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)

March 13:
The Italian Cultural Society presents Puccini on a Plate: Opera’s Influence on Italian Cuisine (see page 3). Please note this event is the second Sunday of the month and starts at 3:30 PM (not 3:00 PM). Please confirm your attendance to RSVP@italianculturalsociety.org.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The February social meeting was our second collaboration with the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, which co-sponsored the presentation of the film Italo, the story of a stray dog that ingratiated himself into the hearts of the citizens of Scicli, a small city in Sicily. Attendance at this event set a new record—over 180 people, many of whom have never been to our socials in Friendship Heights. We look forward to continuing collaboration with the IIC, including another film on April 17, Tempo Instabile con Probabili Schiarite (unstable weather with possible clearing), and a live musical event planned for May.

We are pleased that our guest speaker on Sunday, March 13 will be Amy Riolo, award winning author, lecturer and culinary consultant, whose subject will be Puccini on a Plate: Opera’s Influence on Italian Cuisine (see page 3).

ICS members please note that the annual election of board members will be in April.

All readers of Poche Parole, not just ICS members, please review the material on page 7 regarding ICS scholarship awards. If you know someone who is well qualified for one of these awards please urge him or her to apply. The ICS scholarship awards program is an important part of our mission to preserve and promote Italian language and culture.

Finally, by now many of you may have heard that this year’s Gala will be held at the Embassy of Italy on Friday evening, May 20. The embassy is not only a very attractive place for the party, but also provides room for a larger fundraiser in support of our scholarship program.

I hope you can attend some of these springtime events.

Arrigo Mongini
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Arrigo Mongini: President
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Paolo Vidoli: Treasurer
Vittorio Felaco: At Large
Francesca Casazza: Director of the Italian Language Program
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Romeo Segnan: University and Museum Outreach
Olga Mancuso: Historian
Allegra Tartaglia: Social Media and Marketing Materials
Stefania Amodeo: Movies and Scholarship Program
Lisa Wood: Editor

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS
SINGLE:
Mee Eun Jeon
Judith Greig
Frank Izzo
Costanza Cocilovo

FAMILY:
Jean Dimeo Edwards and family
Andrea W. Trento and family

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Bruce Esposito

Author Amy Riolo
March 13, 2016 at 3:30 PM:

This glorious tour of Puccini’s most beloved operas takes us through a worldwide tour of sensory delights. We’ll use the settings of La Bohème, Madama Butterfly, Tosca, La rondine, and Turandot to discuss opera’s impact on Italian cuisine. We’ll take a step back in time to a recently unified Italy where a vibrant form of music takes center stage, providing the perfect platform to understand Italian cuisine and culture.

Suggested Reading:
Bianchi, Anna. Italian Festival Food, MacMillan, 1999
Curti, Leonardo, and Fraioli, James O. Food Festivals of Italy, Gibbs Smith, 2008
Field, Carol. Celebrating Italy Harper Perennial, 1997
Kostioukovitch, Elena: Why Italians Love to Talk About Food, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2006
Riolo, Amy. The Italian Diabetes Cookbook, American Diabetes Association, 2015
Segan, Francine. Opera Lover’s Cookbook, Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2006

For More Information:
Facebook: Amy Riolo & Calabria Cuisine and Culture
Twitter: @amyriolo
Instagram: aasriolo
YouTube: Amy Riolo  Amy’s Video Channel: www.monkeysee.com/ asriolo

About Amy Riolo:
As an award-winning author, chef, television personality, cuisine and culture expert, and educator, Amy Riolo makes frequent appearances on numerous television and radio programs both in the United States and abroad including Fox TV, NBC, ABC, The Hallmark Channel, Nile TV, The Travel Channel, Martha Stewart Living Radio, W HYY, and Abu Dhabi Television. Known for combining culture, history, and religion in global cuisine, Amy also creates and appears weekly in ninety second cooking videos entitled “Culture of Cuisine” which air on nationally syndicated news shows on 28 different channels across the United States, totaling a reach of over 300 million people. One of her videos recently reached a record of four million hits. An American of Calabrian descent, Amy also uses her culinary expertise to write scripts for culinary movies and television programs.
“Terraferma” è un film del 2011 diretto da Emanuele Crialese.

