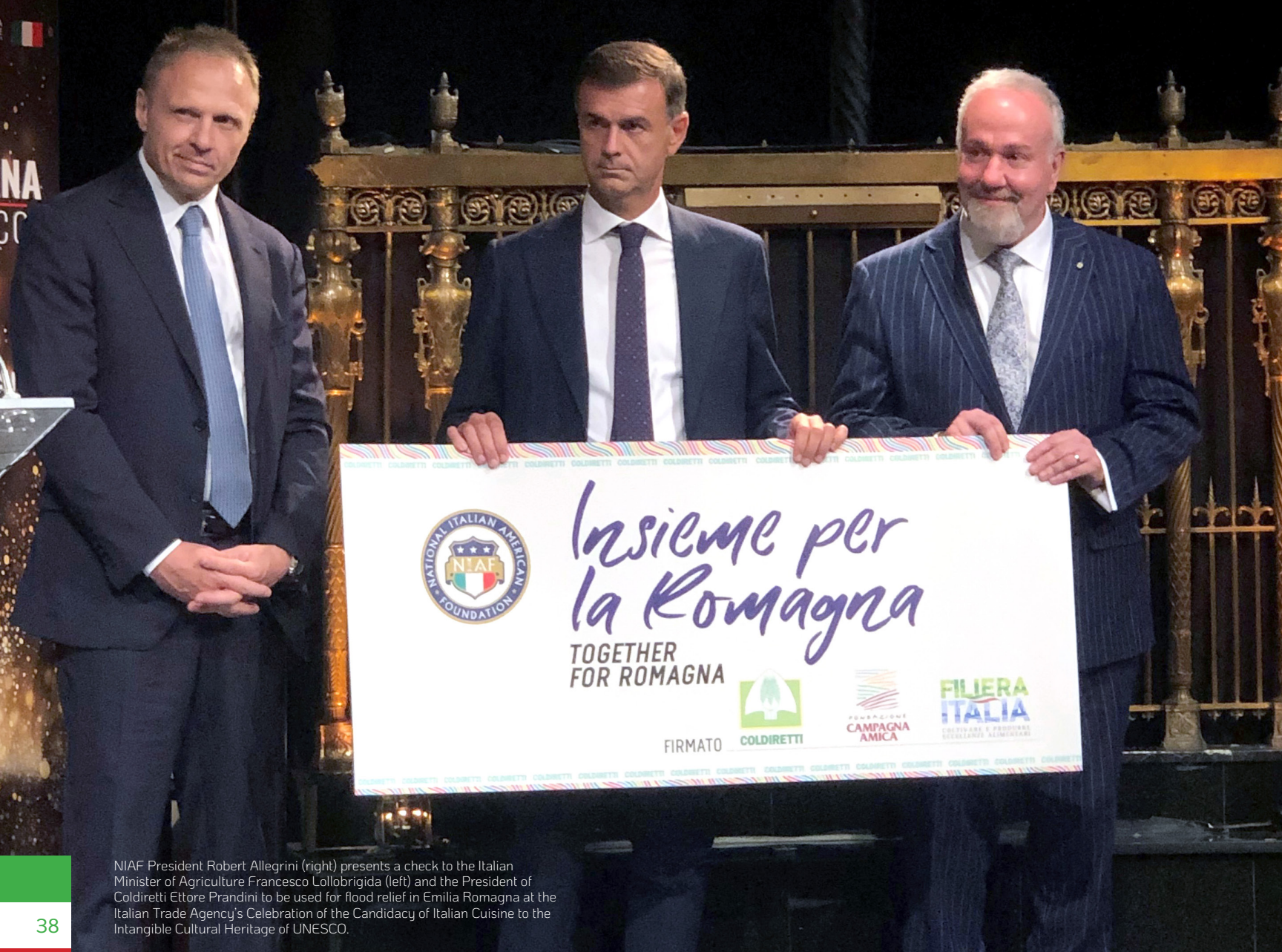
In the Summer of 2023, NIAF was the only Italian American organization invited to participate in the 80th anniversary commemorations of the Allied landings in Sicily which liberated the island from totalitarianism. Three days of discussions and events took place in Catania, Sicily, under the banner of the 1943 Peace, Security & Prosperity Conference. The conference was organized to promote appropriate remembrance of the historic event, foster collaboration among local and international dignitaries, and aimed to build enduring relationships between Sicily, Italy and their counterparts in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States. The conference garnered press coverage throughout Southern Italy.

