



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 2025, 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.**

I would like to thank members who attended NBICF's 11th annual "Pizza, Birra & Vino" party. It was nice to see members getting together to socialize and catch up with friends. There is nothing more Italian than enjoying pizza al fresco as one big family. Thanks to the following people who made this party a success:

Don Raimondi, Susan Macaluso, René Berardi, Carole Stewart, Sophia LoRe', and Angie Comalli. Thank you **Carlo Solivan** and **John Davis** for a great night of festive Italian music. This event was featured in the community section of the **Press Democrat** on September 14th.

I would like to thank members and their guests who attended the **October 26 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.

La prossima cena (the next dinner) will be on **December 12.** Come celebrate "**La Festa di Natale**" with us. There will be music and dancing. See enclosed flyer.

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NBICF Website Support

The Board is seeking an NBICF member to assist in maintaining the NBICF Website.

Don Raimondi created the site and has been the Webmaster for the past 21 years.

The website is built on the WordPress platform and interfaces with PayPal payments for reservations, donations, and membership dues.

Don will provide training and backup support until the person is comfortable taking full responsibility.



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Grazie

NBICF would like to thank the following for their
donations to the Pizza, Birra & Vino event:

Don Raimondi - pizza from N.Y. Pie
Diane Bourassa - wine from Goldschmidt Winery
True Delicious Biscotti - biscotti
George Golfieri - beer.



Buon Natale

Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy

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

For information: 707-546-9654

Free admission - Snacks - No reservations required.

Donations are kindly accepted.

Showing Sunday, November 30, 2025

My Brilliant Friend (2018) Drama

An elderly lady discovers that her "brilliant friend" has disappeared. Thus begins an epic tale that spans 60 years. She writes about their tempestuous relationship and tries to describe the mystery of her friend who might be her worst enemy. The setting is a dangerous but fascinating WWII Naples. This film is based on the first part of the work of elusive Italian author Elena Ferrante. (English)

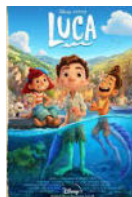


Showing Sunday, December 28, 2025

**An after-Christmas treat and mini-party.
Bring the kids and grandkids.**

Luca (2021) 1h 35m Family/Fantasy (PG)

Luca is a little boy who lives on the Italian Riviera. He experiences an unforgettable summer filled with endless adventures with his new best friend. The location is visually and culturally inspired by La Spezia and all the little towns that make up Cinque Terre. In English with little spurts of Italian.



Movies may vary due to availability.

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, René Berardi, Diane Bourassa, Breanna D'Argenzio-Tamburin, Gina Fortino Dickson, Sofia LoRé, Susan Macaluso, Don Malvestiti, Don Raimondi, Carole Stewart, 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

New Individual

Lorraine Vijayakar

New Family

Jon Del Buono

David and Teresa Pavioni

Paola Tonelli

Thank you to our Continuing Business Members

Buttitta Design - Patti Buttitta

Cotati Accordion Festival

Della Terra Oils

Faloni Ranch

Italian Citizenship Assistance (ICA)

Jamie Maletta Real Estate

Servico Building Maintenance Inc.

Staged Right - Martine Piazza

Taft Street Winery

True Delicious Biscotti

Whipper Snappers

Buon Compleanno

to all who have birthdays in

**luglio, agosto, settembre, ottobre,
novembre e dicembre**



Upcoming NBICF Dinner

Save the Date:

Mark your 2026 calendar so you do not miss the
NBICF dinners!



Thursday, January 22

Thursday, February 26

Thursday, March 26

Thursday, April 23

Thursday, September 24

Thursday, October 22

Thursday, December 17

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.

Who Owns What?

The **Sagra** brand is owned by **Salov Group S.p.A.**, an Italian olive oil company that also owns the Filippo Berio brand. The Sagra olive oil brand has been on Italian tables since 1959 and is currently owned by Salov Group, which is itself part of the Chinese **Bright Food Group**. The original owner, the Fontana family, retains a minority stake in the company.

