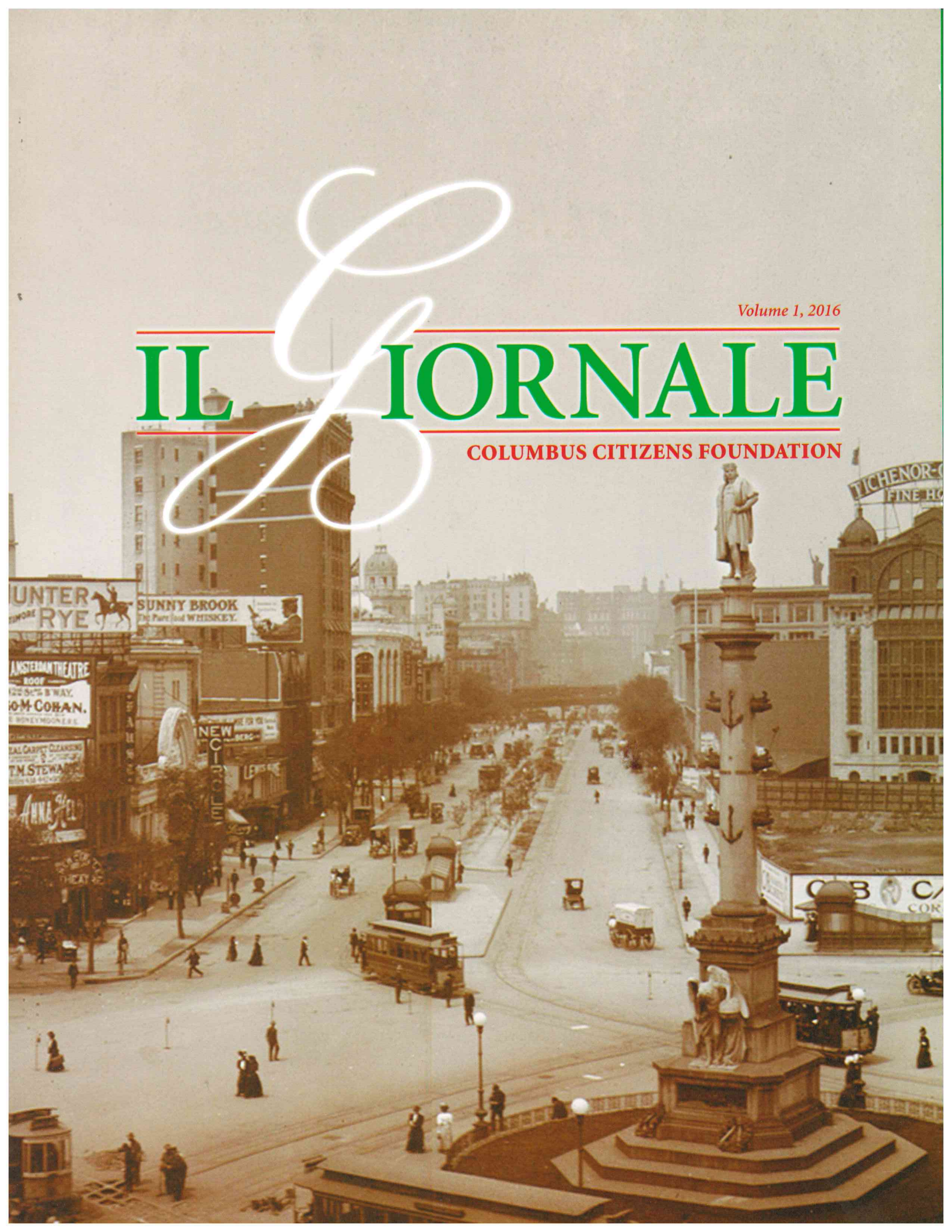


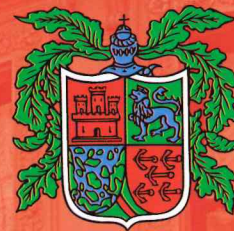
Volume 1, 2016

IL *L* IORNALE

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION



COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT




Recognizing the incredible impact that our Italian heritage has had on our lives and its contribution to our individual successes, we the members of the Columbus Citizens Foundation dedicate ourselves to preserving and enhancing the culture, traditions and values we were so blessed to receive. Furthermore, we will commit to honor those that came before us by ensuring that their love of country, family and tireless work ethic are passed to our children and all future generations. We firmly commit to raise and distribute financial aid to educate children in need and pledge to extend ourselves in perpetuating the philanthropic work that has been synonymous with our Foundation. 



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I complete my second year as President, I am proud and excited to report the Columbus Citizens Foundation (CCF) has had yet another outstanding year! Due to your support, we were able to exceed our goals in 2015 with increased Membership, new programs and more scholarships. I invite you to read on as I highlight some of our great accomplishments this year and the tremendous impact we are having as an organization.

With the New Year comes new Members, and our new online sponsorship has helped us to add even more Members. The CCF family continues to grow at an impressive pace; our Membership has now grown to 576 Members in 2015 and we are on track to reach 600 Members by the end of 2016.

We kicked off the year with our annual winter coat drive and donated over 100 coats to St. Francis of Assisi in Manhattan, hosted many donation-based dinners and luncheons, and larger gatherings for the community.

Our largest event, the Columbus Celebration, was initiated by a new annual event, a reception hosted by Governor Andrew Cuomo, during which we welcomed our dream team, Grand Marshal Albert Cribiore, and Honorees Guy Chiarello and Aldo Verrelli. We were truly blessed with such strong representation, as the Columbus Celebration was an overwhelming success raising a record amount of money. Also, The Columbus Day Parade was once again first in ratings for the entire three-hour broadcast on WABC.

At the annual Gala, we presented our Humanitarian Award to Lady Gaga and her mother Cynthia Germanotta, for the creation of the Born This Way Foundation, which is dedicated to inspiring bravery in young people. An additional poignant moment was the tribute to the late Governor Mario Cuomo where Governor Andrew Cuomo spoke eloquently about his father, his passion for the CCF and the need for positive representation of the Italian-American people.



And of course, I mustn't forget to mention the remarkable performances from Lady Gaga, *Il Volo*, and surprise guest Tony Bennett who all captivated the audience with their amazing talents.

Through the success of this year's donations, we are able to award over \$2 million to 649 Italian-American students who are academically qualified but lack the means to support their education. With this outpouring of support, we are now able to grow the program into new areas of mentorship and internship opportunities. As an example, we have partnered with the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) to provide a joint scholarship for college graduates to pursue their graduate education.

We have had great success with expansion and growth of some of our existing programs. Important amendments to our by-laws include offering "Junior Membership" to family members and revising the quarterly minimum to an annual



minimum that can be used for special events, hopefully providing more flexibility for families. Our bi-monthly newsletter continues to be well received and our social media efforts are really paying off with increased followers to these pages. We encourage Members to like, follow, and tweet our various pages and share the CCF's mission on their own pages.

As we look to grow the CCF, I am proud to announce the creation of an Executive Advisory Council. This council is being formed as a "think tank" with icons of the business world to help with the growth and development of the CCF. Stay tuned for more details on this throughout 2016.

I want to thank all our Members and their families who give so tirelessly of their time and energy to help make the CCF a strong fraternal organization that continues to grow. It is very reassuring during these difficult times that Italian Americans and the Members of the CCF keep our



From left to right: CCF Members gather during a Member event.

Lady Gaga and her mother, Cynthia Germanotta receive the Humanitarian Award at the CCF Annual Gala.

President Vivolo, Governor Cuomo and Media Chairman Frank Fusaro march proudly during the 71st Columbus Day Parade.



traditions of family values, loyalty, hard work, integrity, caring for others, giving back and our love for this great country that we live in.

Thank you for your confidence in me as President and I promise that I will do everything in my power to deserve your support. ■■

Angelo Vivolo

Angelo V. Vivolo
President



THE COLUMBUS
CITIZENS FOUNDATION
2015 HIGHLIGHTS



CCF Members & guests Lyn-Miriam Ingenito, Muriel Key, Nancy Cuttita, Joanne Calli.

Winter Coat Drive: Our annual coat drive has become a staple of the Columbus Citizens Foundation calendar. Each year we provide coats for those who most need them within our community. In 2015, we donated hundreds of coats to The Church of St. Francis of Assisi in Manhattan and we will keep striving to do more this year.

Valentine's Day at the Townhouse: Our Members cuddled up to their sweetheart this year at our Special Valentine's Evening. With a romantic menu, homemade chocolate truffles, complimentary Prosecco, and red roses for the ladies, it's easy to see why Italians make love look so good.

Emilio Iodice Book Signing: In his most recent book, *A Kid from Philadelphia: Mario Lanza, The Voice of the Poets*, Emilio Iodice asserts that Mario Lanza is the greatest tenor of all time. On March 11th CCF Members were able to hear first hand about this great tenor at a private lecture and book signing. Iodice devoted five decades to studying great tenor voices and concludes that Mario Lanza is the benchmark for those tenors who are not only superb at opera but also wishing to crossover to popular music.

Wine Tasting: CCF Members felt as if they were in Italy on March 18th with our Italian Wine

Tasting night. Members delighted in trying a great selection of both red and white wine accompanied by butler-style passed hors d'oeuvres. The evening was a great success in learning more about the variety of wines and was great fun.

The Feast of San Giuseppe: Remembering what St. Joseph did for Italy, CCF Members gathered together on March 20th with great food and music to celebrate and honor their tradition of giving thanks.

Easter Dinner: Members and their families celebrated the Easter holiday on April 5th by coming together and enjoying a traditional menu made by Chef John Boden and his staff. With joyful hearts, Members reflected on their two biggest influences: their faith and their family.





Young Adults Auxiliary Masquerade: Young Adult Auxiliary Members, Foundation Members and their relatives were all invited to help support YAA on April 24th in a fundraising event full of mystery and fun with a Masquerade Party at the Foundation Townhouse. Net proceeds went toward the Adopt-A-Scholar fund in the group's name.

Ladies Auxiliary Spring Luncheon: May 5th was host to the annual spring luncheon where CCF women dined and viewed amazing furs from Peter Duffy Furs. This luncheon has become a keystone event in our philanthropic efforts, each year raising sizable contributions.

Lidia Bastianich Regional Dinner: On May 8th, Lidia Bastianich, CCF Member and critically acclaimed TV chef, best-selling cookbook author, restaurateur, and former Columbus Day Grand Marshal, hosted a spectacular dinner with a menu from her home region of Friuli Venezia Giulia. Members were treated to the specialties that Lidia grew up with, including asparagus, prosciutto, shrimp with pasta, Italian goulash, and hazelnut gelato to complete the meal.

Mother's Day Dinner: What can be more important than our great Italian mothers? On Mother's Day this year, we celebrated with our annual dinner where families could gather together to show their immense appreciation for the women who shape their lives everyday.

Opera Night Live: Hosted by Steve De Maio, on May 30th Members gathered to enjoy an evening of great opera, cocktails, dinner, and dessert. The Opera Night Live event was in memory of Maria Theresa Fauci, a CCF Member, and attendees thoroughly enjoyed the evening of sopranos, tenors, and friends.

Townhouse BBQ: Over the summer, the CCF was pleased to host a complimentary backyard BBQ with the option of donating to a local family in need. We are so happy we were able to come together to help support families in our community.

Jason Trennert Book Signing: On June 16th, the author of *My Side of the Street: Why Wolves, Flash Boys, Quants, and Masters of the Universe Don't Represent the Real Wall Street*, Jason Trennert, held Members' intellectual and financial minds captive with a private lecture and book signing.