NIAF was represented by its General Counsel Joe Lonardo a Sicilian American with strong connections to the Sicilian campaign since his ancestral family village of was one of the invasion beach heads and both his father and father-in-law participated in the invasion and subsequent Italian Campaign in the American Army. In addition to speaking at the Conference, Lonardo hosted a dinner for conference dignitaries who included the British Ambassador to Italy, the American Consul General in Naples and the granddaughter of General "Blood and Guts" George Patten.



Renovated community center in Ascoli Piceno, Le Marche, which NIAF financed for \$250,000 from its earthquake relief fund.





NIAF President Robert Allegrini (right) presents a check to the Italian Minister of Agriculture Francesco Lollobrigida (left) and the President of Coldiretti Ettore Prandini to be used for flood relief in Emilia Romagna at the Italian Trade Agency's Celebration of the Candidacy of Italian Cuisine to the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO.

# Connecting to Italy

In 2023, NIAF also saw the completion of a renovated community center in Ascoli Piceno in Le Marche which it had financed for \$250,000. The community center had been badly damaged in the 2016 earthquake and rebuilt using NIAF disaster relief funding. The multi-purpose facility today supports children, the elderly, families and students for social, educational and recreational activities.

An additional \$80,000 was raised by NIAF members and supporters and donated via the NIAF Relief Fund to assist in aftermath of the devastating once-in-a-century flooding that occurred during 2023 in Emilia Romagna, NIAF's Region of Honor. A total of \$25,000 was sent to the Civil Protection Agency in Emilia Romagna while \$55,000 was provided to Coldiretti Italy's leading agricultural association for use by farmers impacted by the flooding.

The pinnacle of 2023's connections to Italy occurred in October when NIAF President Robert Allegrini was invited to sign a historic pact with the Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani for the Promotion of Roots Tourism in 2024. The pact was signed with great ceremony at the Italian Foreign Ministry La Farnesina in the presence of U.S. Ambassador to Italy Jack Merkell and high-ranking representatives of the Italian Foreign Ministry. The Memo of Understanding provided a framework for NIAF to promote 2024 as the year when the members of Italy's United States based diaspora are called home to Italy to discover the towns and villages of their forefathers. NIAF was the sole Italian American organization to be accorded this privilege with the foreign ministry.



Gazzetta del Sud article published from the Peace, Security & Prosperity conference commemorating 80 years since the allied forces landing in Sicily



Consigliere Comunale of Genoa Barbara Grosso, NIAF Executive Vice Chair John Calvelli, Mayor of Genoa Marco Bucci and NIAF President Robert Allegrini, after agreeing to the signing of the MOU between the city of Genoa and NIAF.



COMUNE DI GENOVA



**GENTE d'Italia**  
 Qualità d'informazione indipendente

HOME CRONACA POLITICA ECONOMIA AMERICA LATINA ITALIANI NEL MONDO ITALIANI IN EUROPA VIDEO RUBRICHE

**Autore** Aurelio De Laurentiis

## Aurelio De Laurentiis e NIAF lanciano un programma dedicato ai giovani registi che vogliono raccontare storie italiane e italoamericane

16 dicembre 2023

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October is Italian-American Heritage Month. Here's How One Italy-US Organization is Celebrating.

Billy Magaldi NIAF/NAF, 98.94.1021.1609


Latest property in Italy

Fractional ownership in Florence

Washington Examiner

## The accomplishments of the National Italian-American Foundation warrant recognition

By Christopher Thompson, Commentary Writer | October 01, 2023 04:30 PM



October is recognized as Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month, an annual tradition to honor the contributions and achievements to the nation by people of Italian heritage. The month of October was chosen so that it would coincide with October 12, Columbus Day, along with the traditional "Regione Beneme" (cultural target).