Despite its Chinese ownership, Filippo Berio's olive oil production is still based in Italy and sources olives from Mediterranean countries.

Bertolli olive oil is owned by the Spanish food company Deoleo, which purchased the olive oil and vinegar business from Unilever in 2008. Deoleo is the world's leading olive oil company and the owner of **Carapelli**, an Italian brand and **Carbonell**, a Spanish brand. Various websites

Le parole del giorno (the words of the day)

Non parlo italiano... ma ci provo!

(I don't speak Italian... but I'll try!)

A Family of Boxers

Arturo Gatti (April 15, 1972 - July 11, 2009) was of Italian descent. He was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, to Italian parents. The family later moved to Jersey City, New Jersey.

He and his older brother Joe were both Canadian professional boxers. Arturo competed from 1991 to 2007 and was a two-division world champion. Joe had a career from 1987 to 2002. He is now a member of the International Union of Elevator Constructors.

Arturo Gatti Jr., began boxing at age 7 after pestering and finally convincing his mother to allow him to take lessons. He competed at amateur level with plans to turn professional but died at just 17 years old. Various websites

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The Foundation has 1 open board seat. It is critical that the Foundation function with a **full Board of Directors** in accordance with the Foundation's by-laws. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors or would like to nominate a member, please contact me or any board member. A Director must be a member in good standing for a minimum of one (1) year to be qualified to serve on the Board.

I migliori auguri e saluti per le feste.

NBICF Website Support continued from page 1

The individual needs a combination of technical and non-technical skills. These include a solid understanding of the WordPress platform, basic coding skills (HTML), website security knowledge, content management capabilities, and troubleshooting skills.

To contact Don, send an email to
NBICF2member@gmail.com.

Please include a brief description of your computer systems experience.

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



La Befana is
getting ready for
her journey.





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

Upcoming Events

November 30, 2025 - Sunday, 1:30pm: **Sundays at the Center** with Diane McCurdy, film: ***My Brilliant Friend***

December 12, 2025 - Friday, (doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm):
NBICF Dinner, Sonoma County Veterans Building Dining Room, Santa Rosa, CA

December 28, 2025 - Sunday, 1:30pm: **Sundays at the Center** with Diane McCurdy, film: ***Luca***

January 1, 2026 - Thursday, **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT



Christmas in Italy

On December 8, many Italians begin putting their Christmas trees up and they remove them at the end of the Christmas season, January 6. 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. Italian immigrants in the 1800s, possibly from southern Italy, brought this tradition over and now many Italian-American families continue this custom. 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).



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.

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 Cultural Foundation

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

Friday December 12, 2025

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 catered by **Canevari's Deli**

Dinner includes:

Antipasti • Salad • Cheese Ravioli with marinara sauce

Meatballs or Tri-Tip

Dessert

Wine at the table.



Prepaid reservations must be made by December 9, 2025

NBICF December Meeting and ***La Festa di Natale*** Dinner

Friday December 12, 2025

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

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

_____ places at \$40 for Member(s) _____ places at \$45 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.



BECOME A HOST FAMILY OR HOST EXCHANGE FAMILY

**Get back in touch with your family roots
Help an Italian student improve their English
OR**

**Does your son or daughter want to spend a year in Italy?
If yes, consider exchange hosting
Ages 16-18 School year 2026-2027**

**I am a full time English teacher at Faenza Liceo Linguistico while my wife is a principal at another high school. I am a San Rafael native. My objective is to help my Italian students who wants to spend a school year in the U.S.
I am in contact with Petaluma and Casa Grande High School**

**Faenza Italy is world renowned for ceramics and quality of life.
Check out the Liceo <https://www.liceotorricelli-ballardini.edu.it/>**

I would be happy to explain everything in more detail via email or in person as I will be in San Rafael mid-July to mid-August.

Michael Ferrario ferrario@jps.net