



**DA NOTIZIARIO**

Dante Alighieri Society of Denver, Colorado, Inc.



June 2017

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**JUNE CULTURAL MEETING** The Society is privileged to host retired attorney Ted Borrillo who will present a detailed history of the famous Denver's Elitch Theatre. Mr. Borrillo has recently written a book on the subject by the title *Denver's Elitch Theater: A Nostalgic Journey*. It promises to be a fascinating portrayal of the theatre's dramatic history. The presentation will take place on Friday, June 9, 7:30 p.m. at Mount Carmel Parish Hall, 3549 Navajo St. in Denver.



**SAVE THE DATE** The Society will be having a limited get-together at Tony and Jackie Lombardi's house on Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a picnic style gathering and a mini bocce tournament. Details have not yet been finalized but will be in the July *Notiziario*. Again, since it will be held in a private home, we have limited the attendance to the first 40 participants.

**2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION** On Sunday May 7 the annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon took place at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities. The nearly sixty people in attendance enjoyed the opportunity to interact with our scholarship winners, a breathtaking flute performance from our music scholarship winner and a sumptuous meal. **A heartfelt "Thank You" goes out to all who have contributed to the Dante Scholarship Fund.** This most important part of the Society could not continue without your support.



Our scholarship winners for 2017 are the following: Meghan Dulsky from the University of Colorado who received the Giulio Marcantonio memorial scholarship and will be studying and working in the IES Internship Program in Rome. Maisie Karlin and Madison Sleyster from the University of Denver are going to USAC Torino. Denisse Romero, University of Denver, received the Vincent and Gay Tagliavere scholarship and will attend the Universita' di Perugia. Melissa Zinanti from Metropolitan State University will study in the MSU program in Ravenna. The music scholarship went to Celeste

Landy, a flutist from CU Boulder, who will be studying in Florence. Grazie to John Giardino, chairman, Rosanna Patrona-Aurand, and the scholarship committee.

**BENVENUTA TO NEW ITALIAN LANGUAGE TEACHER**

The Society extends a warm welcome to Vanessa DiMaggio who will teach Italian language classes beginning with the Summer 2017 session. Vanessa has taught Italian at the college level for six years. She holds two MA's in Italian from both Florida State University and the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently finishing her PhD and is writing her dissertation on Dante's use of historical sources in the *Divina Commedia*. She has traveled all over Italy and has lived in Rome, Turin and Milan, where she researched in the archive of the Biblioteca Trivulziana. Prior to studying Italian, she worked as a journalist at several magazines, including *Men's Health*, *Real Simple* and *Cooking Light*. In her free time she likes to hike, camp, travel and eat her way through all the best restaurants in the city.

**BENVENUTI** The Dante Society gives a warm welcome to our new members: Kathleen Sgamma, Jonathan Gamm of Denver, and Sharifa Moore of Evergreen.

### **SUMMER ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES BEGIN JUNE 19.**

The Dante Alighieri Society will offer a 10-week summer session of Italian language classes, beginning the week of June 19, 2017. The schedule for summer classes is posted on the Dante Alighieri website, and is listed below. **The registration deadline for the summer session is June 12, 2017.** Students must register and pay for classes through the website. The classes are taught by experienced and talented bi-lingual teachers, and include beginner and advanced classes. Intermediate level classes will be offered in future sessions. Each class meets for 90 minutes, once a week, at 3549 Navajo Street, Denver, in the parish offices of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Cost is \$100 for members and \$130 for non-members. New members are welcome to join the Dante Alighieri Society when they register for classes. For more information, please contact the Education Chair Suzanne Fasing at [suzannefasing@yahoo.com](mailto:suzannefasing@yahoo.com) or call 303-810-9042. To register for classes, visit the web site: <http://www.dantealighieriofdenver.org/languageclasses.html>