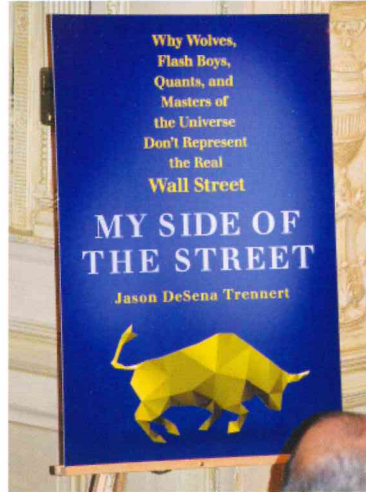
From left to right: At the Townhouse, CCF Members and family Corrado Manuali, Denise Vivolo, Erminia Motika, Lidia Bastianich and President Angelo Vivolo pose during a festive celebration.

Little People Entertainment dazzles kids at the annual Christmas party.

CCF Chef extraordinaire John Boden offers culinary delights at the annual Townhouse barbecue.

Jason Trennert Book Signing.

Members enjoy Italian specialties at an Italian wine tasting dinner.



Golf Outing: CCF Members teed up on June 22nd for the annual Golf Outing. One hundred of our Members were able to hit a few holes, have a cigar, and enjoy the open bar with a cocktail hour and dinner that followed.

Steven Maglio Honors 100 Years of Sinatra: Members were transported back to the '40s and '50s with big band sounds as Steven Maglio celebrated Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday by performing renditions of standards and Sinatra classics. Guests were moved to dance as they enjoyed a night full of memories, cocktails, and laughs.

Members' Christmas Party: Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without our annual party where families can gather and reflect on what we love about the holidays: each other. Members were treated to Italian fare and cocktails.

Shore Dinner: Summer wouldn't be summer without our Italian Shore Dinner on July 16th! This dinner is not for those who mind a mess; it's a bib wearing, shell cracking, and seafood loving good time. It was a great success and we are already looking forward to next summer's seafood feast.

"Steaks & Sticks" at the Townhouse: On November 9th, Cigar Night celebrated the Chicago Bears vs. San Diego Chargers football game. Foundation Members indulged in delicious steaks and cigars as they cheered and watched the game. It was an evening to be remembered with many people coming out to watch, eat, and enjoy their cigars.

New Year's Eve Celebration: The 2016 New Year was welcomed-in with a great amount of spirit and community as CCF Members celebrated yet another successful year of more scholarships granted, larger events, and the heritage of Italian-Americans honored gracefully.

Scholarship Committee Chairman, Chris Loiacono (second from right) enjoys lobster at the annual Shore Dinner.



MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Top: CCF Members Stuart Becker and Janice Galli Becker receive an award from President Angelo Vivolo acknowledging their Annual Adopt-A-Scholar Scholarship.

Right: Elementary Scholarship Chairman Desiree Cilmi-Vitali (front left) presents a certificate to the family of Samantha Maria Lanni (front center).



Thank you for your continued support of Columbus Citizens Foundation's (CCF) scholarship programs. As you know, CCF's scholarship programs are essential to CCF's mission. Thanks to our dedicated Members and donors, we are able to support the education of Italian-American students who have the intelligence and drive to succeed in school and beyond, but lack the means to reach their full potential.

How quickly a year goes by! As I reflect on my first year at CCF, I am incredibly grateful for our generous donors, devoted scholarship committee members, and the entire CCF team. We can all be proud of the following 2015 achievements:

- CCF surpassed \$2 million in multi-year grant commitments across its elementary, high school, college and Adopt-A-Scholar programs;
- We are funding 649 students overall, an additional 62 students from last year;
- We awarded 226 new scholarship recipients in 2015, about 30 percent more than last year; and



Left: 2015 Columbus Citizens Foundation High School Scholarship Recipients.

Bottom: CCF Scholarships Director, Christine Deska.

- We received 458 applications, a 38 percent increase from the prior year's submissions.

Among our new recipients, we are pleased to have college scholarship recipients attending some of the most prestigious institutions, including Johns Hopkins University, University of Notre Dame and the University of Pennsylvania – three colleges in the top 20 of the 2016 U.S. News & World Report National Universities Annual Rankings. Similarly, your support has allowed elementary and high school recipients to attend some of the best Catholic, private, and preparatory schools, providing an important educational foundation for our younger recipients.


While I am extremely proud of our accomplishments, it is the inspiring stories of our scholarship recipients

and their families that make this work so rewarding. Many of our recipients' families struggle to make ends meet and often feel overwhelmed, yet they continue to strive for a better future and make their kids' education a priority. I hope you will take a moment to read about our featured 2015 recipients as their stories illustrate the true impact of our work.

I am also thrilled to point out the success of our efforts to build CCF's social media presence through consistent, relevant, and engaging content. In less than 11 months, our Facebook audience has more than quadrupled! If you haven't "liked" CCF's Facebook page yet, the time is now!



Looking ahead to 2016, I am excited to enhance CCF's outreach strategy and continue to grow program awareness – as well as work to launch internship and mentorship programs, a natural expansion of CCF's current program suite.

In closing, I believe our programs are strong and poised for continued growth in 2016. To find out more, please contact me at 212-249-9923 or cdeska@columbuscitizens.org. 

Sincerely,

Christine Deska

Christine Deska

Director, Scholarships/Opportunities Office



Elementary Scholarship Recipients and Scholarship Committee.



Elementary scholarship recipient Isabella Marie Conte.



CCF Member Rosanne Varvaro with high school scholarship recipient Hannah Horodecki.

COLUMBUS -
welcomes you to our
**ADOPT-A-SCHOLAR
AWARDS DINNER**

Friday, July 17, 2015

Angelo V. Vivolo
President, Columbus Citizens Foundation

David J. Iommarini
Executive Director

Christine Deska
Scholarship/Opportunities Director

Antonella Recchia
Scholarship Assistant

FROM THE VOICES OF
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION
welcomes you to our
**High School Scholarship
Awards Ceremony**

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION
welcomes you to our
**Elementary School
Grant Ceremony**

CCF President Angelo Vivolo (center left) with the family of college scholarship recipient Christina Squicciarini (center right).

CCF Member Gail Guy with college scholarship recipient Matthew Avolanti.

CCF Member Ronald Mannino with college scholarship recipient Nicole D'Onofrio.



Alyssa Chiarello (High School)

Entering her final year of high school, Alyssa Chiariello looks back on all the wonderful opportunities The Ursuline School has given to her. She is extremely proud of her hard work and her accomplishments including inductions into the National Honor Society, The National Art Honor Society, honor roll and a 3 year cumulative GPA of a 4.01. In her junior year, she was selected to be a Peer Leader. This year as a senior, she was honored to be hand-picked again to become a member of Peer Mediation, a program which mentors students in the middle school. She was chosen as a captain for TUS's Varsity Volleyball Team this past season as well. Aside from her leadership and academic achievements, Alyssa also had the amazing opportunity to take part in the Italian Immersion trip with Ursuline. This trip helped her "value her culture, appreciate her heritage and better understand the Italian language." Alyssa is beyond grateful for the Columbus Citizens Foundation and Mr. Auriana who have helped make this all happen. Currently she intends to pursue a career in nursing and hopes to one day give back to the CCF for all that they have done for her.



Marissa LaRocca (High School)

Marissa LaRocca is High School Committee Co-Chair Christopher Loiacono's Adopt-A-Scholar student, who is attending St. John Villa Academy in

Staten Island. She is of Sicilian descent. She lives at home with her mom and two sisters. Unfortunately, her father recently passed away. She is a strong student with a 94% average in school and hopes to be a teacher. Marissa is involved at her local community center and active in church as an alter server. Marissa is overjoyed to have received her scholarship, as she never thought she would be able to attend the high school of her dreams when her dad passed away. A CCF high school committee member described Marissa in the following way: "Strong community service... excellent student. She is an extremely intense, concerned leader."



Christopher Marrazzo Jr. (High School)

"When I first started Monsignor Farrell High School, I looked forward to meeting new friends, my classes, and the extracurricular activities. When I actually started, I was right to expect such great things from it. I joined a club called Hearing Our Heroes. The club was started by a Farrell graduate. Hearing Our Heroes comes together to do things for veterans who have served our country. Coming from public school and now attending Catholic school was a big adjustment. It was difficult in the beginning, but my teachers and friends continue to help me get through it and I have been working very hard. Some of my teachers from biology and Italian showed me how school, especially Farrell, can be fun and entertaining to learn in. That is how I would describe my freshman experience so far this year."

The Di Re Family (High School & College)

The Di Re Family has four children who have benefitted from the Columbus Citizens Foundation Scholarship Program. Mario, Anna and Christina were awarded scholarships for high school in 2004 and then for college in 2008. Mario graduated from Boston College and is now an accountant. Anna has a Master's Degree in Speech and Language Pathology and Christina completed her Doctorate in Physical Therapy and is a physical therapist at Lenox Hill hospital. In 2012, the Foundation awarded their youngest son, Joseph, a scholarship through the Adopt-a-Scholar Program and he is now a junior at Archbishop Molloy High School. The family has expressed their overwhelming gratitude for helping their children reach their goals and achievements.

Christopher Nisevic (College)

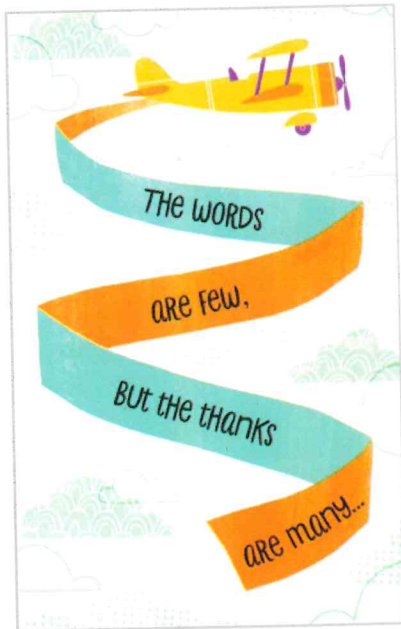
Chris has faced and overcome great obstacles to attend Rutgers University with an extremely challenging family life. His mother was diagnosed with breast cancer while pregnant with Christopher. She delayed treatment in order to have a healthy baby, and she then passed away when Chris was only five months old. At that time, Chris, his father, and brother went to live at their grandparent's house. Unfortunately, in July 2014, Christopher found his father dead in

bed from a heart attack due to complications from many years of alcohol abuse. Regarding his Italian heritage, Chris wrote in his application, "My grandmother (father's mother) is 100% Italian born and raised in Scoglitti, provincial di Ragusa, Sicily, Italy. She emigrated to America in 1963 as an adult. Since my mom passed away when I was a baby, my grandmother raised me. Although I am a second generation Italian-American, it is like I am first generation Italian-American. I have lived in her house my entire life, being raised with Italian customs and traditions, speaking dialetto Siciliano in the home."

Nick Tangorra (College) Raphael "Rafe" Tangorra (College)



2015 CCF college scholarship recipient Nick Tangorra and his brother, Raphael ("Rafe"), a 2011 scholar, are some of the most impressive CCF recipients and go-getters that we have seen. Nick and Rafe are the founders of Rock Out Autism. Rock Out Autism is a 501(c)(3) non-for-profit foundation that raises money in support of programs for children and young adults diagnosed with Autism Spectrum related disabilities. The Tangorra brothers, who grew up in a hardworking middle class family, had a passion for music. They believed that through their music they could help others around them, and so at the ages of 11 (Nick) and 15 (Rafe), they founded Rock Out Autism. Fast-forward seven years, and Rock Out Autism has grown exponentially. This, however, could not have been achieved without the help of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, which put Rafe through his college career at LIU Post, graduating with a 3.8 GPA, and now Nick, who is currently beginning his freshman year at LIU Post. Additionally, the Nick Tangorra Band is poised for success and some would say has already found it. They just returned from their first regional tour, and their band performed during this year's Columbus Day Parade.