Il film è una co-produzione italo-francese prodotta da Cattleya, con la collaborazione di Rai Cinema e il supporto del Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali e della Sicilia Film Commission. È stato presentato in concorso alla 68ª Mostra internazionale d'arte cinematografica di Venezia, dove ha ricevuto il Premio speciale della giuria.

È ambientato a Linosa, una piccola isola vicino a Lampedusa, dove dei pescatori sono puniti per aver tratto in salvo da annegamento sicuro degli immigrati illegali e per averli lasciati disperdersi e nascondersi una volta a riva. Per le autorità dell’isola questa loro azione significava favorire l’immigrazione illegale. Filippo, un giovane locale, decide di non lasciare emergere la realtà del suo territorio. Al pericolo per sé e per i suoi, Filippo decide di rifiutare le offerte della giustizia e della giustizia sociale. Il film è un racconto della vita di un giovane che si trova a fronteggiare due realtà opposte: una di legally and cultura.

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Gary Goldstein del Los Angeles Times ha scritto: “La produzione ricca di tematiche ha come centro profonde riflessioni morali e psicologiche. E’ una storia di migrazioni, simile alle molte che vediamo quasi ogni giorno, reali e dell’anima, attraverso le quali i personaggi riscoprono se stessi e trovano il coraggio di cambiare.”
ITALO was a “feel good” movie with both humorous and sad moments. It was the director Alessia Scarso’s first full length movie. The audience, at least 180 people, including about 10 children, seemed to enjoy it. We thank Angela Tangianu and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura for jointly sponsoring the event with ICS. The Friendship Heights Village Center proved well able to accommodate the audience. See the film summary in the February issue.
ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

Winter Term - Session 2 started successfully, including “Discover Sicily: history, culture, food and wine on the island of sun,” just started on Saturday February 27, for 6 classes, for which drop-ins are welcome. Please find details on our website: http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/coursestrips/.

Last February 16th, some of our instructors had the opportunity to attend an elegant reception at Villa Firenze, the residence of the Italian Ambassador, in occasion of “Bilancio delle azioni di diffusione della lingua Italiana negli Stati Uniti. Nuove sfide.” It was also our opportunity to say goodbye and thank S.E. Ambasciatore Claudio Bisogniero, whose mandate in Washington, DC is about to end.

Last February 23 we started an after school program at the Seneca Elementary School, with 15 kids. Instructor Simona Gentile is enjoying this fulfilling experience of introducing 7-10 year old kids to our language.

Winter Term courses will end with the traditional pizza at Pizzeria Da Marco, March 19th, at 12:30 PM. We hope to see as many students (and non-students) as possible, as in past years. Pizzeria Da Marco will donate 15% of their sales to the Italian Language Program.

Looking ahead: Summer Camp registration is open! Maestra Cecilia is preparing new activities and creative art projects for your children.

The Spring Schedule is online. Starting on April 4th, this Spring Term will offer more Cinema and Literature, with Il Gattopardo and La meglio gioventù, with Instructor Silvana De Luca, who will also offer a new course on the origin of the Italian Language (Dal volgare a Boccaccio). Camilla Presti’s Virtual Tour will bring you to Venice, while Carlo Ellena will teach Discover Liguria, and then a new course about traditional vs non traditional Italian wine. For the “Book club” courses, you will have the chance to read La regola dell’Equilibrio, Carofiglio with Carlo Ellena, and Numero Zero, Umberto Eco, with Antonella Pellegrino. Maura Maffia will offer a creative writing course (Riscriviamo il finale – Se una notte d’inverno un viaggiatore) and Cooking Classes. Please visit our schedule, which includes all 62 courses. Also in April, we will start offering online courses... Stay tuned!!

Francesca Casazza
ICS Award Applications deadline: Post-Marked on Friday, April 22, 2016

Applicants should be no more than 25 years of age as of May 1, except for the Young Scientist Award, where the maximum age is 30.

