

IL GIORNALE

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION

JANUARY 2021 - JUNE 2022





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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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members and Foundation Supporters:

Let me thank you all for your confidence and faith in selecting me to serve as President. I have been a Member since 2009 and I am honored to take up a position held by so many other whom I admire greatly. I have developed so many close friendships at the Townhouse that it feels like a second home to me.

I am very excited to see the city's renewed vibrancy with the usual happy chaos of traffic, double-parked cars, and an exciting array of social, corporate, and cultural activities. The Townhouse and CCF Members have proven to be very resilient and it's great to see so many Members in the Taverna, at events, and using the space for private functions. At the Townhouse, our goal to provide as many opportunities as possible for us to gather together and celebrate our mission of promoting Italian culture, Italian American heritage, and the achievements of the Scholarship recipients.

In my time as a Member, I spent several years as a chair of the High School Scholarship Committee, where I saw firsthand the impact that our fundraising has on the lives of young people seeking a better education and greater opportunity. The process continues to be streamlined in effective and efficient ways, and I look forward to watching it evolve during my Presidency.

I am delighted to be serving as President with a wonderful group of Officers in Anthony Giordano, Larry Auriana and Claudio DeVellis. I thank them in advance for their service and support! The Board of Governors is an equally impressive collection of individuals – and I look forward to hearing their insight and collaborating with them – and I welcome new board member Jodi Pulice. I am also happy to have Dennis Loiacono as our new Co-Chair of the Membership Committee.

This October, we will celebrate Tom Golisano's accomplishments as an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and proud Italian American. He is a very worthy Grand Marshal, and we look forward to welcoming him to the 2022 Gala and Parade. We are also excited to hold our 2022 Gala at Cipriani 42nd Street – one of New York's most celebrated venues. I look forward to seeing you there!

Yours

Christopher Loiacono
President

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Members,

As we put the finishing touches on the *Giornale*, we are so focused on planning for Fall 2022 and the Celebration Weekend that it is not easy to look back at 2021 and the first half of 2022. Much of 2021 was still affected by COVID and restrictions on how we could gather together. And yet, our community stayed connected through so many enriching and entertaining events. We are grateful for all those who volunteered their time on House and Scholarship Committees, supported our programs, and offered essential advice so necessary to assure our best foot was always forward. Columbus Citizens Foundation remains a beacon for celebrating Italian heritage and fostering the ties that matter to us all.

When I look through the pages of this issue of the *Giornale*, I'm moved so strongly by the passion that is evident in all our activities. The photos from the Celebration Weekend, the Ladies Auxiliary and Young Adults Auxiliary events, and our rich array of cultural and educational programs held through the year speak to the broad ways in which Italian culture continues to be a forceful presence in the United States.

The Townhouse featured evenings of music, dance, film literature, fireside chats with members about their careers, special projects, and their heritage. We featured talks with political figures, economists, authors, and past Scholarship holders who are now thriving in their chosen professions. It is a great privilege to host these events and we are grateful so many Members and friends of the Foundation are willing to take time from their busy schedules to be with us.

As we plan for the second half of 2022, we know that offering Members an intriguing roster of programs will be our goal. Similarly, Celebration Weekend will provide us with many reasons to thank those who work so hard for the Foundation's success. At the heart of all our activities is a sense that we are creating cherished memories, offering opportunities to learn and connect, and most importantly, providing the means for young, deserving and talented students to advance their personal and professional dreams.

Thank you for all you do to support the work of Columbus Citizens Foundation. As you look through the *Giornale*, I hope it brings you great joy and builds your enthusiasm for the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Ackerman". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Lisa Ackerman
Executive Director

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION 2021 - 2022 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

2021 FOUNDATION EVENTS

January 13, 2021

Social Worlds, Sponsorship & Central Park's
Early Statues with Michele Bogart

January 17, 2021

Exclusive Streaming of the
Zoppe Family Circus

January 18, 2021

CCF Scholarship Workshop with
Donna Rapacciolio, Ph.D

February 8, 2021

CCF Scholarship Workshop with David Charlow

February 9, 2021

A Mangiare - A Cultural History for Foodies with
Carla Gambescia

February 14, 2021

Valentine's Day Concert with Charlie Romo

February 25, 2021

CCF Movie Night: "The Cuban"

March 4, 2021

CCF Career Chat with Kristie Pellechia

March 9, 2021

Leading Ladies of the Renaissance with
Carla Gambescia

March 25, 2021

CCF Movie Night "STALLONE: Frank, That Is"

April 12, 2021

One Night Stand: A New Look At Historic
House Museums Lecture by Franklin Vagnone

April 13, 2021

CCF Career Chat with Alyssa D'Elia

April 17, 2021

Music at the Townhouse with Pianist
Matt Baker

April 24, 2021

Music at the Townhouse with Pianist
Matt Baker

April 27, 2021

CCF Movie Night: "Bottom Of The Ninth"

April 29, 2021

CCF Movie Night: "From The Vine"



May 4, 2021

Ladies Auxiliary Spring Luncheon

May 11, 2021

A Conversation with Marianna Gatto of the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles

May 12, 2021

CCF Career Chat with Vincent J. Amoia

May 14, 2021

Music at the Townhouse with Pianist Matt Baker

May 20, 2021

CCF Movie Night: *Looking For Angelina*

May 21, 2021

Music at the Townhouse with Pianist Matt Baker

June 1, 2021

CCF Career Chat with Evelyn C. Granieri, M.D.

June 2, 2021

A Musical Journey Around The World with with Simona De Rosa of Festa Della Repubblica

June 9, 2021

A Summer Evening of Opera & Song In Remembrance of Anthony Correra

June 12, 2021

Music at the Townhouse with Pianist Matt Baker

June 12, 2021

Music at the Townhouse with Pianist Matt Baker

June 17, 2021

A Conversation with Taylor Smith, Italian American Food Entrepreneur

June 24, 2021

CCF Movie Night: "Road To Lemon Grove"

June 26, 2021

Young Adults Auxiliary's Social Primavera

July 8, 2021

CCF Movie Night: "My Father's Naples"

July 15, 2021

CCF Annual Shore Dinner

July 21, 2021

CCF Scholarship Ceremony

August 18, 2021

A Presentation on Italian Citizenship with Peter Farina of italyMONDO!

September 9, 2021

Vanessa Racci Sings Gershwin

September 15, 2021

A Conversation with Writer Laura Morelli

September 24, 2021

An Evening with Arthur Cola

October 7, 2021

Grand Marshal Dinner

October 9, 2021

Columbus Celebration Gala



October 10, 2021

Wreath Laying

October 11, 2021

Columbus Day Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral

October 11, 2021

Columbus Day Parade

October 16, 2021

Cristoforo Colombo: Excerpts from an Opera

October 17, 2021

Charlie Romo & Vanessa Racci Perform the Songs of Bobby Darin & Connie Francis

October 20, 2021

Discussion with Eustace Wolfington on the feature film on Mother Cabrini

October 21, 2021

The Wines of Southern Italy with Robert Camuto

October 26, 2021

Wild, Witch, and Wench: Women, Food, and Magic

October 26, 2021

Italian American Baseball Foundation Panel Discussion

October 30, 2021

YAA Haunted Halloween Gala

November 25, 2021

Thanksgiving

November 30, 2021

A Discussion of Sicilian Language with Gaetano Cipolla

December 5, 2021

Children's Christmas Party

December 8, 2021

Un Natale Rinascimentale LAX Christmas Luncheon & Boutique

December 11, 2021

Traditional Italian Christmas Dinner

December 13, 2021

Cristina Fontanelli

December 15, 2021

Feast of the Seven Fishes with Daniel Paterna

December 19, 2021

Unexpected Stories Behind Beloved Holiday Traditions



2022 FOUNDATION EVENTS

January 11, 2022

My Roots, My Heritage with Marianna Gatto

January 18, 2022

Norma Barbacci: A Preservation Journey

January 27, 2022

Six Popes: A Son Of The Church Remembers with Monsignor Hilary Franco

February 3, 2022

CCF Career Chat with Spencer Rathkamp

February 12, 2022

Special Valentine's Dinner with Live Music by Dominic

February 19, 2022

Special Dinner with Musical Entertainment by Charlie Romo & Vanessa Racci

March 1, 2022

Venice: The Improbable City with Carla Gambescia

March 8, 2022

The Evolution of Human Resources with Charles Alaimo and Gabriella Alaimo

March 19, 2022

Feast of San Guiseppe

March 24, 2022

The Marquis of Roccaverdina: A Translation of Luigi Capuana's Masterpiece by CCF Member Santi Buscemi

March 31, 2022

The Quest for Albanian Freedom in the Balkans An Evening with CCF Member & Former Congressman Hon. Joseph J. DioGuardi

April 1, 2022

A Capri-inspired Evening with Arthur Cola

April 7, 2022

The Growing Movement for Prosecution Reform A Fireside Chat with CCF Scholar Vincenzo Guido

April 12, 2022

A Reconsideration of Italian American Cinema with CCF Member Dr. Anthony Tamburri

April 17, 2022

Easter at the Townhouse

April 19, 2022

A Conversation with Daniel Nigro

April 25, 2022

Meet The Candidates: A Conversation with Congressman Lee Zeldin





April 28, 2022

A Discussion with Dr. Tom Catena

May 4, 2022

Ladies Auxiliary Presents Festa Infiorata

May 8, 2022

Mother's Day

May 10, 2022

A Virtual CCF Career Chat with Dr. Marissa Lombardo

May 12, 2022

Guided Honey Tasting of Five Italian Honeys with Marina Marchese

May 17, 2022

A Fireside Chat with CCF Member Frank Somma

May 18, 2022

Meet The Candidates: A Conversation with Rob Astorino

May 21, 2022

Buggin' Out with Natalia Vedralia with Children's Author & CCF Scholar Angela Carcione

May 21, 2022

YAA Presents A Great Gatsby Gala

June 1, 2022

Italian Citizenship Discussion with italyMondo's Peter Farina

June 2, 2022

Scholarship Ceremony

June 4, 2022

Young Adult Auxiliary's Primavera Social

June 9, 2022

An Evening of Regional Pasta Dishes

June 13, 2022

A Conversation with Governor Kathy Hochul

June 16, 2022

A Mozzarella-Making Workshop

June 18, 2022

HEIRLOOM: Documentary Short Screening & Discussion

June 21, 2022

The Italian Consulate Presents Do You Really Know Italy?

