SOCIAL MEETINGS/EVENT OVERVIEW

Social meetings take place on the third Sunday of the month, September through May, at the Friendship Heights Village Center: 4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD (please see map on back cover)

February 21:
The Italian Cultural Society and Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Washington, DC present Italo, by Alessia Scarso, a family comedy movie that will appeal to children as well as adults. (Italian with English Subtitles). (see page 8)

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I hope all of our members and their families were able to get through the big storm safely. At this writing there is still a foot of snow on the ground and mountains of snow blower deposits on the sides of the roads, but not enough to cancel our Carnevale celebration, which we just postponed for six days, and with another record turnout. This time it was all about little children and the conversation was about 90% in Italian, making me feel like I were in Italy, somewhere in the Alps. “The I-Talians” gave a superb performance of popular music hits by Italian song writers and the children and a few of the 100 adults present danced the evening away. Thank you to our members and friends who helped put the party together and to our sponsors who donated some of the food, including 9 pounds of prosciutto from Prosciutto di Parma.

The next social meeting, on February 21 will feature a movie: “Italo”, which was part of the 25th annual N.I.C.E.(New Italian Cinema Events). The film has been lent to us and is co-sponsored by the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Washington, DC, which is attached to the Embassy of Italy. Read the review of Italo on page 8. This will be, in effect, the Movie of the month, except that it will be screened in the main ballroom of the Friendship Heights Village Center, and at 3:00 instead of 1:00PM. After the film viewers can participate in a discussion of the film.

We hope you can attend,
Arrigo Mongini
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Arrigo Mongini: President
Ron Cappelletti: Vice President
Paolo Vidoli: Treasurer
Francesca Casazza: Director of the Italian Language Program
Carlo Ellena: Webmaster
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Olga Mancuso: Historian
Allegra Tartaglia: Social Media and Marketing Materials
Stefania Amodeo: Movies and Scholarship Program
Vittorio Pelaco: Board Member
Lisa Wood: Editor

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS
SINGLE:
James Zurer
Ting Rao
Charlotte Lekakos
Nadia Simon

COUPLE:
Marylouise T. Serrato

FAMILY:
Linda Hallman & Adrian Freeman
Jeannette Reveron & Leonardo Angelone and family
Evelyn Adamo and family

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On Saturday night, January 30, we held our annual Festa di Carnevale at the Friendship Heights Village Center, in collaboration with Italians in D.C. and MaPaCi. It had been rescheduled from the original date of Sunday afternoon, January 24 because of the two feet of snow that had fallen on the 22nd and 23rd. As you can see from the pictures from the party a lot of people—over 100 adults and about 50 children—had a fun time. Despite the fact that many roads had not yet been cleared and that parking remained constrained, this was a record turnout, more than for any ICS Carnevale I can remember. The local pop music band, The I-Talians, including two impressive singers, performed non-stop a lengthy series of songs by famous Italian song writers of the past 30 years, many of them danceable, and even accompanied some of the children in a joint performance. The children attended a workshop for art projects in the two classrooms, hosted by MaPaCi and the teachers of our Italian Language Program. We had the traditional costume contest. The winner of the “best of the best” costume prize was Niccolò Schultz dressed as Arlecchino, and it was wonderful to watch the kids dancing to the I-Talians music. Our guests sampled the “Chiacchiere”, the traditional fried dough of Carnevale, as well as Prosciutto (9 pounds of it) twisted around Grissini, cheese snacks, and pizza, washed down with Bellini punch, wine, and juice for the kids. The top three raffle winners walked away with a Pandoro. What a great way to say bye bye to the snow that was in mid melt (and to no school all week)!
IL CARNEVALE
12/13/15
ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

Thirty-seven courses began this January and nine more should start on February 16th, for Session 2 of Winter Term. Also, “Discover Sicily: history, culture, food and wine on the island of sun” will be taught again on Feb. 6 – Apr. 30. Riccardo Cannavò is ready to give you a taste of Sicily’s history, archeology, cuisine and traditions inherited from the numerous civilizations who have lived on the island for the last four thousand years.

