



Founded in 1984, NBICF brings people of all ancestries together to share all things Italian.

Messaggio del Presidente - George Golfieri

Cari Amici,

Soon the holidays will be upon us and we will spend time with our families and friends celebrating. We will also reflect on the past year and look forward to a new year full of new opportunities. Looking back on 2024 I am grateful to you, our **Members** and the **Board of Directors** of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation. Without Members and a dedicated Board, who have worked endlessly to continue the Foundation’s mission of the study, preservation, and enjoyment of Italian Culture in Sonoma County, this Foundation could not exist. **Mille Grazie.**

Recently the Foundation received a gift in the amount of \$9,252 from the estate of Sharie Sbrazza. The Foundation is grateful and honored to receive this gift. Sharie passed away in 2022 and was not only a longtime member, but also served on the Foundation’s Board and was a Festa Italiana chairperson. She also ran Andiamo Travel, offering memorable trips to Italy for many of the Foundation’s members.

Sharie was proud of her Italian heritage and her unwavering support and dedication will never be forgotten. In memory of Sharie’s contributions to the Foundation and the Santa Rosa community, the Board approved in Spring of 2022 to rename the Florence Study Abroad Scholarship to the **Sharie Sbrazza NBICF Florence Study Abroad Scholarship.**

The Foundation is looking to fill **one (1) Board seat.** We have three Board members deciding not to run for re-election. It is critical that the Foundation function with a full Board of Directors in accordance with the Foundation’s by-laws. To be elected to the Board a member must be in good standing for a minimum of one (1) year. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact me or any Board member. Elections for the Board are held in November via mail-in ballot.

The future of the Foundation rests on its members who actively participate as officers, as Board members, and as volunteers.

I would like to thank members and their guests who attended the **October 20 Festa Italiana di Santa Rosa at D’Argenzio Winery.** I will report Festa’s results in the next Mosaico. There were many volunteers who made this Festa happen but there is not enough room to list everyone here. I would like to thank chairperson **Susan Macaluso** who worked tirelessly in planning the Festa. In the next Mosaico there will be a flyer recognizing all volunteers who contributed their time in planning and participating at the Festa.

I migliori auguri e saluti per le feste.

Le prossime cene (the next dinners)

See enclosed flyer for more information

November Meeting Dinner - Thursday 14

**December Meeting and La Festa di Natale Dinner
Friday 13**



Enjoy music and dancing at the
Festa di Natale

Mangiamo Chair and Treasurer Needed for NBICF

Please contact: George at 707-843-3176,
for either position or you can leave a
message at the office at 707-591-9696.

Current Mangiamo Chair (until the end of
December) Susan Cole, can be reached at (707) 528-2710.
Millie Grazie.



Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy

Doors open **1:30pm**, screening at **2:00pm**.

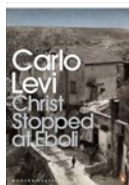
For information: 707-546-9654

Free - Snacks - No reservations required. Donations are kindly accepted. Movies may vary due to availability.

Showing Sunday November 24, 2024

Christ Stopped at Eboli (1979) 2h History/Drama (NR)

This is not a religious film. The meaning of the title is that Eboli is a desolate "Godforsaken" land in Southern Italy. In 1935, Italian artist and activist



Carlo Levi (Gian Maria Volonte) is exiled to the remote village of Eboli for taking a stand against Mussolini's fascist regime. Although intended as a punishment, the experience soon proves to be an uplifting one for Levi. While there, he reflects

on the harsh environment and its inhabitants who live the same lives as their ancestors, constantly fearing black magic and the near presence of death. In Italian with subtitles.

Showing Sunday, December 29, 2024

Avenging Angelo (2002) 1h 38m. Action/Comedy (R)

This was Anthony Quinn's final film and he plays an aging Mafia Godfather (Angelo) trying to make amends with the daughter (Madeleine Stowe) who never knew him.



The film is funny, romantic, and poignant...a nice holiday present for all to just watch, relax and enjoy. In English. Starring Sylvester Stallone, Madeleine Stowe, and Italian actor Raoul Bova. Parts were filmed in Castellammare del Golfo, Sicily.

For Information:

Coro Allegro: 707-484-4992 Les Villanyi

Library/Office: 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn

Italian Classes: 707-874-2512 Emily Evans

Membership: 707-843-3176 George Golfieri

Reservations: 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn

Scholarships: 707-981-8252 Gino Muzzatti

Volunteer Coordinator and Sunshine Cards:

707-586-1167 JoAnn Piantanida

NBICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

George Golfieri (President 707-843-3176)

Sonia Badalamenti, Allen Barbieri, Rene Berardi, Susan Cole, Gina Fortino Dickson, Susan Macaluso, Don Raimondi, Carole Stewart, Christl Unglaub, Les Villanyi (VP), and Virginia Wilburn

Director Emeritus: Angelo Catelani

Please visit NBICF.org About Us / Directors, for a short biography of each Board member.