Dear Mr. and Mrs. Auriana,

It was a very busy school year, and an even busier summer. Junior year was certainly the most challenging academic yet regarding year I have ever experienced. I was constantly running around between volleyball, ACT and SAT prep, college visits, and other school related extra curriculum activities overall. I guess you can say it sounded pretty hectic, but this did not stop me from doing what I had to do. I am extremely proud of myself for the many accomplishments I have achieved as a matter of fact, I finished junior year with the highest GPA I have ever received. I guess all the studying and late night projects paid off! Another result of my hard work earned me an induction into the National Honor Society and a re-induction into the National Art Honor Society. I was also one of the few peer leaders chosen to represent in my leadership roles and become a Peer Mediator for my senior year.

My college search will continue into the fall with stops at Fairfield University, Connecticut, and the University of Connecticut. These schools all have successful nursing programs that I would love to be a part of. I will definitely keep you updated on my decisions.

Of course, junior year was not only about being serious, I indeed enjoyed my time doing some exciting things. I was given the opportunity to travel to Italy!! This was, I was fortunate enough to take part in the Florence Immersion abroad trip with a lot of my classmates and two of my favorite teachers. It was humbly one of the best experiences of my life, and was extremely beneficial to my studies, and especially my culture.

Being able to attend a school in Italy and learning about my heritage for a week is something I will never forget. I honestly cannot think of an appropriate word to fully describe how incredible this trip was. I took my classes in Florence, but on our free time we traveled to Pisa, Lucca, Assisi, and we set out of Rome. I hope that one day I can return and explore even more than I already have.

On the other hand, I am very sad that my summer is quickly coming to an end. I have already started my preparation for senior projects and I cannot believe that it will be my last. I was named one of the captains of my team, and I was more than happy to accept this role. If you happen to be interested in attending one of my games, I will be more than happy to send you a schedule. It can also be found on the school website.

The fact that I will be starting my senior year at Ursuline in just a few days is actually very heartbreaking. I cannot believe how fast the time has gone, and I am not prepared to leave on my own side. I have so many things to look forward to such as being my own senior fashion show next week, and of course graduation. I know that this is just far in advance, but the day of my graduation is Friday May 20th, 2016. It would truly be an honor if you both were able to attend. However, I completely understand your busy schedules, so just hope it all goes by smoothly!

Again, I just want to thank you for making all of this possible. I am very excited to see what this year will bring, and I am looking forward to seeing you again at the Columbus Day Parade! I hope you had a great summer, and I will continue to keep in touch.

Love,
Alycia Chiarillo

Marissa LaRocca
15 Red Cedar Lane
Staten Island, NY 10309
(718) 948-2195

September 1, 2015

Christopher J. Loiacono, CPA
Eisner Amper
750 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017-2703

Re: Marissa LaRocca

Dear Chris:

As the school year is about to commence, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for choosing me to receive a scholarship to attend St. John Villa Academy.

I cannot begin to tell you how much this means to our family. When my dad passed away last December, I never imagined that I would still be able to attend the high school of my dreams. To now have that dream come true still brings tears to my eyes every time I think about it.

This very generous gift will allow me to pursue my academics at this prestigious high school for the next four years. I will continue to work hard and make you proud.

It is truly an honor to have been given this opportunity and I am thankful every single day!

We will never forget (my mom and I) what the Columbus Citizens Foundation has done for us. We hope to be in a position in the future to give back to this wonderful organization that values Italian heritage to help other children pursue their dreams like you have assisted us when we needed it the most.

We look forward to seeing you at the Columbus Day Parade!

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
Marissa LaRocca

Marissa LaRocca

cc: Columbus Citizens Foundation

"The Columbus Citizens Foundation has supplied us with an education. With this knowledge we have been able to expand our organization and raise over \$200,000 for Autism related services throughout New York state. These children and young adults struggling with Autism didn't choose this lifestyle, they were 'Born This Way'. We are just doing our part to help. We are simply paying forward what Columbus Citizens Foundation has done for us."

~Nick and Rafe Tangorra

September 7, 2015

Dear Members of the Columbus foundation,

As I am getting ready to start my journey into high school, I wanted to thank you for giving me this opportunity to do so. In a few days, I will be attending Monsignor Farrell high school. I have already joined the football team and made a lot of great friends. Without the Columbus Foundation's generosity this would not be possible. As a student I plan to work hard so that one day I may be able to help others as the Columbus Organization has helped me. Being my grandfather emigrated from Italy to America for a better life, I know this is what he meant. Thank you for recognizing the hard work and dedication of young Italian Americans.

Sincerely,

Christopher Marrazzo Jr.
Christopher Marrazzo Jr.

March 23, 2015

Mr. David J. Iommarini,
Executive Director
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 11021

Dear Mr. Iommarini:

My husband and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Columbus Citizens Foundation for being a major part of our children's success. I have wanted to write this letter of thanks for some time now, sorry that it is long overdue. We can't thank the Foundation enough for the generosity and support given to my children.

My children, Mario, Anna and Cristina were awarded scholarships for high school in 2004 and then for college in 2008. Today with your support, I am proud to report that Mario graduated from Boston College and is working as a staff accountant at a CPA firm downtown. He recently passed his CPA exam and looks to a bright future. Anna completed her Master's Degree in Speech and Language Pathology and secured a position in the Board of Education and Cristina completed her Doctorate in Physical Therapy and is working as a physical therapist at Lenox Hill. Your scholarships gave my children the opportunity to reach their goals. Their achievements are a parent's reward.

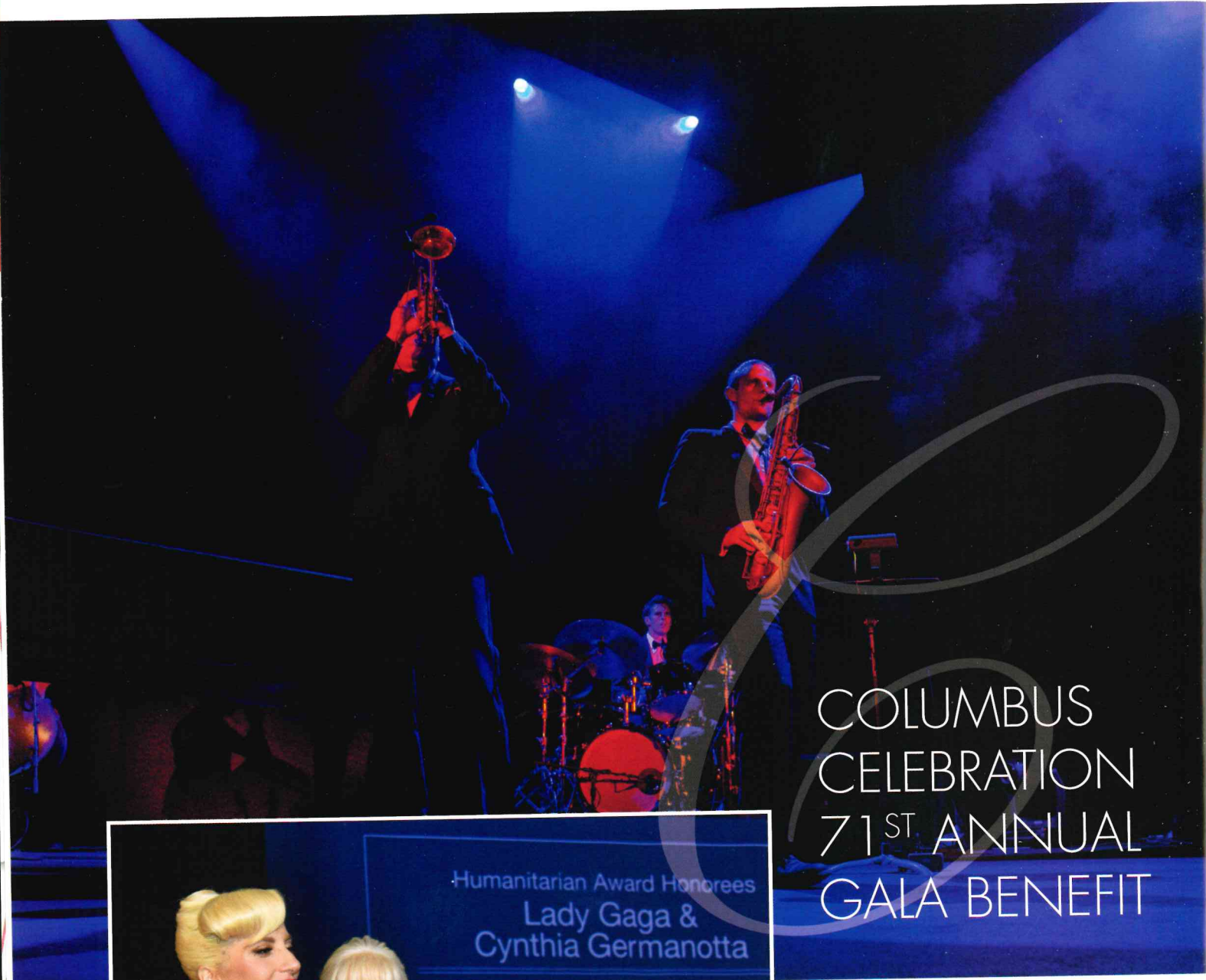
In 2012, the Foundation also awarded my youngest son, Joseph, a significant scholarship through the Adopt a Scholar Program. He is now a junior at Archbishop Molloy, loving his high school experience and maturing every day. His brother and sisters are positive role models for him and we can only hope he follows in their footsteps, achieving the goals he sets for himself. Again, we thank you.

As Italian parents we strive to give our children the best that life has to offer. We work very hard to keep them focused and on the right track. The family unit is extremely important to us and we are always part of our children's lives. Today, no matter how hard you try your best sometimes you need some help. The Columbus Citizens Foundation was there to help us. You helped us give our children the gift of education. As my husband and I continue to instill the values of our Italian heritage, we can only hope that they will continue to keep these values dear and pass them on to the next generation.

Columbus Citizens Foundation you have our heartfelt respect and gratitude.

Sincerely,

Ellen & Raffaele Di Re
Ellen & Raffaele Di Re



COLUMBUS CELEBRATION 71ST ANNUAL GALA BENEFIT



Humanitarian Award Honorees
Lady Gaga &
Cynthia Germanotta
BORN THIS WAY FOUNDATION
EMPOWERING YOUTH - INSPIRING BRAV

From top to bottom: Brian Newman's Band dazzled the crowd at the 71st Annual Columbus Celebration Gala.

Lady Gaga & CCF Member Cynthia Germanotta receive the Humanitarian Award at the 71st Annual Columbus Celebration Gala.

The Columbus Citizens Foundation 71st Annual Gala Benefit was an exciting evening where CCF Members and friends came together to celebrate the Italian-American legacy of loyalty, love of family, a willingness to work, and gratitude for what one has accomplished. Every year the annual Gala salutes those who are working to strengthen our community and youth



Left: CCF Members await the entrance of Lady Gaga at the 71st Annual Columbus Celebration Gala.

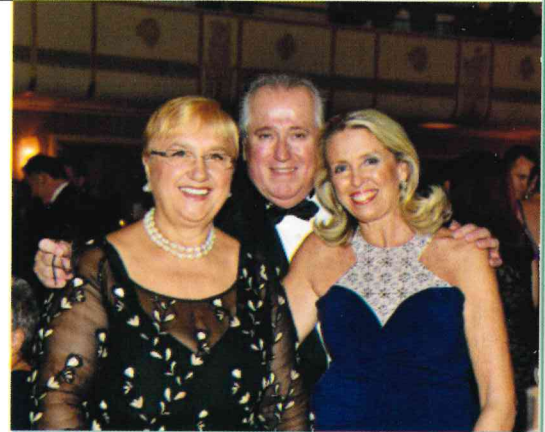
all while enjoying a great dinner and the companionship of old and new friends. Special musical guests only added to the evening's enjoyment.