June 21, 2022

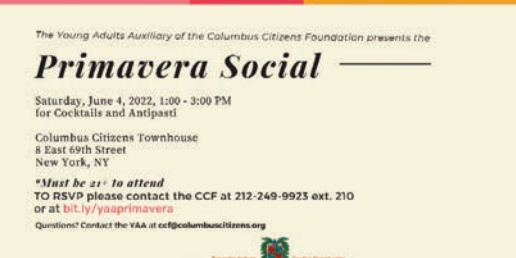
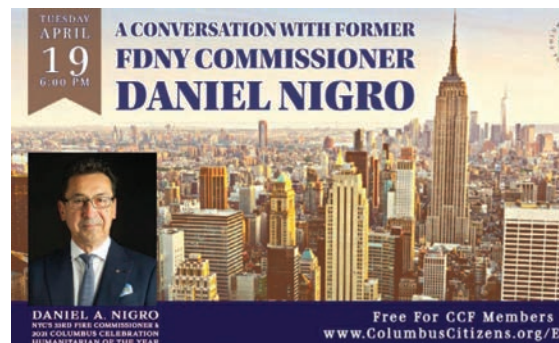
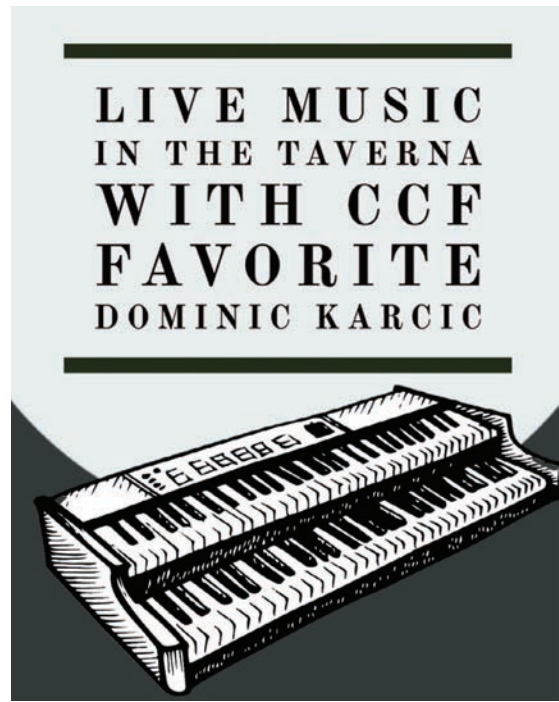
A Conversation with Dr. Ferdinand J. Visco

June 24, 2022

An Evening of Song with Charlie Romo

June 29, 2022

Sports Management & Investment Lecture with CCF Member Jerry Parisi



COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Since 1984, Columbus Citizens Foundation's chief philanthropic mission has been to provide scholarships to deserving students of Italian American heritage. The CCF Scholarship Program requires students are of a minimum of 25% Italian heritage and have shown success in their studies and involvement within their communities. Through the scholarship program, CCF promotes academic excellence and Italian American culture.

Program Overview and Highlights for 2021

We are grateful to you, our generous donors, who have supported CCF's mission. No matter the gift's size, you played a major role in making an impact on our scholar recipients, their lives, and supporting Italian heritage. Here are some our highlights from this year:



CCF's medical school scholarships provide funding for incoming first year medical school students for four years. We have continued our relationship with The Morgagni Medical Society, continuing to give out an annual award to a promising Italian American medical school student in their name. In 2021, The Dr. Anthony S. Fauci Scholarship was created in support of a public health medical school student. The first recipient we awarded was Danielle Rinaldi, New Jersey native and Boston College graduate.

Being the first recipient of the scholarship is deeply meaningful for Danielle. She says that the recognition that she received for all her hard work and her potential in the public health field makes her feel immensely grateful. She was awarded the Outstanding Observer award with Boston College Emergency Medical Services during her Freshman year. She also entered emergency medicine not knowing anything about being an EMT, yet it was a supportive environment for learning the critical work done by these professionals. She was also encouraged to mentor others as she gained knowledge and experience.

Here are some additional 2021 highlights:

- 386 students awarded in 2021
- Approximately \$1.5 million awarded to students in 2021
- Given over \$10 million since 2001

2021 Scholar Spotlights



Gabriella Scala

Staten Island native and CCF YAA member, Gabriella Scala, graduated from the University of Connecticut with her bachelor's degree and is currently working on her doctorate with thoughtful goals in mind. From a young age, Gabriella spent her free time giving back to her community and caring for others. In 2009, she made her local news for organizing a lemonade stand to raise money for a service dog for her autistic neighbor. In high school, Gabriella volunteered at a local nursing home and spent quality time talking to and accompanying people who didn't have family.



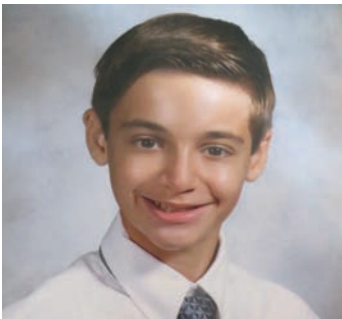
John Schiano

Focusing on your success so fiercely to achieve your goals only so you can give back and help others is not typically in the minds of high school freshmen. John Schiano is an exception to this and is very determined to succeed. While being extremely school oriented, John's favorite thing is to give back and raise money to help others. During his freshman year of high school, he became President of Xaverian High School's Italian club. During the club, he, along with his fellow members, plan holiday functions, bake sales, and school events.



Bree Parker

What do ballroom dancing, statistics, business, European studies, and performing arts have in common? To Bree Parker, CCF Scholarship recipient, these five things were her entire college career. Instead of trying to mesh her varied interests into one, she decided to experience them all. Bree graduated Spring 2021 from Cornell University with a Statistical Science major and three minors: European Studies, Performing Arts, and Business Administration. Although very different, these four areas of study have greatly shaped her into who she is today.



Richard Jackowitz

By the time he was five, Richard Jackowitz had known he wanted to one day pursue a career in the medical field. As time went on, he grew a passion for animals and his dream of becoming a veterinarian came into fruition. After receiving a CCF scholarship, Richard began his freshman year at Staten Island's St. Joseph's By-The-Sea. He chose a pre-veterinary school track program and volunteered at a local veterinarian clinic after school. Over the summer, Richard also volunteered at Vacation Bible School at his elementary school. When he is not spending time with animals, Richard is playing on his high school's golf and lacrosse teams, riding roller coasters, or spending time with his family. His hard work and dedication has led him to maintain a position on the honor roll and receive the, "Most Improved Player," award on his golf team.

Read more about Gabriella, John, Bree, Richard, and our other scholarship recipients at <https://www.columbuscitizens.org/spotlights>

Career Chats

Career Chats are virtual, informal conversations led by CCF Members and friends of the Foundation. During these chats, they speak about their careers in a range of industries to our current and recent scholarship recipients. Even more than advice, they let high school and college students know there is no one path for achieving your dreams. These chats have featured performers, professional athletes, consultants, educators, and more.



Spencer Rathkamp, Strategist / Cyclist:

Spencer Rathkamp is a professional cyclist and marketer that is well versed in strategic marketing, photography, directing and producing and stunt performing. Featured on Disney Channel, RL Grime, Dick's Sporting Goods, Dialed Health Podcast, and others, Spencer is an expert on all things two wheeled. Recently, Spencer founded the Dune Collective, a digital marketing agency that keys in on creation and implementation of digital assets into the field of action sports.



Cristina Fontanelli, Performer / Musical Artist:

Cristina Fontanelli has become an international personality through her recordings and appearances on-stage, radio and TV. She has appeared on CBS Weekend NY, has won Best Actress in the Cutting Room International Film Festival (2018) and the Venus International Film Festival (Las Vegas, July 2019) for her role in SANTINO, a NIAF/Russo Brothers Production grantee. She is a regular at (Michael) Feinstein's 54 Below and has shared stages with Tony Bennett. She has performed at the White House as part of President Clinton's holiday celebration, and Cristina opened the 2005 Stars and Stripes Inaugural Ball for President George W. Bush.

Since 1984, Columbus Citizens Foundation's chief philanthropic mission has been to provide scholarships to deserving students of Italian American heritage. The CCF Scholarship Program requires students are of a minimum of 25% Italian heritage and have shown success in their studies and involvement within their communities. Through the scholarship program, CCF promotes academic excellence and Italian American culture.



The Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation

Giambelli Foundation: A History of Giving



Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation is focused on cultural and ethnic awareness. Founded in 2014, the Foundation is headquartered in Woodbury, NY. Founded by famed restaurateurs Francesco "Frank" and Mary, owners and founders of Giambelli's 50th Ristorante in New York City. They were pioneers of fine dining Italian restaurants, and often hosted distinguished guests, including Pope John Paul II, and heads of state through the decades.

Often honored by their peers in the restaurant industry and the Italian American community of New York City, Frank and Mary were also known as great philanthropists, generously contributing to various organizations, including St. Vincent's Hospital, the Culinary Institute of America, and CCF's Adopt-A-Scholar program.

The over \$1.3 million in scholarship funds that have been provided by the Giambelli Foundation to CCF have provided the opportunity for 25 students to study at their schools of choice.



2022 SCHOLARSHIP CEREMONY

In 2022, we were thrilled to have the Scholarship Ceremony return to the Townhouse. This year's deserving recipients were given the option of attending in person or virtually.

The evening was introduced by Executive Director Lisa Ackerman and Board Chair Marian Pardo.

High school recipients were announced by Anthony Nastasi, and college recipients were announced by Dr. Joseph Scelsa. Both of these CCF Members were active participants in the 2022 Scholarship Committees, and they are to be applauded for their time dedication – along with all of our Committee Members.

The event also included an inspirational speech from CCF Member and former scholarship recipient Colette Chiodi. Colette spoke movingly of how much her CCF scholarship gave her a sense of purpose to her academic pursuits.

For more information on the Scholarship Department, please contact Director of Director of Program Advancement, Michelle Santoro, at msantoro@columbuscitizens.org.



1. A 2022 high school scholarship recipient and her family at the ceremony
2. The 2022 CCF High School Scholarship recipients
3. A 2022 high school scholarship recipient enjoying the ceremony program



- 4. A 2022 scholarship recipient with their parent at the CCF Townhouse
- 5. CCF Board of Governors President, Marian Pardo, welcoming the scholarship recipients and guests
- 6. CCF Member, Anthony Nastasi, giving remarks on behalf of the High School Scholarship Committee
- 7. CCF Executive Director, Lisa Ackerman, congratulating the 2022 scholarship recipients
- 8. Colete Chiodi giving the keynote remarks at the Scholarship Ceremony
- 9. A High School Scholarship recipient enjoying the program
- 10. CCF Member, Dr. Joseph Scelsa, giving remarks on behalf of the College Scholarship Committee

2022 SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED TO STUDENTS ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:

College

Brown University	Sacred Heart University
Clemson University	Seton Hall University
Ithaca College	St. John's University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice	Stevens Institute of Technology
Manhattan College	University of Florida
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Villanova University

High School

Academy of Holy Angels	Mary Louis Academy
Archbishop Molloy	Monsignor Memorial McClancy
Archbishop Wood	Moore Catholic High School
Bishop Moore Catholic High School (Orlando)	Paramus Catholic High School
Christ the King High School	Preston High School
Fordham Preparatory	St. Edmund's High School
Holy Cross High School	St. Joseph by-the-Sea
Immaculate Heart Academy	St. Joseph Hill Academy
Iona Preparatory	St. Vincent Ferrer
Kellenberg Memorial High School	The Ursuline School
Maria Regina High School	Xavier High School
Mary Help of Christians Academy	Xaverian High School

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEES!

