

# AATI NEWSLETTER

*Ben di senso è privo | Chi ti conosce, Italia, e non t'adora.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cari colleghi e care colleghe dell'AATI



In questi primi nove mesi da presidente il lavoro non è certo mancato e la nostra associazione si è mossa su svariati fronti per portare avanti la “tutela, promozione e diffusione dello studio nel mondo della lingua italiana, della letteratura e della cultura italiana nei suoi molteplici aspetti” come ci viene richiesto dal nostro statuto. Tutto questo non sarebbe stato possibile senza l'appoggio e il senso di appartenenza dei membri dell'Executive Council e di tutti gli associati

AATI che qui voglio ringraziare pubblicamente.

Nonostante i numeri confortanti che provengono dagli studenti che hanno sostenuto l'esame AP di lingua e cultura italiana non è assolutamente il momento di abbassare la guardia. Uno dei maggiori sforzi condotti dalla nostra associazione durante la scorsa primavera è stato infatti quello di sostenere programmi di liceo minacciati di chiusura o di appoggiare colleghi che rischiavano di perdere il posto per i soliti tagli che si cercano di fare sugli studi umanistici in genere, con un occhio di riguardo tuttavia verso i programmi meno forti. Conforta che in tutti i casi si sia coinvolta la nostra associazione si sia arrivati ad una soluzione positiva, ma il rischio che qualche troppo zelante amministratore possa pensarci di nuovo è sempre dietro l'angolo.

Il 15 settembre abbiamo avuto una riunione straordinaria a New York per arrivare meglio preparati al meeting di novembre e per il disbrigo e approfondimento di alcune iniziative lasciate in sospeso. Un grazie sincero a tutti quelli che sono riusciti ad esserci e ad Anthony Tamburri che non solo ci ha ospitato al Calandra Institute ma ci ha facilitato in ogni modo possibile.

Per entrare nello specifico del lavoro svolto dall'uscita dell'ultima newsletter vi lascio alcune note.



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## AATI Meetings

Il meeting annuale dell'American Association of Teachers of Italian si è svolto nella splendida cornice di Cagliari dal 20 al 25 giugno del 2018. Per il successo di questa conferenza voglio ringraziare di cuore i Chair dell'evento e i loro collaboratori, Daniela Cavallero (AATI VP College and University, DePaul University) e Maurizio Virdis (Università di Cagliari). Un ringraziamento particolare va anche a Salvatore Bancheri che visti i miei impegni con l'AP Reading e la mia impossibilità a partecipare ha cortesemente accettato di fare gli onori di casa in mia vece.

Il nostro prossimo meeting si svolgerà a New Orleans dal 16 al 18 novembre 2018 in concomitanza e in collaborazione con il Convegno dell'ACTFL American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Un doveroso ringraziamento va a Lyn Sclaro (AATI VP K-12, Prospect High School, Mt. Prospect, IL) Chair del comitato organizzatore, a Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (University of Arkansas) che anche se non ufficialmente ha offerto il solito notevole contributo e a tutti i membri parte del Program Committee: Christen Picicci (CSU-Pueblo, Pueblo, CO), Clorinda Donato (California State University, Long Beach, CA), Caterina Ziliani (Bellaire High School, Houston, TX), Silvia Giorgini-Althoen (Wayne State University, Detroit, MI), Stanley Michaelann (Herrin High School, Herrin, IL).

Mi auguro vivamente di potervi incontrare e ringraziare personalmente a New Orleans.

## AATI Executive Committee Votes

Durante l'anno i membri dell'Executive Council si tengono regolarmente in contatto attraverso l'EC listserve per continuare a portare avanti la missione dell'associazione, come potrà risultare evidente dal numero di voti espressi dall'AATI EC elencati qui sotto. I voti, in linea di massima, vengono registrati via SurveyMonkey, non solo per assicurare una certa trasparenza ma anche per assicurare la confidenzialità del voto.

- ♦ Per ratificare la decisione dell'assegnazione dell'AATI Distinguished Award ad Antonietta Di Pietro (2018, K-12).

- ♦ Approvazione di un rimborso fino a \$750 per i membri dell'EC in grado di partecipare al meeting di New York del 15 settembre. (Approvato il 21 agosto 2018).



*EC in pausa pranzo al meeting di New York  
(mancano Anthony Tamburri e Ryan  
Calabretta-Sajder)*

- ♦ Approvazione per l'acquisto di due placche da consegnare ai Keynote speaker della conferenza cagliaritana. (Approvato il 28 marzo 2018).
- ♦ Paul Colilli Family Bursary: l'AATI ha iniziato un nuovo fondo in onore del Professor Paul Colilli. Il fondo si propone di offrire borse di studio per la ricerca alla Laurentian University dove il Professor Colilli ha insegnato per la maggior parte della sua carriera accademica.
- ♦ Approvazione della lettera in risposta al rapporto sulla situazione dell'insegnamento delle lingue straniere da parte del Language Flagship che in pratica escludeva l'italiano.
- ♦ Approvazione della lettera di protesta per l'eliminazione di una posizione in italianistica a Wayne State University.
- ♦ Approvazione del pagamento di \$700 agli autori del nuovo AATI National Italian Exam.

## Concluding Remarks

Concludo con un ringraziamento personale a tutti i membri dell'Executive Council dell'AATI e a tutti i membri dei nostri *standing committees* che giornalmente ci aiutano a portare avanti il nostro mandato. Spero di riuscire a esprimere l'immensa gratitudine per la cura e l'attenzione con cui si dedicano alle più svariate problematiche legate al benessere della nostra associazione. Voglio naturalmente ringraziare anche tutti i soci per averci dato la possibilità di offrire il nostro servizio a questa Associazione e per darci il loro continuo supporto permettendoci così di svolgere il nostro lavoro come meglio non si potrebbe fare.

Un caro saluto,

Beppe Cavatorta, University of Arizona

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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT— AATI@CAGLIARI

**Salvatore Bancheri, AATI Past President**

Il Convegno annuale della American Association of Teachers of Italian che si è tenuto a Cagliari (Italia) dal 20 al 24 giugno u.s. è stato un grande successo e un punto di riferimento internazionale capace di catalizzare gli interessi e le aspettative di insegnanti, professori universitari e studenti che ruotano attorno al mondo della didattica e dell'italianistica globale. Con oltre 250 relatori provenienti dall'Italia e dal Nord America e da altre parti del mondo, è stata questa l'occasione per creare una fitta rete di incontri e scambi accademici e scientifici fra studiosi di varia estrazione, provenienza e formazione.

Il convegno 2018 è stato ospitato dalla prestigiosa Università degli Studi di Cagliari, fondata nel 1607, che vanta una pluriennale tradizione di storia politica e di ricerca scientifica nel campo delle scienze dure e umanistiche, oltre che una significativa esperienza nel campo della formazione e della didattica.

Come da tradizione AATI, il tema del convegno era aperto a più piani della riflessione contemporanea sulle forme linguistiche e culturali dell'Italia di ieri e di oggi; tuttavia, accanto a temi legati agli ambiti della letteratura, cinema, teatro, italiano L2, italiano nel mondo, storia, economia, aperte ecc., sono stati affrontati nodi tematici di grande pertinenza ed interesse nella configurazione identitaria della sede ospitante, riferibili alla città di Cagliari, alla Sardegna, e al rapporto che la lingua e la letteratura italiana hanno intrattenuto nei secoli con la lingua e la letteratura sarda.

Per quanto concerne il programma delle attività sociali, l'inaugurazione della conferenza è stata preceduta da una visita guidata della necropoli punica Tuvixeddu e da un workshop dal titolo "Il cinema sardo contemporaneo: modelli, immaginari, identità. *L'Accabadora* di Enrico Pau" coordinato dal prof. Antioco Floris (Università di Cagliari) al quale hanno preso parte Enrico Pau ed Andrea Lotta, rispettivamente regista e montatore del film.

Il convegno ha preso avvio con i canonici saluti delle autorità cittadine ed accademiche, a cui ha fatto seguito la relazione plenaria del primo Keynote speaker, prof. Amedeo Quondam, Università di Roma "La Sapienza", dal titolo "Insegnare Italiano ai giovani delle Università di oggi". Al termine della relazione del prof. Quondam, di grande spessore ed interesse per le tematiche affrontate, l'Università di Cagliari ha offerto un ricco buffet accompagnato dalla esibizione del gruppo musicale universitario UniCa Music Ensemble.

Di grande spessore ed interesse storico linguistico sono state inoltre le rappresentazioni teatrali del Macbettu (versione in lingua sarda del Macbeth) a cura di Alessandro Serra che si sono tenute nei giorni 21 e 22 giugno, raccogliendo un importante seguito di pubblico e partecipanti.

*Foto di gruppo prima della cena social  
Bancheri con i Profs Duilio Caocci e Roberto  
Puggioni, due degli artefici principali del  
convegno*



A conclusione dei tre giorni congressuali, le cui attività hanno visto l'incontro di un numero crescente di studiosi e studenti, la prof.ssa Margherita Heyer Caput (University of California) ha tenuto la relazione plenaria conclusiva dal titolo "Grazia Deledda e la scrittura pensante 'al confine'", al termine della quale gli ospiti hanno avuto il piacere di godere di una cena di gala nella splendida

scenografia di un palazzo nobiliare della città di Cagliari denso di fascino e storia.

Il giorno 24 giugno circa 40 convegnisti hanno avuto l'occasione di visitare il complesso nuragico "Su Nuraxi" a Barumini.

Il successo di un convegno vive del lavoro e della professionalità di molte persone a cui rivolgo il mio personale ringraziamento per le energie profuse e dedizione con cui hanno permesso al convegno 2018 di un grande successo per la nostra associazione AATI e per la sede ospitante, l'Università degli Studi di Cagliari.

In particolare mi sia concesso ringraziare in primo luogo i colleghi del comitato organizzatore dell'Università di Cagliari tra i quali non posso non citare il suo presidente, prof. Maurizio Viridis, Duilio Caocci e Roberto Puggioni; tutto lo staff di studenti e collaboratori il cui estenuante lavoro ha consentito ad oltre 250 persone di godere della splendida e proverbiale accoglienza della terra di Sardegna. Grazie di cuore!

In secondo luogo un ringraziamento particolare è rivolto ai keynote speakers, prof. Amedeo Quondam e prof.ssa Margherita Heyer-Caput. Una menzione di gratitudine è indirizzata al comitato organizzatore e scientifico AATI presieduto da Daniela Cavallero che si è dimostrato attento e lungimirante nel selezionare interventi e costruire sessioni e tavole rotonde di grande interesse e impatto scientifico.

Un sentito ringraziamento va ai nostri sponsor, che oramai da anni, e il 2018 ne è una conferma, accompagnano il convegno AATI nelle diverse sedi accademiche italiane, contribuendo alla creazione di una rete di relazione tra persone che vivono le due sponde dell'Atlantico.