**Beginner 1.** Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, beginning June 20, 2017 through September 5, 2017 (no class on July 4 and July 11) (DiMaggio). In this class students with little or no knowledge of Italian will learn to communicate in simple everyday situations. Students will study the basic building blocks of the Italian language, including the alphabet, rules of pronunciation, basic syntax, and grammatical structures. Topics include subject pronouns, definite and indefinite articles, regular verbs in the present tense, and noun-adjective agreement. **Required Text: The Italian Project 1a.**

**Beginner 2.** Tuesdays, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, beginning June 20, 2017 through September 5, 2017 (no class on July 4 and July 11) (DiMaggio). In this class students will build upon their existing knowledge while incorporating new vocabulary and grammatical structures through conversation, role plays, listening, reading and writing activities. Topics include irregular and modal verbs in the present tense, articulated prepositions, and possessive adjectives. **Required Text: The Italian Project 1a.**

**Beginner 3 will be offered in the fall session starting in September 2017.**

**Beginner 4.** Mondays, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, beginning June 19, 2017 through August 28, 2017 (Brunetti). In this class, students will continue their studies of basic grammatical structures while increasing their vocabulary through in-class readings, listening activities, written assignments, and situational simulations. Topics include future verb tenses, holidays and train travel in Italy. **Required Text: The Italian Project 1a**

**Intermediate 1 will be offered in the fall session starting in September 2017. Continuing Intermediate classes will be offered in 2018.**

**More Advanced classes will be offered in future sessions.**

**Advanced 4.** Thursdays, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, beginning June 22, 2017 through August 31, 2017 (Brunetti). This class will be predominantly in Italian, and will introduce more advanced vocabulary, subjunctive tenses, and courtesy forms of speaking. Students will continue to develop their reading, listening, writing and speaking abilities. **Required Text: The Italian Project 2a.**

**Advanced 6.** Thursdays, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, beginning June 22, 2017 through August 31, 2017 (Brunetti). This class will be predominantly

## **NEWS FROM ITALY**

### **Alfa Romeo Has New Home In Kansas City.**



The Soave Automotive Group is proud to announce the acquisition of the Alfa Romeo franchise from the Overland Park Alfa Romeo, Overland Park, Kansas. In acquiring Alfa Romeo, Aristocrat Motors will pair it with Maserati, another Fiat Chrysler of America brand which they currently represent. The franchise will be part of the Aristocrat Motors dealership located at 9400 West 65th in Merriam, Kansas.

The acquisition of this legendary Italian brand comes at a time of an exciting new product introduction, the Giulia Sport Sedan. Offered at three trim levels; the Giulia, the Giulia Ti, and the Giulia Quadrifoglio, it will offer a complete range of performance options from both a rear wheel drive and all-wheel drive platform.

### **An Italian pastime coming to St. Louis**

Soccer is a favorite Italian pastime. For anyone even slightly familiar with Italian or Italian-American culture, you know that soccer, or calcio as they say in Italian, is something of a passion. It's embedded into the culture. Most everyone has a favorite team whether it be the famous Serie A teams like AC Milano, Juventus, AS Roma, Napoli, or the lesser known teams like my favorite, Triestina, which happens to be in the illustrious Serie D. Because St Louis was populated primarily by continental Europeans, most St Louisans have grown up watching soccer or have played on soccer teams when they were children. The Italian neighborhood in St Louis, The Hill, has been particularly influential in spreading the early popularity of soccer in St Louis and throughout the United States.



### **Italy seen benefitting the most from rising wine consumption worldwide in next four years.**

Worldwide wine consumption will grow by 4.3% over the next four years, led mainly by buyers in China (21.6%) as well as Russia (6.1%) and the United States (5.7%). These statistics from ISMEA agricultural research and funding institute were presented at Vinitaly, the 51st edition of the international wine trade show in Verona, which ends today. ISMEA also foresees a 2.4% growth in production; this would be more contained than the growth in consumption. Italy is expected to be the most dynamic country through 2020, with a 10% increase in global sales (by value;) this would place them ahead of France and Chile (+6.1%,) the USA (+4.3%,) and Spain (+3.6%). (*La Redazione di ItalPlanet*)



### **Ferrero voted again as favorite Italian company to work for.**

Work-life balance is the priority: The study showed that the most important factor Italians look for in a job is work-life balance, followed by a pleasant working environment, employment security, remuneration, benefits and challenging, stimulating work.