This year's Gala, hosted by the talented and accomplished CCF Member and anchor of Fox Business News, Maria Bartiromo, looked to highlight Italian-Americans' superb community members.

"If you're searching for leadership, look no further than in our own backyard, the Italian-American Community. But, I want to add something to that leadership: talent and heart. Because when looking, it's easy to take note of how they both exist," said Bartiromo.

Those honored throughout the evening included: special Honorees Aldo Verrelli and Guy Chiarello; recipients of the Humanitarian Award on behalf of the Born This Way Foundation, Lady Gaga and Cynthia Germanotta; Grand Marshal Alberto Cribiore; and a special tribute to Former Governor of New York, Mario Cuomo, who was honored by his wife and son, Former First Lady of New York Matilda Cuomo and Governor Andrew Cuomo.

Speaking on behalf of his late father, Governor Andrew Cuomo spoke heavily on the importance of legacy, tradition, and honor within the Italian-American culture. "The mission [of the Columbus Citizens



Top: Renowned Chef and CCF Member Lidia Bastianich celebrates with President Angelo Vivolo and Denise Vivolo.

Bottom: Accomplished Sculptor Greg Wyatt, Gala Master of Ceremonies Maria Bartiromo and Celebration Chairman Louis Tallarini celebrate at the Columbus Celebration Gala.





Top left: Matilda Cuomo and Gov. Andrew Cuomo receiving the plaque for the esteemed Governor Mario Cuomo.

Top right: The 71st Annual Columbus Celebration Gala sold out with over 1200 guests.

Middle: CCF Member and former Grand Marshal, Frank Bisignano and Tracy Bisignano.

Bottom: Il Volo dazzles the audience with their new single.



Foundation] is to tell the true story of the Italian-American people. And as sophisticated and advanced as we get, it is still a story that needs to be told: who we are, what we believe, why we're here, and what values we have."

The Italian-American pride that Governor Cuomo spoke so eloquently about was highlighted by the Honorees, Aldo Verrelli and Guy Chiarello, with moving stories about how their heritage has remained central to their values and character. Verrelli, who is a native-born Italian that moved to America in his youth, recounted the journey and process of moving across the Atlantic and forming his identity in the Land of Opportunity. Additionally, Chiarello added how his family has been the defining characteristic of his success, and his life as a whole, likening his

parents' influence on his childhood to that of his and his wife's influence on their own children.

Adding to the night of stand out stories were those told by Cynthia Germanotta about her daughter, Lady Gaga, and how the CCF helped shaped the family for the many years they have been Members. The Germanotta family accepted the Humanitarian award on behalf of the Born This Way Foundation, a youth empowerment organization created by Gaga and her mother that's creating a positive cultural shift and an open environment for bravery and kindness among young people.

The Gala was also packed with exclusive entertainment! *Il Volo* captivated the audience with classics speaking to the rich culture of Italian



CCF Member Judge Nardelli wins the raffle and is ready to start driving his new Maserati Ghibli S Q4.



music and a new song of their own highlighting the creativity of the Italian artists who blend classical and pop sounds. Additionally, Lady Gaga embodied some of the great Italian Jazz artists who came before her and paired with Tony Bennett in a surprise performance that brought the house down!

The 71st Annual Gala was a tremendous success that helped raised \$3.9 million through a sold-out room and the silent auction that featured a specially made sculpture by Greg Wyatt, “Baryshnikov In Flight”. With every single event sponsored and donation received, the CCF is able to better fulfill our mission of making

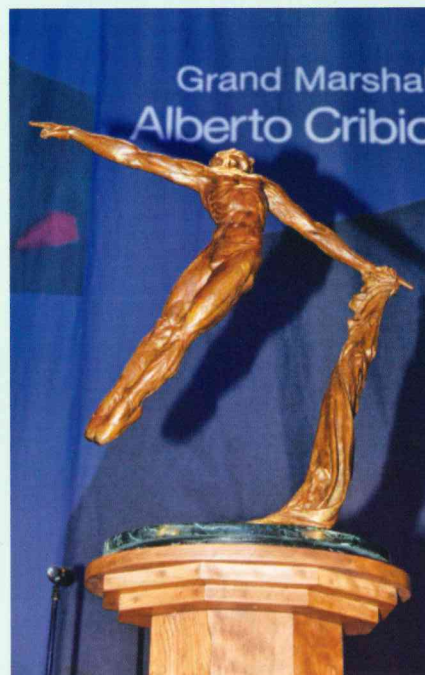
quality education accessible for youth in the community. The annual Gala was and will continue to be a highlight of the year and the CCF is ever grateful for the support of our Members and the work we all do to preserve and grow the Italian-American community. ■ ■



Greg Wyatt

Sculptures “Luna” and “Baryshnikov in Flight”, both Columbus Celebration gifts by internationally acclaimed sculptor Greg Wyatt to benefit the Franco Zeffirelli Scholarship Fund. “Luna” sold for \$100,000

in 2014 and the Columbus Citizens Foundation is offering this 8th in a series of 9 Baryshnikov sculptures by Wyatt for sale. Wyatt is the artist in residence at St. John the Divine, the Newton Cropsy Foundation and the Columbus Citizens Foundation. Wyatt is also the instructor of all of the Columbus Citizens Foundation sculpture scholarship recipients. Wyatt’s work is installed in many museums, public spaces and private collections throughout the world.





HISTORIC WREATH LAYING CEREMONY



The annual wreath laying, organized by the National Council of Columbia Associations of Civil Service and the Columbus Citizens Foundation, was held on October 11, 2015 in front of the monument of Christopher Columbus at Columbus Circle. The tradition dates back to the early years of the 20th century and is a time-honored activity during the Columbus Celebration. A crowd gathered to pay tribute to the visionary navigator and explorer and to the civil servants of New York who help make the city the vibrant place it is today.

The event honored the New York City uniformed servicemen, and Joseph Guagliardo, president of the National Council of Columbia Associations of Civil Service, made introductory remarks followed by Foundation President Angelo Vivolo, Grand Marshal Alberto Criore, and Honorees Guy Chiarello and Aldo Verrelli. All thanked the servicemen for their dedication to the city and the work they do 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, making the city the best it can be. ■■



Top right: CCF President Angelo Vivolo joined the Grand Marshal, Honorees and CCF Members to honor the uniformed servicemen of New York City.

Lower left: Grand Marshal Alberto Criore and President of the National Council of Columbia Associations of Civil Service, Joseph Guagliardo during the historic Wreath Laying Ceremony.

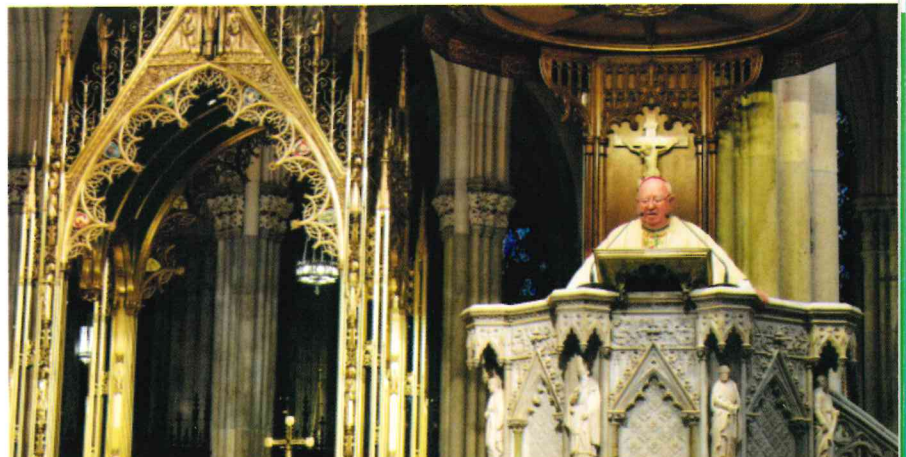


COLUMBUS CELEBRATION MASS

Coordinating the Columbus Day Mass at Saint Patrick's is both an honor and a privilege. This year was extra special because the renovation work that has taken over three years and was assisted by the Columbus Citizens Foundation is finished. In addition, and as if by Divine Intervention, we were blessed to have our Holy Father serve Mass just a few weeks before on September 24th. For those that did not have an opportunity to attend this year's Mass, I urge you to make an attempt next year. The Cathedral is magnificent; the bronze doors are restored, the narthex ceiling meticulously repaired by artisans, and the spires reach to the skies in all their glory, just as they did back in 1888. Our Mass was celebrated by the Bishop of Rockville Centre, Most Reverend William Murphy, and proved to be yet another successful event for the Columbus Citizens Foundation. Thank you to all of our Members and guests that attended and to the great assistance given to me by the Young Adults Auxiliary and all seating coordinators. ■■



Right: Bishop William Murphy celebrates the Annual Columbus Day Mass.





Columbus Day Parade Grand Marshal Alberto Criore and Kris Sebastian get ready to march in the Parade.

71 YEARS OF THE COLUMBUS DAY PARADE

New York City celebrated Italian-American heritage on October 12, 2015 with more than 40,000 participants and over one million spectators for New York City's 71st Annual Columbus Day Celebration and Parade. Led by Grand Marshal Alberto Criore, the parade captured the high energy and pride of Italian Americans, and their long dedicated drive to celebrating their culture. Renowned broadcast journalist and CCF Member Maria Bartiromo and Actor/Comedian Joe Piscopo served as Masters of Ceremonies, kicking off the Parade march along Fifth Avenue as it ran from 47th to 72nd Street.

CONAIR®

The annual Columbus Day Parade, presented this year by the Conair Corporation, is the world's largest celebration of Italian-American heritage and culture. As Grand Marshal, Alberto Criore led nearly 30 marching bands, over 25 enormous floats, and hundreds of performers up Fifth Avenue in a non-stop parade of family entertainment and Italian-American celebration. *Il Volo*, the critically acclaimed Italian trio, led the performances, fresh off their recent worldwide tour.



From left to right:
Italian Fairy Simona
Rodano performs at
the 71st Columbus Day
Parade.

New York City police
travel by horse at the
71st Annual Columbus
Day Parade.

“The Columbus Citizens Foundation is committed to fostering the growth and strength of our culture, through education and the scholarships we provide for our youth,” said Angelo Vivolo, President of the Columbus Citizens Foundation. “The same drive and achievement we champion is exemplified in Alberto Cribiore and we are truly honored to have him leading the Columbus Day Parade.”

As Vice Chairman of Citi’s Institutional Clients Group, Alberto Cribiore holds a leadership role leveraging Citi’s global network. For over 40 years, Mr. Cribiore has been a leading force in the financial services industry where he marries his love of Italian culture with his keen business sense for success.

“I am honored to be named Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade and excited to pay tribute to the achievements of Italian-Americans,” said Mr. Cribiore “This historic celebration is one of New York’s best representations of Italian cultural contribution, while helping to raise

scholarship funds for the new Italian-American generation, and I am thrilled to take part in it.”



Italian-American pride starts at a young age.

The Columbus Day Parade honored the spirit of fiscal achievement and philanthropy with honorees Guy Chiarello and Aldo Verrelli, respectively. Guy Chiarello, the President of First Data Corporation, leads innovation and technology development with an 8,000+ person team that creates solutions for six million businesses and 4,000 financial institutions around the world. Aldo Verrelli is a founding member and director of American Community

Bank and the president and owner of A. Verrelli Associates, a financial consulting and estate planning company. Aldo has been committed to various charitable organizations both locally and abroad, establishing a language scholarship fund in honor of his parents in Ripi, Italy.

The Columbus Day Parade dates back to 1929 when New York City businessman and Italian immigrant Generoso Pope led a parade from East Harlem down to Columbus Circle. The parade celebrated Christopher Columbus’ explorations and the achievements and contributions of Italian Americans to the landscape of New York and the United States.