**Questa la lista degli espositori al convegno di Cagliari:**

Edizioni Edilingua ([www.edilingua.it](http://www.edilingua.it)), Sant'Anna Institute ([www.santannainstitute.com](http://www.santannainstitute.com)), Accademia Italiana Salerno ([www.accademia-italiana.it/en](http://www.accademia-italiana.it/en)), Loescher Editore Torino ([www.loescher.it](http://www.loescher.it)), Franco Cesati Editore ([www.francocesatieditore.com](http://www.francocesatieditore.com)), Club italiano Dante Alighieri, Roma ([www.clidante.it](http://www.clidante.it)), Alma Edizioni ([www.almaedizioni.it/it](http://www.almaedizioni.it/it)), Syracuse Academy ([www.syracuseacademy.org](http://www.syracuseacademy.org)), Scuola Dante Alighieri - Campus L'Infinito Recanati ([www.campusinfinito.it](http://www.campusinfinito.it)).

L'ultimo sed non ultimum, mio grazie va ai relatori, tutti i relatori, che attraverso il loro lavoro, le loro ricerche, la costante attenzione alla promozione dell'italiano nel mondo, consentono ad AATI di vivere ed operare per il bene della nostra lingua italiana.

Il successo del convegno AATI @ Cagliari è un successo dovuto a più persone. E quindi è un grazie che rivolgo a tutto il comitato locale e al comitato scientifico ed organizzativo della AATI:

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## ITALICA

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**ITALICA**Michael Lettieri, *Italica* Editor**From the Editor**

Volume 95.2 of *Italica* features six research articles covering a wide range of writers: La Marchesa Colombi, Sibilla Aleramo, Andrea Camilleri, Goffredo Parise, and Michele Sovente.

It includes also the first of a two-part essay, “Critical Pedagogy, Social Justice, and Prosocial Identities in the Italian Classroom,” in which the authors propose best practices and strategies to re-evaluate foreign language teaching and learning as a key impetus towards social justice education.

Ten book reviews and advertisements of notable publications and prominent schools promoting Italian language instruction and research conclude the issue.

The cover highlights an image from the RAI television series *Il commissario Montalbano*.

*Buona lettura!*

MICHAEL LETTIERI



# ITALICA

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## From the Editor

MICHAEL LETTIERI.....

## Essays/Research Studies

Willful Adolescents in La Marchesa Colombi's *Un matrimonio in provincia* and Sibilla

Aleramo's *Una donna*

CLAIRE MARRONE.....

Roots and Routes: Immigration in Andrea Camilleri's Montalbano Series

CHIARA MAZZUCHELLI.....

The Functions of Sicilian in Camilleri's *Il ladro di merendine*

CINZIA RUSSI.....

Sangue, desiderio e destino ne *L'odore del sangue* di Goffredo Parise

LUIGI SALA.....

*La Campania phoenix* di Michele Sovente

GIUSEPPE ANDREA LIBERTI.....

Critical Pedagogy, Social Justice and Prosocial Identities in the Italian Classroom (Part I)

CHIARA FABBIAN AND EMANUELA ZANOTTI CARNEY.....

## Reviews

Giancarlo Pontiggia. *Il moto delle cose*.

Giancarlo Pontiggia. *Ades Tetralogia del sottosuolo*.

(BARBARA CARLE).....

Marilyn Migiel. *The Ethical Dimension of the Decameron*.

(SAMANTHA MATTOCCI).....

Roberta Cauchi-Santoro. *Beyond the Suffering of Being. Desire in Giacomo Leopardi and Samuel Beckett*.

(MIMMO CANGIANO).....

Silvia Valisa. *Gender, Narrative, and Dissonance in the Modern Italian Novel*.

(EMANUELA PECCHIOLI).....

Teresa Fiore. *Pre-Occupied Spaces: Remapping Italy's Transnational Migrations and Colonial Legacies*.

(LUCIA RE).....

Luca Lenzi. *Il gatto di Arnheim e altri scritti clandestini*.

(THOMAS E. PETERSON).....

George Guida. *Spectacles of Themselves: Essays in Italian American Popular Culture and Literature*.

(FRANCESCA MUCCINI).....

Alberto Comparini. *La poetica dei "Dialoghi con Leucò" di Cesare Pavese*.

(MARK PIETRALUNGA).....

Barbara Pezzotti. *Investigating Italy's Past Through Historical Crime Fiction, Films, and TV Series. Murder in the Age of Chaos*.

(FRANCESCA FACCHI).....

Ryan Calabretta-Sajder. *Divergenze in celluloide. Colore, migrazione e identità nei film gay di Ferzan Özpetek*.

(MARY ANN MCDONALD CAROLAN).....

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## Advertisements





## 2018 AATI National Italian Examination Report

Salvatore Bancheri, *Director of AATI National Italian Examination*

On behalf of the Executive Council of the American Association of Teachers of Italian, I would like to commend the excellence of our 2018 National Italian Exam Gold, Silver, and Bronze Award Winners and congratulate all the students who obtained a certificate. The outstanding performance of these Italian learners in our national competition brings honor to their school, their district, and their Italian program. The AATI values highly the tremendous work of these students and their dedicated teachers.

5,418 students participated in the 2018 National Italian Exam this year. AATI honored 1,497 students with medals for their outstanding performance (118 students with Gold Medals, 475 Silver Medals and 904 Bronze Medals).

In 2018, 158 schools from the following states participated: California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, International, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin; we also had schools from Canada, Puerto Rico, and the United Kingdom. A total of 5,418 students took the exam, divided as follows: Novice Level – 124; Level I - 1,445; Level II - 1,529; Level III - 1,202; Level IV – 831; Level V – 287.

The NIE Exam rewards students through an extensive prize program that includes monetary awards and free study trips to Italy.

### ***Medals and certificates***

**Criteria:** Medals and certificates are distributed according to the following cut-score:

**Gold medal:** 68 – 75 points (90.6%-100%)

**Silver medal:** 60 – 67 points (80%- 89.3%)

**Bronze medal:** 53 – 59 points (70.6% - 79%)

**Achievement Certificate:** 52 – 38 (50.6%- 69.3%)

**Participation Certificate:** 37 or lower (49.3% or lower)

### ***Monetary Prizes***

A monetary prize of \$50, in addition to their medal, were awarded to all students who achieved at least 90% on the final score.

### ***Study Trip to Italy Awards***

AATI and a group of Italian language schools and institutions recognized the students' and teachers' achievement with eight scholarships, consisting of a 2-week course in one of the schools. Accommodations and tuition expenses were included; the flight were at the recipient's expense, however AATI contributed a cash award of \$1000. Seven scholarships went to the top students in each level and one to a teacher of one of those top students. The student winners were drawn among those who had received a gold medal. A similar draw was also used to determine the teacher winner.



## 2018 AATI National Italian Examination Report

CONT'D

The following language schools participated in the scholarship program for the 2018 AATI National Italian Exam: A Door to Italy, Genova (Director Lara Avvenente; [www.adoortoitaly.com](http://www.adoortoitaly.com)), Accademia Italiana, Salerno (Director: Francesca Romana Memoli; [www.accademia-italiana.it/en](http://www.accademia-italiana.it/en)), Sant'Anna Institute - Sorrento Lingua, Sorrento (Director: Cristiana Panicco; [www.santannainstitute.com/en/index.php](http://www.santannainstitute.com/en/index.php)), Scuola di italiano Dante Alighieri – Campus L'Infinito di Recanati (Director: Michele Casati; [www.scuoladantealighieri.org](http://www.scuoladantealighieri.org); [www.campusinfinito.it](http://www.campusinfinito.it)), Club Italiano Dante Alighieri Roma (Director: Fabrizio Fucile; [www.clidante.it](http://www.clidante.it)).

Here is a list of the Study Trip to Italy recipients:

STUDENT	SCHOOL	TEACHER
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### LEVEL NOVICE

Sofia Zypman	Cresskill Middle School, NJ	Diana Maria Zoino
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### LEVEL 1

Melanie Frolich	International Studies Preparatory Academy,	Elisa Oliverio
German Bautista	Wheeling High School	Mariangela Bonasera

### LEVEL 2

Vittoria Marinoni	St. Thomas Aquinas High School, FL	Maria Puntillo
Kathryn Vail-Rhodes	Maggie L Walker Governor's School, VI	Susan Hefty

### LEVEL 3

Marianna Pepicelli (declined)	Brookewood School, MD	Irene Sorensen
Qing Cheng	Medford High School, MA	Nicole Chalifoux

### LEVEL 4

Circee Novick	Renaissance Home High School, WI	Laura Ann Kamm
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### LEVEL 5

Andrea Luna Gavioli (declined)	International Studies Preparatory Academy, ISPA, FL	Elisa Oliverio
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### Teacher

Irene Sorensen (declined)	International Studies Preparatory Academy, ISPA, FL
Nicole Chalifoux	Medford High School, MA



## 2018 AATI National Italian Examination Report

CONT'D

### *Awards from the Società Onoraria Italica*

The *Società Onoraria Italica* contributed \$1,200 to the AATI National Italian Examination. The SOI Committee selected twenty-four (24) students (4 in each of the 6 categories from the Silver Medal lists), who received \$50 dollars each. AATI would like to thank the Società Onoraria Italica for its generosity, support, and commitment to the Italian language and culture.

### *Other Acknowledgements*

On behalf of the AATI, we would like to extend a special thank you to the AATI National Italian Exam Development Committee Members and Reviewers for their work and dedication to this invaluable task.

The committee members were: Salvatore Bancheri (NIE Director, University of Toronto), De Feo, Daniele (Princeton University, NJ), De Feo, Rosamaria (Clifton High School, NJ), Di Pietro, Antonietta (G.W. Carver International Studies, FL), Ehrenberg, Justin (Bear Creek High School, CA), Fabbian, Chiara (University of Illinois at Chicago, IL), Giampaoli, Graziella (St. Mary Bayview Academy, RI), Maiellaro, Gina (Northeastern University, MA), Marchegiani, Irene (SUNY, NY), Molvaut, Gina-Marie (Finley Middle School, NY), Picicci, Chris (Colorado State University- Pueblo), Sansalone, Christina (Laurentian University, Canada), Sengel, Teresa (Mount Saint Mary Academy, NJ).

On behalf of the AATI and the AATI National Italian Exam Development Committee Members and Reviewers, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to all the students who won medals, to those who received National Honorable Mention, to all participants, to all the Italian teachers whose students participated in the National Italian Examination and to the other Italian faculty of their school.

A special thank you goes to Gina Maiellaro (Northeastern University, MA) for her invaluable help as co-director of the 2018 National Italian Exam. Gina has been chosen as Director of the 2019 exam: on behalf of AATI, to Gina and her team, I wish her a fantastic 2019 exam. Grazie, Gina!!!



## AATI COLLEGE ESSAY CONTEST 2018

The American Association of Teachers of Italian annually awards two undergraduate college students for an outstanding essay on Italian language, culture, literature, and cinema.