This month, upon request, we held two brief presentations about the trip to Puglia. Laura Marchese, the organizer, explained the itinerary and showed beautiful pictures of her region. All of our trips are designed for groups as small as two people and the dates are flexible. Now, it is time to reserve your dates and explore Puglia, Sicilia, Liguria, Piemonte and Lazio through our trusted contacts, who will let you live the experience of an insider.

The day after our fun Carnevale party, the Italian Language Program, in collaboration with Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Washington DC organized the event “Il Carnevale Italiano: origins, traditional costumes (Stock Characters) and typical pastry” by Laura Martell, Georgetown University. Laura Martell is studying Commedia dell’Arte and teaches theatre to kids. Her presentation was educational and entertaining. After that, we offered the traditional “Chiacchiere” (also called “Bugie” or “Frappe”) and Aranciata. Finally, a creative workshop allowed children to decorate their own masks, thanks to the precious help of Chiara Gastaldi, ILP children teacher. The event took place at the KID Museum, in Bethesda, a spacious and creative place that is certainly worth a visit with your children.

Un caro saluto,
Francesca Casazza

IL CARNEVALE AT THE KIDS MUSEUM
1/31/16
ICS SUMMER CAMP

NOW ENROLLING

per bambini 4-6 e 7-10 anni

COST PER WEEK
9:00AM-3:30PM $350/child - Siblings $320;
$320/ICS Family members - Siblings $320
4 day camp: $300 - 270/ICS F. members & siblings
* Register before April 1st and pay:
$310/child; Siblings $300
$290/ICS Family members - Siblings $290
4 day camp: $280 - 260/ICS F. members & siblings
9:00AM-12:30PM $250/child - Siblings $220;
$220/ICS Family members - Siblings $220
4 day camp: $200 - 170/ICS F. members & siblings
* Register before April 1st and pay:
$210/child; Siblings $200
$200/ICS Family members - Sibling $200
4 day camp: $180 - 170/ICS F. members & siblings

DAILY SCHEDULE
9:00am-9:15am Drop off
9:15am-10:00am Language class: reading, writing, singing, building vocabulary and grammatical structures (divided in two age groups)
10:00am-11:00am Outdoor activities + small snack
11:10am-12:30pm Creative project
12:30pm-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm-1:30pm Outdoor playing
1:40pm-2:50pm Indoor games
2:50pm-3:30pm Video – Dismissal

*Upon request, possibility of early drop off and late pick-up. Kids are to bring their own lunch and snack. Each Monday, authentic warm Italian pizza will be available for $7. On Fridays, we will make gelato!

SUMMER CAMP WEEKS
June 20th -24th
June 27th - July 1st
July 5th - 8th
July 11th - 15th
August 22nd -26th

SUMMER CAMP
The Italian Cultural Society/Italian Language Program summer camp is an immersion program designed around a variety of activities that will encourage your children to speak Italian through singing, cooking, playing indoor and outdoor Italian games, and completing art projects. Activities are held indoor and outdoor in the Battery Lane Park, behind the ICS.

N.I.C.E. ha proposto nel tempo gli esordi di artisti oggi internazionalmente affermati, presenta una selezione multiforme, che non offre solo entertainment, ma contribuisce a far conoscere la complicata architettura dell’odierna società italiana. Come ha sottolineato Cristina Giachi, Vice Sindaco di Firenze, N.I.C.E. è “un festival di qualità che ben rappresenta l’Italia all’estero, una formula originale che non svolge solo la funzione di promozione, ma invita anche allo studio, alla riflessione e alla ricerca sul cinema italiano”.