2022 High School Scholarship Committee

Frank Somma, *Chair*

Charles Alaimo

MaryKay Coyle

Joseph DiMartino

Peter Gardella

Gary Hughes

Celeste Marchione-Maltzman

Anthony Nastasi

Colette Stango-Chiodi

Larry Trapani

2022 College Scholarship Committee

Santi Buscemi

Frank Calabro

Rocco Carriero

Anthony Civale

Dr. Evelyn Granieri

Robert Ingenito

Ronald Mannino

Pat Manzo

Barbara Marino

Dr. Maria Palandra

Victor Pizzolato

Dr. Joseph Scelsa

Anthony Simonetti

Dr. Anthony Tamburri

Michele Trizzino

2022 Dr. Anthony Fauci Scholarship Committee

Dr. Evelyn Granieri

Dr. Thomas Sculco

PHILANTHROPY THROUGH THE YEARS

The Scholarship Program is the most visible philanthropic program of Columbus Citizens, but it is far from the only efforts championed by our Foundation.



Over the years, CCF has assisted in rebuilding the Italian town L'Aquila following a devastating earthquake in 2009. In 2012, representatives of the Foundation, including former Presidents Frank Fusaro and Louis Tallarini, presented the town of L'Aquila with a mobile police unit. The regional authorities made this specific request, to assure Italian police could continue to serve and protect the area's displaced populace.

More recently CCF contributed significantly to several campaigns in Italy to address the alarming onset of the COVID pandemic in 2020.

We similarly responded as dedicated citizens of New York City to the stabilization of lower





Manhattan following the aftermath of 9/11. As with many disasters, efforts continued for many years after the initial devastation. In 2003, Millennium High School received a \$1 million donation from CCF, allowing the public high school to open its doors to students in record time. The school was the first created primarily to serve students downtown and to illustrate

the services needed to get the residential community back on its feet in the neighborhood that was still in the throes of rebuilding efforts. Ambassador Charles Gargano, CCF Chair at that time, played an important role in bringing this initiative to fruition.



The Foundation has dedicated significant resources to the preservation and maintenance of symbols of Christopher Columbus throughout the boroughs of New York City. In 1987, CCF proudly took part in NYC's Adopt-A-Monument program, raising \$400,000 for the refurbishment of New York's iconic Columbus Circle statue. Additionally, in 2007, the Foundation funded the restoration of the Columbus Bust at D'Auria Murphy Triangle in the Bronx.

In 2013, through Member support, CCF presented Cardinal Dolan with \$150,000 toward the beautiful restoration of the exterior of St. Patrick's Cathedral's.

There are many more examples of the work of the Foundation. Most importantly, through the collective compassion and generosity of CCF members, the Foundation has been an engaged civic partner in many efforts to illustrate our dedication to our cultural heritage, our love for our home city, and our desire to promote the values of the Italian American community.



NEW STATUE DONATED TO COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION TOWNHOUSE IN MEMORY OF FORMER CCF PRESIDENT, CAV. MICHAEL L. SANTANGELO

The marble statue pictured opposite can be enjoyed by visitors to the second floor of the Townhouse. This lovely artwork was donated to Columbus Citizens Foundation in memory of Cav. Michael L. Santangelo, a member from 1984 to 2018, who served during this time as President and later Chair. His widow, Gr. Uff. RoseMarie Gallina-Santangelo, also a Foundation member, arranged the donation.

The sculpture was brought to New York from Italy by Michael Santangelo's grandfather on the Conte Verde in 1924. Its significance as an object and to the family is evident, as it made the journey with them to the United States. It is attributed to Luca Arrighini (1845-1915), a member of a family of well-known sculptors, very active at the turn of the century.

This figure is in the *Stile Liberto*, popular at the time. Its presence at Columbus Citizens Foundation honors the legacy of the Santangelo family and is emblematic of the links that bind the Italian American community, celebrating a shared heritage.

WITH THANKS TO OUR 2021 GRAND MARSHAL AND HONOREES



GRAND MARSHAL

MICHAEL PASCUCCI

Chairman, Ferragamo USA
Owner, Sebonack Golf Club



HONOREES

JOSEPH R. GURRERA

Owner, Citarella



HONOREE

JODY PULICE

Founder and CEO, JRT Realty Group



HUMANITARIAN AWARD

DANIEL A. NIGRO

Fire Commissioner
New York Fire Department

 *Michael E. Pascucci*
270 South Service Road, Suite 45
Melville, New York 11747
Tel: 631-622-9434 • Fax: 631-777-8443 • Email: mp@sebonack.com

January 20, 2022

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

Dear Marian and Angelo:

I want to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation and thanks to each of you for your outstanding work and dedication to the Foundation, and in particular with respect to your hard work to making the 2021 Columbus Day Parade and Celebration weekend a huge success. You and the Foundation staff did a terrific job in making sure that the Parade and other events were resumed after having to be postponed the prior year.

It was one of the highest honors of my life to have been selected as the Grand Marshal for this past year's parade, and it enabled me to honor my Italian parents and forefathers and mothers. My parents believed firmly in the 'American Dream' and all that this country stands for. At the same time, they were extremely proud of their Italian heritage and instilled in me the respect and love for both. I am so thankful to my childhood friend, Ken Langone, also a past Grand Marshal, who encouraged and convinced me to accept this honor as a way to thank and acknowledge my parents, and the many sacrifices that they made, to allow me to attend college (with Ken) and give me a head start in life.

It was a particular honor to be able to spend time during the weekend with His Eminence Cardinal Dolan and to get to use the new bathroom at the Cathedral that the Cardinal had urged me to fund during the Cathedral renovation! Seriously, though, to be able to pray and reflect with Cardinal Dolan was both humbling and deeply touching to me, and his presence and participation was very appreciated.

The honor bestowed on me was one for my whole family (past, present and future), and it was a great joy for me to be able to share the experience and honor with my wife Jocelyn and my children and grandchildren.

This extraordinary experience allowed me to learn of the exceptional work done by the Columbus Citizens Foundation to promote and protect Italian-American heritage and culture, as well as to assist deserving students and others to pursue their own American Dreams, through scholarships and other assistance. It is particularly important (for people of every background and culture) in this difficult environment that the Foundation continue to celebrate and protect Italian-American culture and identity.

I thank you for allowing me to be a small part of carrying on the Foundation's mission and work.

God bless you,





COLUMBUS CELEBRATION ANNUAL GALA BENEFIT

The 2021 Columbus Citizens Foundation's Annual Gala Benefit was held on Saturday, October 9. Following a successful virtual event in 2020, the Foundation was thrilled to return to an in-person fundraiser. For the first time in its history, the Gala was held at 583 Park Avenue. This event space on the Upper East Side sparkled like a jewel box throughout the event. The Foundation was grateful to have CCF Member, and former Grand Marshal, Joe Plumeri as our 2021 Gala Chair. Many traditions continued at the new location, including dancing enjoyed by all, a four-course seated dinner, inspirational speeches, a spectacular silent auction, and a live drawing for our Maserati raffle.

In addition to raising funds for our scholarship program, the evening celebrated our 2021 Grand Marshal Michael Pascucci; our Honorees Joe Gurrera and Jodi Pulice; and our Humanitarian of the Year, FDNY Commissioner Daniel Nigro.

The formal program was introduced by Angelo Vivolo, our 2021 Weekend Chair. Mr. Vivolo remarked that the city and the Columbus Celebration were back after the Covid-19 shutdown, demonstrating the resilience of New York City and the



Italian American community. He then introduced our emcee for the night, CCF Board Member and acclaimed journalist Maria Bartiromo. As Ms. Bartiromo opened the program, she took time to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the World Trade Center Attacks, with an moving speech, drawing parallels between the city's return and recovery from the past two years with the strength, pride and resilience that saw the city through the days that followed September 11, 2001.

As tradition dictates, the Italian and American national anthems were performed by Christa Dalmazio and Charlie Romo. Following the anthems, we were honored by an Invocation from His Excellency, The Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Bishop of Brooklyn.

Our Humanitarian Award recipient, FDNY Commissioner Daniel Nigro gave tribute to the men and women of the Fire Department and their commitment to protecting city lives and property. Commissioner Nigro also spoke of his strong family upbringing, and his awe for the Italian Americans who came before him.



1. The ballroom at 583 Park Avenue
2. The gift bag all CCF Gala guests took home
3. Celebratory drinks during cocktail hour at 583 Park Avenue
4. The house band playing festive dance music
5. Guests on the dance floor at 583 Park Avenue
6. Angelo and Denise Vivolo with their guests Former NY Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly and Veronica Kelly



President Marian Pardo delivered a warm welcome to Gala attendees that struck on the year's themes of resilience, recovery, and reunion. Ms. Pardo recognized the incredible number of schools, colleges, civic and social groups that make up the Columbus Day Parade every year.

Honoree Joe Gurrera thanked his parents, and attributed his work ethic as a direct result of being raised by Italian immigrants. He spoke of the importance of mentors in his life, and drew a parallel to the work that CCF does in inspiring and supporting young Italian Americans. He is a proud member of CCF as it allows him to encourage others as he was encouraged. Mr. Gurrera closed by paraphrasing a famous Joe DiMaggio quote, saying, "I want to thank the good Lord for making me Italian."

Our second Honoree, Jodi Pulice, told the Gala attendees of how her large Italian American family helped instill the values of hard work and perseverance. The early Italian American experience of facing closed doors led Ms. Pulice to realize how the commercial real estate industry she loved was not open to outsiders. Ms. Pulice became the change she sought in the industry, opening her own firm that continues to break barriers.

1. The Vivolo Family
2. Gala Honoree Jodi Pulice and her family and guests
3. A gala guest on the dance floor
4. Gala Honoree Daniel Nigro and his wife Lynn Nigro
5. Yusi Gurrera, wife of Gala Honoree, Joe Gurrera and guest





Gala Chair Joseph Plumeri took to the stage to introduce the Grand Marshal, Michael Pascucci. Mr. Plumeri recognized Pascucci as a true visionary, praising him for his strong faith, love of family and business leadership.

Grand Marshal Pascucci's humbled speech spoke of how he and all of the Honored guests share stories of how their parents or grandparents took risks and faced the unknown to provide opportunities to their children. Mr. Pascucci linked that to the work done by CCF, where young people are given an opportunity to better their lives. In addition to thanking Joe Plumeri, Tom Iovino, and his good friend Ken Langone, the Grand Marshal shared the honor with his entire family.

The Gala continued after the program with dancing and music by The Infernos, a live draw for the Maserati raffle, and closing bids on the incredible silent auction items.





COLUMBUS CIRCLE WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

1. Speakers at Columbus Circle Wreath Laying Ceremony
2. Angelo Vivolo making remarks
3. Marian Pardo in a moment of silence
4. Service people at Wreath Laying program

The 62nd Annual Wreath Laying ceremony took place on Sunday, October 10, 2020. A crowd of spectators gathered in Columbus Circle alongside civil servants in commemoration of the Columbus Day holiday. The event, held jointly every year by the National Council of Columbia Associations of Civil Service and the Columbus Citizens Foundation, also paid tribute to the achievements of Italian American uniformed service men and women who have served their country and their city with honor.