Each award carries a cash prize of \$500 and an official announcement is made at the annual AATI-ACTFL conference.

On behalf of the AATI College Essay Contest Committee, it is my pleasure to announce the names of this year's winners:

**ITALIAN:** Nicholas DeMarie, from the University of Pennsylvania, with the essay “Dio, la materia, l'uomo: L'originalità del pensiero di Giulio Cesare Vanini.” DeMarie's essay was submitted by Dr. Eva Del Soldato.

**ENGLISH:** Jordan Costanza, from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with the essay “Gastronomic Purism: Immigrant Erasure in the Italian-American Potluck.” Costanza's essay was submitted by Prof. Daniela Cunico Dal Pra.

The quality of the submissions this year was very impressive and that bodes well for the future of our field. Thanks to all the colleagues who submitted their students' works.

Please consider submitting one of your student's essay for the 2018-2019 contest.

The deadline for submission will be in the summer of 2019.

For more information on the contest, please visit: <https://aati.uark.edu/>

### **AATI College Essay Contest Committee:**

Chiara Mazzucchelli - Chair (University of Central Florida)

Ilaria Serra (Florida Atlantic University)

Francesco Rabissi (University of Arizona)



Nick DeMarie– University of Pennsylvania.

Winner of AATI College Essay



Jordan Costanza—University of North Carolina Charlotte

Winner of AATI College Essay



## ITANJ - by Anna Ranieri

ITANJ (Italian Teachers Association of New Jersey) had a most productive and successful spring and summer season sponsoring student contests and events as well as offering inspiring and well attended webinar programs aimed at further developing and updating teaching Italian teaching methods. These webinars, open to everyone across the country at a nominal fee, offer professional development credits, and have been one of the highlights ITANJ provides for its teachers.

The webinars, many of which are offered on Saturdays from the comfort “of your kitchen!” were offered in the spring and summer in addition to two-free summer web chats. For the fall, in September, Roberta Pennasilico from the Naples American School and an annual reader of the AP Italian Exam, presented Vertical Units for all teachers of k-12, and in October Strategies and Suggestions for the AP exam.

Winter webinars are in the planning stages so keep an eye out for them by visiting ITANJ’s site at [www.itanj.org](http://www.itanj.org)!

ITANJ holds its annual Primo Incontro workshop every fall. This year’s Sat. Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> PI presented by Maria Gloria Borsa, a madrelingua graduate of the University of Sassari and part of the Houston Independent School District, was on vocabulary building and effective communication, followed by three breakout sessions led by ITANJ leaders to facilitate a collegial exchange of ideas and brainstorming among its participants.

Students also of course are an integral part of ITANJ’s focus. They are able to compete and participate in several activities such as Culture Day, a multimedia contest, and an essay contest. ITANJ celebrated its anticipated student Culture Day once again at Montclair State University in conjunction with the Coccia Institute. The event, held on March 15, proved again that the study of Italian in our schools is alive and well and students’ talents, both linguistic and theatrical, are thriving. Students explored this year’s theme “L’amore è” in creative and original ways, and truly seem to raise the bar very year. Winners were thrilled to bring trophies back to their schools and enjoy the day. This year, thanks to the efforts of the Coccia Institute, a video of the event was made available on YouTube at: <https://you.tube/J2NQFzih2ko>.

The 2018-2019 school year will be just as busy and rewarding. Itanj will continue its efforts in promoting the Italian language, facilitating growth and communication between its members, and keeping its members’ students engaged in the the acquisition of “la bella lingua”. Look to our Facebook page website ([www.itanj.org](http://www.itanj.org)) and Twitter hashtag ([www.itanj14](https://twitter.com/itanj14)) for information concerning all future professional development opportunities, teacher scholarship, an “aperitivo” social, and many more endeavors. Hope to see you become involved in ITANJ !

Buon lavoro!

Congratulations to all students and their teachers on a job well done!

### ***Winners of the competitions were:***

#### ***Culture Day***

##### *High School Winners:*

1<sup>st</sup> place Holmdel HS

2<sup>nd</sup> place Central HS

3<sup>rd</sup> place Holmdel HS

##### *Middle School Winners:*

1<sup>st</sup> place Manalapan-Englishtown MS

2<sup>nd</sup> place Central HS

3<sup>rd</sup> Holmdel MS

#### ***Student choice awards:***

HS overall performance -Hawthorne, MS overall performance Holmdel MS

HS props -Frank J. Ciccarelli Academy, MS props Holmdel MS

#### ***Essay contest winners:***

1st prize-Anthony Duarte from Ocean Township HS (teacher- Dr. Regina Basilone)

2nd prize- Philip Varghese from Parsippany HS (teacher Angela Minichiello)

3rd prize- Lauren Clouser from Mt. St. Mary Academy (teacher- Teresa Sengel)

#### ***Multi Media Contest***

Citlalli Guardiola and Dante Zazzera for their entry "Dall'ovest a l'est e tutt'intorno" from James Caldwell HS (teacher Lisa Manfrè)

## Rhode Island Teachers of Italian

The Rhode Island Teachers of Italian (RITI) gave recognition to the following Rhode Island students who performed well on the AATI National High School Italian Examinations at a dinner on Saturday, June 2, 2018. At this annual Fundraiser Dinner, attended by students, their teachers, family members and friends, students received certificates and monetary prizes for their excellence in the study of the Italian language and culture.

### **Congratulazioni a tutti!**

#### **Level 1 Category A:**

<u>First:</u>	Christina Charie	68	R. DiMascio	LaSalle Academy
<u>Second:</u>	Zachary Palermo	67	E. Marion	Bishop Hendricken High School
<u>Third:</u>	Michelle Oung	65	M. Papino	Warwick Veterans Memorial Jr. High School

#### **Level 1 Category B:**

*(Must score higher than equivalent place in level 1 category A to be awarded the same place)*

<u>Third:</u>	Aaron Cabrera	67	E. Marion	Bishop Hendricken High School
<u>Third:</u>	Lucia Trubiano	67	A. Coutcher	South Kingstown High School

#### **Level 2 Category A:**

<u>First:</u>	Yashaswini Mandalam	68	J. Taliani	Toll Gate High School
<u>Second:</u>	Daniel Marella	63	K. Kelley	Cranston High School West
<u>Third:</u>	Will Giguere	62	M. Verzellesi	The Wheeler School

#### **Level 2 Category B:**

*(Must score higher than equivalent place in level 2 category A to be awarded the same place)*

<u>Second:</u>	Carlos Fragoso	68	E. Ruggiero	Johnston High School
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#### **Level 3 Category A:**

<u>First:</u>	Gregory Violet	60	J. Trevisiol	The Prout School
<u>Second:</u>	Isabella Roy	58	J. Trevisiol	The Prout School
<u>Third:</u>	Delia Carlino	57	J. Trevisiol	The Prout School

#### **Level 3 Category B:**

*(Must score higher than equivalent place in level 3 category A to be awarded the same place)*

<u>First:</u>	Logan Chin	67	D. Shields	Cranston High School West
<u>Second:</u>	Ana Mercado	64	J. Zhukavets	Classical High School
<u>Third:</u>	Rosendo Alvarado	58	J. Zhukavets	Classical High School

#### **Level 3 Category C:**

No contestants in 2018

#### **Level 4 Category A:**

<u>First:</u>	Kailyn D'Elena	66	D. Shields	Cranston High School West
<u>Second:</u>	Alexander Gavitt	59	J. Taliani	Toll Gate High School
<u>Third:</u>	Abigail Gencarelli	58	J. Trevisiol	The Prout School

#### **Level 4 Category B/C:**

No prizes awarded due to all students scoring lower than the third place score in level 4 category A.

#### **Level 5 Categories A and B:**

Only first prize awarded due to small group size.

<u>First:</u>	Flora Grilli	65	J. Trevisiol	The Prout School
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### Midwest Region by Chiara Fabbian, University of Illinois

It is my pleasure to report that our membership has launched a variety of initiatives aimed at promoting the Italian language and culture in the Midwest and beyond. What follows is only a partial list that does not exhaust the vast array of opportunities made available by all of the Italian programs across the Midwest.

#### Professional Development Opportunities, Fall 2018:

**October 4:** AP Professional Development Workshop in Grayslake, Illinois. AP teachers as well as teachers of all levels are encouraged to attend.

**October 6, 2:00-4:00:** Professor Roberto Dolci on “Foreign Language Teaching as a Soft Power Resource. Examples from the Past as Reflections on the Past and Future.” A free professional development workshop organized by the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of Chicago, the Education Office of the Italian Consulate General at Chicago, and Italeidea-Midwest Ltd.

**October 30-December 18:** “Tecniche didattiche e didattizzazione di materiale,” an online course organized by the Ente Gestore Italeidea Midwest in collaboration with ICON (a consortium of Italian universities which, in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, promotes Italian language and culture through e-learning).

**November 10. AATI-Midwest Fall Meeting, 8:30-12:00,** at the North American Pizza and Culinary Academy in Lisle, IL. Short business meeting followed by a tour of the Academy, a culinary experience with local Chefs, and discussion of opportunities for students.

**Ongoing:** Professor Janice Aski on “Purposeful, Interactive Foreign Language Teaching.” A free, online course as an introduction to foreign language classroom teaching for “instructors who wish to teach exclusively in the target language; want a student-centered rather than teacher-centered classroom; believe that purposeful and meaningful interaction is essential for learning/acquisition to occur; want their students to cognitively engage with the material; and want to create a learning environment in which students feel comfortable interacting with the instructor and their peers.” <https://www.canvas.net/browse/osu/courses/foreign-language-teaching>.

**Other:** Institutions of higher education can play a fundamental role in promoting Italian language and culture, especially when a FL department is ready to pave the way for collaborations and partnerships with local schools, businesses, and the community at large. The Department of French and Italian Studies at the Ohio State University is one such case. Under the leadership of Professor Janice Aski the department spearheaded important initiatives aimed at promoting the study of Italian language and culture in Ohio. For example, the first Global Citizen Summer.

Camp for middle school children, which will take place during summer 2019, allows undergraduate and graduate students in FL programs at Ohio State to gain valuable teaching experience, while offering an invaluable opportunity to promote intercultural competency among children who may not have access to the study of foreign languages and cultures in their own school.

Professor Aski also served as liaison between her son's high school and Sant'Anna Institute (which OSU uses for internships) to set up a study abroad program last summer. 14 kids participated. Prior to departure, 9 OSU undergrads taught Italian at the high school once a week, full-immersion style. In Sorrento, participants lived with families, and took classes in Italian language and culture. The program was a huge success and, as a result, the high school is considering including Sant'Anna as one of their future study abroad programs, while more kids are excited about Italy and learning Italian. Other notable initiatives include organizing a High School Day at OSU for students of Italian from local high schools, setting up teaching assistantships for OSU graduate students of Italian at a local school, and initiating possible collaborations with a local Italian company. Grassroot initiatives such as the ones described above encourage us in our work, and invite us to take action to effect change starting at the local and regional level.