Sei su: [Esteri](#)

## Biden a sorpresa alla Niaf: «Gli italoamericani hanno fatto molto per gli Usa»

di [Wesley M. Young](#)

Il presidente americano ha presenziato all'evento della National Italian American Foundation al fianco della moglie Jill. «Hanno in Italia» il maggior massacro subito dal popolo ebraico dopo l'Olocausto



Ascolta l'articolo 2 min

iscriviti alla newsletter

LA CRONACA

## A Cardinale il premio Leonardo da Vinci per la finanza

Il riconoscimento, assegnato dalla National Italian American Foundation, verrà consegnato sabato 14 ottobre. Premiato anche Domenico

Ultima

12 nov 477 [Maurizio Ballestrero](#), un ex [Santander](#) [Zanichelli](#) e [Globe](#) [Zanichelli](#)

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All NIAF members now receive exclusive discounted flights to Italy on ITA Airways

What We Do

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FORBES > LIFESTYLE > TRAVEL

## Visit Emilia Romagna: Italy's Newest "Region Of Honor"

Irene S. Levine Contributor

Sep 4, 2023, 05:07pm EDT

Listen to article 6 minutes



Bologna, the capital of the Emilia Romagna region. GETTY


The National Italian American Foundation

Emilia Romagna is its 2023 Region of Honor

Welcome!

I'm your assistant to introduce you into the world of NIAF.

How can I help you?



Write a message here...

**Ambassador**

National Italian American Foundation

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DISCOVER EMILIA-ROMAGNA!


The Most Scenic Centers of Bologna

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May I help you?



# Communications



The National Italian American Foundation



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## PRESS

NIAF garnered increased media coverage in 2023, reaching wider audiences with its mission to promote Italian American heritage and culture. Highlights included being featured on RAI Italia's Casa Italia program, which expanded NIAF's visibility within Italian media. NIAF leadership, events and initiatives were covered across major publications such as Forbes, Corriere della Sera, La Repubblica, il Sole 24ore, La Gazzetta dello Sport, Gente d'Italia, The Washington Examiner, and Italy Magazine. From profiles on NIAF leaders to features on NIAF events and programs, press coverage gave greater exposure to NIAF's work celebrating the inspiring achievements and uplifting values of Italian culture and heritage in America and strengthening ties between the United States and Italy.



## WEBSITE INNOVATIONS

The National Italian American Foundation significantly enhanced its online presence in 2023 by unveiling several exciting new features on its website to better serve members and visitors.

A new "NIAF in the News" page was added to aggregate and highlight noteworthy press coverage and media mentions of NIAF, keeping users informed about the foundation's growing reputation and influence.

Additionally, NIAF created an extensive searchable database of scholarships available nationwide specifically for Italian American college students, providing invaluable assistance for the next generation.

To further improve user experience, NIAF implemented a virtual assistant in the corner of the website, available at any time to answer questions and help visitors navigate the site.

The new "Partnerships" tab shines a light on NIAF's affiliate and cooperative organizations, showcasing the breadth of the foundation's relationships.

For accessibility, users can now seamlessly toggle between English and Italian versions of the website.

With its continued press relations efforts, **NIAF** aims to further amplify its voice and bring wider awareness to the Italian American experience.



# Financial Highlights

## REVENUES

The National Italian American Foundation’s diverse revenue streams ensure the continued support of NIAF’s Mission. Each dollar received allows the Foundation to preserve, promote, and protect the Italian American heritage with its educational programming, grants, scholarships, public policy, and the requisite operating capital. NIAF’s major revenue-generating activities include:

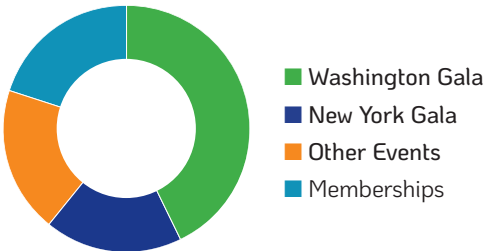
- Fundraising Opportunities
- Membership
- Contributions and Donations
- Investment Income

The fall Anniversary Gala remains the Foundation’s primary fundraising vehicle. Other notable fundraising initiatives include the New York Golf Outing, the Arizona Regional Gala, the New York Gala, and regional events. All of these events have performed well and are contributing to NIAF’s overall financial strength. NIAF is thankful to its members, supporters, and donors for financially supporting its activities and mission.