## **IL 2 GIUGNO.....La storia della Festa della Repubblica Italiana.**

**C'entra il referendum del 2 giugno 1946 con cui si decise fra repubblica e monarchia.**

La Festa della Repubblica si celebra ogni anno il 2 giugno, anniversario del referendum con il quale 70 anni fa si votò per scegliere tra repubblica e monarchia. La Festa della Repubblica, però, non è sempre stata il 2 giugno: per molti anni – e per ragioni economiche – fu fatta cadere la prima domenica di giugno, di modo da non far perdere un giorno di lavoro. Tra il 2 e il 3 giugno 1946 si tenne il referendum che decise la forma istituzionale dello Stato italiano dopo la fine del fascismo: fu anche la prima volta nella storia italiana in cui il voto avvenne a suffragio universale (al referendum votarono anche le donne).



I risultati ufficiali furono annunciati il 18 giugno 1946, e fu quel giorno che la Corte di Cassazione proclamò ufficialmente la nascita della Repubblica Italiana: 12.718.641 di italiani avevano votato a favore della repubblica, 10.718.502 a favore della monarchia e 1.498.136 avevano votato scheda bianca o nulla. Tempo dopo, però, si decise che la Festa della Repubblica sarebbe stata celebrata nel giorno del referendum e non in quello della proclamazione. Nel nord Italia la repubblica vinse in quasi tutti i centri urbani principali, mentre al sud il voto fu quasi ovunque prevalente per la monarchia (a Napoli 900 mila voti per la monarchia contro 250 mila per la repubblica; a Palermo quasi 600 mila contro 380 mila); a Roma i voti per la monarchia superarono di poco quelli per la repubblica (circa 30 mila schede).

La Festa della Repubblica fu celebrata per la prima volta nel 1948 e si fissò ogni anno il 2 giugno fino al 1977. Nel 1977, a causa della crisi economica, per non perdere un giorno lavorativo, si decise che da quel momento in poi la Festa della Repubblica sarebbe stata ricordata ogni anno la prima domenica di giugno. Nell'anno precedente, il 1976, la parata militare era stata annullata a causa del terremoto del Friuli Venezia Giulia. Nel 2000 il secondo governo Amato ristabilì la data del 2 giugno, insieme alle celebrazioni.

Il cerimoniale ufficiale della Festa della Repubblica prevede che il Presidente della Repubblica deponga una corona d'alloro in omaggio al Milite Ignoto, all'Altare della Patria che si trova a Roma in piazza Venezia. Lungo i Fori Imperiali a Roma si svolge poi la sfilata delle forze armate. Oltre all'Esercito Italiano, alla Marina Militare, all'Aeronautica Militare e ai Carabinieri alla parata partecipano anche la Guardia di Finanza, Polizia, i Vigili del Fuoco, la Guardia Forestale, la Croce Rossa Italiana e alcuni corpi della polizia municipale di Roma, della protezione civile e della Croce Rossa. *(ANSA/Ufficio Stampa)*

## **GOOD NEWS AGAIN FROM ROME AND THE VATICAN...FOR YOU TRAVELING TO ITALY.**

The agreement between the Vatican and the Dante has been renewed once again for the year 2017. It allows us to visit the museums at a lower price and get in front of the long lines simply by presenting the Dante Society membership card. The cost to visit the Museums is 16 euros per person, and 1 euro if you decide to purchase the Art and Faith DVD on the Treasures of the Vatican. The Dante membership card may be obtained by contacting Rhonda Hopkins at 720-596-4169, [rhop626@gmail.com](mailto:rhop626@gmail.com), or Gianfranco Marcantonio at 303-494-3080 [qlm3942@yahoo.com](mailto:qlm3942@yahoo.com).