## AATI Rocky Mountains and Far West Regional Representative Report

By Chris Picicci

It has been a productive year for the American Association of Teachers of Italian. All the officers and regional representatives have dedicated countless hours to several important initiatives. As the regional representative of the Rocky Mountains and Far West, I have been part of the Italian Exam Committee, the Cagliari International Conference Committee, and the K-12 Advocacy Committee. At the beginning of the year, I sent out a membership renewal letters to existing and potential members of the association. I highlighted our accomplishments in 2017 and discussed our upcoming plans in 2018. I hope that all members of the AATI work together to expand our membership base and invite current and even seasoned educators of Italian to be a part of our dynamic organization.

Currently many Italian teachers/instructors/professors in my region still need to become members and contribute to the professionalization of our livelihoods. **Please, join the AATI today!** <https://aati.uark.edu/aati-membership/>

After writing to various state Boards of Education in my region (CO, WY, UT, NV, MT, ID, WA, OR, AK, HI), I successfully received data on all high school Italian language programs in these states. I can confirm that Montana, Alaska, and Hawaii do not offer any Italian programs at the K-12 levels. I also learned that some charter schools and online schools offer Italian as an option to complete foreign language graduation requirements; states with these options are in Wyoming and Washington.



In Colorado, I have repeatedly advocated to keep the Italian programs alive in Pueblo's District 60 and District 70 high schools. I regret to write that after writing letters, making presentations, and giving talks with the school board, principals, community members, and teachers this past spring, administrators decided to cancel the Italian language program at East High School. Because of this, I have vowed to collaborate with colleagues on the creation of an

Advocacy webpage on the AATI website for Italian programs.

Despite my absence at the conference in Cagliari, Sardinia this past June, I would like to congratulate the AATI's President, Past President, and Vice President of colleges and universities for all of their hard work. It was an honor to be a part of the Conference Committee. I would also like to thank all the attendees as well as acknowledge the stellar hospitality offered by the Università di Cagliari. This fall, we are once again going to decide if the AATI would like to hold another international conference in Italy. Stay tuned on the upcoming results. In addition, I would like to welcome Italianists in my region to join us for an exciting series of sessions and meetings at the annual American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) convention in New Orleans, Louisiana on November 16-18. I invite you to attend my session on Proficiency Pedagogy.

I am pleased to report that my university colleagues in Colorado are enjoying success in several Italian programs throughout the state including CSU-Ft. Collins, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado College, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and the University of Denver. We hope that you will share upcoming conferences and professional development workshops/opportunities with the AATI membership.

Finally, we are always happy to learn about the successes of our sister organization, the American Association of Italian Studies. It has always been my belief that the AATI and the AAIS are better together. I look forward to strengthening our relationship and jointly promoting the study of the Italian language, culture, and literature in North America and around the world. Please contact me should you have any questions or suggestions. ([chris.picicci@csupueblo.edu](mailto:chris.picicci@csupueblo.edu)).





### SOCIETÀ ONORARIA ITALICA—ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

By Lucrezia Lindia, President

Dear Members of the National Italian Honor Society/*Società Onoraria Italiana*, as President of this very prestigious society, I want to express my appreciation and admiration for the work you do every year to help the students of the National Italian Honor Society grow and thrive.

During the school year 2017-2018, **3,341 high school students from 189 schools in 18 states** across the country were inducted into the *Società Onoraria Italiana*. Congratulations to all the students for their outstanding achievements in the study of the Italian language and culture, and kudos to the teachers for their fine work!

In addition, the *Società* welcomes the new high schools that joined this year by establishing or activating chapters in their schools. Please continue to make a positive difference through your involvement and dedication in promoting the Italian language and culture! Also check out our website for the complete list of schools who inducted their students in the 2017-2018 school year. I would like to encourage all AATI chapter representatives and their colleagues to reach out to their local high schools, who are not members yet, and to advocate for the National Italian Honor Society reminding them that this is one of the avenues which eventually leads to an increase in enrollment in their school districts.

Our warmest congratulations go to those students who participated in the National Italian Contest.

NAME	SCHOOL	TEACHER
Rosemarie Milelli	Villa Walsh High School, NJ	Lina Maraschi
Timothy Martinson	Bellmore-Merrick High School, NY	Cara Sycoff
Joseph Bisulea	Half Hollow Hills High School, NY	Anna Terracina
Lucia Trubiano	South Kingstown High School, RI	Antonietta Coutcher
Isabella Delpani	Gulliver Preparatory School, FL	Elisa Oliverio
Andrea Amador	Academia Maria Reina, Puerto Rico	Vera Verazquez Velissa
William Hofheinz	Winchester High School, MA	Tynia Ferretto
Kleona Kullsi	Northeast High School, PA	Assunta Curto-Kushnir
Laura Phellan	Manhasset High School, NY	Maria Mellace
Sonia Zuleta	Fenwick High School, IL	Shawna Hennessey
Maximillian Ibata-Arens	Prospect High School, IL	Lyn Scolaro
Madison McKenna	Westfield High School, NJ	Lauren Conroy
Nicholas Walsh	Madison High School, NJ	Silvana Berardo
Giulia Sdringola-Maranga	Bellaire Senior High School, TX	Maria Gloria Borsa
Ana McKierna	Arlington High School, NY	Luisa Martinelli
Leonel Gonzalez	Norwalk High School, CT	Daniel Aloï
Rosario Ledesma	Bear Creek High School, CA	Justin Ehrenberg
Daniela Conforti	Fenwick High School, IL	Stella Weber
Rosa Portillo	Walt Whitman HS, NY	Manuela Stefanelli-Fasano
Jacob Hockwitt	Parsippany High School, NJ	Jaclyn Bevacqua
Martina Portolano	Greenwich High School, CT	Dora Williams
Biagi Stoduto	St. Peter's Preparatory School, NJ	Rosalie Romano
Michael Puthumana	Felix Festa Middle School, NY	Cosimo Mazzaferro

Among the many organizations and workshops that the *Società Onoraria Italica* has sponsored this year, it was the Annual ITA-AATI June Luncheon where the Winners of the National Contest from the Tri-state area were invited to receive an award. During this event, that took place at NYU, the Italian American Committee on Education (IACE), represented by the President Berardo Paradiso and the Executive Director Ilaria Costa, received the Leonardo Covello Award for the substantial contribution both have made over the last decade in increasing dramatically the number of students taking Italian.

Lastly, please note that orders for certificates, pins and medals can be requested only by going to the AATI web-site: <https://aati.uark.edu/> and remember that our year runs **September- June**.

### South-Southeast Region – by Antonietta Di Pietro, President FATI

It would be superfluous to describe what is happening in this picture, because by now you've spotted all the details: a large audience; a presenter; and, since the presenter is Beppe and you all know about his penchant for music, a presentation on Italian pedagogy through songs, lyrics, and video clips. Bravi, you got it right!



Let us focus on what is not evident in the picture, i.e. that among those who attended this professional development there were kindergarten, elementary, middle, high school, AP Italian teachers, and college instructors. Each teacher left the workshop with materials ready to be used in the classroom and, more importantly, left energized and confident - two extremely desirable qualities in the present teaching landscape.

The workshop was another successful initiative promoted by FATI on September 19, 2018.

Thanks to AATI's support, FATI hosted *Da una canzone il mondo: uso della canzone nelle classi di lingua, sfruttandone i pregi, evitandone gli abusi* with Beppe Cavatorta.

In recent years FATI has been very active in its effort to represent a reference point for Italian teachers across the state of Florida. FATI is not only a great resource for pedagogical aspects of teaching, reviews of teaching material and useful information regarding Italian language certification, but FATI also promotes cultural events, contests for students, and seminars for teachers. In fact, FATI's primary objective is to establish itself as a forum for cultural exchange, dialogue and reciprocal support among student, teachers, and the community.

Check out FATI's [webpage](#) and learn about past workshops and reviews. In particular, look at the images captured by the students who participated to [Italianità Pronti e...Go!](#) (our latest contest, launched in Spring 2018) about what they consider *italianità*. You will discover many compelling original representations that stand out from conventional images associated with *italianità*. You may be surprised to find just how potently *italianità* imbues the tropical Floridian enclave. Stay tuned for what's coming next. I urge you to join AATI and SELECT FATI as your chapter. I leaned on idiom to open this short article, so to close it I'll draw once more from the well of folk wisdom: the more the merrier.

<https://aati.uark.edu/antonietta-di-pietro/>

[www.fatiassociationfla.org](http://www.fatiassociationfla.org)

### AATI New England - by Gina Maiellaro

#### Workshops and professional development

AATI and two of its regional Chapters, MITA and RITI, actively collaborate with the Italian Consulate in Boston as members of the *Osservatorio della Lingua Italiana* in the promotion and support of Italian language in our area. There is increasing need for qualified teachers and AATI is committed to providing its teaching community with a range of professional training opportunities that can help them achieve long-term goals. This year, with the financial support of a grant from the Italian Consulate in Boston and the MAE (Ministero Affari Esteri), AATI NE and MITA organized a 2-day free workshop series for language teachers. This year's series was specifically developed to offer an exploration of the latest trends in language pedagogy with a special focus on building proficiency in the classrooms. The workshops were held at two Massachusetts high schools (Winchester and Medford) during the spring semester:

**Towards proficiency: Unit Planning for World Languages / Verso un approccio di "proficiency" per l'italiano: la pianificazione delle unità didattiche** by Karen Nerpouni (March 24<sup>th</sup>). Using the framework of Understanding by Design (UbD, Thyle) the workshop guided teachers through a series of steps necessary to create a thematic unit using a template designed to build proficiency in the language classroom.

**Integrated Performance Assessments: Building Proficiency Through Practiced Performance / Valutazione delle Abilità Integrate: la costruzione della "proficiency" attraverso la pratica dell'esecuzione** (April 7). The aim of this workshop was to encourage language teachers and programs to plan for proficiency and adopt a new lens for assessment, specifically the **Integrated Performance Assessments (IPAs)**. At the end of each session, participants worked in groups to create a thematic unit and an IPA, which were published on the MITA website and made accessible to all its members.

Our Rhode Island Chapter (RITI) has organized a *Fundraiser Dinner* to award RI students who obtained high scores on the AATI National Italian Exam on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. In November 2018, it is planning to hold a workshop for its members.

#### Conferences

MITA returned this year to the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association Conference with a series of sessions, as well as a workshop for AP teachers (*One, Two, Three, AP! Spiraling Instruction in the Italian Classroom*) presented by Antonietta Di Pietro. The

MaFLA conference was held in Springfield from October 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> was a great opportunity for our colleagues to meet and exchange ideas. We are planning to have a more consistent presence of Italian teachers at the 2019 MaFLA conference as we want to emphasize the importance of professional development as well as the building of a sense of community among us.

