



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

Messaggio dei Presidenti - Susan Macaluso and René Berardi

Cari Amici,

We are pleased to greet you and assume leadership of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation. At the February Board of Directors meeting, **interim President Gina Fortino-Dickson** oversaw and certified the election of officers. **Susan Macaluso** and **René Berardi** were elected **President** and **Vice-President** respectively, and **Diane Bourassa** as **Treasurer**. The **Secretary** position remained open and the Board voted to fill the spot with a rotating secretary from the Board. Longtime Board director and office manager, **Virginia Wilburn**, will resign as of April 1, 2026.

George Golfieri has been a force in leading the organization for the past 11 years and we will do our very best to continue promoting the Italian culture we all so love. To celebrate all that George has accomplished, we will be hosting an Appreciation Dinner at the Vets Center on Thursday, April 23, to honor him and to also recognize past Board members **Don Raimondi**, **Les Villanyi**, and **Virginia Wilburn** for their contributions.

We are continually working to keep members connected and informed and are thus very excited that we can now offer an online membership platform which will facilitate member communication, manage memberships, and create new membership drives. With **getcommunal**, members have their own profile and can renew membership, make reservations, pay for events, and explore volunteer opportunities. Notices via email (and hard copy to those without email) have gone out. We encourage you to renew your membership now at **nbicf.getcommunal.com/password/reset**. Thank you to those who have already renewed. When you renew, you get your own personal membership card! Please refer to prior emails for instructions or contact us via phone or email. More information on page 3.

Think about joining the Board! Requirements are at least a one-year NBICF membership and a passion for Italian culture. We have monthly Board meetings and you can be a part of creating events and activities to celebrate the culture. It's fun and rewarding. We now have **two vacancies**. Please contact **Gina Fortino-Dickson** at **nbicf2member@gmail.com** for more information and to submit your name for nomination.

We hope to hear from you and would also welcome your participation on any of our committees such as Mangiamo, Membership, Cultural, and Communications. Messaggio dei Presidenti - Susan Macaluso and René Berardi, continued to page 2

Buona Pasqua

The Easter Bunny does *not* exist in Italy. In Italy, it's all about eggs, the symbol of rebirth and renewal. Italians go all out with chocolate eggs, which can range from tiny solid ones to beautifully wrapped foot-high hollow eggs, which hide a gift inside.



Buona Pasqua continued to page 2

Save the Date - Thursday, April 23

Appreciation Dinner to honor George Golfieri and to also recognize Don Raimondi, Les Villanyi, and Virginia Wilburn for their contributions.

More information to follow on Communal, Facebook and the NBICF website

Please see enclosed flyer for the March 26 Dinner

Messaggio dei Presidenti

Susan Macaluso and René Berardi, continued from page 1

Financially, the Foundation ended 2025 with \$37,283 in the bank with a loss of \$7,238.

Income was \$27,596 and expenses were \$34,834. Lack of donations and low attendance at fundraisers accounted for most of the decrease in income. NBICF income is generated from membership dues, donations, dinners, and fundraisers. The Foundation depends on these sources of income to support its **scholarship programs** and **cultural events**, as well as to cover operating expenses and the Italian Cultural Center on Brookwood Avenue. Being a part of NBICF binds us together as Italian Americans and lovers of Italian culture. With your support, we further the Foundation's commitment to the North Bay Italian community to promote, experience, and enjoy everything Italian. If you have any questions regarding the Foundation's financials, please feel free to contact us.

Buona Pasqua continued from page 1

The day after Easter in Italy, known either as *La Pasquetta* (Little Easter) or *Il lunedì dell'Angelo*, (Angel's Monday), is a national holiday with offices and schools closed. Italians traditionally go on a picnic that day, often their first outdoor excursion since the start of winter.

For Information

Incontro: (conversation group, Saturdays at 10:30am)

George Golfieri, nbicf2member@gmail.com

Italian Classes: Emily Evans 707-874-2512

Membership: René Berardi, nbicf2member@gmail.com

Office: Virginia Wilburn, 707-591-9696

Nominations: Gina Fortino-Dickson,
nbicf2member@gmail.com

Scholarships: Gino Muzzatti,
leave message at gmuzzatti@santarosa.edu

Volunteer Coordinator and Sunshine Cards:
JoAnn Piantanida, 707-586-1167

NBICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Steve Albini, Sonia Badalamenti, Allen Barbieri, René Berardi (Vice-President), Diane Bourassa (Treasurer), Breanna D'Argenzio-Tamburin, Gina Fortino Dickson, Sophia LoRé, Susan Macaluso (President), Don Malvestiti, Carole Stewart, 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

Mille grazie to all those who have become **new members** as **Individuals, Families, Patrons, or Students**

We look forward to meeting you at our future events.

Please come and introduce yourselves to the Board (you will know who we are as we will have an Italian ribbon with a medal around our necks.)

Thank you to all those who have renewed your membership.

If you still haven't renewed your membership, please go to nbicf.getcommunal.com/reset/password

Thank you to our Continuing Business Members

Cotati Accordion Festival

Della Terra Oils

Faloni Ranch

Italian Citizenship Assistance (ICA)

Jamie Maletta W Real Estate

Servico Building Maintenance Inc.

Staged Right - Martine Piazza

Taft Street Winery

True Delicious Biscotti

Whipper Snappers

(Please support these businesses)

Communal (getcommunal)

Communal is a software company, four passionate Canadians, committed to providing affordable management solutions for community organizations including non-profits.

We have transferred all membership information to the new system. Your account has your name, address, phone, email address, and your membership expiration date; but your account does not have a **valid password**. Thus, you must create one.