Membership dues and donations are also another key revenue stream for the Foundation. The signature program of the Foundation, the Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery has also been successful in 2023 thanks to the commitment of \$2 million from the estate of the late Ambassador Peter F. Secchia. In 2023, a total of \$211,148 was spent to fund the Voyage of Discovery program.

## 2023 OPERATING REVENUE STREAMS

	% of 2023 Total	2023	% of 2022 Total	2022
Washington Gala	24%	\$503,523	25%	\$539,254
New York Gala	18%	383,574	21%	462,906
Other Events	20%	408,609	20%	432,571
Memberships	38%	793,489	34%	748,054
Total	100%	\$2,089,195	100%	\$2,182,784

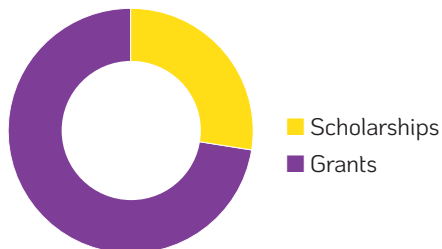


## GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Core functions of the NIAF mission include the provision of scholarships as well as the support of organizations and programs that share our same goals and promote the continued interest in our heritage. A strong focus of our grants is those organizations that enrich the Italian American cultural experience. In 2023, NIAF continued to disburse funds supporting these efforts. Highlights include:

- A scholarship of \$50,000 was awarded to Maria Jensen, the recipient of the 2023 Emanuele Gianturco Memorial Scholarship
- A grant of \$104,500 to The European House – Ambrosetti.
- A total of \$125,000 grant to Società Habilis Cooperativa Sociale for the Ascoli Piceno Project.

2023 DISBURSEMENTS	2023	2022
Grants	\$586,002	\$520,255
Scholarships	\$207,970	\$200,010
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$793,972</b>	<b>\$720,265</b>



The National Italian American Foundation Inc.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2023

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted<sup>1</sup></b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$879,599	\$199,184
Investments <sup>1</sup>	626,822	7,893,128
Accounts receivable <sup>2</sup>	109,475	1,600,119
Prepaid expenses	242,367	-
Due from Auction Owners	34,010	-
Property and equipment, net	649,660	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$2,541,933</b>	<b>\$9,692,431</b>
<b>Liabilities and net assets</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$240,011	-
Credit card payable	6,937	-
Deferred revenue	63,305	-
Notes payable	487,942	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$798,195</b>	-
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted	\$1,743,738	-
Restricted	-	\$9,692,431
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$1,743,738</b>	<b>\$9,692,431</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$2,541,933</b>	<b>\$9,692,431</b>

1 The investments include \$1,700,467 of Board designated assets held in NIAF Endowment Trust, and are available to be used with the trustees' approval.

2 The total restricted Accounts Receivable represents the net present value of contributions pledged in writing to NIAF



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\*Members active as of March 2023



## GARIBALDI ACADEMY

Christopher Alviggi  
Richard Andreano  
Mario Andretti  
Mario Andretti  
Marisa Antonini  
Kelly Arnold  
Mark Augusti  
Donald Battimelli  
Giovanni Battimelli  
Anthony Battista  
Antonio Biondi  
Rosana Biondo  
Louis Blancato  
Steven Bocchino  
Robert Buly  
John Capone  
Anna Carabetta  
James Carchietta  
Michael Cellucci  
Paul Chiapparone  
Riccardo Cinti  
Vito Clemente  
Jerry Colangelo  
Alesandra Costa