Our Connecticut Chapter (CITA) is very active in maintaining a strong network keeping its members informed about job postings and even the Italian presence at the **12<sup>th</sup> CCSU CONFERENCE FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS** was particularly strong this year. The conference, which was held on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Central Connecticut State University, offered several presentations dedicated to the teaching of Italian language. Members had a great opportunity for professional development for networking with colleagues and administrators. Our members who presented:

- *Gina Gallo* (Bristol Central High School) "Using Art as the Pallet for World Language Instruction"
- *Annavaleria Guazzieri* (Consulate General of Italy in NY) "Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)"
- *Katherine Tavera & Tina Riccio* (Southington High School) "Andiamo: Let's Go (& Grow) with Italian"
- *Gina Gallo & Amanda Robustelli-Price* (Bristol Central High School) "NECTFL Mead Fellow recipients: Mentor and Networking Initiative"
- *Sandra Mannino* (East Hampton Middle School & High School) "Mindfulness in the classroom"

*Britta Meredith, Mareike Geyer, and Manuela Wagner* (University of Connecticut) "Pedagogical Strategies to Foster Intercultural Competence and Address Social Justice Issues in the Beginner Language Classroom" ... and much more.

In May, CITA also participated in the **EdCamp at CCSU**. The event, organized by the Connecticut Council of Language Teachers and the CCSU Modern Language Department, is modeled after "Edcamps," and allows attendees to propose, present, or attend any sessions created that day.

RITI is planning to take part in the Rhode Island **Foreign Language Association** (RIFLA) in Fall 2018.



## Other Events and News

In Spring 2018 MITA organized for its third year *La giornata della Lingua Italiana*, a friendly competition among high school students created to motivate, to spark interest in learning Italian and to offer a connection between college and high school. The competition, organized and sponsored by MITA in collaboration with a local university, attracts students and their teachers to campus for a day of fun and learning. This year MITA collaborated with Northeastern University and was held on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and saw the participation of over 120 students. Each participating high school created a skit, a song, or other form of expression in Italian about this year's topic, Italian literature:

**La letteratura italiana in scena**. Each school's entry was evaluated by a panel of judges using specific criteria.

This year winners were:

**1st - Winchester High School. *La Divina***

***Commedia: Inferno, Purgatorio, Paradiso.***

Teacher: Tanya Ferretto

**2nd - Medford High School. *I Promessi Sposi.***

Teacher: Rita DiCarlo and Nicole Chalifoux

**3rd - Woburn Memorial High School.**

***Pinocchio: un ragazzo come tutti gli altri.*** Teacher: Cinzia Gilbertie

**4th - Lexington High School. *Dante: Primo canto.*** Teacher: Paola Zanirato Dorfman.

We would like to thank all the schools that participated and made it such a fantastic success!

MITA is planning another *Giornata* for Spring 2019 at Emmanuel College. The theme chosen for next edition is *Perché studio l'italiano?*



AATI collaborated with the Italian consulate and CASIT (the local Ente Gestore) in creating and managing two teacher awards which were officially endowed during the MaFLA conference luncheon (along with other languages' awards). The winners for this year were: **Rita DiCarlo**, Director of the World Languages at the Medford High School, as the recipient of the **Distinguished Award for Excellence in Leadership in Italian**, and **Gino Colantuono** from Somerville High School as **2017 Italian Teacher of the Year**. In addition to

the monetary prize donated by the Consulate, AATI has contributed to these prizes by awarding the recipients with a three years free membership.



We are also very proud to announce that our own beloved **Mariastella Cocchiara**, founder and former president of the Massachusetts Chapter MITA, is the recipient of the **2017 AATI Distinguished Award for K-12**. AATI announced the award during the MaFLA Conference luncheon and Mariastella was awarded at the ACTFL Conference in Nashville.

## Scholarships

MITA offers yearly four scholarships to worthy students who have studied Italian for at least 3 years in high school. To be eligible, students must have studied Italian for three years at the high school level and must be planning to attend a four-year accredited college or university. The Italian teacher must be a current member of the AATI/MITA. This year the MITA scholarship committee was very proud to announce as the **2017-2018 MITA winners** four very outstanding students of Italian who embody the mission of MITA. There was tough competition again this year and among the many applicants the committee chose the following four students:



- **Kristen Thornton** (North Quincy High School) in memory of *Rose Chiurri*

- **David Williams** (Winchester High School) in memory of *Michele e Caterina Procopio*

- **Hadar Boker** (Lexington High School) in memory of *Simeone and Vittoria Dominijanni*

**Caroline King** (Gloucester High School) in memory of *Vito Scorza*

In order to support its members and to reinforce our network, MITA has a new, more accessible website. The address is <http://www.aati-mass.org/>

We would like to invite all our members and prospective members to visit it and let us know what they think.

### National Italian Exam

AATI is currently revising the **National Italian Exam** in time for the 2018- 2019 school year and is committed to creating an innovative test that is aligned with proficiency and performance levels according to the ACTFL Performance Guidelines. The NIE Committee envisions the exam not only as an assessment tool which will provide teachers and students with diagnostic feedback and positive washback thus supporting high school instruction, but also as an opportunity for positive visibility and for promoting Italian programs in North American schools, and possibly in universities.

**NIE Committee.** Gina Maiellaro (Northeastern University) and Mary Jo Lubrano (Yale University) members of the NIE Developing Committee, along with the members of the Writers' Team Beppe Cavatorta, Fausta Ippoliti, Teresa Picarazzi, Patrizia Lissoni, Antonietta Di Pietro, and Maria Gloria Borsa are currently working on the revision of the items. In fall 2018 a pilot test of the exam will be administered to a subset of the sample student population in schools that will have volunteered to participate in the data collection process. The findings from the pilot test will be analyzed to determine the test's performance and possible additional revisions. The operational version will go live during the month of March, 2019.

**Structure.** The exam is delivered electronically through the platform Quia and presents 6 levels. Each level is comprised of 50 selected-response items (multiple choices, matching, and information transfer) divided into two parts with 25 questions each. The listening and audio/viewing portion consists of a series of short audio and/or video segments followed by comprehension activities, while the reading portion presents a variety of text type. All materials used in the exam come from authentic resources. The thematic content of each level has been established with a national survey among K-12 teachers of Italian.

**Honoring students.** The National Italian Exam provides an excellent opportunity to highlight student success and promote Italian. Salvatore Bancheri, who is currently serving as responsible for the Communication, is revising the award distribution by offering students an extensive regional and national prize program that consists of monetary prizes, study-trips to Italy, medals and certificates to give students of all different abilities a sense of accomplishment.

More detailed information will be soon available on the AATI website.





**AATI/AAIS@SAML A 2018**

**Saturday, November 3, 2018- 1:30PM– 2:45PM-  
Birmingham, AL**

**INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGIES AND APPROACHES  
TO LANGUAGE ACQUISITION IN THE ITALIAN CLASSROOM**

**Chair:** Ioana Raluca Larco, University of Kentucky (ioana.larco@uky.edu)

**Co-Chair:** Silvia Tiboni-Craft, Wake Forest University (tibonis@wfu.edu)

**Secretary:** Silvia Giovanardi Byer, Park University (silvia.byer@park.edu)

Angela Margherita Bozano (Victory Immersion School Milwaukee) “L’uso della tecnologia nella pratica didattica in una scuola materna pubblica ad immersione di lingua italiana negli Stati Uniti”

Silvia Giovanardi Byer (Park University) “Explore Italian Flavors: A Cultural Lab

Silvia Tiboni-Craft, Wake Forest University (tibonis@wfu.edu) Reading, Singing and Acting for Language Acquisition

Ioana Raluca Larco, (University of Kentucky) “Language Acquisition Through Poetry”

**AATI@MLA 2019**

**Saturday, January 5, 2019-10:15AM – 11:30AM  
Colorado Room – Sheraton Grand**



As a sponsoring entity of the Modern Language Association (MLA), the AATI has the ability to organize one guaranteed session at the annual conference. For the 2019 MLA conference in Chicago, the session is #442: Queering Italian and Italian American Studies. Please see below for the individual papers:

**Organizer:** Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, (University of Arkansas)

**Chair:** Colleen Ryan (Indiana University)

Francesco Pascuzzi (Rutgers University): “A Politics of Class and Gender in Contemporary Queer Cinema”

Paolo Frascà (University of Toronto): “Educazione, transessualità, and the Origins of (Italian) Queer Thought”

Lisa Dolasinski (Dickinson College): “Queer Italy Onscreen: Trans\*gressing Boundaries of Gender, Sexuality, and Nation in Recent Italian Films of Migration”

Sara Mattavelli (College of William and Mary): “Gender Fluidity and Queerness in Ferrante’s Novels”

**For questions or abstract proposal semail Ryan Calabretta-Sajder ([calabret@uark.edu](mailto:calabret@uark.edu))**



## Ci vediamo a ACTFL!

**Thursday, November 15, 2018**  
**AATI Executive Board Meeting**  
**6:30-9:00 Location TBD**

## Friday, November 16, 2018

**11:00 - 12:00**

**Leggiamo! Open Educational Resources for  
Reading in Elementary Italian**

*Andrea Petri, Maria Costa College*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**From Tables to Tales! Using Numbers for  
Talking, Writing, and Comparing**

*Christiana Thielmann, UPU*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Narrating Modern Italian History Through  
Performing Art Skills**

*Antonella Olson, University of Texas-Austin*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr.

**Feminine, Masculine Oral Gender in Italian:  
A Cognitive Linguistic Approach**

*Cinzia Delfini, University of Pittsburgh*

*Loretta Fernandez, University of Pittsburgh*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**1:00 - 1:45**

**Proficiency Pedagogy in the Italian Classroom**

*Chris Picicci, Colorado State University-Pueblo*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Learning Proposals to Develop Oral Production  
in Classes of Italian L2/FL**

*Francesca Romana Memoli, Accademia Italiana*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Let's Play! Creating a Board Game as Project  
Based Language Learning**

*Barbara Bird, College of Southern Nevada*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Re-thinking Italian Culture in Light of ICC and  
Transformative Learning**

*Anna Cellinese, Princeton University*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**2:00-2:45**

**AP Vertical Alignment: From Level 1 to AP Italian We Go!**

*Lyn Scolaro, Prospect High School*

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Creating AP Italian Language and Culture Materials**

*Beppe Cavatorta, University of Arizona*

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr



**Oral Proficiency Assessment: From Role-Play Presentations to Video Projects**

*Michela Baraldi, Cornell University*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Moving Beyond Final Exams: Innovative Assessment Design**

*Stacy Giufre, Researcher*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**How to Involve Students in the Participation Assessing Process**

*Stella Mattioli, University of Virginia*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**3:00-3:45**

**Italians of Greater New York: The Language of the Italian Diaspora**

*Enza Antenos, Montclair State University*

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Open that Door! Going Beyond and Outside the Classroom with Technology**

*Alessandra Saggin, Columbia University*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Representation of Ohio Italian Teachers at State and Regional Conferences**

*Jennifer Behney, Youngstown State University*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**4:00-4:45**

**Once Upon a Time: Folktales and Fairy Tales in the FL Classroom**

*Silvia Giorgini-Althoen, AATI Newsletter Editor*

*Antonietta DiPietro, Florida International University*

*Paola Morgavi, Northwestern University*

*Daniela Cavallero, DePaul University*

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**How to Create Original ebooks**

*Lisa Dolasinski, Indiana University*

*Karolina Serafin, Indiana University*

*Sara Dallavalle, Indiana University*

*Lucia Gemmani, Indiana University*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Netflix and Learn**

*Maureen Melita, Marist College*

*Kevin Gangler, Marist College*

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**5:00-5:45**

**Exploring the New AATI Italian National Exam**

*Luigia Maiellaro, Northeastern University*

*Mary Jo DiBiase-Lubrano, Yale University*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr



**Italicity as a Global Approach to Promote Cultural Creativity in Italian L2**

*Barbara Spinelli, Columbia University*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Communication in Italian and Community Engagement**

*Carmela Pesca, Central Connecticut State University*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Researching Local Heritage in the Italian Class:**

*Italians in New Orleans*

*Elena Daniele, Tulane University*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**5:45-6:15**

**Open Forum: Strategies for Retention**

*Facilitators, AATI Executive Board*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**6:30 - 8:00**

**AATI Annual Meeting - ALL AATI Members  
Members, guests, and Italian attendees invited**

**Room 333**

**E. Morial Convention Ctr**

**8:30 - 10:00**

**AATI Reception and Awards  
Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Newberry/Ascot Room**



8:00 - 9:45

## Swap Shop Breakfast for Italian Teachers of All Levels

\*\*Attendees are to bring an idea, strategy, etc.