Today, the vibrant parade is made possible by the work of hundreds of volunteers who assemble each year to help the Columbus Citizens Foundation organize, and enlists the assistance of more than twenty city agencies such as the NYPD and the sanitation department that help support the logistics of bringing a safe, successful Parade to New York.



Left: CCF Members Ralph Balzano, Anthony Giordano, Domenick Schinco, Angelo Vivolo, Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Frank Fusaro and Lawrence Auriana march with Italian pride during the 71st Annual Columbus Day Parade.

Bottom left: For the final act of the Columbus Day Parade, Anthony Giordano, Guy Chiarello, Aldo Verrelli, Joe Piscopo, Angelo Vivolo, Mar Bartiromo, Alberto Cribiore, Frank Fusaro, Ralph Balzano and Lawrence Auriana sang New York, New York.


Bottom right: The officials of the Parade, Lawrence Auriana, Guy Chiarello, Aldo Verrelli, Alberto Cribiore and Angelo Vivolo posed as they completed their march up 5th Avenue.



This vibrancy was highlighted with performers and guest appearances by Simona Rodano, Miss USA Olivia Jordan, the Nick Tangorra Band, and Brian Newman to name just a few. Additionally, all Honorees rode in Maserati cars, noted for their Italian craftsmanship, and now the official mode of transportation for the Columbus Celebration.

“The Columbus Day Parade is an event that truly speaks to the culture and heritage of New York and we felt it is the type of historical event we should be involved in,” said Leandro Rizzuto, CEO, Conair Corporation, one of the Columbus Parade’s major sponsors this year. “At Conair, we strongly believe in education. We admire the work the Columbus Citizens

Foundation is doing by helping young people succeed with their scholarship program and we wanted to help support this effort.”

The Columbus Day Parade was broadcast on six continents and viewed by millions of people around the world. 



Dave Davis
President & General Manager

October 29, 2015

Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

I apologize again for being out of town on business, but allow me to offer my congratulations to you and the Foundation for another colorful and talent-filled Columbus Day Parade.

It is truly the largest celebration of Italian American pride, and this year, more than 490,000 people watched the parade on Channel 7, attracting more viewers than anything else on television between noon and 3pm.

We share the values of positive cultural education and philanthropy that are the mission of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, and are proud to be your partner.

Good luck in topping this year's parade in 2016!

Sincerely,



7 Lincoln Square, New York, New York 10023
Tel 917 260 7100 daveid@davis@abc.com



Top: As the Parade comes to an end, Frank Fusaro, Marian Pardo, John Cioffi (back), Ralph Balzano, Anthony Giordano (back), Alberto Criore and Lawrence Auriana get ready for the last act.

2nd: Renowned chef Lidia Bastianich and Grand Marshal Alberto Criore take a break during their march up 5th Avenue during the Columbus Day Parade.

3rd: Columbus Day Parade Masters of Ceremonies Joe Piscopo and Maria Bartiromo invite the crowd to join in for the last Parade song, New York, New York.

Bottom center: Grand Marshal Alberto Criore (center left), poses with the clergy after the Columbus Celebration Mass.



The Columbus Citizens Foundation thanks
the hard work of the 2015 Columbus Celebration Chairmen
for their tireless efforts to make the 2015 Columbus Celebration an extraordinary success.

2015 COLUMBUS CELEBRATION CHAIRMEN



Angelo V. Vivolo
President



Louis A. Tallarini
Celebration Chairman



Anthony F. Giordano
Journal Chairman



Anthony M. Mallardi
Journal Chairman



Frank G. Fusaro
Media Chairman



Michael F. Pedone
Marketing Chairman



Janice Galli Becker
Silent Auction Chairman



Alfred M. Catalanotto
Parade Chairman



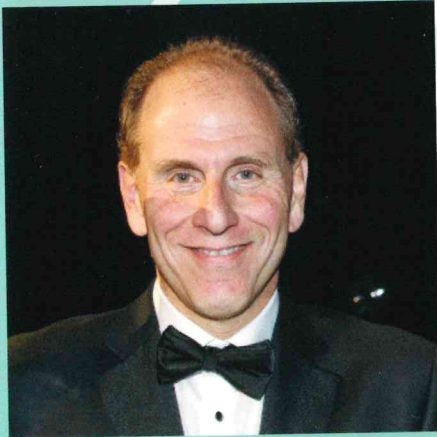
Lawrence E. Auriana
Italian Affairs Chairman



Frank P. Marzano
Dinner Chairman



Domenick J. Schinco
Mass Chairman



RECOGNIZING OUR HONOREES

The Columbus Citizens Foundation was honored to have Alberto Cribiore serve as the 2015 Grand Marshal and paid tribute to Honorees Guy Chiarello and Aldo Verrelli. The Foundation also awarded a Humanitarian Achievement Award to Lady Gaga and her mother, Cynthia Germanotta, Founders of the Born this Way Foundation. ■■

Grand Marshal

ALBERTO CRIBIORE

Vice Chairman

Citi's Institutional Clients Group

Honoree

GUY CHIARELLO

President

First Data

Honoree

ALDO VERRELLI

President & Owner

A. Verrelli & Associates

Humanitarian Award

LADY GAGA & CYNTHIA GERMANOTTA

Born This Way Foundation

December 17, 2015

Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

I want to thank you for allowing me to have such an important role in this year's Columbus Day Parade. What an honor it was walking up 5th Avenue as the Grand Marshal and helping to lead 35,000 marchers behind me and seeing a million people lining the sidewalks. It was a true privilege and an experience I shall never forget.

The Columbus Celebration represents the best of Italian-American heritage and I was so happy to help recognize the achievements of our ancestors and take part in the largest celebration of Italian-American culture and heritage.

I am personally in awe of all your hard work to bring the Parade to life and your unwavering dedication to the real mission of the Foundation, raising money for scholarships, a cause close to my own heart and one that inspired me to become a member many years ago.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to be such an integral part of this momentous occasion and I was so happy having joined you, the other esteemed Honorees and all the many supporters during the Columbus Celebration Weekend events.

Congratulations on a tremendous success and thank you again for the wonderful opportunity you provided me to support the Foundation and the Italian-American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alberto Criore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Alberto Criore

First Data

Guy Chiarello
President

November 23, 2015

Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the Columbus Citizens Foundation for selecting me as an Honoree for the 2015 Columbus Day Parade. I was truly honored to walk down Fifth Avenue with my family alongside you and the other esteemed participants to proudly celebrate our Italian heritage on such a grand scale.

It was a humbling experience to represent those who came before us and built the rich Italian-American traditions that we enjoy in this country and that the foundation represents.

Beyond Columbus Day, I want to personally thank you and the entire team at CCF for your tireless efforts in giving back to the Italian-American community. Growing up in Trenton with deep roots throughout Italy, I learned from an early age the importance of hard work and education. No other organization exemplifies those principles in such a profound way! I am proud to continue to work alongside CCF to help deliver on your mission of providing educational opportunities and financial support for those in need.

As I stood at the podium on Saturday night at the gala, I knew it was an experience and honor I would not soon forget. Thank you again for the opportunity to recognize my family, friends and business partners who all so generously contributed to our worthy cause.

Warmest regards,



Guy Chiarello

225 Liberty Street • 29th Floor • New York, New York

A. VERRELLI & ASSOCIATES

285 Jericho Turnpike
Mineola, NY 11501
(516) 506-7515 • Fax (516) 307-9707
www.averrelli.com

Aldo Verrelli

Mr. Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

I am writing to express my sincerest gratitude for the utmost privilege of being an honoree at this year's Columbus Celebration Weekend. It was such a wonderful and memorable experience to participate in all of the festivities, including the Parade march up 5th avenue in recognition of the Italian-American heritage that has been so meaningful to our country. Growing up as a boy in a small town in rural Italy, I never would have imagined such an honor being bestowed upon me.

I am also thrilled that we were able to raise over \$3,000,000 for the Foundation Scholarship Program, to help provide the next generation of Italian-Americans with the opportunity to educate themselves so that they may be able to realize their dreams.

I also would like to personally both thank and recognize you for the tremendous amount of work, effort, energy, passion and enthusiasm that you have brought to this and every event that you are involved in on behalf of the Columbus Citizens Foundation.

Sincerely,



Aldo Verrelli

The named individual offers securities and investment advisory services through AXA Advisors, LLC (NY, NY 212-314-4600), member FINRA, SIPC, and offers annuity and insurance products through AXA Network, LLC and its subsidiaries. A. Verrelli & Associates is not owned or operated by AXA Advisors or AXA Network.

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Warmest regards,



Guy Chiarello

225 Liberty Street • 29th Floor • New York, New York

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Aldo Verrelli

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1st Floor Foyer



1st Floor Foyer



PRIVATE EVENTS IN VOGUE AT THE FOUNDATION



Oak Room



Oak Room

Di Falco Room



In 2015, nearly 200 events took place at the Columbus Citizens Foundation townhouse that ranged from business dinners to family parties, weddings, birthday celebrations, baby showers, christenings and many more festive occasions. The rooms available for private events and celebrations include the Oak Room, Di Falco Room, Presidents Library, Murano Room, Garden Room, Private Dining Room, Outside Patio and 1st and 2nd Floor Foyers. Each event receives a customized look and menu, designed specifically for your special event. For more information or to reserve a space for your next gathering, please contact John Boden at jboden@columbuscitizens.org 



Oak Room

FOUNDATION EVENTS AT THE TOWNHOUSE

- Baby Shower
- Birthday
- Business Christmas Party
- Business Dinner
- Business Meeting
- Christening
- Epiphany Party
- Family Party
- Family Dinner
- Fundraiser
- Gala
- Live Singer Event
- Luncheon
- Personal Christmas Party
- Post-Christmas Party
- Wedding
- Wedding Rehearsal Dinner
- Wedding Shower

LADIES AUXILIARY STEPS UP FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The Ladies Auxiliary had a banner year in 2015 raising an unprecedented amount of money for scholarships. With Janice Galli Becker at the helm, the Committee introduced new events, increased membership and gave a facelift to some of its tried and true occasions.

For the first time ever, the Auxiliary created a float for the Columbus Day Parade that boasted a true university look with authentic columns and tassels. The float was an overwhelming success and will now join the parade each year.

The annual Christmas luncheon hosted a pop-up Bloomingdale's store that featured the entire Basler Collection. The sold-out room invited women to eat and shop, and as an added bonus, each guest received a pair of Basler sunglasses that normally retail for \$250-\$300.

Looking ahead to 2016, as skincare enhancements truly go mainstream, the Auxiliary has invited CCF Member & skincare expert Dr. John Romano to talk about the pros and cons of Botox®, Restalyne® and other treatments. A Spring Fashion show with Italian designer Chiara is also in the works for the annual luncheon.

All proceeds from the Ladies Auxiliary go to support the Foundation Scholarship program and Mrs. Becker is thrilled with its success. She noted, "Our goal is to bring the ladies to a position of height and raise as much money as possible for scholarships so our children can go out and make us all proud." ■ ■



Ladies shop the Basler Collection at the Annual Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon.





Top: President Angelo Vivolo welcomes Pope Francis to New York.

Bottom: Longtime friends and collaborators, renowned chef and CCF Member Lidia Bastianich and President Angelo Vivolo cook up a storm for Pope Francis during his visit to New York.

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT ANGELO VIVOLO SERVES POPE FRANCIS

In September, our very own Columbus Citizens Foundation President, Angelo Vivolo, was chosen to help prepare meals for Pope Francis during his three-day stay in New York City. President Vivolo personally served the Holy Father while his dear friend, renowned chef and Foundation Member, Lidia Bastianich, prepared specific meals to suit the Pope's dietary selections. They served Pope Francis breakfast,

lunch, and dinner during his stay at the residence of the Holy See, and the Nuncio, Archbishop Auza.