Applications are being sought for the following Awards:

- **The Maria Guarrera Wilmeth Awards**: two awards of $500 each for outstanding Washington metropolitan area high-school students of the Italian language.
- **The Elena and Antonio De Luca Award**: one $1000 award to be given to an undergraduate or graduate student who has excelled in the study of Latin and/or Greek.
- **The Luciana Montanari-Mendola Awards**: one $1000 award for an undergraduate or conservatory student showing promise in piano performance and one $500 award for a high-school age pianist showing promise in piano performance. Examples of recordings must accompany your application and must include one piece for solo piano by Frederick Chopin.
- **The Anna Menapace Award**: one $500 award to be given to a high-school student who has excelled in the art of painting.
- **The Patrícia Segnan Award**: one $1000 award to be given to an undergraduate or graduate student who has excelled in the creation of art or the study of Art or Art History.
- **Young Scientist Award**: one $1,000 award to be given to an Italian national working in the Washington area as a doctoral student or as a post-doctoral student or equivalent (e.g., in connection with NIH, NIST or with NASA or a university) in the physical, biological or medical sciences, or mathematics or engineering, who has distinguished him/herself in research while working in the U.S.

Applications

Materials to be included in the application are:

- College transcripts or, for high school awards, high-school transcripts. For the Young Scientist award, a document verifying the Italian degree awarded, if applicable, and the standing of the student will suffice instead of a college transcript.
- Three letters of recommendation (two for the Maria Guarrera Wilmeth awards)
- An essay describing why the candidate is a valid contender for the award
- A short biographical presentation of the candidate (curriculum vitae)
- Anything that would demonstrate the ability of the candidate, including publications by and/or about the candidate, photographs, CDs, a portfolio of works, etc.

Selection will occur during May and awards will be presented at the ICS Awards Gala, which takes place on Friday, May 20 at the embassy of Italy, as will be advertised in our newsletter Poche Parole, and website. Attendance at the Awards Gala is required of all award winners and awards will be reassigned if the winner is unable to attend, except for exceptional circumstances as determined by the Awards Committee. The winners of the Luciana Montanari-Mendola award may be asked to perform at the Awards Gala.

Applications must be postmarked by due date mentioned above and sent to:

**The Italian Cultural Society Award Applications**

4827 Rugby Ave., Suite #301

Bethesda, MD 20814

In addition to these awards, each year the Italian Cultural Society provides Cesarina Horing Awards to students of Italian at universities in the Washington, DC area: $500 has been made available to each of Georgetown University, The University of Maryland, and Catholic University, all of which have Italian major programs, for awards to one to three students and $300 has been made available to each of George Washington, American, and George Mason Universities, all of which have an Italian Minor program, for awards to one to three students. The awardees are selected by the Italian language program faculties at each university. The awards are funded by donations in honor of the late Cesarina Horing, formerly director of the ICS Italian Language Program.
ADDIO A UMBERTO ECO: SCRITTORE E STUDIOSO DI FAMA INTERNAZIONALE

Umberto Eco, uno dei più grandi scrittori e studiosi italiani, famoso a livello nazionale ed internazionale, si è spento venerdì 19 febbraio nella sua abitazione di Milano di fronte al Castello sforzesco, all'età di 84 anni.

Umberto Eco è stato uno dei maggiori esponenti della vita culturale italiana fin dagli inizi degli anni ’60, ma a livello mondiale il suo nome è legato soprattutto al romanzo “Il nome della rosa”, pubblicato nel 1980 e diventato un bestseller mondiale con traduzioni in 43 lingue e circa 30 milioni di copie vendute. Da questo romanzo, un giallo ambientato nel Medioevo, è stato tratto il film omonimo di grande successo diretto da Jean-Jacques Annaud ed interpretato da Sean Connery.

Umberto Eco, però, non è stato soltanto uno scrittore, è stato anche professore (grande esperto di semiologia), filosofo, collaboratore di diversi quotidiani, tra cui La Stampa ed il Corriere della sera, ed ha lavorato anche in televisione. Era inoltre membro di diverse accademie letterarie tra cui l'American Academy of Arts and Letters (membro onorario dal 1999).