*Michaelann Stanley, Herrin High School*

*Lyn Scolaro, Prospect High School*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

## Cocoliche: An Italo-Argentine Literary Expression

of the Italian Diaspora (Breakfast)

*Frank Nuessel, University of Louisville*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

## Social Justice as a building block for Intercultural Competency (Breakfast)

*Jessica Greenfield, Oberlin College*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

## The importance of using varied methods and strategies in the classroom (Breakfast)

*Carmela Scala*

Room 334

E. Morial Con-

vention Ctr

9:00-9:45

## Teaching Italian through Music, Theater, and the Visual Arts

*Beppe Cavatorta, University of Arizona*

*Federica Santini, Kennesaw State University*

*Gianluca Rizzo, Colby College*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

## Digital Storytelling

*Mojca Del Fabbro, University of Miami*

*Magda Novelli-Pearson, Florida International University*

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

## Italian Studies Doctoral Dissertations In Progress I

*Colleen Ryan, Indiana University*

*Anna Santucci, Brown University*

*Rosa Borgonovi, Indiana University*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr

## Italian Studies Dissertations in Progress II

*Sara Galli, Researcher*

*Lino Mioni, Indiana University*

*Maurizio Capone, University of Macerata, Italia*

Room 334

E. Morial Convention Ctr



**11:00-11:45**

**The Branciforte Method: Indulging in Italian,  
One Bite at a Time**

Maria Barbanent, Highland Park, High School

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Promoting Intercultural Competence and  
Literacy in the Italian Curriculum**

Annalisa Mosca, Purdue University

Tatjana Babic-Williams, Purdue University

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Applying that App: Creative Use of Technology**

in and out of the Classroom

Carmelinda Chilelli, Brandeis University

Colloredo Francesca, Ohio University

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**1:30-2:15**

**Sbloccati e Vai Avanti**

Lucrezia Lindia, Eastchester High School

Bruna Boyle, University of Rhode Island

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Assessing Acquisition in the Italian Classroom  
for Spanish Speakers**

Clorinda Donato, California State University, Long Beach

Cedric Joseph Olivia, St. Lawrence University

Elisa Fiorenza, Roma Tre

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**2:30-3:15**

**Engaging Students: Learner-Centered Activities  
in the Italian Classroom**

Chiara Fabbian, University of Illinois Chicago

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**Eportfolio in the Language Class to Promote  
Independent Learning**

Luisa Canuto, UBC

Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**"Italian Americans" of the South and Southwest**

Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas

Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr

**"An Italian American in Paris: John Fante's Libertine Fantasy,  
'Juliette and Justine'**

Clorinda Donato, California State University-Long Beach

**"'Unknown America': Amerigo Ruggiero's Travels through the South"**

Mark Pietralunga, Florida State University



**4:30-5:15**

**Revisiting Italian American Studies**

Room 333

*Anthony Tamburri, Queens College/CUNY*

E. Morial Convention Ctr

**“Writing the Borderlands: Italy and Italian/American Poets”**

*Alan Gravano, Rocky Mountain University*

*Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas*

**Addressing a Changing Profession**

Room 334

*Irene Marchegiani, Stony Brook University*

E. Morial Convention Ctr

*Elissa Tognozzi, UCLA*

*Colleen Ryan, Indiana University*

**5:30-6:15**

**Redefining Oral Assessment: Incorporating  
OPI Testing Skills in the Curriculum**

Room 333

E. Morial Convention Ctr

*Anthony Sargenti, University of Arkansas*

*Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas*

*Mercedes Rooney, SUNY New Paltz*

Strategies in Increasing Italian Language

Room 334

Enrollments in Advanced Placement

E. Morial Convention Ctr

*Daniel Stabile, National Council for the*

*Promotion of Italian Language in American Schools*

*Maria Fusco, Italian Embassy in Washington*

*Serafina De Rosa, Italian Consulate, Miami, Florida*



## Sunday, November 18, 2018

### 8:00 - 9:00

**Pedagogies in Virtual Realities: A Comparative Study in 360 Video and VR** Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Jacob Monzinga, Researcher*

**Critical Pedagogy in the Italian Language Classroom** Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Giuseppe Formato, Researcher*

**The value of a song in the Italian classroom** Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Mariagrazia Byrnes*

**An Ecological Project-Based Approach for Oral Assessment** Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Borbala Gaspar,*  
*Margherita Berti, University of Arizona*

### 10:00-11:00

**Videos as a Tool to Assess, Create, and Perform in Italian Language Courses** Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Daniela D'Eugenio, Vanderbilt University*  
*Elyse Petit, University of Arizona*

**Developing sociolinguistic competence in the Italian language classroom** Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Elisa Dossena, Princeton University*  
*Silvia DuPont, Newton High School*

**Integrating Instructional Technology into the Italian Classroom** Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Elisa Oliverio*

### 11:00-11:45

**Benefits of Italian Immersion in Literacy, STEM, and Identity Development** Room 333  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Marialuise DiStefano, Utah State University*

**Ecological Reflective approaches to the Italian Class: 2 birds of 1 feather** Room 334  
E. Morial Convention Ctr  
*Mattia Begali, Duke University*  
*Lucian Fellin, Duke University*

## ***Exhibitors in "Piazza Italia"***

Booth #1224	National Council for the Promotion of the Italian Language in American Schools, Inc
Booth #1125	Italian Trade Agency
Booth #1126	Babilonia-Center for Italian Language and Culture
Booth #1127	Scuola Dante Alighieri Campus L'Infinito
Booth #1128	Edizioni Edilingua
Booth #1129	AATI
Booth #1130	Accademia Italiana
Booth #1131	Alma Edizioni
Booth #1132	Dante Center in Rome
Booth #1133	Consulate General of Italy-Houston

***See you there! Ci vediamo!!!!***





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# Pinecrest

ONE OF MIAMI'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

TRIBUNE

FEB. 19 - MAR. 4,

**BY LEE STEPHENS**

Miami Palmetto Senior High (MPSH) takes enormous pride in its foreign language curriculums. Such programs not only provide students with the chance to perfect a new language, but also the opportunity to immerse themselves into a culture different from their own. Moreover, the responsibility of ensuring that students can learn a foreign language in an engaging environment to the best of their abilities falls to dedicated teachers like Dr. Natalia Gionta, who is the head of the Italian curriculum teaching for Italian I to AP Italian. As a native-born Italian, Dr. Gionta has worked extremely hard to teach students about her home country through her classes and the Italian Honor Society, an organization that she has headed for quite a number of years.

However, Dr. Gionta believed that not many of her students realized the significance of utilizing Italian as a tool in today's global economy. Italy has always been famous for its delicious dishes and locations of priceless cultural value, but by importing and exporting goods Italy has established itself as a global economic power. Fashion, jewelry, furniture, automobiles, and medical technology form only a part of the fields in which Italian goods possess a dominance, and Dr. Gionta had been looking for a way to inform her students about this phenomenon. As a result, she decided to organize a conference hosted by MPSH to raise awareness of Italy's power in worldwide commerce.

The conference named "Why Italian?" took place on January 18 in the MPSH auditorium, where the weeklong efforts of Dr. Gionta and multiple members of the Italian Honor Society came together to host students from MPSH and four other schools from Miami Dade County. For the first time, all the



The Italian teacher Dr. Natalia Gionta introducing Victoria Dobbs, the Principal at Miami Palmetto Senior High.

Italian entities of Miami joined together and during the conference we had the presence of Mrs. Gloria Marina Bellelli (Italian Consul of Miami), Mr. Lucio Taglione (Vice Italian Consul of Miami), Ms. Serafina Di Rosa (Education Director at the Italian Consulate), Mr. Roberto Tagliero (the Commerce Director of the Italian Consulate) Dr. Antonello Di Giovanni (from the Italian American Chamber of Commerce), Cav. Luigi Bava (President of ODLI, i.e. Organization of the Diffusion of Italian Language), Cav. Claudio Pastor (director of the Societa Dante Alighieri, i.e. Italian Cultural Center), Dr. Magda Novelli Pearson (from FIU, i.e. Florida International University Italian professor), Dr. Antonietta Di Pietro (President of FATI, i.e. Florida Association Italian Teacher), Mrs. Svenia Hammerstein (representative of IIPA, i.e. Italian International Parents Association).

The presence of these important people emphasized the relevance of the event within the Italian community of South Florida, and the conference started as Dr. Gionta explained the main premise of her project. Then, Ms. Dobbs (MPSH Principal) and Mrs. Gloria Marina Bellelli greeted the audience consecutively. Following this, the Italian Honor Society president Diego Ventosa

proceeded to conduct a presentation (created by vice-president Nick Marquez) on the worldwide importance and influence of Italian commerce.

The conference also presented testimonials from individuals presented by Cav. Claudio Pastor who highlighted the phenomenon of people who study Italian as adults for professional reasons at Dante Alighieri. Some of the live testimonials were from Elise Kramer, Carmen Guerrero, Patrizia Pluchino, Joanne Tedone. MPSH was also honored to have a live testimonial from former student Elcira Verence and video testimonial from Cristina Danies. There were other videos from Krystel Medico, student from ISCHS and Sofia Castañeda, students from ISPA. All these testimonials have used Italian in their careers thanks to their knowledge of the Italian language. Then FIU Italian professor Dr. Magda Novelli Pearson informed the audience about the Italian minor at FIU and Cav. Luigi Bava gave a speech on the different opportunities to study Italian across the state of Florida. The list of influential characters did not stop as consulate representative Ms. Serenella Di Rosa told students about the opportunity of continuing their university studies in Italy. Lastly the IIPA provided each teacher that attended with a basket composed of Italian goodies to share with their students.