Gabriela Cora  
Marie Delissio  
Ron DeLucia  
Anthony DeSante  
George DiStefano  
Louis Donatelli  
Vincent Durso  
Jason Esposito  
Anthony Faglione  
Rich Falcone  
Stephanie Frye  
Domenico Gambino  
Michael Giannasca  
Julius Giarmarco  
Russell Gilardi  
Paul Gitnik  
Regina Gragnano-Vitti  
Louis Grassi  
Mark Gregorio  
Emanuel Grillo  
Daniel Grisanti  
Carmine Gualtieri  
Valerie Heaberlin  
Leah Hill

Thomas Iacoboni  
Ronald Ingram  
Allison LaRocca  
Robert LaRocca  
John Lauro  
Dara Liotta  
Stephen Longo  
Anthony Luiso  
Francesco Mancuso  
Leslie Mancuso  
William Martini  
Mary Mayer  
Marco Mellone  
Mary Milano  
Salvatore Moffa  
Angelina Mondavi  
Vincent Naccarato  
Nicholas Nasta  
Erica Pate  
Steven Pidgeon  
Giuseppe Pirreca  
Susanne Plaehn  
Lena Prima  
Angelo Racaniello

Francesco Rando  
Thomas Regnante  
Edward Romano  
Marilyn Romeo  
Salvatore Salibello  
Timothy Sansone  
Jon Santamauro  
Joseph Savasta  
William Schneider  
Joseph Smith  
Thomas Stallone  
Dominic Stramaglia  
David Tedesco  
Fabio Trabocchi  
Craig Triola  
Robert Trone  
Thomas Verticchio  
Sandra Wirta  
Pierluigi Zappacosta  
Salvatore Zizza

\*Members Active as of March 1, 2023

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Roberto Alini  
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Christopher Anci  
Christopher Arabia  
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Leonard Bambina  
Jerry Bello  
Gennaro Bizzarro  
Janine Blasioli  
Julius Bonello  
Ron Bonjean  
Joseph Borio  
Eric Bowman  
Joseph Brancato  
Tiziana Cacace  
Vincent Cali  
Anthony Campanella  
Carolyn Campo  
Lauren & Rebecca Centioli  
Salavatore Chioda  
John DaCosta  
Anthony De Marco  
Teresa DeLuca  
Pat DeQuattro  
Michael DeStefano  
Joseph DiMassa  
Italo Dinunzio  
Adam Dioguardi

Jo-Ann DiPierro  
Victor DiSerio  
Jerome Dominici  
Eric Donner  
Carla Eccleston  
Anthony Fasano  
Joel Feroletto  
Mark Festa  
Ronald Fiamma  
Thomas Flood  
Joseph Franceschini  
Ciro Fraschilla  
Rose Marie Gallina-Santangelo  
Donna Gentile O'Donnell  
Christine Gilberti  
Debora Grandinetti  
Patrick Guarino  
Paul Guarracino  
Meghan Hudock  
Massimiliano Hurley  
Vincent Iannelli  
Cheryl June Hintzen &  
Ira. J Gaines  
Gregory Jacovini  
Jason Jordan  
Diane Kelley  
Kristine Kelly  
Marissa Kumar  
Anthony La Malfa  
Paul Lonigro  
John Maiorana

Marco Maiurano  
Anthony Mallace  
Michael Marchese  
Frank Marino  
Cicilia Centioli Marjanovic  
Chris Masotto  
Anthony Mastrangelo  
Maria Mastrogiacomio  
Bruno Mastropasqua  
Gina Mazzei Anderhub  
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Madison McIntosh  
Daniel Melucci  
Thomas Milana  
Sharon Miller  
John Mongello  
Nadine Montemarano  
Rex Morena  
Maria Neri  
Cynthia Noble  
Bianca Ottone  
Louis Paciello  
John Panella  
Maryanne Pantilione  
Sam Parrino  
Thomas Parrotta  
Salvatore Patti  
Paolo Pedrazzini  
Michael Perretta  
John Polise  
Michael Pompeo