N.I.C.E. ringrazia per il contributo: Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali-Direzione Generale per il Cinema; Ministero Affari Esteri; Assessorato alla Cultura del Comune di Firenze e Regione Toscana, Fondazione Sistema Toscana - Mediateca Regionale-Toscana Film Commission; in particolare Rai, Rai Cinema e Rai Com per il prezioso aiuto al progetto.

21 febbraio film ITALO di Alessia Scarso. 17 aprile film TEMPO INSTABILE CON PROBABILI SCHIARITE, di Marco Pontecorvo, con Luca Zingaretti e John Turturro.

N.I.C.E. New Italian Cinema Events, directed by Vivian del Bianco, celebrated the 25th mounting of the festival in the U.S.

N.I.C.E. over time has debuted artists who are internationally recognized today, and has presented a varied selection which offers not only entertainment but also contributes an understanding of the complicated architecture of today’s Italian society. As Cristina Giachi, deputy mayor of Florence has emphasized, N.I.C.E. is “a festival of quality which well represents Italy to the world, an original formula which not only develops the function of promotion, but which also invites study, reflection and research into Italian film.”

N.I.C.E. in collaboration with the Italian Embassy and ‘Istituto Italiano di Cultura has presented two special events in 2015: Italo, directed by Alessia Scarso, and Tempo instabile con probabili schiarite (Unstable weather with probable clearing) directed by Marco Pontecorvo, to be reshown in 2016 in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Society.

N.I.C.E. offers thanks for their contributions to the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Film division; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Division of Culture of the city of Florence and the Region of Tuscany, Foundation System Toscana - Regional Mediateca - Toscana Film Commission; and in particular RAI, RAI Cinema and RAI Com for their invaluable help with the project.

February 21 the film is ITALO by Alessio Scarso. April 17 the film is TEMPO INSTABILE CON PROBABILI SCHIARITE, by Marco Pontecorvo, with Luca Zingaretti and John Turturro.
**ITALO**

**Sinossi:** Il film racconta l’ infanzia triste del piccolo Meno (Vincenzo Lauretta), dopo la perdita della madre. Italo, un cagnolino randagio arrivato in una mattina d’ autunno nel paese siciliano di Scicli lo segue fino a casa e porta lo scom-piglio in città, dove vige un ordine del comune di catturare i cani randagi, emesso dallo stesso sindaco Antonio (Marco Boggi) padre di Meno. L’ uomo cerca di affrontare la vedovanza, tuffandosi nel lavoro ma non è capace di gestire il figlio né tanto meno per l’ interesse della bella Laura (Elena Radonicich), maestra di Meno. Sarà Italo, con una serie di divertenti e anche seri incidenti, che metterà a posto le cose e i sentimenti.


**Summary:** The film, based on real life events covered in the Italian press, tells the story of the sad childhood of little Meno (Vincenzo Lauretta) after the death of his mother. Italo, a stray dog that arrived one autumn morning in the Sicilian town of Scicli, follows Meno home and brings disorder to the city, where there is a municipal ordinance to capture stray dogs, proclaimed by the mayor, Antonio (Marco Boggi), Meno’s father. Antonio tries to face the loss of his wife by becoming a workaholic but he is not able to take care of his son much less deal with his interest in the beautiful Laura (Elena Radonicich), Meno’s teacher. The dog Italo, after a series of hilarious and even serious incidents, is ultimately the one who puts things right.

Alessia Scarso: born in Modica, she received a diploma in montage at Rome’s Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. She collaborated as coordinator of montage and postproduction in journalistic investigations and documentary films. She directed numerous spots and institutional documentaries. She made her debut as film director with Disinstallare un Amore, a short film, winner of tens of awards. She signed the montage of the film Come non Detto produced by Moviemax Media Group. Italo was presented at the Taormina Film Fest 2014.