This conference has inspired Italian institutions to repeat this experience in other Miami Dade County Public schools as an example of an initiative whose goal is to support and promote the Italian language and AP Italian exam. The video of this conference will also be sent to the Italian embassy in Washington, D.C. as an example of a pilot project that could be used as a model.



Ida Wilder (Rochester Technology Institute, Rochester, NY) wanted to share this article from <https://www.whec.com/news/massive-response-to-language-class-cuts-in-gates/4843200/#.WrvXlJyVad8.email> to show how a massive protest by students, parents and teachers (herself included) could be a viable strategy against current cuts to Italian programs.



### **Massive response to language class cuts in Gates– March 27, 2018**

Gates students and parents packed into a board room and lined the hall of the district's administration building Tuesday night to protest plan to cut certain Latin and Italian language courses.

The courses have been part of the district's curriculum for decades. In a community that's 35% Italian, the cuts are not sitting very well.

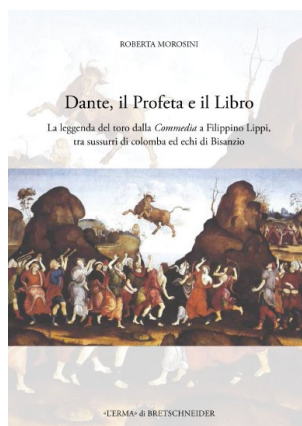
"It's a slap in the face and it doesn't represent what they want," says Franca Cinelli, a retired teacher.

Latin students are also angry.

"Honestly, it enrages me because there's no reason for it," says Ben Bartula, who studies Latin.

"Especially since the board has said it's not because of a budgetary decision."

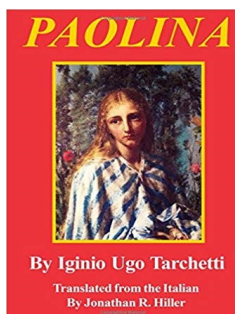
Cinelli says teachers were told about the cuts on Friday. Students hope this response will change board members' minds.



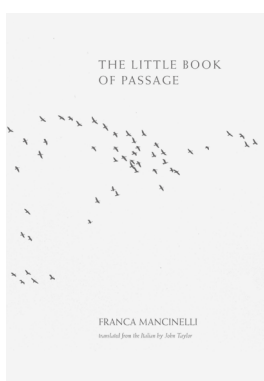
**Congratulations to Roberta Morosini**, Professor of Italian at Wake Forest University on her new book *Dante, il Profeta e il Libro: La leggenda del toro dalla Commedia a Filippino Lippi, tra sussurri di colomba ed echi di Bisanzio*. L'erma di Bretschneider. June 2018.

*Dante, il Profeta e il Libro* studies the role of the Holy Book in the legend of the bull in the Divine Comedy and in particular in Inferno 28 and in Filippino Lippi *The Adoration of the golden calf*. The poet Dante condemns Mohammed, the Prophet of Islam, to Hell (*Inferno* 28) for being a schismatic. His punishment is to be divided into two on account of the religious rift he brought about. In 1502 the painter Filippino Lippi makes an enigmatic yet innovative allusion to *Exodus* 32: 1-6, when the Israelites

worshipped the golden calf while Moses was on the Mount Sinai. His painting suspends the bull in the air, endowing it with liveliness, not immobility, and not gold as in the Old Testament tradition. Why did Lippi chose to represent a dynamic bull rather than the golden calf? The answer may lie in an unusual tie between Mohammed and the Bull, in a Byzantine legend tell of how this animal brings him the Holy book of Islam. This relationship may help to explain also why Dante places Mohammed among the schismatics instead of the heretics. Morosini's book addresses some of these questions while analyzing through texts and images the role that the Book, as guarantor of prophetic Truth, plays for Dante and Filippino Lippi. Ultimately the question was not a religious one, but rather a matter of civilization and knowledge, by which only the Wisdom of the Book could vanquish Malice.



**Congratulations to Jonathan R. Hiller** Associate Professor of Italian and Director of Italian Studies at Adelphi University in Garden City, NY on his recent English translation of I. U. Tarchetti's novel *Paolina*. Dante University Press, Wellesley, MA. One of the archetypal novels of *Scapigliatura* and, as Roberto Fedi has called it, a "parodia seria" of *I Promessi Sposi*, Tarchetti's debut novel now joins his *Fosca* as one of the few works from the movement available in translation.



**Congratulations to Franca Mancinelli** on her new book *The Little Book of Passages*. The Bitter Oleander Press. Bilingual Edition. Translated from the Italian by John Taylor. The Little book of Passages is the story of the crossing of an inner fault line, a travel diary through the territories of the psyche: presences close to disappearing and dreamlike atmospheres act as a deforming mirror in regard to the gestures and happenstances of everyday life. Allusiveness and precision, density and evanescence, are juxtaposed and integrated in this continuous attempt to focus on and pronounce the world. As in a rite of passage, Franca Mancinelli, who lets herself be visited by shadows, recomposes the fragments of an open identity, which has never abandoned the origin.





**Congratulazioni a Teodolinda Barolini** (Lorenzo Da Ponte Professor of Italian at Columbia University) per essere stata eletta socio della prestigiosa Accademia dei Lincei di Roma. Teolinda è per tutti noi un esempio di instancabile ricerca nel campo della critica letteraria italiana in particolare di Dante, Petrarca e Boccaccio, oltre che di rigore amministrativo come direttore del dipartimento di Italiano della Columbia University di New York dove insegna proprio Letteratura italiana. È autrice di numerosi saggi e articoli internazionali sul Duecento e Trecento e amica della nostra associazione verso la quale ha sempre dedicato attenzione e interesse.

## ♦ **Nicolino Applauso, PhD Lecturer of Spanish and Italian World Languages and International Studies Morgan State University**

I am very proud to announce that it is now official, **Italian will be offered at Morgan State University for the very first time in its 150 years history starting from Fall 2018!** I have proposed and developed the program myself, so I am glad I was able to be involved in the creation of this new program. Against the national trend (where very few new ML programs are emerging). If I am not mistaking, this is the very first time that Italian has been officially offered (at least currently) in an HBCU institution (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) in the the Unites States (I did check and they are not offering Italian neither at Howard nor at Spelman College)...so it might be an historic news to share! Morgan State University, founded in 1867, is a Carnegie-classified doctoral research institution providing instruction to a multiethnic, multiracial, multinational student body and offering more than [100 academic programs](#) leading to degrees from the baccalaureate to the doctorate. It is the largest Maryland's American historically black college and university (HBCU) located in **Baltimore**, Maryland, and among the 10 largest public universities in Maryland.

## ♦ **Intercultural Competence in Italian classrooms at Purdue**

Starting in Fall 2018, the Italian Program at Purdue is introducing a systematic intercultural perspective in Italian language courses, thus making it one of the few language programs in the nation to spearhead this exciting methodological innovation. In collaboration with experts from Purdue's CILMAR (Center for Intercultural Learning, Mentorship, Assessment and Research), the Italian instructional team has developed activities to boost students' intercultural skills, and integrated them in the Italian curriculum. After completing the first round of intercultural training, the Italian instructional team have successfully launched the intercultural activities in all sections of Italian 101. The long-term plan includes rolling out the curriculum redesign in all levels of Italian (101 to 302), one level per semester. The goal of the curriculum redesign is to better equip our students with intercultural competence, a skill that is applicable beyond students' academic field, and that is highly sought by the employers. This collaborative project between Dr. Annalisa Mosca and Dr. Tatjana Babic Williams is supported by two Purdue University Grants, the CILMAR mini-grant received in March 2018 by Dr. Tatjana Babic-Williams and the IMPACT grant, received in July 2018 by Dr. Annalisa Mosca.



## Cooking class events at Purdue

For the second year, the Italian program is offering cooking classe evenings for Italian students at the University's demo kitchen. These classes were so popular last year that they all had a waitlist of students. These events are one of the ideas implemented in the hopes of raising awareness and interest in Italian; this year some of the classes will follow a "bring a friend who

is not yet in taking Italian" format. During the cooking classes Continuing Lecturers in Italian, Tatjana and Annalisa model and supervise students while they cook -and then taste - simple Italian specialties. Fun and food abound:  
Buon Appetito!



Annalisa Mosca cooking with her students.



## Purdue Italian faculty-led study abroad program: Trieste Summer Abroad, Italy

In Summer 2018, Annalisa Mosca led eight undergraduates in the successful departmental faculty-led program "A multicultural experience - Trieste Summer Abroad".

Participants followed two courses, a language course and Italian 280 Culture and Civilization which was adapted to help students fully benefit from the study abroad experience. The latter course follows an experiential format where a lot of the afternoon cultural activities are part of the syllabus; learning happens while visiting the Castle of Miramare, while paying homage to World War I victims at Redipuglia and World War II victims at the Risiera di San Sabba.

To lighten the mood, class also takes place at the historical café that inspired Italian and international writers, most notably James Joyce.

The hands-on visit to the Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics' 3D Printing Fab Lab and the dinner in Osmiza are always a hit among students, who also enjoy the recently added weekend excursion to Venice and Verona. The program was in its fourth year and is also made possible by the SAIL grant offered by Purdue, which was received 3 out of 4 years and always helps to maintain the fee low and to offer additional perks to the students. We look forward to continuing this experience which will celebrate its fifth anniversary in 2019.



## Dante Alighieri gives \$24K of student textbooks to boost Italian cultural learning

A focal part of the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo's mission is to keep alive Italian language and culture. Toward that end, the 170-member society recently donated more than \$24,000 worth of supplemental textbooks to Italian language programs in Pueblo City Schools (D60) and Pueblo County School District 70 high schools in Colorado.

While long committed to education -- the society has given out more than a quarter of a million dollars in scholarships since 1980 -- Mike Salardino, a spokesman for the society, said the donation of books was a first-time endeavor.

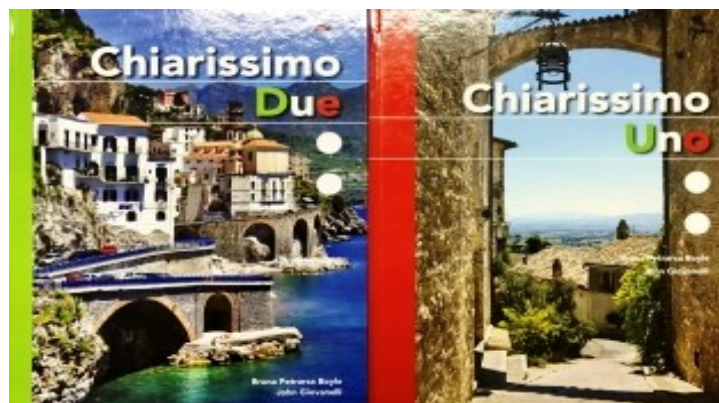
"These books, *Chiarissimo Uno and Due*, are to enhance the classes, something they didn't have," Salardino said. "Over the years, we have done a lot of things to keep the language going in schools, like the scholarships, and this is an extension of that."