Angelo and Lidia also cooked for Pope Benedict XVI in 2008, and as close friends have been working together for over 30 years on many charitable events. As a result of their efforts, Lidia and Angelo were featured in over 600 media outlets detailing their preparation, menu, and meals for the Pope. ■■

BORN THIS WAY FOUNDATION HONORED

Lady Gaga and her mother, Cynthia Germanotta have always been passionate about shedding light on those who need it most, thus inspiring the Born This Way Foundation (BTWF). Launched in 2012, the Foundation has dedicated the past three years to researching, learning, and developing programs to support their original mission: connecting young people in safe ways and empowering them with the skills and opportunities that will inspire them to

create a kinder and braver world. Through the "3 R's"—real stories, research, and relationships—the Born This Way Foundation partners with over 50 other philanthropic institutions and interacts with over 100,000 youths, creating the space for serious and actionable conversations across the globe.

The Columbus Citizens Foundation presented Lady Gaga and Mrs. Germanotta with the Humanitarian

Award during the 71st Annual Gala Benefit at the Waldorf Astoria Ballroom. Gaga's BTWF was chosen to receive this award based on their amazing work helping young people and because the two organizations both try to provide opportunities for the youth of today.

The CCF was pleased to host Lady Gaga at this year's Gala and looks forward to continuing to watch her and her Foundation's journey. ■■



TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR MARIO CUOMO

On January 1, 2015 we lost a great Italian-American role model, Governor Mario Cuomo. As a first generation American who spent his entire life in New York, Cuomo was proud of his heritage, and saw his political career as an avenue for change in his local and broader statewide community.

At this year's annual Columbus Celebration Gala, the Columbus Citizens Foundation acknowledged the work of the former Governor with a tribute and commemorative plaque that was presented to his wife and son, Matilda Cuomo and sitting Governor Andrew Cuomo.

Governor Andrew Cuomo spoke eloquently about his late father, who he said loved and felt passionate about the mission of the Columbus Citizens Foundation. Governor Cuomo continued saying, "He [Mario Cuomo] always kept his platform in mind in which he was a representative of the Italian-American people."

The Columbus Citizens Foundation will greatly miss the late governor and is proud of the legacy that is still being crafted by the Cuomo family with their continual support of our community. We thank Mario Cuomo for being a wonderful symbol of the Italian-American people and its strong culture of family and tradition. ■■



From left to right: Gov. Andrew Cuomo pays tribute to his late father, the honorable Governor Mario Cuomo, in an eloquent speech at the Columbus Celebration Gala. Matilda Cuomo is honored by the tribute to her late husband, Governor Mario Cuomo. Maria Bartiromo, Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Matilda Cuomo, Angelo Vivolo, Louis Tallarico take a moment to honor the great former Governor Mario Cuomo.

SAVE THE DATE IN 2016!

January 5: Coat Drive

Please join the CCF at this cocktail reception where the cost of admission is simply the donation of a warm coat. All donations will go to a local charity in need to help better the lives of those less fortunate during the cold winter.

February 13: Valentine's Day Dinner

Celebrate your loved one next February at the Townhouse with our special romantic dinner and live music designed to spark romance and love.

March 18: Feast of San Giuseppe

Join us as we gather for a celebratory feast and live music to honor St. Joseph.

March 27: Easter Dinner

Chef John Boden is whipping up an extra special Easter dinner for CCF families and friends. Join us as we celebrate our faith and our loved ones during this joyous dinner.

April or May: Cigar Dinner

The annual Cigar Dinner has become a staple in our calendars and we couldn't imagine this year without such a fun night.

May 3: LAX Spring Luncheon & Boutique

The Ladies Auxiliary is hosting their yearly spring luncheon with more than just food and music: there's shopping! Take part in all the festivities and help raise money for a good cause.

May 8: Mother's Day Dinner

Our mothers are so important to us; they anchor, support, and provide unconditional love to their families. We will make their day extra special with our annual Mother's Day dinner!

June: Townhouse BBQ

Come and enjoy our annual backyard BBQ at the Townhouse! This is a great way to kick off the summer with lots of laughs and great food.

June or July: Shore Dinner

For many, the Italian Shore Dinner is the highlight of their summer. This seafood feast is perfect for those who love cracking shells and a good time!

October 8: Columbus Celebration Annual Gala

The Columbus Celebration Gala is our annual premiere event that celebrates our Italian-American heritage with an evening of great entertainment, food and art, while highlighting some of the brightest working in our community.

October 10: Columbus Day Parade

Please help us celebrate Italian Americans. Line up along Fifth Avenue or come to our Red Carpet at 69th & Fifth Avenue to enjoy the largest celebration of Italian-American heritage!

December: Christmas Celebrations

December is the month to celebrate with our Member's Christmas Dinner, children's party, and our annual Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon.

December 31: New Year's Eve Event

Bring in the New Year right! Gather with other CCF Members as we look back on our year and celebrate our accomplishments together.

IN MEMORIAM

Former Governor Mario M. Cuomo passed away on January 1, 2015. He will be greatly missed by those who survive him: his wife, Matilda, and their five children.

Ida Berardi, mother of Foundation Member Loretta Berardi, passed away on February 2, 2015, just two days after her 96th birthday.

John Piccard, Sr., father of Foundation Member and Investment Committee Co-Chairman John Piccard, passed away in early March 2015.

Lisa Colagrossi, reporter and anchor for WABC-TV and an anchor for the Columbus Day Parade, passed away in March 2015. She is survived by her husband and two young sons.

Nicholas A. Gravante, Sr., father of Foundation Member Nicholas A. Gravante, Jr., passed away in March 2015. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, three children, and eleven grandchildren.

Maria Theresa Fauci passed away on April 8, 2015. She is survived by her three sons. She is predeceased by former Member, James R. Fauci.

Rose Giove, Member and wife of the late William Giove, passed away in July 2015. She is survived by three children, eight grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Virginia M. Cappelli, wife of Louis J. Cappelli, passed away in the summer of 2015. She is survived by five children, ten grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and relatives. She will be remembered for her kindness.

Rosemary Pascucci, sister of Robert Pascucci, passed away in the summer of 2015. She is survived by her sister-in-law, two brothers and their wives, seven nephews, one niece, three great-nephews, one great-niece, and many loving cousins.

Jean Loconsolo, wife of Foundation Member John Loconsolo, passed away in early fall of 2015. She is survived by seven daughters, twelve grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Gabriele D'Auria, father-in-law of Foundation Member Gino Pullo, passed away mid-September 2015. He was 98 years old. He is survived by his two children.

Fr. Francis Fajella, former Foundation Member, passed away in September 2015. His sister and her husband, and many cousins survive him.

Thomas Tizzio passed away on October 20, 2015. Thomas was a former Foundation and board Member.

Maria Luisa Cerrone, mother of Foundation Member Adriana Milana and mother-in-law to Thomas Milana, passed away on October 22, 2015. She was a mother to two children, and a sister to four siblings.

Pasquale S. "Pat" Fichera, father of Foundation Member Salvatore Fichera, passed away on November 12, 2015. He was 93 years old.

Martha Sapraticone, mother of Foundation Member Michael Sapraticone, passed away on December 12, 2015, at the age of 97.



NEW MEMBERS

Charles J. Alaimo is Senior Vice President and Head of Global Human Resources at Aceto Corporation. His father was born in Castrofilippo, Sicily, and immigrated to the US at the age of 15. Mr. Alaimo is a donor for Make-A-Wish, St. John's Preparatory High School, and various other organizations, as well as a member of SHRM (Society for Human Resource Management). Having a niece that was a 2014 College Scholarship recipient, he wishes to be part of an organization that promotes cultural traditions and philanthropic activities. In addition to helping Italian-Americans through the Adopt-A-Scholar program, Mr. Alaimo would like to instill in his children and others a respect for Italian traditions and culture. He believes his people management skills and experience in initiative development will be assets in his participation in various committees and projects.

Joseph V. Amella is Founder, President, and CEO of Diligent Credit Solutions, an identity theft resolution and credit education company. Both sides of his family emigrated from small towns around the city of Agrigento and Sicily. He has been a member of the YPO/WPO (Young Presidents' Organization/ World Presidents' Organization) for the past 20 years, is associated with SASS Foundation for Medical Research and is a Board Member of the Cold Spring Harbor Lab Association. Mr. Amella has been a finalist twice for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award (2004 & 2005). Being a proud Italian American, his goal is to ensure that his heritage and recognition of it continues to remain strong, not only throughout his years of participation, but for decades to come.

Emanuel Arturi is the Executive Vice Chairman of Knowledge Group, Inc. His father was born in Calabria while his maternal grandparents were from Sicily. He is the Board Chairman of Mercy Diocesan High School, a Board member of Bridgehampton National Bank, Peconic Bay

Medical Center Foundation, Co-Founder of the Daniella Maria Arturi Foundation (DMAF), and was honored with the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award. Being impressed by Foundation Members he has met, he would like to support the philanthropic mission of the organization and not only personally connect to his Italian heritage but expose his children to it as well.

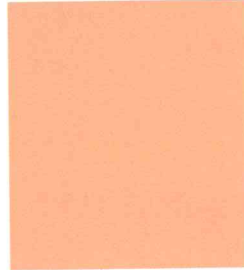
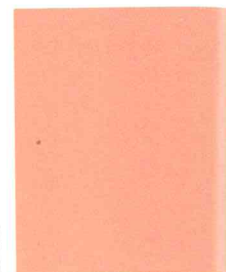
Dennis Basso is Founder and Designer for Couture Fur and Ready-to-Wear apparel of DBMC, LLC. His grandparents were from Naples and Palermo. He is affiliated with New York Hospital, Silver Hill Hospital, Alzheimer's Association, and God's Love We Deliver, to name a few. Mr. Basso is a member of the CFDA (Council of Fashion Designers of America), the Doubles Club, Mar-a-Lago Club, the Core Club, and is the recipient of the "Man of the Year" by the Boys Town of Italy and the Children's Hearing Institute. He has also been awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the State of New York Fashion Institute of Technology. Mr. Basso is familiar with the Foundation through friends who are current Members and has already contributed his generous support in staging a phenomenal fashion show at the 2014 Ladies Auxiliary Christmas luncheon. He believes strongly in the Foundation's mission to provide scholarships and to perpetuate Italian culture and heritage.

Ralph J. Bianco is Senior Vice President of Operations at the Hospital for Special Surgery, as well as Team Radiographer for the NY Mets. His paternal grandparents were born in Naples while his maternal grandparents were born in Rome. He is a member of the Order of the Sons of Italy in America as well as numerous other organizations, including the American College of Healthcare Executives, American Healthcare Radiology Administrators and Healthcare Financial Management Association. He has been the VP of The Knolls Homeowners Association for

the past ten years, Treasurer of the Glen Cove Camera Club and on the professional advisory committee of the Glen Cove School Day Care. Being acquainted with several Members and having attended functions at the Townhouse, he welcomes engaging in activities that support his Italian heritage. He looks forward to the opportunity to utilize his many years of leadership experience and work with those who share his ancestry to promote the Foundation's goals.

Luca Bonardi is an Economist and Partner at KPMG LLP. He was born in Iseo, Brescia, where he completed his college and military service before immigrating to the United States in 1997 to study at Fordham. He is the Treasurer of the West Orange Cub Scouts, member of the American Economic Association (AEA) as well as the National Association for Business and Economics (NABE). Being proud of his Italian heritage and experiencing firsthand the impact a scholarship can provide, he would like to devote his time and resources to fundraising with the possibility of providing young men and women of the Foundation the opportunity of internships through his company.

Jeffrey C. Caputo is Owner and President of The CHS Group, a renovations and construction company. His father was born in Naples, while his maternal grandparents were from Calabria and Sicily. Being affiliated with "New York Cares," he has, on numerous occasions, volunteered his time to feed the homeless and, following Hurricane Sandy, offered his time on Thanksgiving to organize and feed those who had lost their homes. For over four years, he was a member of "The Italic's Society," composed of Real Estate contractor professionals and businessmen that have made contributions to the less fortunate. He believes in the Foundation's mission of helping those in need and is willing to bring his expertise in design, construction, and restoration to serve where necessary.