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**MOVIES OF THE MONTH**

2/21/16

**ITALO**

This month, instead of the 1:00 movie and the 3:00 pm Kids movie, we are pleased to screen a movie in collaboration with the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Washington D.C. as our 3:00 main program. The movie “ITALO” is part of the 2015 edition of NICE. It is a family movie that will appeal to children as well as adults. (Italian with English Subtitles)
“POWER & PATHOS”: BRONZI ELENISTICI ALLA GALLERIA NAZIONALE D’ARTE DI WASHINGTON-UN TERZO DELLE SCULTURE VENGONO DALL’ITALIA

Sino a meta’ Marzo, una straordinaria mostra di Bronzi ellenistici alla Galleria Nazionale’Arte di Washington DC, mette in visione opere mai arrivate prima su suolo Usa, e di cui un terzo provengono dai più’ prestigiosi musei italiani.

E’ un excursus senza precedenti tra i Bronzi dell’eta’ ellenistica, raccolti in una rassegna di 50 rari capolavori scultorei raccolti sotto il titolo:’ Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculptures of the Hellenistic World’.

Il nostro inaugure della esibizione e’ stato tagliato a dicembre a Firenze, dallo Strozzino di Firenze, la ‘Ritratto di un uomo’ dal Museo di Brindisi, e il ‘Dancing Faun’ dal Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli, siano per la prima volta visibili al pubblico americano”.

Organizzata dalla ‘National Gallery of art’ di Washington, dal ‘Pc jl Getty’ museum di Los Angeles, dalla Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi di Firenze, in collaborazione con la Soprintendenza per i Beni archeologici della Toscana, e la sponsorizzazione di Bank Of America, la rassegna indica la stretta collaborazione tra le più alte istituzioni culturali Italia-Usa.

“Circa un terzo delle opere, dicitto per l’esattezza, per questamagnifica mostra provengono da musei italiani,e’ una testimonianza dell’altissima livello di cooperazione che continua a consolidarsi anno dopo anno tra la ‘National Gallery of art’ e le principali istituzioni culturali italiane”, ha osservato l’ambasciatore Bisogniero, precisando: “Sono molto lieto in particolare che anche grazie al sostegno della nostra Ambasciata, opere come il Corridore ed il Fauno Danzante dal Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli, siano per la prima volta visibili al pubblico americano”.

Un rapporto a livello culturale plaudito anche dal direttore della National Gallery of Art, Earl Powell, che si è detto “felice di poter introdurre il pubblico a questa rara opportunità”, ed ha voluto ringraziare l’ambasciatore d’Italia per l’impegno profuso nell’assicurare l’arrivo dei bronzi negli Usa.

Divisa in sette sezioni - che vanno da quella su ‘Corpi e Ideali’ a ‘Immagini del Divino’, da ‘Alessandro e i suoi successori’ a ‘Governanti e cittadini’ - la rassegna si apre nella prima sala con la statuette di bronzo, rame e argento di ‘Alessandro il Grande a cavallo’ dal museo archeologico di Napoli, per passare ad una serie di altri capolavori tra cui la ‘Minerva di Arezzo’ dal museo di Firenze, il ‘Ritratto di un uomo’ dal Museo di Brindisi, la statua dell’ ‘Arrangatore’ che faceva parte della collezione di Cosimo de Medici.

Questi e tanti altri esempi di capolavori di un’eta’ - quella ellenistica - in cui la scultura bronzo florisce per la prima volta aggiungendo dinamismo, realismo, e persino espressioni emotive alle rappresentazioni artistiche.

“POWER AND PATHOS: GREEK BRONZES AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART - A THIRD OF THE SCULPTURES COME FROM ITALY

Through mid March, an extraordinary exhibit of Greek bronzes at the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC shows off works of art never before seen on US soil, one third of which come from the most prestigious museums of Italy.

It is an unprecedented excursion for bronzes of the Hellenic era, collected in a group of 50 rare masterpieces under the title “Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculptures of the Hellenic World”.