President Marian Pardo, who spoke of the history behind the ceremony, and the long tradition of Italian American civil service, was one of the speakers. We were honored to be joined by the Consul General of Italy in New York, Fabrizio Di Michele, as he attended the ceremony for the first time in his new position. The Consul General paid tribute to Christopher Columbus and all the Italian Americans that have contributed to the growth of the United States. Our Humanitarian Award recipient Daniel Nigro spoke movingly about his work for the New York Fire Department as Chief and then Commissioner. Our Grand Marshal Michael Pascucci rounded up the speeches as he offered respect to those uniformed Italian Americans who have sacrificed so much for the wellbeing of our city, state and country.



COLUMBUS CELEBRATION MASS

On Monday, October 12, 2021, St. Patrick's Cathedral held its 44th annual Columbus Day Mass. His Eminence Archbishop of New York Timothy Cardinal Dolan was the principal celebrant presiding over the Mass and watched the ensuing parade from the Cathedral steps as floats and marching groups travelled up Fifth Avenue.

Father Anthony Domenic Sorgie delivered the homily, which highlighted the three pillars of faith, family and 'la dolce vita' to Italian Americans. The Cathedral was well attended by CCF Members, our Grand Marshal, Honorees, and their families.



1. Angelo Vivolo, Grand Marshal Michael Pascucci and Jocelyn Pascucci
2. Guests at the special Columbus Day Mass
3. St. Patrick's Cathedral
4. The Columbus Day Mass in progress
5. Cardinal Dolan greets the Grand Marshal Michael Pascucci



HOMILY

Celebrant Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan

Homilist Fr. Anthony Domenic Sorgie

Your Eminence, as the son and grandson of Italian Immigrants, I thank you for the honor of preaching in this Columbus Day Mass. I have attended the Mass and the subsequent parade for most of my life, and certainly with great attention from 1985-2000 when I was Professor and Director of Sacred Music at St. Joseph's Seminary and was conductor and cantor for this Mass for His Eminence, John Cardinal O'Connor.

I want to begin by asking all of you to join me in a scene on Ellis Island in the fall of 1925. A little girl sits on a bench waiting to see if her mother passed the iconic medical inspections. The little girl's name was Maria Lizette. She only spoke a little dialect, had never seen an American, let alone an inspector. She passed quickly, but horror of horrors, she had to sit and watch her mother detained. And she was alone. The same eyes that had just crossed the Atlantic Ocean were now riveted on an inspector and her mother. Eighty five years later, she could still talk about the eye hook that was used to raise the eye lids of everyone to make sure that there was no disease in the eyes—if they were secreting anything. Before Rosa, went for this inspection, she told little Maria to be brave 'we just came across the whole ocean, your father and brothers are waiting for you. Right there across that water, be brave.' And it paid off. Rosa passed the inspection through a second examination and she and little Maria went off to Mulberry Street. *You all know where Mulberry Street is?* For three days in Little Italy, and then with nothing but a couples of bags went up the brand new IRT #6 train to its final destination, Pelham Bay.

That of course was my mother Maria Lizette from Calabria. Calabria to Naples. Naples to Ellis Island. Mulberry Street to Pelham Bay. And so nine years looking out to the Tyrrhenian Sea, and 85 years listening to the 6 train rattling up the northeast Bronx. Your Eminence, in 2010, you were at my



mother's funeral 94 years old, she lived and she could describe SS Conte Biancamano—the ship she came on—at 94 the way she did at 9 years old, and like most like of those 3.2 million immigrants, at that time, she became a proud American and a proud Italian-American. With her husband Nunzio, a decorated WWII veteran in the American army, surviving the Battle of the Bulge among others, raised us to be Americans, Italians, and Italian-American and all that that meant. Typical lovers of the faith, our Catholic faith and proud of it and our country, and our country on the either side of the world whether it was from Sicily or Calabria, Salerno, Sorrento, Milano, it didn't matter. We were Americans and Italian Americans!

The deacon read, "Go, therefore into all nations baptizing them in the name of the father, the son and the holy spirit." These words of Our Lord Jesus Christ fill the letters, diaries and exchanges of Cristoforo Colombo. Evangelization of peoples was part of the promise, support and contract to the Reyes Catolicos in Spain that allowed him to make this voyage with all Spanish sailors on the Nina, Pinta, and Santa María de la Inmaculada Concepción—to give that ship its full name.

Our Lady Mary of the Immaculate Conception, travelling on that ship every place he landed he named following that first reading—do everything in the name of the Lord. First sighting ‘San Salvador’ - holy savior. That was not accidental. To spread the faith wherever he landed and to thank almighty God. Did you know that Christopher Columbus was a Third Order Franciscan? *We don't hold that against him at all*, but he was a Third Order Secular of St. Francis and it guided his life—to the end of his life. And those Franciscans made him proud; four centuries later they came here to take care of those Italian immigrants like my little Maria and Nunzio, ‘whatever you do in Lord or in deed, do it in the name of Jesus’.

But the Mass and Parade today, are only partly about Christopher Columbus. They are part of Italian-American Heritage Month. We are the same and give tribute to all of those immigrants— especially today to the Italian immigrants that came and made our country here better for their coming in so many ways and they came and they came and they went and they went. Our Holy Father loves to remember that Mario Jose Bergoglio, immigrated to Argentina for the same reason. Pope Francis told the youth of Genoa, where Christopher came from, to be navigators and to have courage as he did—their native son.

Those of us that are Italian born, Italian American or Italian by adoption, all love and recognize some of the contributions that have been made by Italians and Italian-Americans. I'll give you three:

***Dio Mio My god, Dio Mio La famiglia
La dolce vita
Dio Mio, la famiglia, and la dolce vita.***

Dio Mio. Do we have to think beyond St. Frances Xavier Cabrini to think about the contribution of the many sisters, priests, brothers, friars, monks that made their way here and changed the face of American Catholicism? One little women 67 institutions San Francesca Cabrini. Sessantasette istituzioni, ospedali, scuole. One woman! Imagine what we we could do on fire like she was! Dio mio, my God. Italian Americans, like many immigrants, took God seriously and their faith seriously.

Food and Wine. La Dolce vita. The arts, music, carpentry, jewelry, mosaics, marble. My father used to say that Italians were the best chiselers. I think he meant sculptors. They were the best sculptors. Vivaldi, Monteverdi, Bellini, Puccini,

Andrea—is there any other? Luciano, is there any other? Connie Francis—is there any other? Passion for soccer, calcio. It's the passion of dio mio is the passion of that culture. I think of, when I think of la dolce vita, I think of food. Not only pizza and pasta; *though to us it was 'a-biz'*. From the ruffles of Alba to the Pisachio of my native Bronte in Sicilia, we know what la dolce vita is. There's no place on the planet earth that doesn't have Italian restaurants. Mongolia to Argentina, everybody knows how to eat.

My God. My Family and this beautiful, sweet life. One small story. I wasn't very happy to be the only child some time in school who had un sacco with vitello parmigiana in it. I wanted American grilled cheese! *Nonna*, to my Sicilian grandmother, *'Nonna, I want American bread. No crunch. Wonder Bread. I want Wonder Bread.'* So she hunted in our neighborhood for a loaf of Wonder Bread. *Now what's she going to do? What does she know from swiss cheese? This is the truth.* She took fresh mozzarella and she cut holes in it. She made i buchi in the mozzarella e fritta. She gave it to me and said, *'Here Anthony, mangia'*. So I had an American sandwich, soggy with olive oil and mozzarella with holes in it. Very ingenious, the Italiani. Very ingenious.

We continue this Mass and this celebration today to celebrate those three things—faith, family, and the beauty and the genius of Christopher Columbus, Michelangelo, DaVinci, Vivaldi, of people like Lidia Bastianich and those that give us and continue to give us la dolce vita. And our faith.

In Sicilian, we have many proverbs and I have to give you one in the native tongue, *Lu Signiuruzzu li cosi, li fici dritti, vinni lu diavulu e li sturciu*. God makes things straight; we make them crooked. That's true. So, capturing all the dreams, all the exploration, all the wonder, all the discovery that immigrants needed and the discoverer needed, we praise almighty God today for all of them, but especially our faith. For our families and the sweet life that continues to be human genius.

Sia lodate Gesù Cristo!



COLUMBUS DAY PARADE RETURNS TO FIFTH AVENUE FOR 77TH ANNUAL PARADE

On Monday, October 11, the 77th Annual Columbus Day Parade was held in New York City. The Parade celebrates Italian American culture and achievements and is the largest celebration of Italian heritage in the world. Grand Marshal Michael Pascucci, Chairman of Duck Pond Associates, led the Parade. This year's event marked a return to Fifth Avenue, as COVID-19 restrictions saw 2020's festivities celebrated virtually. The excitement of returning to a live parade was palpable, and Italian-American pride was evident to all those who watched the Parade live on ABC-7 or lined Fifth Avenue to attend in person.

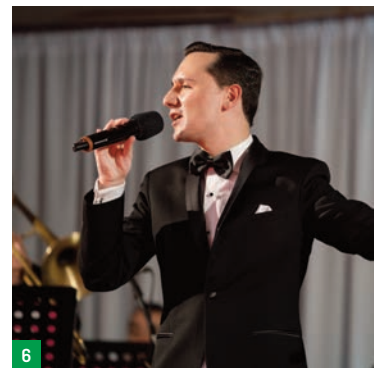
The 2021 Honorees Joe Gurrera, owner of Citarella, and Jodi Pulice, founder and CEO of JRT Realty Group helped kick off the celebration. In addition, Daniel A. Nigro, Commissioner of New York City Fire Department, who received the 2021 Humanitarian of the Year Award, was with his fellow Honorees at the front of the Parade.

ABC reporters Ken Rosato and Sandra Bookman, along with actor and radio host Joe Piscopo co-hosted the television broadcast, serving as Masters of Ceremonies for the largest Columbus Day Parade held in the United States. They were joined by ABC talent Lauren Glassberg and Juliet Papa from 1010 WINS. Writer, performer, and comedian Paul Costabile introduced the musical performances on the red-carpet stage.

"I am honored and pleased to join the ranks of distinguished Italians and Italian-Americans who have served in this incredibly special role before me," Michael Pascucci said when he was first named Grand Marshal, "Faith, family and hard work are central to the Italian American community, and these tenets have been key to my personal and professional achievements. My family and I are thrilled to lead the march up Fifth Avenue on Columbus Day."



1. CCF Board of Governors Members marching in the Parade
2. Joe Piscopo and Sandra Bookman in the broadcast booth
3. Special guest appearance by Chazz Palminteri riding in the Parade
4. An NYPD Columbia Association member marching up Fifth Avenue
5. CCF Board of Governors President, Marian Pardo, enjoying the Parade
6. Charlie Romo signing to the crowd on the mainstage



President Marian Pardo said of the event: "We hope that New Yorkers of all backgrounds will join us in celebrating the Italian American culture and our community's many accomplishments. While celebrating our achievements, we recognize the courage and accomplishments of all the immigrant communities that make our city and our country great. Having been the first parade in 2001 to follow the tragic events of 9/11, we are especially proud to once again lead the city in celebrating the nation's strength, our rebounding from that tragedy and the tragedy of Covid but most especially leading in creating a union among us all, staying true to our Parade's themes of resilience, recovery and reunion."