Salardino said funds from a long-standing endowment were used to purchase the materials -- 32 books for each of six classrooms in the two districts.

"The Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo knows that the Italian programs in the Pueblo high schools have not been able to have an actual textbook adoption for a very long time," said Tiffany DeCarlo, a D70 Italian language teacher. "The teachers have had to use their own money to buy supplies and curriculum tools to help teach their subject area.

"This is quite a big purchase and they should receive some kudos for supporting our kids and their continued use of the Italian language and culture."

At East High School, Janae Passalacqua said the supplemental materials have made a noticeable impact on student learning.



## **The Berti Doctoral Student, Graduate Teaching Associate in the French and Italian Department at the UofA**

The University of Arizona offers innovative and engaging opportunities for students enrolled in undergraduate Italian courses. Such opportunities enable language learners to experience various facets of the Italian culture in a relaxed environment.

In the academic year 2017-2018, Adjunct Professors and Graduate Teaching Associates in the Department of French and Italian successfully organized events as the “Virtual Tour of Italy”, “Antipasto Italiano”, “Carnival Masks Decoration”, and “Italian Movie Night”.



These events were sponsored by the Student/Faculty Interaction (SFI) Grants awarded by The Office of Academic Initiatives and Student Success at the UofA. Events were free to attend for students and enhanced the Italian curriculum in innovative ways. During the “Virtual Tour of Italy” participants were provided a viewing device, Google Cardboard, which immersed the users in authentic 360-degree real-life-dimensions Italian environments.

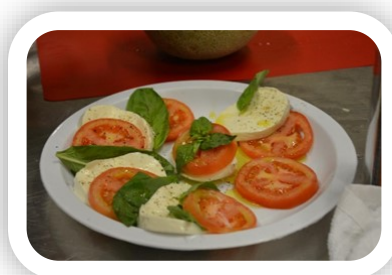


At one moment students were virtually standing in Piazza Duomo in Milano listening to the Christmas Choir, and the next minute they were observing Italian people enjoying an espresso in a coffee shop in Bergamo.

Such event offered Italian learners the opportunity to be immersed in non-physical nonetheless culturally authentic environments which might be otherwise inaccessible.

At the “Antipasto Italiano” cooking class, students learned about Italian proverbs related to food and prepared bruschetta, caprese salad, and tried for the first time “caffè affogato”. Participants felt enthusiastic and shared the newly learned recipes with their peers.

These cultural events bring the study of Italian language and culture to life by providing students with experiential learning opportunities through the tasting of authentic Italian food, experiencing Italian environments and celebrations, and by being part of a unique Italian community at the UofA.





## Another Rich Edition of the Summer Intensive Course for High School Students at Montclair State University

What do high school students think about in their two final years of school, when they think about their future? College, most likely. And some of their questions are about the ways in which what they have learned up until that point can be really relevant as they continue with their education.



The Early College Summer Intensive Course in Italian offered on the Montclair State University campus this past summer was again the ideal opportunity to link the high school and university experience through three weeks of intensive immersion in Italian language and culture. In the words of one of the attending students, Spencer Acciarito: “The perfect mix of learning and fun.”

This second edition of the summer course has hosted an ethnically diverse group of high school students (mostly Hispanic and Italian American) from all over New Jersey. Their interests in Italian culture as an integral part of their future plans range from studying physical therapy in Italy to becoming an international interpreter, using Italian in the musical profession, and pursuing a career in fashion design. What unites them within their diversity is a love of Italian and the desire to become fluent in the language.



By focusing on a variety of contemporary issues ranging from the use of technology (social media) to food practices (slow vs. fast food), art movements (contemporary artists challenging traditional notions of Italy), and family habits (aging family members and grown-up children living at home), they honed their conversational skills, as well as reading and writing abilities, via engaging audio-visual and written materials chosen by the instructor, Matilde Fogliani.

The class experience was enhanced by dynamic lunch talks given by professors from Montclair State University and high school teachers, a contributor to the *Corriere della Sera*, Italian store managers, and experts active in architecture preservation in the local area. The talks provided a rich background to the off-campus tours, which constituted the highpoint of this course according to the participants.







Students made fresh pasta at Eataly, NY; learned about the values of beauty and creativity inspiring Made in Italy brands at the Scavolini, Gucci, and Dolce&Gabbana stores in Soho; and visited the unique Arte Povera collection on display at Magazzino in Cold Spring, NY. In the course of these visits they were led by young enthusiastic guides who explained how learning Italian as college students has not only opened a new exciting culture for them, but ultimately careers in art, gastronomy, and fashion.

Designed to prepare students for an advanced or AP class in an interactive environment that allows for individualized attention through both traditional and high-tech tools, this highly affordable course provides students with 3 college credits that have already been fruitfully expended by incoming college students.

Thanks to a steady fundraising campaign, scholarships were assigned to half of the enrolled students. After two years of steady dedication to this innovative project, co-organizers Teresa Fiore (Inserra Chair in Italian and Italian American Studies, MSU), Patti Grunther (Watchung Hills High School teacher), and Marisa Trubiano (Associate Professor of Italian, MSU) observed: “This is a galvanizing collaborative effort across educational systems in the U.S. as well as Italian and American institutions, from **IACE** and the **Inserra Endowment** to the **NJIHC**.

Its continued success rests on the involvement of a larger pool of high schools from NJ and the Tri-State area, beyond the current consortium, as well as on the broader support of the Italian community of donors.

We hope that what continues to be the only Italian course for high school students offered on a university campus for college credit in the U.S. can further grow in the future as part of an expanding synergy.”

To learn more about the course see [video](#) and [official page](#).



For information, please contact [inserra@montclair.edu](mailto:inserra@montclair.edu)

## HS Video conferencing and E-pals—Nicholas Maurantonio

**On Thursday, March 8, 2018**, Italian videoconferencing partners visited . The Mary Louis Academy (TMLA), Jamaica Estates, New York.

This year students from two Italian high schools visited. They spent a day shadowing their American partners. They experience what it was like being an American High School student for a day. The Italian students noted many similarities but also a few differences in our school day. One of the comments from the Italian students was that American students eat lunch in school. This was surprising to them since both in Ispica and Modica the school day ends around 1 PM. Thus, students have lunch at home with their families or eat out with their friends.

Italian students were impressed by how American teachers encourage their students to share their thoughts and ideas.

Mr. Nicholas Maurantonio of The Mary Louis Academy and his Italian counterpart Signora Mary Puccia of the Istituto Gaetano Curcio of Ispica, Sicily established the periodic video conferencing sessions more than eight years ago. This year, thanks to Signora Puccia's efforts an additional high school was added, the Istituto Giovanni Verga of Modica, Sicily.

In total, TMLA hosted 24 students (23 young women and 1 young man) as well as five administrators including Istituto Gaetano Curcio principal Mr. Maurizio Franzò. In order to enhance student contacts beyond class videoconferencing sessions (Skyping) each student was assigned an E-Pal. Students were encouraged to use their social media resources to contact



The school from Ispica, American students and their Italian partners, chaperones, our school principal, the Italian chaperones, the Curcio Principal and Nicholas Maurantonio



Modica, American students and their Italian partners, a Modica chaperone, our school principal and Nicholas Maurantonio

**AATI SCHOLARSHIP 2018 AT SANT'ANNA INSTITUTE SORRENTO ITALY**  
**CONGRATULATIONS GERMAN BAUTISTA!**



This being my first trip, I was excited for new experiences. At Sant'Anna Institute, I felt like everyone there was willing to open and just talk. It's hard not to make friends when we hang out exploring Sorrento after class. The classes are well structured in the sense that your questions always lead to key ideas or grammar points. The teachers are always

helpful and are interested in learning about your culture and Italy's. Overall, I'm glad I picked Sant'Anna because it is a learning environment, close to a bunch of restaurants and stores, and connects people from all over the world with the Italian language in mind.



**The University of Delaware is pleased to announce a new Master of Arts program in Italian Studies.**

This flexible, interdisciplinary program is ideal for students wishing to pursue advanced work in Italian Studies in order to enter the workforce in a wide variety of fields (arts and culture, pedagogy, business, fashion) or to prepare for continued study in a Ph.D. program.

The program is designed to be completed in three semesters. The program's small size provides students the unique opportunity to work closely with professors and to individually tailor their course of study to their own professional and academic goals.

The M.A. in Italian Studies at the University of Delaware offers a vibrant learning environment in which students attain high-level written communication skills in Italian while engaging

in interdisciplinary study. The program requires a thesis, which allows students to gain research experience with expert faculty in a particular field of interest. In addition to a wide range of courses on ancient, medieval, Renaissance, modern and contemporary topics, students may choose from complementary courses in Classics, History, Art History, English, Comparative Literature, Fashion and Museum Studies.

Funding and tuition aid are available for qualified candidates.

The application deadline for Spring Semester 2019 is **December 1**. The application for Fall Semester 2019 is **July 1**. However, students are encouraged to apply much earlier. For more information, please contact Meredith Ray ([mkray@udel.edu](mailto:mkray@udel.edu)) or visit our program description here: <http://www.dllc.udel.edu/m-italian-studies-degree-requirements/>





*Vi aspettiamo e vi invitiamo a mandarci tutto ciò che vi va di condividere per la prossima edizione primaverile 2019.*

***La scadenza per l'invio del nuovo materiale sarà venerdì 1 marzo, 2019. Gentilmente inviate i vostri contributi a: [aatinewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:aatinewsletter@gmail.com) in formato Word. Grazie!***



### ***Un ringraziamento personale***

Da Silvia Giorgini-Althoen

*Gentilissime Colleghe e Gentilissimi Colleghi,*

Volevo ringraziarVi per il Vostro generoso e caloroso sostegno durante il difficile periodo dell'annullamento del mio contratto a Wayne State University.

È soltanto grazie a Voi, e alle Vostre numerose lettere di protesta per sostenere l'importanza della nostra lingua e cultura, che è avvenuto l'impossibile: revoca della decisione del Dean da parte del Provost, estensione di un anno del mio contratto e ... la mia promozione a Senior Lecturer, il tutto in tre intensissimi mesi!

Questo fronte comune e solidarietà dimostrano che insieme facciamo la differenza, collaborando e lottando uniti riusciremo a superare questo difficile momento.

Abbiamo visto in questa edizione tantissime splendide iniziative e meriti riconosciuti che danno speranza e tanta soddisfazione, e soprattutto sono prova di professionalità e della nostra comune passione per la nostra lingua e cultura.

Ad Maiora!

Con sincera gratitudine,

Silvia



*"Non sempre le nuvole  
offuscano il cielo: a volte  
lo illuminano"  
(Elsa Morante, La storia)*