Una caratteristica distintiva di Eco è stata sempre la curiosità. Si interessava a tutto, alla cultura “alta” accademico-universitaria come a quella “bassa” dei fumetti e della TV. E’ stato lui, il primo in Italia, a considerare letteratura anche il fumetto, e sempre lui ad analizzare con la stessa serietà l’opera di San Tommaso (vedasi “Il problema estetico di San Tommaso”, sua prima opera pubblicata nel 1956) ed il conduttore televisivo Mike Bongiorno, nel saggio “Fenomenologia di Mike Bongiorno”.


GOODBYE TO UMBERTO ECO, BEST-SELLING WRITER AND SCHOLAR

Umberto Eco, best-selling Italian writer and scholar, died on Friday February 19th at his home in Milan facing the Castello sforzesco, one of the city landmarks. He was 84.

Umberto Eco was one of the main representatives of Italian cultural life of the last 50 years and became internationally known for his novel “The Name of the Rose”. Published in 1980, the book quickly became a best-seller with about 30 million copies sold in 43 languages. From this thriller, which takes place in the Middle Ages, came the movie of the same title directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud and interpreted by Sean Connery.

But Umberto Eco was not only a writer, he was also a professor (expert in semiotics, the science of interpreting cultures through their signs and symbols), philosopher, columnist of some of the main Italian Newspapers, like Il Corriere della Sera, and also worked in TV. He was one of the few foreigners to be an Honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters since 1999.

One of Eco’s peculiar characteristics was his curiosity. He was just as interested in comic books and TV as he was in academics. He was the first in Italy to consider comics as literature. He analyzed the work of St. Thomas Aquinas, one of the most influential medieval theologians, and the TV anchor Mike Bongiorno, with the same rigor.

ICS SUMMER CAMP

NOW ENROLLING

The Italian Cultural Society of Washington D.C.

ICS SUMMER CAMP

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.

SUMMER CAMP WEEKS

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

COST PER WEEK

9:00AM-3:30PM: $350/child - Sibling $320;
$320/ICS Family members - Sibling $320
4 day camp: $300 - 270/ICS F. members & siblings
* Register before April 1st and pay:
  $310/child; Sibling $300
  $290/ICS Family members - Sibling $290
  4 day camp: $280 - 260/ICS F. members & siblings

9:00AM-12:30PM: $250/child - Sibling $220;
$220/ICS Family members - Sibling $220
4 day camp: $200 - 170/ICS F. members & siblings
* Register before April 1st and pay:
  $210/child; Sibling $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
1:40pm-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!

4827 Rugby Ave., Suite 301 - Bethesda, MD 20814 * (301)215-7885 *language@italianculturalsociety.org * Please visit: http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/italian-language-program/summer-camp/ * The Italian Cultural Society of Washington D.C. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.
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/

Italian Cultural Institute, ITALY AND THE WHITE HOUSE: A CONVERSATION ON HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES, Historic Decatur House, 748 Jackson Place, N W , Washington, D C 20006, M arch 2, 9:00 AM -4:00 PM , http://www.whitehousehistory.org/collections/symposium-italy-in-the-white-house


Italian Cultural Institute, CONTRAMANO , M arch 17, 6:00 PM , http://www.iicwashington.esteri.it/iic_washington/en/gli_eventi/calendario/2016/03/contromano-bike-repair-shop.html


THE VOICE OF A LEGEND: Celebrating Enrico Caruso, Featuring Italian Tenor Pasquale Esposito, M arch 19, Cloyd Heck Marvin Ceneter, 800 21st Street, N W, Washington, D C , 8:00 PM , www.gwutickets.com, use promo code CARUSO for 1/2 off tickets


CANTATA EBRAICA: THE MUSIC OF THE ITALIAN JEWS THROUGH THE CENTURIES
O hr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase, M D , A pril 3, 4:00PM , www.KolotHaLev.org
To advertise on Poche Parole, please contact language@italianculturalsociety.org, or call 301-215-7885.
The expiration date of your membership is shown on the address label. Please renew using the form at the bottom of this page.