Linda R. Carlozzi is an attorney and shareholder at Jackson Lewis P.C. Her mother was born in the US but grew up in Campodipietra, where she met and married Linda's father. They came to the US after they married. Linda is a past member of the Board of Directors for the National Organization of Italian American Women, and a Founding Member of FIERI where she received the 2011 Scholarship Award. Ms. Carlozzi was the President of the Italian Welfare League from 2008-2014 and is their current Chair. She is also currently on the Board of Directors for NIAF (National Italian American Foundation) as well as a member of Columbian Lawyers and the American Bar Association. She shares the Foundation's commitment to preserving Italian language and heritage as well as perpetuating its scholarship programs.

Guy Chiarello is President of First Data, a financial services and payment company. Both of his parents were born to Italian immigrants. He is on the Board of Directors of CAFEX, was previously Board Leader and 2014 Man of the Year at NPower, 2012 Honoree and Benefactor of Only Make Believe, as well as recipient of numerous professional awards. Through his affiliation with Foundation Members and past Grand Marshals, he has learned of the values to which the Foundation aspires. In 2014, Mr. Chiarello was instrumental in raising funds in the name of First Data and Grand Marshal, Frank Bisignano. As the Foundation's 2015 Honoree, he once again raised a significant amount of money and looks forward to many years of active participation in helping Italian-Americans and their families.

Frank D'Amelio is the Executive Vice President of Business Operations and Chief Financial Officer at Pfizer, Inc. His mother was born in Sicily and his paternal family is from Naples. He is on the Board of Directors and Audit Committee Chair for Humana, Inc., as well as a Board

Member of Zoetis, Inc., the Independent College Fund of NJ, and the Gillen Brewer School. He is also affiliated with the Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation, as well as NJ Sharing Network. He became a Member because he respects and admires the Foundation's commitment to scholarship and education. To that end, he has established two scholarships at St. Peter's College and raises large sums of money for the Independent College Fund of NJ. He firmly believes that education and hard work are the great equalizers.

Frank DellaFera is the President and CEO of Fera Pharmaceuticals, LLC. His parents were born in neighboring towns in Italy. He is a Board Member of the Boys and Girls Club, school Board Member at ASR (All Saints Regional Catholic School) in Glen Cove, on the Advisory Board for the College of Pharmacy at St. John's University, as well as a former member of the Board of Directors of GPHA (Pharmaceutical). For their years of service, the Good Counsel Homes and Hope for Babies and Mothers honored Mr. DellaFera and his wife in 2013. He has attended dinners and Opera Night at the Townhouse. Being so proud of his Italian heritage, he would love to be affiliated with an organization that shares his personal belief in higher education.

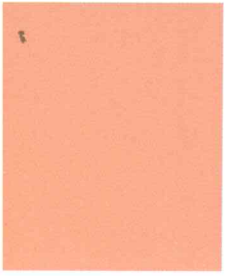
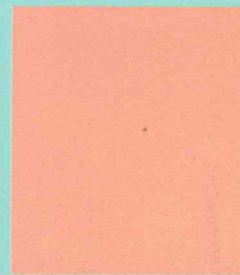
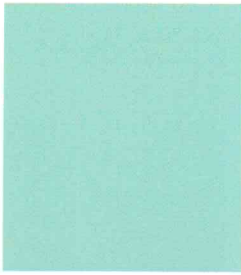
Patrick A. DiCerbo is a Financial Representative for Northwestern Mutual. Both his paternal grandparents came from Dugenta, Italy. He is the Chairman of Vintage Aficionado A.R.C./Center for Disability Services and Trustee for Union College in Schenectady, NY. He is a Certified Financial Planner and a member of the Society of Financial Services Professionals and the Mohawk Golf Club. Mr. DiCerbo was awarded the Financial Rep of the Year (twenty-three years running) of the Northwestern Mutual Albany office, and was the number ten all time Northwestern Mutual Rep out of approximately 100,000. Being raised in Italian

traditions, including weekly Sunday dinners at his home, Mr. DiCerbo would like to be surrounded by other people of his heritage and also feels that through his extensive network, much of which is Italian, he could serve the Foundation well.

Geraldine DiCostanzo is a retired Executive Vice President of SIAC/NYSE. Her father was born in Esperia and her maternal grandparents were both born in Foggia. She was Vice President of the Italian Welfare League from 2012-2014, Treasurer from 2002-2012, and again starting in January 2015. Ms. DiCostanzo is a member of NIAF (National Italian American Foundation) and NOIAW (National Organization of Italian American Women). Being very proud of her Italian culture and heritage, Ms. DiCostanzo believes that Membership would offer her the opportunity to work and socialize with people who share common interests. Given her background, she would be willing to work on any committee where her skills would be most useful.

John S. DiLeo is Owner and President of Hylan Datacom & Electrical LLC. Both his maternal and paternal lineage stem from Sicily. Mr. DiLeo is affiliated with The Italian Tribune, where he was awarded the 2011 Humanitarian of the Year; a member of NECA (National Electrical Contractors Association); SIEDC (Staten Island Economic Development Corp.); Helmet to Hard Hats, which helps veterans gain employment in the construction industry; as well as Meals on Wheels. He is also a Contributor to the Meridian Health Foundation, the Jersey Shore Boy Scouts of America, and the Holiday Express. To preserve his Italian heritage, Mr. DiLeo plans to support the philanthropic goals of the Foundation by contributing to its scholarship programs and to those in need.

John R. Elarde is President of Clear View Building Services, Inc. His mother is



Neapolitan while his father is three quarters Neapolitan and one quarter Sicilian. Mr. Elarde is affiliated with the Torch Foundation at Chaminade High School, Cooley's Anemia, as well as BOSS, a business marketing/networking organization involving top local businesses. Having met many Members, attended a few events through the years, and been fortunate enough to grow his business and become more established, he now feels that he has the time and financial infrastructure to dedicate to this important Foundation. His hope is to make a difference within the Italian communities and show his children the importance of perpetuating the Italian culture and giving back to those who have supported and given him guidance through the years.

Research at the Hospital for Special Surgery. His paternal great-grandparents emigrated from Sambuca, Sicily. He is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Orthopaedic Research Society, as well as the Arthroscopy Association of North America. Dr. Gulotta volunteers his time with various associations and fundraising events and has received multiple professional and athletic awards including the Jean McDaniel Award in 2009 awarded to the Best Resident Physician at the Hospital for Special Surgery. He became involved with the Foundation for an opportunity to "pay it forward" and help in its philanthropic endeavors, while honoring and fostering his Italian heritage. He hopes the Foundation will serve to reinforce the Italian-American culture and values upon his children.

Dr. Evelyn C. Granieri is a Physician and Chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Aging at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons, New York Presbyterian Hospital. Both of her parents are Italian, with her father being born in the Celico region of Calabria. She is a member of the National Organization of American Italian Women, Association of American Medical Colleges, American Geriatrics Society, National Board of Medical Examiners, and the American Public Health Association. Dr. Granieri has received numerous teaching and mentoring awards, the Jahnigen Award for national contributions in geriatric education, as well as awards for service from the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Veterans Administration. Being deeply committed to the culture and heritage of her ancestry and having been the beneficiary of scholarships and fellowships financed by other Italian-Americans, she is at a place in her life where she has the capabilities to mentor others, and provide direction and guidance to resources.

Denis M. Hughes is a Consultant and Operating Partner at Stonepeak Infrastructure Partners and past President and CEO of the New York State AFL-CIO. His maternal grandfather was from Salerno. He is a Board Member of the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York and the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the Italian American Labor Council Four Freedoms Award, as well as the Jewish Labor Committee Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Hughes has always had a great interest in Italian culture and having been influenced by his mother's family, especially in his character development, he is privileged and honored to be part of an organization that furthers those elements of Italian culture of which he is so proud.

Michael Lo Bosco is a Chief Risk Officer at Guggenheim Securities, LLC. His parents are from Naples, where his mother was born. He was on the Board of Trustees for the YMCA of New Jersey, and has received a Certificate of Appreciation for the Guild for Exceptional Children, special recognition as a founding

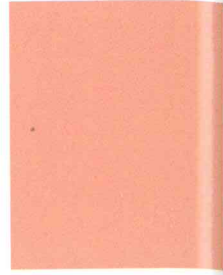
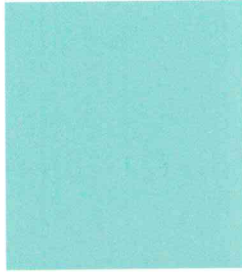
Dr. Lawrence V. Gulotta is an Orthopaedic Surgeon and Director of Sports Medicine

“Membership is the lifeblood of the Foundation.

While fundraising to make grants for scholarships and other worthy causes is an essential part of CCF's mission of fostering our Italian-American heritage, CCF's success in doing so is dependent upon the commitment of Members who volunteer year-round to make it all possible.

Therefore, it is necessary that new Members not merely give financial support to CCF's mission, but that, to whatever extent possible, they also seek to participate in the various committees and events through which CCF's charitable funds are raised. Such personal commitment is what will make it possible for CCF's mission to continue to be successful for new generations yet to come.”

~ John Desiderio
CCF Membership Chair



member of the Capital Markets Credit Analysts Society, as well as recognition by NJ State Senators Bramnick, Kean, and Munoz for his charitable work. Mr. Lo Bosco is interested in supporting the philanthropic and cultural activities of the Foundation, such as recruiting new Members as well as supporting the educational needs of children through its scholarship programs.

Robert LoCascio is the Founder and CEO of LivePerson, Inc. His paternal grandparents emigrated from Ali, near Messina, while his maternal great-grandparents came from Vallelunga, Sicily. He is a member of the Vatican Patrons of the Arts in Rome, which restores the treasures of the Vatican, and is currently working on creating a technology council for the Vatican Museum. He was acknowledged by the Huffington Post as Person of the Day for his work in feeding families during Thanksgiving, was the NYC Finalist for Entrepreneur of the Year, and is affiliated with several philanthropic causes. He became a Member of the Foundation because he believes that the success he and his family have today is because they were taught about family in their youth.

Michael Maron is President and CEO of Holy Name Medical Center. His grandfather was from Crocemosso in the Piedmont region while his grandmother was from the Caccivio province of Como. He is Chairman of the Bergen Catholic Alumni Association, former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bergen Catholic High School, as well as former Board Member of the Boy Scouts of Northern New Jersey. He is also the recipient of numerous honors and awards. Being very proud of his Italian heritage, Mr. Maron has done much to preserve his grandparents' traditions and values, part of which are helping others to learn and work hard. He is looking to expand his social interaction with fellow Italian-Americans from the New York area.

Daniel R. Masiello, Sr. is a private wealth advisor at Ameriprise Financial. Both paternal and maternal grandparents were from Basilicata. He is affiliated with the March of Dimes, St. Joseph Hill Academy Parent Association, the American Cancer Society, Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, Valerie Fund, and is a member of the Financial Planning Association. Mr. Masiello has been named FIERI's Man of the Year, Ameriprise Financial "Hall of Fame," and one of NY Institute of Technology "Alumni of the Year." Being very proud of his Italian heritage, he desires to be part of an organization which promotes the traditions and morals passed down to him by his grandparents and parents. Having participated and organized many events over the last two decades, he looks forward to accomplishing the same for the Foundation.

James A. Mitarotonda is the Chairman, President and CEO of Barington Capital Group. He was born in Grumo Appula, Bari, and, at the age of nine, immigrated to the US. Mr. Mitarotonda is on the Board of Directors of various public companies such as Pep Boys, A. Schulman, Omnova, Eastern Company, as well as on the Board of Trustees at Queens College, where he is an Outstanding Alumni Award recipient. Having friends who are Members and a nephew who was a past college scholarship recipient, he believes the Foundation fosters the same strong family values, high moral integrity, education, and hard work that his parents instilled in him and his siblings.