This year's Parade featured 100 Marching Groups; 26 Floats and 12 Marching Bands – all contributing music and celebration for the whole city to enjoy. And with just under 1 million spectators lining Fifth Avenue; nearly 450,000 unique TV viewers, and over 5,000 catching the parade online –the Foundation was thrilled to deliver an at-home and in-person audience of nearly 1.5 million viewers to the Parade – indicating the support the New York market has both for the Columbus Day Parade and the holiday itself.

In recognition of the trauma that COVID-19 caused the country, we were pleased to have a float that featured the Santa Rosalia Society. Santa Rosalia is the patron saint of Palermo and is renowned for ridding Sicily of the plague.

On-air segments during the broadcast focused on multiple stories demonstrating how Italian Americans are helping the city bounce back from the pandemic, with a special segment of the on-air telecast dedicated to the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

Among the Parade participants, the Foundation was so grateful to have sponsors taking to Fifth Avenue in colorful and creative floats and vehicles, including Casa Building and Gabelli Funds.

Spectators in the grandstand and viewers of the live broadcast on WABC-TV were treated to red carpet entertainment that began with the West Point Academy's Military Band performing "The Flag Still Files High."

The following acts included Parade favorite, Giada Valenti, with a rousing version of "Volare," Charlie Romo performing a medley of Bobby Darin classics, and Vanessi Racci signing



"Tango Della Gelosia," originally made popular by Connie Francis. Anthony Nunziata paid tribute to the 20th anniversary of 9/11 with a moving performance of "New York State of Mind."

The parade was attended by a wide array of New York's politicians and dignitaries. Governor Kathy Hochul marched toward the front of the Parade, and Mayor Bill DeBlasio marched alongside FDNY. Other politicians marching included: New York Congressman Tom Suozzi; NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli; and New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer.

For CCF Members and their guests, a special 'street fair' took over East 69th Street for the day - with sausage and peppers, zeppole and treats from our sponsor L'Arte Del Gelato available. The new approach to Parade day entertaining was a huge success and we look to recreate a similar set up in October 2022.



The Columbus Day Parade has its origins in the late 1920s when New York City businessman and Italian immigrant Generoso Pope led a parade from East Harlem down to Columbus Circle. Today, the vibrant parade is planned and executed by the Columbus Citizens Foundation with the help of staff, Foundation members and the assistance of more than twenty city agencies to deliver a safe and successful parade to New York City.



The annual New York City event is the largest Columbus Day Parade held in the United States, with all preparation and planning undertaken by the Columbus Citizens Foundation.

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7. Marching bands leading the Parade up Fifth Avenue
8. Trumpets sounding from the marching bands
9. Michael Pascucci, 2022 Grand Marshal
10. Parade attendees riding a float up Fifth Avenue
11. Parade attendees lined up along Fifth Avenue
12. The Grand Marshal, Michael Pascucci, greeting Cardinal Dolan
13. Parade goes waving Italian flags
14. CCF Board Members Jodi Pulice and Marian Pardo with Rev. Msgr. Jamie Gigantiello and Consul General Fabrizio Di Michele enjoying a musical performance



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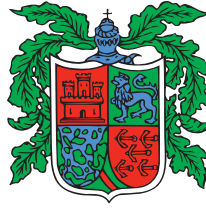


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- 15. 2022 Honoree Joseph Gurrera riding up Fifth Avenue
- 16. 2022 Humanitarian Award Honoree, Former NYFD Commissioner Daniel Nigro, waving to the crowd
- 17. New York State Comptroller, Tom DiNapoli, marching up Fifth Avenue
- 18. A musical performance on Fifth Avenue
- 19. Float riding up Fifth Avenue led by Rev. Msgr. Jamie Gigantiello
- 20. Paul Costabile and Giada Valenti doing interviews on the red carpet
- 21. Joe Piscopo singing to the crowd to close out the Parade
- 22. Charlie Romo performing on the Parade main stage
- 23. Angelo Vivolo and family marching in the Parade
- 24. Marian Pardo enjoying the Parade
- 25. Vanessa Racci singing a tune on the Parade main stage



TOM GOLISANO NAMED GRAND MARSHAL OF 2022 COLUMBUS CELEBRATION, WILL LEAD NYC COLUMBUS DAY PARADE ON OCTOBER 10TH

NEW YORK – Thursday, May 12, 2022 – Columbus Citizens Foundation announced today that Tom Golisano, founder of Paychex and noted philanthropist, will serve as the 2022 Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade on New York City’s Fifth Avenue. Golisano’s visionary business acumen led to the creation and success of Paychex, which streamlined payroll and human resources services to businesses nation-wide. Golisano is also an investor in 18 businesses across the country. Golisano’s charitable work is undertaken by the B. Thomas Golisano Foundation, with a primary focus on awarding grants to organizations that provide opportunities for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

The annual Columbus Day Parade, the largest celebration of Italian American heritage and culture in the United States, will take place on Monday, October 10, 2022, beginning at 11:30 am. As Grand Marshal, Golisano will lead marching bands, floats and over 100 marching groups up the Fifth Avenue parade route, from 44th Street to 72nd Street. The parade will air live on WABC-TV from 12 noon to 3 pm.

In speaking of Mr. Golisano as Grand Marshal, Columbus Citizens Foundation President Christopher Loiacono praised his success as a prominent Italian American both in business and philanthropic endeavors.

“We are honored to have Tom as this year’s Grand Marshal. As a visionary in the business world and a truly charitable individual, he is the perfect candidate to lead our 2022 Parade,” Mr. Loiacono said. “Tom’s personal philanthropy and the work of the Golisano Foundation have greatly benefited the state of New York, and we are thrilled to have him lead New York City’s Columbus Day Parade this fall.”

“It’s an incredible feeling to join the great Italians and Italian-Americans who have served as Grand Marshal in the past,” Mr. Golisano said, “My Italian heritage is so important to me, and it’s one of the many reasons why I am excited to be a part of this major celebration of all things Italian.”

The tradition of a Columbus Day Parade began when Generoso Pope led a group of Italian Americans from East Harlem to Columbus Circle in 1929. The parade was formalized as an official celebration of Columbus and Italian heritage in 1944, and this year’s event marks its 78th Anniversary. Groups, institutions, and partners from across the United States and Italy will take part in this year’s celebration.

The 2021 Grand Marshal was Michael Pascucci. Prior Grand Marshals of New York’s Columbus Day Parade have included: Sophia Loren; Frank Sinatra; Massimo Ferragamo; Joseph Plumeri; Luciano Pavarotti; Guy Chiarello; Frank Bisignano; Lidia Bastianich; Leonard Riggio; Kenneth Langone; Robert LaPenta; Joe DiMaggio; Alberto Cribiore; Mario Andretti; Joseph Perella; Roberto Cavalli and Maria Bartiromo.



ABOUT TOM GOLISANO

B. Thomas Golisano is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and civic leader who has demonstrated an ongoing dedication and commitment to building innovative businesses, supporting numerous non-profit organizations, and advocating for inclusive health and several civic issues.

Mr. Golisano is the founder of Paychex, Inc., a leading provider of integrated human capital management solutions for payroll, benefits, human resources, and insurance services. Tom Golisano served as Paychex's president and chief executive officer from 1971, when he founded the company, until October 2004, when he retired from his position as president and CEO. Golisano served as Board Chairman for the last 17 years. With more than 50 years of industry expertise, Paychex has 16,000 employees, serves almost 700,000 clients in the U.S. and Northern Europe, pays one in 12 U.S. private-sector employees, and is the largest HR company for small to medium-sized businesses. It is headquartered in Rochester, New York.

Mr. Golisano and Paychex have consistently been recognized by business, financial and national media. Mr. Golisano was listed among the FORBES top 10 bosses in the U.S. for three consecutive years; the annual ranking is based on chief executives who provide the best balance between their compensation and shareholder return.

In 1985 Mr. Golisano launched his first philanthropic endeavor by establishing the Golisano Foundation, which is now one of the world's largest foundations that award grants to organizations providing opportunities for those with intellectual disabilities. His philanthropic contributions, both personal and through the Golisano Foundation, have exceeded \$330 million helping hospitals, educational institutions, and many other organizations. Three children's hospitals bear his name.

His commitment to educational excellence includes the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences and the Golisano Institute for Sustainability at RIT. Niagara University's B. Thomas Golisano Center for Integrated Sciences, the Golisano Training Center at Nazareth College, the Golisano Community Engagement Center at Roberts Wesleyan College and many more.

His global commitment to advance inclusive health for people with intellectual disabilities has exceeded \$95 million supporting the Golisano Autism Center, the Golisano Center for Special Needs at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital, the Golisano Institute for Developmental Disability Nursing at St. John Fisher College, the Golisano Center for Community Health at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, the Golisano Pediatric Behavioral Health & Wellness Center at URMC, the Golisano Medical Oncology Center at Niagara Memorial and more. The launch of Special Olympics Healthy Communities in 2012 has improved health care for people in more than 120 countries on six continents.

His advocacy for civic and political causes encompasses founding the Independence Party in New York State, which acquired ballot status in 1995; a three-time run for NYS governor; establishing Responsible New York, a political movement to return Albany to its rightful owners – the taxpayers. In 2018 Mr. Golisano launched Tax My Property Fairly, an online resource for property owners in Upstate NY to get information and tools to fight for fair property taxes. He has also advocated for initiatives to reduce illegal drug trafficking, alcohol abuse and teen pregnancy. From 2005 to 2013, he was a major underwriter of the Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting.

Mr. Golisano is married to Monica Seles, professional tennis player and member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame. He has two children, six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

LADIES AUXILIARY RETURNS IN STYLE - HOSTING IN-PERSON EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

As events returned to normal in 2021, Ladies Auxiliary Chair Annalisa Perfetto – along with Vice Chair Dana Romita, Secretary Eileen Tarantino and Treasurer Marisa DiMartino – wasted no time in executing events that looked spectacular and generated fantastic results.

On May 4, the Ladies held a ‘micro’ Spring Luncheon. Despite the smaller scale of the spring event, the LAX was still able to raise over \$8,000 for their scholarship fund.

In October 2021, the Auxiliary was able to resume in person monthly meetings, which allowed for social luncheons that followed their planning sessions. The LAX marched as a united group in the 2021 Columbus Day Parade – which returned to Fifth Avenue to much appreciation.

Toward the end of October, with Halloween festivities in mind, the LAX took bookings for a special event entitled *Wild, Witch, and Wench*. The well-attended lecture focused on women, food and magic in the works of renowned Italian authors Carlo Levi and Cesare Pavese.

On December 8, the Townhouse gleamed with festive cheer and the Ladies were able to secure an excellent turnout for the return of their annual Christmas Luncheon. With raffles, holiday music, and sparkling table settings – it was truly a highlight in the Christmas calendar at the Townhouse.

Equally successful was the LAX 2022 Spring Luncheon – held on May 4, 2022. In addition to a live fashion show provided by LAX partners Max Mara and Marina Rinaldi, the colorful event offered guests a sumptuous luncheon, exclusive shopping boutiques on the second floor and ‘build your own bouquet bar’ in keeping with the theme of a *Festa Infiorata*.