Welcome

Membership News

Benvenuti

Welcome to our newest members of NBICF!

Individual

Eileen Higgins

Woody Picciano Hastings

Tamara Rocco

New Family Member

Kimberly Ann and Verm Civiletti-Zander

New Business Memebers

Della Terra Oils

Jamie Maletta Real Estate

Thank you to our Continuing Business Members

Buttitta Design - Patti Buttitta

CIBO Rustico Pizzeria

Culinarian Bookshop, Emely Hernandez

D'Argenzio Winery

EcoStruction - Mitchel Slade

Faloni Ranch

Italian Citizenship Assistance (ICA)

Saena Iulia—Scuola di lingua e cultura Italiana

Servico Building Maintenance Inc.

Staged Right - Martine Piazza

CARE HOPE GOOD SPIRITS HEAL RECOVER

to members and their families who are not feeling well

Panettone is a Christmastime cake from Milan.

The sweet, yeasty cake has a distinctive domed shape. Panettone is often compared to fruitcake because both are traditionally made with raisins and candied fruits.

Pandoro is a Christmas cake that originated in Verona. True to its name (*pan d'oro* means "golden bread"), the cake has a bright yellow color. Pandoro is traditionally a star-shaped cake that is dusted with powdered sugar.

In Italy, no Christmas meal is complete without either panettone or pandoro, but often both. It is a real dilemma in many Italian families, often split between panettone lovers and pandoro lovers. The first group finds pandoro to be too simple and buttery; the second group usually dislikes raisins and candied fruits which abound in traditional panettone. More often than not, you buy both.

Mille Grazie

NBICF would like to thank all of the members who have made donations throughout the year.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

- ◆ With over 350 different pasta shapes, the country takes its pasta seriously. It's a culinary art form with precise craftsmanship.
- ◆ Bartolomeo Cristofori, an Italian instrument maker, is credited with inventing the piano in the early 18th century. His innovative design paved the way for one of the most beloved musical instruments worldwide.

Ongoing Incontro group for informal Italian conversation. Please contact George Golfieri at 707-843-3176.

Buon Compleanno

to all who have birthdays in

luglio, agosto, settembre, ottobre, novembre e dicembre



Christmas in Italy

Starting December 8, many Italians begin putting their Christmas trees up and they remove them at the end of the Christmas season, January 6.

During this time, Nativity scenes, **Presepi**, start to appear in churches, town squares, and homes. The nativity scene with a crib filled with straw, originally stems from Italy and is now common in many countries around the world. It is said that the crib scene was first used by Francis of Assisi in 1223. Naples has the largest nativity scene in the world with over 600 objects on it.



On Christmas Eve, it's common that no meat is eaten. The Feast of the Seven Fishes (**Festa dei Sette Pesci**), is a popular meal. On Christmas Day, **Babbo Natale** (Santa Claus) might bring children some small gifts, but the main day for present giving is on the Epiphany, January 6. Children believe that an old witch called **Befana** brings presents for them.

However, depending on the area you are from, gift giving varies. Generally speaking, in the south of Italy people tend to celebrate more on Christmas Eve, with dinner and opening of gifts at midnight. While in the north they tend to celebrate more on actual Christmas Day, and open gifts on Christmas morning.

No matter when you open your gifts, a common factor for all is food and lots of it!

On December 26th, lunch continues the festivities. The meal isn't as indulgent as Christmas lunch, but just as well composed. Restaurants are very popular this day too.

Le parole del giorno (the words of the day)

L'autunno è nell'aria. Le vacanze sono vicine. Sei pronto?

Fall is in the air. The holidays are near. Are you ready?

The **DiGiorno Thanksgiving Pizza** is a thick, chewy, rectangular pizza with creamy gravy sauce, diced sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberries and sliced turkey topped with mozzarella and cheddar cheeses and crispy onions.





North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation
 64 Brookwood Ave Santa Rosa, CA 95404-
 tel: 707-591-9696 email: nbicf@sonic.net
 www.nbicf.org

PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

Upcoming Events

November 14, 2024 - Thursday, (doors open at 5pm, meeting and dinner at 6pm): **Meeting Dinner**, Sonoma County Veterans Building Dining Room.