Please renew your membership at <https://nbicf.getcommunal.com/password/reset> right away. Instructions via email were sent out, but if you have any questions, please email nbicf2member@gmail.com.

If you joined from **September – December, 2025**, your renewal has not expired at this time, but you still must go to <https://nbicf.getcommunal.com/password/reset> and **set up a password** so you can be part of the communications.

Reservations for all events, including dinners, can now be made through <https://nbicf.getcommunal.com>

If you are reading this and are not a member, we encourage you to join. Go to nbicf.getcommunal.com/memberships.

This is new, please let us know if there are problems you incur while using the system. Data from the previous system might not have been correct.



If you're anywhere in Italy on **March 8th**, you will see **yellow mimosa flowers** everywhere.

La Festa della Donna, (sometimes called *La Festa delle Donne*) is a celebration of women. *La Festa della Donna* is Italy's celebration of **International Women's Day**, recognized by the United Nations and many countries around the world.

Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy

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



Free admission - Snacks

No reservations required.

Donations are kindly accepted.

Showing Sunday, March 29, 2026

Roman Holiday (1953) 1h 58m Comedy/Romance (G)

A modern-day princess (Audrey Hepburn), rebelling against the royal obligations, takes off to explore Rome on her own. She meets an American reporter, (Gregory Peck), who pretends ignorance of her true identity. He hopes for an exclusive interview with her, but his plan falters as they fall in love.



Audrey Hepburn's Oscar winning performance in her first starring role.

Roman Holiday was nominated for ten Academy Awards. The entire movie was filmed in Rome featuring many iconic landmarks.

Showing Sunday, April 26, 2026

La mia casa è piena di specchi (*My House is Full of Mirrors*), (2010) TV Movie

Italian icon, **Sophia Loren**, portrays her own mother, Romilda Villani in this biographical film. The script is taken from a book written by **Maria Scicolone**, Sophia's real-life sister. Romilda had won a beauty contest when she was young that featured as a prize a screen test in Hollywood, but her parents refused to let her go. Romilda lives her dream through her daughter.



In **Italian** with subtitles.

For information: 707-546-9654

Movies may vary due to availability.

Le parole del giorno (the words of the day)

Se vuoi cucinare un uovo, hai bisogno di un uovo
(If you want to cook an egg, you need an egg)



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

PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

Upcoming Events

March 26, 2026 - Thursday, (doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm):
NBICF Dinner, Sonoma County Veterans Building, Santa Rosa, CA

March 29, 2026- Sunday, 1:30pm: **Sundays at the Center** with Diane
 McCurdy, film: **Roman Holiday**

April 23, 2026 - Thursday, Save the Date: **Appreciation Dinner**

April 26, 2026 - Sunday, 1:30pm: **Sundays at the Center** with Diane
 McCurdy, film: **La mia casa è piena di specchi (My house is full of
 mirrors)**

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT



Exciting Employment Opportunities With Children

La Piccola Scuola, <https://lapiccolascuola.org>, is seeking a permanent teacher at its pre-school and kindergarten heritage center Monday-Friday from 9am-12pm, starting May 4th.

Requirements are experience with children and a good speaking knowledge of Italian (near fluent is fine). Training will be available and students are welcome to also apply.

Immediately, there is an opening for Saturday Camp, 9am-12pm. Fun job for student or retiree! Speaking knowledge of Italian (near fluent is fine).

Please contact Theresa Sabatino, Director, at tmsabatino210@gmail.com or 408-343-9001 and leave a VM or text!

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. 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 MEMBERSHIP

New ___ Renewal ___

___ INDIVIDUAL: \$35 ___ FAMILY: \$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 _____

Applications can be done via nbicf.getcommunal.com/memberships.

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

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.

Donations, large or small amounts, are greatly appreciated .

Donations can be made via

<https://nbicf.getcommunal.com>

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

NBICF San Giuseppe dinner with music by Carlo Soliván

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Sonoma County Veterans Building Dining Room

Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm

Reservations must be made by March 20, 2026

**Please consider bringing a non-perishable item(s)
to donate to a local food bank.**

Menu includes:

Antipasti

Penne Pasta, choice of pesto or marinara

Mamma Rosa's Meatballs

Classico Caesar Salad and breadsticks

Dessert, please bring your favorite cookies to share

Wine at the table, and an open bar for purchase

Dinner catered by **Cibo Rustico Pizzeria**

Reservations due by March 20, 2026

NBICF Dinner - Thursday, March 26, 2026

Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm

Please consider bringing canned food to donate to a local charity

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

_____ places at \$40 for Members _____ places at \$45 for Guests

_____ places at \$10 for Child (5-18 yrs) _____ places at free for Child under 5yrs

Reservations can be made online at: nbicf.getcommunal.com/memberships.

Or checks payable to NBICF, mail to 64 Brookwood Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

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

Festa di San Giuseppe - the Feast of Saint Joseph is March 19, and is also Festa del Papà, Father's Day in Italy.

Tavola di San Giuseppe – St. Joseph's Table, also celebrated on March 19 is an old Sicilian tradition.

For too long, there had been no rain to nourish the crops that sustained life for most of the island, so the people prayed to San Giuseppe (St. Joseph), their patron, for relief from the famine that gripped the island. Finally, the skies opened up sending down the life-giving water. Sometime later, to show their gratitude, they prepared a table with a special assortment of foods, including fava beans, that they had harvested. After paying honor to San Giuseppe, they distributed the food to the less fortunate. Giving food to the needy is customary on St. Joseph's Day. If you are attending the dinner, please consider bringing a non-perishable item(s) to donate to a local food bank.