Rounding up the spring and summer for the Auxiliary, the Ladies organized a Mozzarella workshop in June 2022. with Agostino Fresh Mozzarella. The event was run by Agostino Fresh Mozzarella, and was a great combination of hands-on teaching, entertainment and eating! Each guest was thrilled to leave with their own ball of mozzarella.

The Ladies Auxiliary welcomes any potential new Members; please contact Annalisa Perfetto for details on how to become involved.



1. LAX Officers at 2021's Christmas Luncheon, from left to right: Treasurer Marisa DiMartino; Secretary Eileen Tarantino; Vice Chair Dana Romita; and Chair Annalisa Perfetto.
2. Second floor of the Townhouse set up as a chic spring boutique with items from Max Mara and Marina Rinaldi.
3. Chair Annalisa Perfetto with husband Chez learning the basics of mozzarella making from Agostino Fresh Mozzarella.



YOUNG ADULTS AUXILIARY SHARES CCF VALUES WITH THE NEXT GENERATION

In 2021, the YAA returned to the Townhouse to hold their annual Primavera Social. It was an enthusiastic return to activities as normal for this valuable group of individuals aged 21 to 30 with a strong interest in Italian culture and heritage.

In October 2021, the Auxiliary – under leadership of Chair Anthony Zampolin at the time – held a first of its kind Halloween party at the Townhouse. With spooky décor and incredible costumes, the event was great fun – and helped contribute toward the YAA’s scholarship fund.

At the end of 2021, new officers were appointed to helm the YAA. We are delighted to welcome Chair Melissa Conlon, Vice Chair Michael Mingino and Secretary Luke Tortora. Anthony Zampolin and his supporting officers (Michael Ippolito, Joseph Cavera and Stephen Dardis) are all to be congratulated for their three years of activities, enthusiasm and fundraising.

In Spring 2022, the new board held both a Primavera Social to solicit new members, as well as a “Gatsby Gala.” The Gatsby event was a great success, with period costumes, dinner and dancing, and as always, generous support of the scholarship fund through ticket sales and raffles.

The Young Adults Auxiliary is open to:

- Children and grandchildren of existing Foundation Members
- CCF scholarship recipients
- Young adults nominated by two current Members

For more information on the YAA, please email:
yaacolumbus@gmail.com



1. YAA Members at a group fitness activity
2. Gatsby Night at the Townhouse
3. YAA leadership, Luke Tortora, Melissa Conlon, and Michael Mingino on Gatsby Night

NEW MEMBERS



Edward Angelino

Edward Angelino is a Senior Loan Officer at Associated Mortgage Bankers, Inc. His paternal grandfather and grandmother, maternal grandfather and grandmother came from Montescaglioso, Naples, Camogli and Padua respectively. His organizational affiliations include the Order of Sons of Italy N.E. Bronx and the Throggs Neck Merchants Association, both for which he served as Vice President. He is also a member of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, an Executive Board Member of the Throggs Neck Business Improvement District, was the 2019 Chippewa Democratic Club Business Man of the Year recipient, as well as the 2016 Bronx Chamber of Commerce Italian Heritage Day Honoree. Edward believes that his current involvement with different philanthropic and community organizations, will serve to further the Foundation's goals.



John Casesa

John Casesa is the Senior Managing Director at Guggenheim Partners, an investment banking firm. His paternal grandfather emigrated from Agrigento, Sicily and his maternal grandfather from Chianche in the Province of Avellino. John serves on the Chairman's Council of the New York Historical Society and was named the All-Star Analyst

by Institutional Investor Magazine eleven times. Reflecting on his ancestry at this time in his life, John believes that becoming a member of a community with a common heritage, will reinforce the connection to his past. Given his extensive business career and having managed many teams, projects and organizations, he believes he can assist in furthering the Foundation's philanthropic initiatives, as well as introduce friends and colleagues who may have similar interests.



Richard Cavallaro

Richard Cavallaro is the President and CEO of the LiRo Group, an engineering and construction company. His maternal family is from Palermo, while his paternal side is from Naples. He served as the past Chairman of the New York Building Congress and the Vice President of the General Contractors Association, is on the Board of Trustees of the Family and Children's Association, a member of the Construction Industry Round Table and the National Academy of Construction. He was named Man of the Year for the Boy Scouts, the Family and Children's Association, the Guide Dog Foundation and was the Civilian Honoree for the Society of Military Engineers. Richard would like to assist in the Foundation's philanthropic mission of helping individuals of Italian descent and to participate in providing opportunities for Italian Americans to have a more prominent voice in our society.



Jonathan Chiaro

Jonathan Chiaro is the Owner and Executive Vice President of Loconsolo Paints. His maternal grandmother and grandfather were from Potenza and Bari, respectively, while his paternal grandfather was from Naples. He is Vice President of the Executive Association of NY, former Vice President of CCF's Young Adults Auxiliary, and a Phi Gamma Delta Brother, NYU Chapter. He is also bookkeeper and a board member of the Victoria Loconsolo Foundation, a Walk Team Organizer, and the 2018 Rookie of the Year for the MS Society. Given the fact that his late grandfather John Loconsolo was a former Foundation President and Founding member, he grew up at the Townhouse and knows it well. He would like to continue his grandfather's legacy and draw from his experiences working with his family's private foundation and other philanthropic endeavors to continue the organization's charitable initiatives.



Edward S. Cicalese

Edward Cicalese is a Sales Associate at Tilcon New York Inc. an aggregate and asphalt company. Both sides of his parent's ancestry derive from Naples. He is currently on the President's Advisory Council at Dominican College, a Board Member of the Concrete

NEW MEMBERS

Industry, as well as a member of the Construction Industry Council. Edward would like to give back to the Italian community and believes the scholarship and grant programs that the Foundation supports are worthy causes which he hopes to make a difference in.



Joseph Fusaro

Joseph Fusaro is Vice President, Senior Sales Executive at McCann Systems, an audio/visual and technology company. He was born in Cosenza, Calabria immigrating to New Jersey with his parents and younger brother in 1969. His charitable affiliations include Habitat for Humanity and Feed the Homeless. The work ethic learned during his childhood has guided him to living a fulfilling and rewarding life and he is now at a juncture where he can contribute his personal and professional experiences and resources to help support the Foundation's educational initiatives. In 2012, Joseph invented the distance learning experience which continues to evolve, as redefined via technology through his creation of a platform rivaling the in-person classroom.



Peter J. Gardella, Jr.

Peter Gardella is the retired President and CEO of Del Grosso's Amusement Park. His maternal grandparents were from Gambaro in

the province of Piacenza in the Emilia-Romagna region, while his paternal grandparents were from Roccatagliata in the province of Genoa. He serves on the Board of the Tyrone Area Food Bank, Tyrone Area Hospital, Altoona Blair County Development Corp and the Blair County Italian Heritage Society. He is also the President of the Pennsylvania Association of Parks and Attractions and the Vice President of the Tyrone Area YMCA. Peter wishes to enhance and expand awareness of our Italian-American contributions, while instilling a deep appreciation of our shared culture in the next generation. He would also like to use his marketing and organizational skills to further the Foundation's mission.



Sarah Jane Gibbons

Sarah Jane Gibbons is the Director of College Advising at Millennium Brooklyn High School, whose paternal great-grandfather was born in Corigliano, Province of Cosenza in Calabria. Her many organizational affiliations include serving on the Board of Directors of the New York Philharmonic and the Board of Trustees of St. Bernard's School. She is also affiliated with the National Association of College Advisors (NACAC) and New York State Association for College Admission Counseling (NYACAC). Sarah Jane was also the recipient of the Teacher of the Year both in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. She knows the Foundation well through her father, Member Dr. Thomas Sculco, and is proud of her Italian heritage, welcoming opportunities to support efforts to broaden the appreciation of Italian-American heritage and achievement in New York City and around the world.



Michael X. Mattone, Esq.

Mr. Michael Mattone is the CEO of Mattone Investors LLC. His maternal grandparents emigrated from Catania and Grammichele, Sicily while his paternal great-grandparents emigrated from Paduli in the Campania region. He is the Board Chair of Holy Child Academy, a Board Member of NY Presbyterian (Queens), Catholic Charities of LI and Queens Boy Scouts, as well as a Board Member and past President of the SJU School of Law Alumni Association. Some of his professional societies include the NY State Bar, the Columbian Lawyers Association, and the Connecticut Bar, to name a few. He is also the recipient of the 2019 Catholic Charities Caritas Award. Michael is familiar with the Foundation through his father, long time member Joseph Mattone. He is extremely proud of the legacy Italian Americans have established by virtue of their hard work and values and believes the experiences he has gained as a Board Member of numerous non-profit institutions will assist him in perpetuating the Foundation's mission.



Maria Palandra, Ph.D.

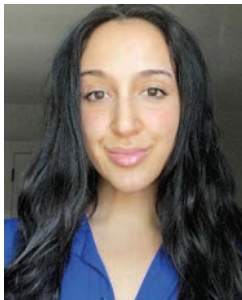
Dr. Maria Palandra served as the Head of School of La Scuola D'Italia Guglielmo Marconi. She was born in Monteleone di Puglia, province of Foggia and immigrated to the US in 1968. Some of her organizational and philanthropic affiliations include the Association of Italian American Educators, American Educational Research Association, Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision and the New York State Council of School Superintendents. She is a Community Advisory Council member of the Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY New York, Executive Committee Treasurer of the Italian American Committee on Education, NY and Chair of the Higher Education Committee for the New York State Assembly District 21, to name a few. Dr. Palandra has received numerous awards including the American Association of Teachers of Italian, Leonard Covello Distinguished Administrator of the Year Award in 2019 and the Italian Charities of America, Christopher Columbus Award in 2011. Dr. Palandra would like to be involved in the Foundation because it values her heritage and would provide her with the opportunity to assist in its cultural events and philanthropic initiatives. She also believes the Scholarship program, which promotes higher levels of education in young people of Italian background, is a great way to invest in the future of this country.



Victor Wright

Victor Wright was a Partner at Goldman Sachs and is now retired. Both sides of his family are of Italian descent with his father being born in Bari. He serves on the Board of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, is Chairman of the Board of Trustees for St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx and is a former Board Member and Founder of the Wall Street Alliance at Georgetown University, which includes providing mentoring and scholarship support to current and future Georgetown students. Victor would like to help the Foundation achieve its goal in providing an education to deserving Italian students.

NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS



Gabriella Victoria Alaimo

Gabriella Alaimo is a Human Resource Manager at the New York Hilton Midtown. Both her maternal and paternal grandfathers grew up in Sicily, one from Palermo and the other from Castrolibero, Province of Agrigento. She is currently pursuing a Graduate degree at New York University. Gabriella knows the Foundation well through her father, Member Charles Alaimo, and welcomes the opportunity to celebrate her heritage and to be involved in the Foundation's philanthropic mission of giving back, as demonstrated by its membership.



Caroline Martino

Caroline Martino is Marketing Director at Ridge Abstract Corp, a Title Insurance Agency. Her paternal great-grandmother was born in Naples while her paternal great-grandfather was born in Sicily. She served on the Social Media Committee and Recruitment Committee of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) and is a member of the American Marketing Association (AMA) and the National Communication Association. Some of her organizational memberships included Kappa Tau Alpha National Honor Society and Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority. Caroline graduated Magna Cum Laude and has supported charitable organizations such

as One Love Foundation and Boys Hope Girls Hope of NY. She has attended many Foundation events with her father, Member Frank Martino, and hopes to deepen her connection with and appreciation for her Italian heritage by contributing her advocacy for underserved youth, and to help further the Foundation's goals.