November 24, 2024 - Sunday, 1:30pm: **Sundays at the Center** with Diane McCurdy, film: **Christ Stopped at Eboli**

November 28, 2024 - **Thanksgiving Day**

December 13, 2024 - Friday, (doors open at 5pm, meeting and dinner at 6pm): **Dinner Meeting**, "La Festa di Natale", Sonoma County Veterans Building Dining Room

December 25, 2024 - **Christmas Day** and the start of **Hanukkah**

December 29, 2023 - Sunday, 1:30pm: **Sundays at the Center** with Diane McCurdy, film: **Avenging Angelo**

Happy New Year - 2025

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT



Mosaico Culturale is published six times a year. It is the newsletter of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation, a California nonprofit membership corporation. NBICF Statement of Purpose: A nonprofit, open membership organization dedicated to the study, preservation, and enjoyment of Italian Culture. Founded in 1984, NBICF brings people of all ancestries together to share all things Italian. NBICF activities foster cultural awareness, celebrate traditions, and support education via scholarships, classes, and programs.

Mosaico Culturale Editorial Staff: Les Villanyi (editing and proofreading), George Golfieri, Marie Maggi-Wilson (editor) . Website: Don Raimondi

Members are encouraged to submit articles or items for publication. Submit your articles two weeks prior to the bi-monthly Mosaico publication date. Please submit articles as Word documents. Editors reserve the right to select and edit as space allows.

November 11 - The holiday is commonly printed as *Veteran's Day* or *Veterans' Day*, however, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs states: **Veterans Day** does not include an apostrophe but does include an "s" at the end of "veterans" because it is not a day that "belongs" to veterans, it is a day for honoring all veterans.

All Saints' Day is **November 1**, and is a national holiday in Italy.

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

___ INDIVIDUAL: \$35 ___ HOUSEHOLD: \$50 ___ PATRON: \$100 ___ BUSINESS: \$150

___ STUDENT: \$10 (Please provide a copy of your valid student I.D.)

Please indicate your areas of interest below: mark all that apply.

___ Fundraisers ___ History ___ Italian Classes ___ Music ___ Scholarships ___ Volunteer ___ Other

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please make your checks payable to NBICF. Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

Applications can also be done via our website, www.NBICF.org.

For more Information, call: 707-591-9696.

THANK YOU

to those who have made donations to NBICF!

Your donations will help us maintain our goals of the study, preservation and enjoyment of Italian Culture.

You can specify where your donation goes, such as the building fund, scholarships, in memoriam, or for any other reason, by indicating it on your check.

Mail your checks payable to NBICF, 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

Donations can also be made via our website, www.NBICF.org.

North Bay Italian Culture Foundation

November Dinner Meeting

Thursday, November 14, 2024

Doors open at 5:00pm, meeting and dinner at 6:00pm.

Sonoma County Veterans Memorial Dining Room

1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa

Open seating - arrive early to ensure seating for your entire party.

Dinner prepared by **Steven May**

Dinner includes:

**Antipasti • Salad • Pork Loin wrapped in bacon
Yukon gold potatoes • Seasonal vegetables • Rolls • Dessert
Wine at the table.**

Reminder: **NO outside alcohol or food** allowed.



Prepaid reservations must be made by November 11, 2024

NBICF November Dinner Meeting

Thursday, November 14, 2024

Doors open at 5:00pm, meeting and dinner at 6:00pm

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

_____ places at \$35 for Member(s) _____ places at \$38 for Guest(s)

_____ places at \$10 for Teen(s) (13 –18 yrs.) _____ places at \$5 for Child (5–12 yrs.)

_____ places at free for Child under 5 yrs.

Make checks payable to NBICF. Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. Or, make reservations online at: **www.nbicf.org**

All net proceeds support SRJC Scholarship Fund and NBICF Cultural Activities.

North Bay Italian Culture Foundation

December Meeting and *La Festa di Natale* Dinner

Friday December 13, 2024



Sonoma County Veterans Memorial Dining Room

1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa

Doors open at 5:00pm, meeting and dinner at 6:00pm.

Open seating - arrive early to ensure seating for your entire party.

Dinner prepared by **Steven May**

Dinner includes:

**Antipasti • Salad • Tri-Tip with sautéed mushrooms
Orzo with roasted vegetables • Rolls • Dessert
Wine at the table.**

Please **bring** your favorite **Christmas cookies** to share.

Reminder: **NO outside alcohol or food, except for the cookies, allowed.**



Prepaid reservations must be made by December 9, 2024

NBICF December Meeting and *La Festa di Natale* Dinner

Friday December 13, 2024

Doors open at 5:00pm, meeting and dinner at 6:00pm

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

_____ places at \$35 for Member(s) _____ places at \$38 for Guest(s)

_____ places at \$10 for Teen(s) (13 –18 yrs.) _____ places at \$5 for Child (5–12 yrs.)

_____ places at free for Child under 5 yrs.

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