Portiere Services  
Faith Race  
James Raucci  
Craig Ruffolo  
Pasqualino Russo  
Christopher Russo  
Nancy Sacco  
Drew Salamone  
Michael Sasu  
Frank Sbrochi  
Joseph Simonelli  
Carla Simonini  
John Spagnola  
Scott Sprenger  
Michael Steinweiss  
Linda Stella  
Jennifer Summa  
Anthony Timmons  
Michael Toscano  
Carlo Treviso  
Michelle Vaccaro  
Mario VillaSanta  
John Zanotti  
Dominic Zaza  
Carl Zuanelli



## GOLD MEMBERS

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 Fabio Adduci  
 Joseph Agostino  
 Marc Aitelli  
 Charles Alaimo  
 Martina Albino  
 Jerry Alesi  
 Michael Andretti  
 James Apedaile  
 Gianni Arcaini  
 Richard Armanino  
 Richard Aro  
 Ignazio Artale  
 Andrew Artusa  
 Anthony Assalone  
 Nancy Ausonio  
 Joseph Auteri  
 Michael Baio  
 Albert & Patricia Bajohr  
 Robert Baldassari  
 Vicki Balzano  
 Robert & Mary Barbuto  
 John Bednar  
 Jon Bellantoni  
 Joseph Bellina  
 Christopher Bellini  
 Townsend Belt  
 Amato Berardi  
 Charles Bernardini  
 Frederick Bertino

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 Grace Bileta  
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 Kelly Chirico  
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 Alicia Cipriano  
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 David Colella  
 Paul Colombo  
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 Rosario Corrado Mancino  
 Danielle Cosentino  
 Claire Criscuolo  
 Angelo Cua  
 Joseph Cucchiario  
 Frank Culotta  
 Ricky Curotto  
 Michael Curreri  
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 Ernani Dangelo  
 Lawrence D'Angelo  
 Megan Darby  
 Anthony Dardano  
 Ellie De Lia

Anthony De Lillo  
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 Gregory Dell'omo  
 Anthony Delloroso  
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 Christopher DeMerlis  
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 Robert Desourdis  
 Robert Desourdis  
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 Donna Dix  
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 Oreste Donzella  
 Lissa Druss  
 Eduitalia  
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Angelo Falcone  
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Anthony Famiglietti  
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Michael Farrar  
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Annette Favetta  
Diana Femia  
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Robert Marovic  
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Tony Meoli  
Amy Meszaros  
Robert Minutillo  
Vincent Mirrione  
Francesmary  
Modugno  
Andrew Monteleone  
Nicholas Montesano  
Shirley Moran  
Christie Moretti  
Kevin Mosciano  
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Dan Nigro  
Francesco Nuccio  
Frank Oddo  
Walter Orso  
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Steven Palladino  
Jacqueline Palma  
Vito Palmieri  
Francis Palumbo  
Dominic Panicia  
Susan Paolercio  
Pierluigi Paracchi



## GOLD MEMBERS

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Elisabetta Pedersini  
Adriano Pedrelli  
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Judith Quaranta

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Margherita Russo  
Robert Russo  
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Paul Saburro  
Carolena Saccone  
Domenick Saglimbeni  
Michael Santini  
Dayla Arabella Santurri  
Donna Saulino  
Mark Savelloni  
Tom & Holly Scardino  
John Scarpa  
Lisa Schwab  
Joseph Sciamè  
Paul & Johnnie Sciortino  
Chris Scopa-Smith  
Elise Scott  
John Serafino  
Pierfrancesco Servidio

Christopher Sicuranza  
Frank Sommario  
Joseph Sorbera  
Louis Spinelli  
Vito Spitaleri  
William Staffieri  
Joseph Stampone  
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Gerard Tepedino  
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Anthony Verrelli  
Steve Vescio  
Emmanuel Vetrano  
Victoria Viets  
Joseph Violante  
Richard Vita  
Salvatore & Sue Vitale  
Dolores Vogliano  
Maria Vogt  
Thomas Volpe  
Joseph Volpe  
Agatha Vorsanger  
Theresa Ward  
Italia Weinand  
Angela Weisskopf  
Nicholas Zicaro







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