For additional privileges for Dante members while in Italy, please visit the following site: <http://ladante.it/diventa-socio/le-convenzioni>.



## ITALIAN HISTORY, LAND AND CULTURE Gian Lorenzo Bernini (1598–1680).

Gian Lorenzo Bernini dominated the Roman art world of the seventeenth century, flourishing under the patronage of its cardinals and popes while also challenging contemporary artistic traditions. His sculptural and architectural projects reveal an innovative interpretation of subjects, use of forms, and combination of media. Forging a path for future artists, he played an instrumental role in establishing the dramatic and eloquent vocabulary of the Baroque style.

**Sculptures.** Bernini further demonstrated his ability as an architect in the Church of Sant'Andrea al Quirinale (begun 1661, Rome), where the interplay of concave and convex surfaces in the interior guide the viewer's eye around the centralized plan. Gian Lorenzo first trained in the Roman workshop of his father Pietro, assisting with such sculptures as a pair of terms representing Spring and Fall in the guise of Flora and Priapus. The classically inspired *Bacchanal: A Faun Teased by Children*, one of his first independent works, takes as its point of departure the Mannerist motif of interwoven figures.



A series of over-livesize marble statues commissioned by Cardinal Scipione Borghese for his villa in Rome announced Bernini's novel style and established his role as the foremost sculptor in Italy. One of these works, the *Apollo and Daphne* (Galleria Borghese, Rome), illustrates the typically Baroque theme of metamorphosis. Subtle variations in the texture of the marble create the illusion of soft human flesh transforming into the leaves and bark of a tree. The statue of *David* (Galleria Borghese, Rome) captures the biblical hero in the climax of his action. Expanding upon Michelangelo's fascination with the human body, Bernini added torsion to create a dynamic figure that extends into the viewer's space. One of his masterpieces,



*The Ecstasy of Saint Teresa* (Cornaro Chapel, Santa Maria della Vittoria, Rome), presents a mystical figure who is physically overwhelmed by a miraculous vision. Functioning as a sort of *tableau vivant* with busts of members of the Cornaro family seeming to serve as witnesses, the

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**Other Architectural Projects and Fountains.** Bernini further demonstrated his ability as an architect in the Church of Sant'Andrea al Quirinale (Rome), where the interplay of concave and convex surfaces in the interior guide the viewer's eye around the centralized plan.



### **Working Method and Character.**

A bronze statue of *Saint Agnes* cast after a model by Bernini shows the impulsive quality of his terracotta *bozzetti*. The figure's sideward stance is typical of the figures crowning the colonnades of Saint Peter's Square. As a highly sought after sculptor, Bernini relied increasingly on his assistants to complete sculptures based on his designs. Also a painter, he created several self-portraits in the that recall Velázquez's tenebrous style. (Veronica White, Columbia University)



**2017 Calendar**

**Cultural Meetings**

June 9  
September 8

**Events**

May 19 - Night at the movies  
July 23 – Gathering

**Classes**

Language – Summer begin June 19

**NOTE: Cultural meetings, movies, and cooking classes take place at Mt. Carmel Church Parish Hall, 3549 Navajo St., Denver. Language classes are taught at Mt. Carmel Church Office.**



**Celeste Landy**



**Meghan Dulsky**



**Maisie Karlin**



**Madison Sleyster**



**Denisse Romero**



**Melissa Zinanti**



**2017 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Scholarship recipients with John Giardino, Veronica Goodrich, and professors Rachel Walsh (DU), Simona Sansovini (Metro), Susanna Saurini (CU) and Roberta Waldbaum (DU).