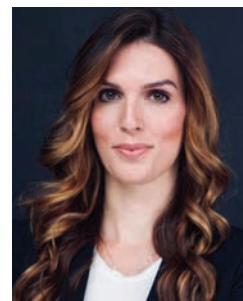
Francesco Palmeri III

Francesco Palmeri is a student at Penn State University, graduating in 2022 with a BA in Information Sciences and Technology. He also works as a Lead Consulting Intern at SURGE Business Development. His paternal grandfather and grandmother were born in Calatafimi-Segesta in the province of Trapani, Sicily and Villarosa in the province of Enna, Sicily, respectively. Serving as the head recruitment chair for two consecutive years, Francesco was tasked with interviewing over 2,000 potential members for the Sigma Chi Fraternity whose philanthropic goals were primarily focused on that of The Huntsman Cancer Foundation. He is also a member of the Gamma Tau Phi IST Honor Society, the National Honor Society, and the Italian National Honor Society. Francesco believes his past affiliations in fundraising and extensive organizational skills will be assets in helping the Foundation achieve its goals and that his background in technology will be useful in addressing any infrastructure needs the Foundation may have.



Vincent Sodano

Vincent Sodano holds a Bachelor of Arts from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and is pursuing a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice. He also works as a construction project manager at Artisan Services Inc. His paternal great-grandfather and great-grandmother emigrated from Naples and Sicily, respectively. Vincent is a member of the Old Mill Yacht Club. He would like to associate himself with like-minded individuals who honor their heritage and believes that through membership in the Foundation, he will be able to educate and inform friends and colleagues of its mission.



Stephanie Widmer, MD

Dr. Stephanie Widmer is an Emergency Medical Physician at Northwell Health. Her maternal great-grandparents came from Pontremoli in the Tuscany region. Dr. Widmer knows the Foundation well through her membership with the Young Adults Auxiliary and through her grandfather, Member Sam Bruno, who passed away in 2019. She would like to play a part in furthering the careers and future endeavors of other Italian Americans as she was supported by her parents and grandparents in fulfilling her dream of becoming a physician.

IN MEMORIAM

DR. ANDREW "ANDY" ANSELMO JANUARY 18, 1924 – MARCH 20, 2022



Dr. Andy Anselmo was a passionate CCF Member from 1987 to 2016.

He served as a vocal teacher to CCF's first Zeffirelli Scholarship recipient and sponsored many musical events at the Townhouse that included Regis Philbin, Mariette Hartley, Jose Ferrer and other notable performers.

He will be remembered fondly by all at the Foundation who knew him.

IN MEMORIAM

CARL LIGGIO

January 17, 2021

Carl was a former attorney with the firm McCullough, Campbell & Lane LLP (now McCullough P.C.) and a founding member of the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC). He was instrumental in growing ACC's initial membership base, signing up his entire team and working tirelessly on behalf of the association.

RICHARD J. NACLERIO

December 20, 1931 - May 16, 2021

Richard J. Naclerio served on the Board of Governors from 2000 to 2006 and was an active co-chair of the Elementary Scholarship Committee for several years. Mr. Naclerio and his wife Barbara were named Columbus Celebration Honorees in 2014.

Richard J. Naclerio, of Pelham Manor, was born to Salvatore and Elizabeth Naclerio. Mr. Naclerio was the proprietor of Naclerio Contracting as well as a real estate owner and developer. He was also the owner of the well-known Bronx catering establishments, Maestros Caterers and The Eastwood Manor. An avid golfer, Mr. Naclerio was a member of Pelham Country Club, Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, The Boca Raton Resort & Country Club and The New York Athletic Club. Mr. Naclerio's greatest love was for his family. He is survived by his devoted wife of 62 years, Barbara Naclerio, and cherished children, Elizabeth D'Onofrio (Anthony) and Lisa Argento (Joseph), Richard Naclerio (Elisa) loving grandchildren, Elizabeth, Michael, Barbara, Nicholas, Samantha, Matthew, Lauren, Joseph, Jessica, Julianne, Dante, Andrew and step grandchildren Joey and Dana along with his dear sister, Rosann Naclerio.

FRANK A. CAMPIONE

August 27, 2021

Mr. Campione, of Freehold, was born in Newark, New Jersey. He was predeceased by his parents, Anthony and Frances. He is survived by his wife Gail; his siblings, Bob (Judy), Marianne (Tony), and Olga; his nieces and nephews, Denise (Harold), Bob (Cheryl), Priscilla (Chris), Janine (Steve), Ron, Jr. (Jaime) and Tyler (Heena); his mother-in-law Dorothy; his brother-in-law Ron (Teresa); and his great-nieces and great-nephews, Malia, Sage, and Jonathan.

LOUIS PATAKI

November 2, 1941 - November 29, 2021

Louis Peter Pataki, Jr., aged 80 of Rowayton, CT, died peacefully at the Norwalk Hospital on November 29, 2021. He was the loving husband for 55 years of Jane Smith Pataki. Louis was born in Peekskill, NY on November 2, 1941, the son of the late Louis Peter and Margaret (Lagana) Pataki. He was an astronomy professor at NYU for the past 21 years. Louis received his undergraduate and PHD from Yale University and his JD from Indiana University. He had previously taught astronomy at Indiana University and practiced law in New York. Louis, an Eagle Scout, was a Scoutmaster for Troop 2 in Rowayton for many years and a volunteer with the Rowayton Fire Department. He also enjoyed stamp collecting, orienteering and his Hungarian, Italian and Irish heritage.

In addition to his wife Jane, Louis is survived by his son Jonathan Pataki, his daughter Daisy Pataki, grandchildren Kaitlyn, Maggie, Milo and Juliana, brother George E. Pataki and his wife Libby, 7 nieces and nephews and many grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

JOHN CALLICHIO

December 11, 2021

John is survived by his loving children Lisa and Thomas and his wife, Denise and his ex-wife Millicent. He was a devoted grandfather to Tate, Quinn, Steven Paolo, Amanda, John, Axel, and Oriana and a greatgrandfather to William, James, and Marcus. He met his great grandchildren for the first time prior to passing, and it gave him great happiness. John was fiercely devoted to providing for his family. He was a self-made man who developed many successful businesses during his career perhaps crowned by his great love for the dry bulk shipping business. His charitable endeavors were varied and impactful particularly his work as a board member for the Children's Blood Foundation and the Guggenheim Foundation and his priority would always go back to family. He was never happier than when family gatherings were large, particularly for Sunday night dinner or a family vacation surrounded by his children, their spouses, and his grandchildren. John was a humble man who would never tout his many accomplishments. He had a gift for making those who knew him feel warm and welcome in his presence. He was blessed with tremendous capacity for work, family and friends.

HON. ANTHONY G. DIFALCO

July 14, 1938 - April 9, 2022

DiFalco was one of CCF's Founding Members, and the father of CCF Member Christophe DiFalco. Our Foundation will be forever grateful for his role in our development and growth for so many years. He will be missed by all who knew him.

DiFalco was a public servant, a prominent and influential attorney; and a loving and devoted husband and father. Born in New York City on July 14, 1938, to the late New York County Surrogate Judge. S. Samuel DiFalco and Emma G. DiFalco, he attended St. Francis Xavier High School, graduated from Holy Cross College in 1960 and New York Law School in 1963. He served the State of New York from 1965-1976; as the Associate Counsel to President Pro Tem of the New York State Senate in 1965, the Associate Counsel to the Minority Leader of the New York State Senate from 1966-1968, and as a Member of the Assembly of the New York Legislature from 1968-1976.

DiFalco was the Managing Partner of DiFalco, Amhurst, Smithson, Tannenbaum & Duval, an international law firm with offices in New York, London and Rome.

Devoted to the advancement of Italian Americans, he was one of the principal founders of Columbus Citizens Foundation, together with his late father, Judge S. Samuel DiFalco, and served as Member and former Chairman of the Board of Directors. He was greatly involved in charitable work, and served on the Board of Directors for various causes. He received numerous awards for his service from many institutions including: Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Stuyvesant Chapter Cancer Care; National Jewish Hospital; Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; Young Israel Synagogue of Manhattan; and the Italian American Students & Faculty of City University of New York.

DR. ELAINE L. RIGOLOSI

October 12, 1944 - February 26, 2022

Elaine is survived by her sister, Diane, her three nephews, Peter, Lawrence and Brian, and her niece, Andrea. She touched the lives of so many, as a devoted wife to her late husband Dr. Robert S. Rigolosi, and in her seemingly fathomless support and empathetic compassion towards family, colleague, student and friend alike; she will be sorely missed.

BEATRICE FAVINO

April 8, 2022

A beloved Member, and passionate supporter of the CCF Scholarship Program, Beatrice leaves behind her beloved brother Antonio Favino and her two nephews Theodore Favino and Antonio Favino Jr.

IN MEMORIAM FRIENDS & FAMILY OF THE FOUNDATION

CAROL A. CILMI

March 24, 2021

Carol, mother of Foundation Member Anthony Cilmi, and daughter of founding CCF Member Sebastiano "Barney" Monte and his wife, Frances, was a pioneer in the multi-family apartment building development and management industry. After graduating high school in the 1960's, she joined her father's construction business at his request. Although a male-dominated field, Carol quickly gained respect across the board from construction crews to bankers, lawyers, politicians and all who she encountered.

Along with her family, Carol developed well over one million square feet of property throughout the five boroughs before solely concentrating on the management of such properties. These included Colony Gardens, Monte Plaza and The Monte Excelsior her pride and joy and home for 50 years. The buildings are where Carol's personality and passion truly shined through. When she was in the office with Stella, she was truly in her element. This was evident to anyone who rented an apartment from her throughout the years. Her genuine care and concern for all those that worked and lived at the buildings always took priority. In the early 1990's, she and her brothers opened and ran Harper's Restaurant in New Hyde Park, NY.

Carol's greatest love was her family. She was a loving and devoted wife for 55 years to Dominick. Their courtship began when she was 18 years old and spanned over 60 years. She was the adored mother of Dominique Cilmi and Anthony Cilmi (Andrea). An amazing and cherished grandmother to Anthony, Daniel, Alina, Andrew and Christopher. Devoted daughter of Frances and Barney Monte (both deceased). Dear sister to (pre-deceased) Josephine Marashlian (Gregory), Paul Monte (Carol), and Fred Monte (Angela). Beloved aunt and friend to countless nieces, nephews and friends that adored her.

VINCENZA "NANCY" TARANTINO

January 19, 1929 – March 26, 2021

Vincenza Tarantino, mother of Foundation Member Joseph A. Tarantino, passed away on March 26, 2021 at the age of 92 with her family by her side. Nancy was the beloved wife of the late Joseph D. Tarantino and loving mother of the late Domenick (Frank), Joseph (Eileen), Diane (Joseph) DiTommaso, and Janice (John) Penachio, she was also the devoted grandmother of Lisa, Joseph (Katherine), Johnny, Tina (Frank), Jessica, and Jenna (Matt).