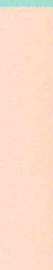
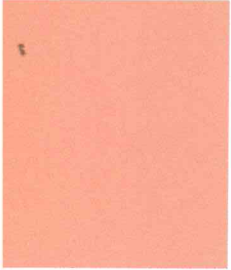
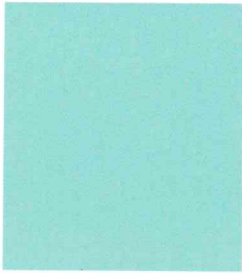
Meghan Rose Mucerino is a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University. Her paternal great-grandmother's parents were from Bari and Calabria, while her great-grandfather's parents were from Naples. She is a member of ZTA Sorority. Ms. Mucerino is familiar with the Foundation's philanthropic objectives through her father, who has been a Member for thirteen years.

Being a third generation Italian American, she would like to learn more about her ancestry and promote the richness and values of her Italian culture by participating in Foundation events, actively engaging in projects, and giving back to society some of the rewards she has received.

Dr. Vito Petruzzella is the Founder and President of Prompt Podiatry LLC. He was born in Molfetta, Bari, and travels there regularly. He is affiliated with Zella Dance, a non-profit Dance Company through his daughter's artistic involvement and Cento Amici, a non-profit that gives need-based scholarships to qualified students in New Jersey. He is a member of the American Podiatric Society, American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, as well as the Plainfield Country Club and La Playa Beach Club in Naples, Florida. Dr. Petruzzella became a member of the Foundation because having been fortunate enough to experience and achieve his American dream, he hopes to give others the same opportunity.

Giuseppe Corsi Zeffirelli Pisciotto, an Associate Producer in the film industry, was born in Ribera, Italy. He has visited the Townhouse on numerous occasions and is familiar with the Foundation through his father, Franco Zeffirelli, who was the 2002 Grand Marshal and whose contributions to the world of film and stage prompted the Foundation to establish the Franco Zeffirelli Scholarship Fund for the Arts in his honor. By becoming a Member, Mr. Pisciotto hopes to participate in the Foundation's cultural and philanthropic initiatives, as well as promote its scholarship programs.

James Roccisano is the Owner and President of Jimmy The Rock; a company that manufactures diamond jewelry and sells loose diamonds. His paternal grandmother came from the Abruzzo region while his grandfather was from Reggio



Calabria. He has donated jewelry auction items for events hosted by: Commit 2 Change, Voices Against Brain Cancer, TORCH (Together Our Resources Can Help), Developing Faces, New Jersey Audubon Society, Little Kids Rock, the CCF Ladies Auxiliary, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Although contributing to numerous charities each year, Mr. Roccisano feels that he would like to take a more active role in organizing and working in a structured philanthropic environment. He has a flexible schedule that will enable him to share his hands-on leadership experiences and organizational skills.

Richard M. Scarlata is Senior Vice President and CFO at Enigma Software Group USA, LLC. He was on the Board of Governors and Treasurer of the New York Athletic Club (NYAC) from 1994-2004 and 1999-2004 respectively, is the current Director and Treasurer of the NYAC Athletics Fund, Co-Founder, Treasurer and Secretary of Friends of Good Shepherd School, as well as Board Member and Treasurer of Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC, among others. In 2009 he was the recipient of the NYAC's Italian Man of the Year and is a member of AICPA and NYSSCPA. As a product of the parochial school system and higher institutions of learning and coupled with his financial professional background, Mr. Scarlata has an interest in not only helping other Italian-Americans reach their educational goals, but assisting the Foundation in its initiatives as well.

Rocco Sebastiani is a Real Estate Developer and President of Galleria Capital Group, President of Manhattan Holding I, Inc., as well as Owner of Diamond Crest Hotel in Wildwood, NJ. Both of his parents were born in Pacentro, Italy, and immigrated to Canada in 1966 and then to the United States in 1978. Mr. Sebastiani is proud to be an Italian American and would like to be among Members who have achieved personal advancement and have demonstrated leadership.

Alessandra Tocco is Managing Director and Global Head of Capital Introductions at JP Morgan. Her paternal grandparents were from Sicily, while her maternal grandparents were from Naples. Ms. Tocco is on the YMCA NYC Development Committee, is annual Co-Chair for the YMCA Arts and Letters event, grant reviewer for the SAMFund-Jeremy Hill annual award, member of 100 Women in Hedge Funds, as well as the recipient of the Top 50 Women in Hedge Funds 2015. Her mother's passion for furthering the education of Italian Americans and improving their image in the media and entertainment fields paved the way for an introduction to the Foundation. Through the educational platforms she created at JP Morgan, Ms. Tocco hopes to assist in developing programs to further the Foundation's mission.

John F. White is Principal and Partner-in-charge of Internal Audit and Compliance services to financial institutions at WeiserMazars. His maternal grandparents were from Chieti, in the Abruzzo region of Italy. He is a past Treasurer of the Balch Institute of Ethnic Studies and past Treasurer of the South Jersey Chamber of Commerce, where he received a twenty years of service award. Mr. White participates in several charitable events each year and is the recipient of the La Salle University Major Contributor Award, as well as being a former Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Financial Service Professional. His desire to be a part of a philanthropic organization that has a connection to his Italian heritage has led him to the Foundation, where preserving and enhancing the culture, traditions and values of his Italian ancestry, as well as its commitment to education and cultural activities, are paramount.

“I can't tell you how excited I am to see Membership growing once again, so much so, we are now approaching our previous record. With the many positive changes Foundation President Angelo Vivolo and the Board of Governors have made this year, I anticipate we will soon exceed our all time high and grow beyond.

So what's new...we have a new Junior Member category from which we are already receiving traction and we revamped our minimum house participation to make it easier and more flexible to achieve. This should benefit all our Members and hopefully reduce resignations.

All in all, 2015 was a terrific year and I believe 2016 will be even better!

Wishing all of our Members new and old a prosperous and successful 2016!

~ John Cioffi
CCF Membership Chair

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

A large thank you is in order to our Grand Marshal, Honorees, Sponsors and Members who were all instrumental in making this one of the most successful Columbus Celebrations to date.

This year's Gala was extraordinary as we witnessed 1,200 people mesmerized with performances by Lady Gaga, Tony Bennett, and *Il Volo* at the Waldorf Astoria's Grand Ballroom. The evening only helped to fuel the excitement leading into the Columbus Day Parade. With nearly a million people lining Fifth Avenue and another half a million people watching from home, it was evident that Italian-American heritage was center stage and proudly represented. The contributions from the Columbus Celebration raised \$3.9 million allowing us to fund \$2 million in scholarships!

The Columbus Celebration gives real and substantial benefits to our community. The success of the Celebration, and other fundraising efforts, directly translate to scholarships from the Foundation, helping hundreds of children from grade school to college attend schools

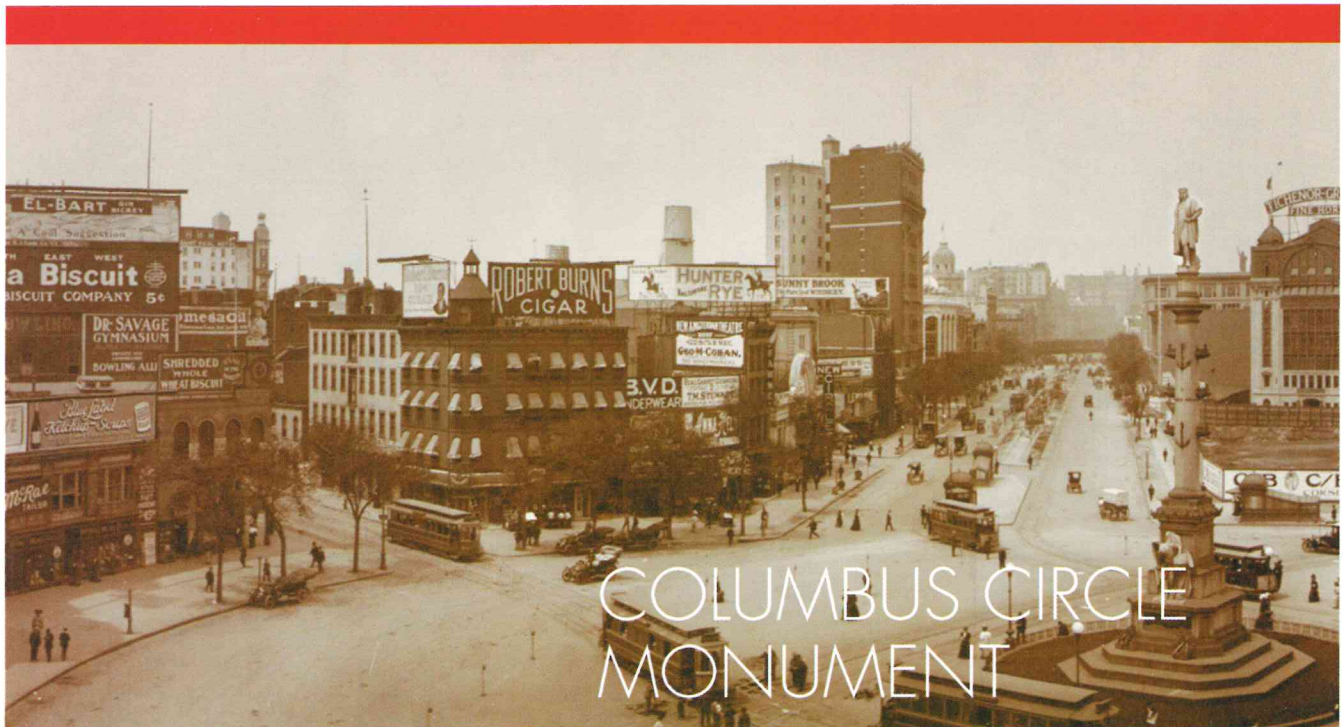
that are unavailable to them due to financial constraints. These scholarships truly help them to maximize their potential.

Even with the great amount of support we receive, the continued need for scholarship funding is greater than our resources can provide. With the application process for 2016 underway, we will only be able to grant a particular number of scholarships that, unfortunately, do not provide educational opportunities to all applicants. Also, our scholarships for high school and college continue for four years. They are not just one-year grants, which makes the need for resources so important.

If you would like to learn more about supporting our scholarship efforts, please email me at diommarini@columbuscitizens.org, or call me at (212) 249-9923. There is no obligation and all gifts are tax deductible. ■■



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COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION
TOWNHOUSE DRESS CODE

Men: Jacket and Tie

(Tie Optional from Memorial Day to Labor Day)

Women: Appropriate Attire

Taverna Policy: Tipping is not allowed

COLUMBUS CIRCLE MONUMENT

In 1889, on the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage, Carlo Barsotti commissioned the design and creation of the Columbus monument creating the Columbus Circle we know today. The 83-foot tall monument, a 13-foot tall sculpture of Columbus made of pure white Carrara marble, sits atop a 70-foot red granite column and base decorated with bronze reliefs.

The monument was restored in a conservation effort in 1992 thanks to funding by the Columbus Citizens Foundation. Then in late 2012 and early 2013, the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation commissioned a larger and more substantial conservation of the monument, and the statue of the explorer is now refreshed and preserved for future generations to admire.

The sentiments around the sculpture were best described in a speech by Annie Barsotti, daughter of Carlo during the initial unveiling, who said, "As a child of Italian parentage and of American birth, I can ask nothing greater than this: God bless Italy! God bless America! And may the friendship between the two peoples and the two countries endure and resist time as the marble and bronze of this great and beautiful monument."

The CCF is proud to be involved with keeping such an iconic symbol in the forefront of Italian-Americans' minds.



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