The inaugural ribbon of the exhibit was cut in December in the halls of the Gallery in the presence of, among others, the ambassador of Italy to the US, Claudio Bisogniero. This is the first exhibit to bring to the United States the most refined bronzes of the epoch, from collections not only from Europe, but also from Africa and the US itself.

Organized by Washington’s National Gallery of Art, the Paul Getty Museum of Los Angeles, the Palazzo Strozzi Foundation of Florence, in collaboration with the Superintendent of Archeological Resources of Tuscany, and the sponsorship of the Bank of America, the collection demonstrates close collaboration of the highest cultural institutions of Italy and the US.

“There about a third of the works, eighteen to be precise, in this magnificent exhibit come from Italian museums is testimony to the very high level or cooperation that is continuing to improve from year to year between the National Gallery of Art and the principal cultural institutions of Italy” observed Ambassador Bisogniero “In particular, I am very happy that, thanks to the support from our embassy, works such as The Dancing Faun, from the National Archeological Museum of Naples can for the first time be seen by the American public”.

There was also praise from the director of the National Gallery of Art, Earl Powell, who is said to have been “happy to be able to introduce the public to this rare opportunity” and who wanted to thank the ambassador of Italy for the significant effort in assuring the arrival of the bronzes in the US.

Divided in seven sections, including “Bodies and Ideals”, “Images of the Devine”, “Alexander and his Successors”, and “Governors and Citizens”, the collection opens in the first room with a small statue, in bronze copper and silver, of “Alexander the Great on Horseback”, from the archeological Museum of Naples. It then goes on to a series of other masterpieces including the “Minerva of Arezzo” from the Museum of Florence. “Portrait of a Man” from the Museum of Brindisi, and the statue of the “Orator”, that was part of the collection of Cosimo de Medici.

These and many other examples are masterpieces of the Hellenic age when bronze sculpture flourished, for the first time adding dynamism, realism, and even emotional expression to artistic representations.
LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

Please visit THE ITALIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE’S calendar (Istituto Italiano di Cultura (IIC), which links to specific events and exhibits: http://www.iicwashington.esteri.it/iic_washington/it and OUR WEBSITE, on the page Upcoming Events: http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/upcoming-events/

Embassy of Italy and Italian Cultural Institute: “PASSAGES”, by Massimiliano Gatti, opening event of the “Protecting Our Heritage” program, Embassy of Italy, Auditorium: 3000 Whitehaven Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20008, February 4, https://madmimi.com/p/764637?fe=1&pa=61172-129515350-8503312087-0d33e4aa552a14733744971d3db6264f0c6af3a8

Italian Cultural Institute, IRENE JALENTI “NEW ISLAND PROJECT”, Blues Alley, 1073 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington, DC, February 11, 8:00 and 10:00 PM, http://www.iicwashington.esteri.it/iic_washington/it/gli_eventi/calendario/2016/02/irene-jalenti-new-island-project.html?utm_source=MadMimi&utm_medium=email&utm_content=%5Bmusic%5D+Irre+Jalenti+at+Blues+Alley+-+February+9%2C+2016+at+8%26+10PM&utm_campaign=20160201_m129581044_%5Bmusic%5D+Irre+Jalenti+at+Blues+Alley+-+February+9%2C+2016&utm_term=CLICK+HERE


S. Dillon Ripley Center “THE FABRIC OF VENICE”, Organized by the National Gallery of Art, March 12, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM, 1100 Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC http://www.iicwashington.esteri.it/iic_washington/it/gli_eventi/calendario/2016/03/the-fabric-of-venice.html


CANTATA EBRAICA: THE MUSIC OF THE ITALIAN JEWS THROUGH THE CENTURIES
Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase, MD, April 3, 4:00PM, www.KolotHaLev.org
To advertise on Poche Parole, please contact language@italianculturalsociety.org, or call 301-215-7885.
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ITALIAN LANGUAGE
AND CULTURE

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meeting location

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