GASPERINA IDA PAGNOTTA ZIMBARO

April 1, 1927 – June 30, 2021

Gasperina Ida Pagnotta Zimbaro, mother of CCF Member Frank Zimbaro and mother-in-law of CCF Board Member John Desiderio, entered into eternal rest on June 30, 2021 at the age of ninety four.

She was born on April 1, 1927, to the late Luigi Pagnotta and Teresina Chilleli Pagnotta. She married the late Adolfo Zimbaro in Italy on January 25, 1947. She arrived in the USA with her husband and four children on the SS Saturnia in 1960. She lived in Brooklyn until 1984 when she moved to Yonkers, then to New York City and then to New Canaan, Connecticut.

Gasperina was predeceased by sisters, Maria, Rosina, and Angelina, and by brothers Francesco, and Vincenzo. She is survived by her sons Frank (Yuliana), Aldo (Flora), Louis and daughter Maria (John).

CONCETTINA "TINA" PULEO

August 18, 2021

Tina Puleo, 85 years of age, wife of Foundation Member Anthony E. Puleo, passed away at home on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, with her husband Tony at her side. Born in Elizabeth, New Jersey to Louis and Madeline Ciorra, she resided in Bernardsville for 44 years.

Tina's passion for travel and foreign cultures brought her and Tony to all corners of the world. She had a particular fondness for Hong Kong, Southeast Asia, and Europe. Tina was a loving and fun person that had a wide circle of friends both at home and abroad.

She is survived by her husband, Tony; her three sons and their spouses, Carolyn, Evelyn and Pisey; five grandchildren, Elizabeth, Matthew, Stephen, Tyler and Garrett; and her brother, Fr. Anthony Ciorra, the VP for Mission and Catholic Identity at Sacred Heart University. She was predeceased by her sister, Pauline Tavormina.

JOSEPHINE PIZZIMENTI

October 23, 1950 – August 20, 2021

Josephine Pizzimenti, beloved spouse of CCF Member Enzo Pizzimenti, passed away on August 20, 2021, at age 70. She was born in Italy on October 23, 1950 to Antonio & Carmela Fraccaroli. Josephine worked alongside her loving husband, Enzo, as the CFO of their family business, C Clean in Rye Brook. She is fondly remembered as a loving woman who lived to help others and cherished the time spent with her family.

Josephine leaves behind her husband as well as her cherished children, Joseph Pizzimenti (Alice) and Francesca Casaregola (Tom), and dear grandchildren, Isabel, Christopher, Nathaniel, Jonathan, Dominic and Julia. She is also survived by her brother, Romeo Fraccaroli.

DORA (PUGLIA) WILLIAMS

April 4, 1958 – September 13, 2021

Dora (Puglia) Williams, sister-in-law to our Foundation Members Vincent Cappucci and Nat Riccardi, and sister to their spouses, Anna and Nancy, passed away unexpectedly on September 13, 2021 after a long and fiercely fought battle with cancer. She was born on April 4, 1958 in Limina, Italy to the late Sebastiano and Giovanna Puglia. She immigrated to the United States with her family in 1966. Dora was raised in Rye Brook, NY and graduated from Port Chester High School in 1977. She went on to study at Fordham University, graduating with degrees in English and Italian.

She began her career at Ceramiche Piemme in Manhattan, later continuing her work at Greenwich Health Association. After raising her children, Dora pursued graduate work in education, and began a second career as a teacher of Italian at Greenwich High School. Much beloved by her students, she was known for her warmth and enthusiasm in the classroom, her love for the city of Florence, and her work in bringing AP Italian to Greenwich High School. Inspired by and devoted to her students, Professoressa Williams continued to teach despite the challenges of her illness. Her love of music led her to join the Saint Michael's Church Choir as a soprano. She was a proud member of the Greenwich community, serving many years on the Town of Greenwich RTM and Greenwich PTA.

Mrs. Williams is survived by her devoted husband Christopher and her beloved sons Ronald and Daniel, all of Greenwich, CT. She is also survived by her brother Joseph; sisters Maria, Nancy, and Anna; brothers-in-law Philip, Natale, and Vincent; uncle Philip; as well as many nephews, nieces, cousins, grandnephews, and grandnieces.

GREGORY CAMILLUCCI

January 25, 1934 – January 6, 2022

Gregory Camillucci, who was employed as the General Manager at CCF from 1993 to 2002, passed away at home with his wife and son at his side. He attended Fordham Prep and Fordham College. After college, Greg served in the United States Air Force for three years. Greg then commenced a lifelong career in restaurant management, during which time he led many notable restaurants, including Patricia Murphy's Candlelight Restaurant, The Russian Tea Room, and Columbus Citizens Foundation. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, including horseback riding, fishing, golfing, and spending time in Central Park.

Greg is survived by his wife, Monika, his sister, Rita, his children, Gregory Jr., Kathryn, Jocelyn, and Karl, eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and six nieces and nephews.

VINCENT J. BARTIROMO

September 8, 1932 – January 7, 2022

On Friday, January 7, 2022, Vincent Bartiromo, loving husband and father of three children, including CCF Board Member Maria Bartiromo, passed away at the age of 89. Vincent was born on September 8, 1932, in Brooklyn, NY to Carmine and Theresa Bartiromo. He served his country in the Korean War and was discharged with honor on November 30, 1960. He will rest alongside his brothers who served in World War II with honor and distinction. Vincent was owner and chef of his family business, The Rex Manor in Borough Park Brooklyn. He dedicated his career to the Rex Manor and was beloved by all who knew him. On January 27, 1957, he married Josephine Morreale. They raised three children, son Patrick and daughters, Theresa and Maria. Vincent is survived by his wife Josephine, his three children Patrick, Theresa and Maria, sons-in-law John and Jonathan, daughter-in-law Margaret, and six grandchildren, Jonathan, Nicholas,

Samantha, Michael, Vincent and Anthony. He is also survived by his sister Angelina and several nieces and nephews.

Vincent had a passion and love for his family, friends, Italian cooking, horse racing and playing cards and was happiest when in the company of his wife, children and grandchildren. He was an avid Frank Sinatra and big band music lover. He was known for his gentleness, kindness, infectious smile, quick wit and generous spirit. He was a regular at every Columbus Weekend, watching the parade from the red carpet stands as his daughter Maria hosted the parade for the past 20 years. He enjoyed attending the Gala every year with his whole family.

GIUSEPPINA CARLOZZI

May 26, 1930 – June 25, 2022

Giuseppina, mother of CCF Member Linda Carlozzi, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at Avon Health Center. Giosi was the widow of the late Carlo Carlozzi, Sr., her beloved husband of 57 years. Giosi, born May 26, 1930, in New Britain, was the daughter of the late Giuseppe and Rosa (Barile) Ricciardi.

At 14 months old, she emigrated to Italy and grew up in Campodipietra, Province of Campobasso (Molise), Italy. As a child, growing up in Campodipietra, she learned the importance of family, hard work and love of her church.

IN MEMORIAM FRIENDS & FAMILY OF THE FOUNDATION

MATTHEW "MATTY" CLASSI, SR.

September 19, 1943 - May 5, 2022

Matthew, father of CCF Member Matt Classi, passed away at his home with his loving wife, Millie at his side. Matty battled cancer with great courage for over two years, but ultimately succumbed to its complications. Matty was the second child of Mary and Charles Classi. He is survived by his sister Roseanne Pergolis. Matty married Millie Bisconti, the love of his life and wife for 58 years on April 4th 1964 and resided at that time in Ozone Park, New York.

In 1977, Matty and Millie, along with their son Matthew Jr. and daughter Deborah Lynn, moved to Seaford, Long Island, where they raised their family and resided for the next 42 years until they moved to Elwood, New York in 2018.

Matty spent 30 years employed as an engineer for the Long Island Railroad and will be remembered as a dedicated husband, loving father and friend to many. Matty's kindness and gentle nature was immediately recognized by all those who met him and his affable personality will never be forgotten. Matty had a love for cars, billiards, doo-wop music, model trains and above all, family. Matty is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Rosanne and Richard Pergolis, his wife Millie, daughter Deborah, son in law, Keith Lewis, and grandson Greyson as well as son Matthew Jr, daughter in law Angela and grandchildren Matthew and Mary Grace.

SANDRA TOBIA

June 3, 1945 - July 16, 2022

Sandra Tobia (née Boutsikaris), beloved wife of CCF Member Ronald L. Tobia, passed peacefully at home on Saturday morning, July 16th.

Professionally, Sandra had her Masters in speech therapy from Kean University and worked as a speech therapist in the Newark public school system. Sandra was passionate about art and decor; she collected art throughout her life and owned an art gallery in Montclair for several years, and a lifestyle boutique that featured many beautiful antiques.

Sandra was predeceased by her parents, Hortense and Charles Boutsikaris. She is survived by Ronald and her three children and their spouses, Jill and Andrew Sorger, of Montclair; Alisandra Tobia and Adam Sciorsci, of Clifton; and Joseph and Claire Tobia, of Ramsey. Also survived by Sandra are her brother, Thomas Boutsikaris, of Wall, and her four grandchildren, Maxwell and Samantha Sorger and Gunnar and Caden Tobia.

FOUNDATION FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT - DECEMBER 2021

	2020	2021
Current Assets	\$ 6,362,267	\$ 6,610,427
Scholarship Funds	\$ 21,484,684	\$ 23,867,436
Property & Equipment	\$ 2,528,105	\$ 2,386,825
Total Assets	\$ 30,375,056	\$ 32,864,688
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 3,058,190	\$ 2,635,212
Total Charitable Contributions	\$ 5,726,220	\$ 868,009
Total Expenses	\$ 6,028,007	\$ 6,646,968

CCF's Overhead rate is **25%**, well below the accepted not-to-exceed threshold of **35%**.
We currently operate with **14** staff members for the Foundation and **18** for the House.

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION & HOUSE STAFF

LISA ACKERMAN
Executive Director

PILAR DIEZ
Office Assistant

LISA HOSKINS
Assistant Controller

JOSEPH O'FALLON
Marketing & Communications Associate

ANGELICA OQUENDO
Maintenance Staff

JUAN RAMIREZ
Maintenance Manager

ANTONELLA RECCHIA
Director, Scholarships/Opportunities Office

JO RIORDAN
Membership Coordinator

MICHELLE SANTORO
Director of Program Advancement

DEANNA STINZIANO
Controller

JEFFERSON WILSON
Senior Director, Marketing & Communications

MARGUERITE ZAPPA
Executive Assistant

ERIKA ALVAREZ
Wait Staff

ORLANDO ARCILA
Wait Staff

VICTOR CARINO
Sous Chef

ROMEO NESI
Dining Room Manager

GERARDO PAIZ
Kitchen Staff

LIONEL PAIZ
Kitchen Staff

GENE RAICOVICH
Beverage Manager

JOSE TENEZACA
Kitchen Staff

ALEX TORIBIO
Head Chef

ERIC TORIBIO
Wait Staff

ISAIAS TORIBIO
Wait Staff

MARIA WILSON
Special Events Manager



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