



DA NOTIZIARIO

Dante Alighieri Society of Denver, Colorado, Inc.



May 2017

• PRESIDENT: VERONICA GOODRICH • VICE PRESIDENT: NICK NAPOLI • SECRETARY: VERA BUFFALOE • TREASURER: CAROL MARSALA • PAST PRESIDENT: SUSAN GURULE
EDUCATION: SUZANNE FASING • HISTORIAN: GIANFRANCO MARCANTONIO • MEMBERSHIP: RHONDA HOPKINS • SCHOLARSHIP: JOHN GIARDINO • HOSPITALITY: VACANT

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE By the time you receive this May issue of the Notiziario, the Scholarship Committee will have met and selected whom of the five Academic Scholarship applicants will be receiving financial awards. Rosanna Patrona-Aurand informed me earlier that she has found a “winner” among the Music Scholarship candidates. I guarantee this student’s performance at the Scholarship Luncheon on May 7 at the Arvada Center will be one that, at least in my time as a member of the Dante Society, has never been seen before. Hopefully your interest has now been piqued so if you want to experience this unique display of musical talent make your reservations now to attend. **The reservation form is conveniently attached.** And besides, the food is always *molto buono!*

The reason we are able to continue supporting students who desire to learn and experience more of the Italian culture is because of the generosity of you, the membership, who support the Scholarship Fund. I want to personally thank each of you for all your contributions and ask that you continue to provide the financial assistance students need today in order to study abroad. *Grazie!* John Giardino, Scholarship Committee Chair.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES The Dante Alighieri Society will offer a 10-week summer session of Italian language classes, beginning the week of June 19. The schedule for summer classes will be posted on the Dante Alighieri website by May 19. Students must register and pay for classes through the website. The classes are taught by experienced and talented bi-lingual teachers, and include beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes. 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 or call 303-810-9042. To register for classes, visit the web site: <http://www.dantealighieriofdenver.org/languageclasses.html>

NIGHT AT THE MOVIES The Society will be showing the next film on May 19, 7:30 p.m. at the Mt. Carmel Church Parish Hall (3549 Navajo St., Denver). We will be featuring Edoardo Galeone’s *Se Dio vuole* (God Willing). Italy’s #1 smash-hit comedy of 2015, this wildly entertaining and multi award-winning feature from writer-director Edoardo Galeone is the story of an almighty battle of wills that pits a man with a God complex against the hip local priest. Tommaso (Marco Giallini) is an esteemed and defiantly self-confident cardiac surgeon, and an unabashed atheist. But the veneer of his perfect life is abruptly cracked when his only son Andrea (Enrico Oetiker) brings the family together for an important announcement. Join us to find out what it is!

BENVENUTI The Dante Society gives a warm welcome to our new members Wendy and Scott Menefee of Golden.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Britta Jensen

- 1. What region in Italy were your ancestors from. If you do not have Italian ancestors, what is the ethnic background of your family. Have you ever been there and what was your experience?**

I am first generation American, my mother being from Canada and my father from Denmark. I have been to both countries many times where I still have all my extended family and go back often.

- 2. When did your ancestors arrive in America, and where did they settle originally? Did they come right to Colorado?**

My parents both came to America in the 1960's and arrived in New York City where they met and I was born and raised. I arrived in Colorado very recently just last summer with my husband.

- 3. If you had to describe yourself in one word, what word would that be, and why?**

Adventurous. I have lived in different parts of the US and Europe and have travelled to every continent but Antarctica! I love to learn about new cultures, people and of course languages. Apart from Italian I also speak Spanish, Danish and am working on French.



- 4. Who was most influential to you growing up, and why?**

My parents...who were always there for me and my four other siblings and worked hard to give us a good life.

- 5. Tell us a little about you, employment, family, interests and so on.**

I am a recent Colorado transplant and live in downtown Denver with my husband, Peter. Currently I am teaching Italian with the Dante Alighieri Society and taught Italian with the New York City Schools for the past nine years. Prior to teaching I worked in publishing for Wine Spectator, Cigar Aficionado and Food Arts magazines. As mentioned I travel as often as I can and have been going back and forth to Italy for almost thirty years. On each trip I try to go to new parts of the country and have travelled and experienced Italy from the top to the toe. I lived in both Turin and Perugia for a number of years. I also love to take advantage of the great outdoors, hiking, biking, skiing and swimming.

- 6. How would you most like to be remembered?**

As someone who is kind and compassionate with integrity and character.

- 7. What attracted you about joining the Dante Alighieri Society?**

Upon arriving in Denver I actively searched anything and everything Italian in the city and was welcomed into it not long after my arrival. I also studied Dante Alighieri extensively for my masters in Italian so that spurred my interest even more.

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, or Gianfranco Marcantonio at 303-494-3080 glm3942@yahoo.com.



For additional privileges for Dante members while in Italy, please visit the following site:

<http://ladante.it/diventa-socio/le-convenzioni>

I russi preferiscono il fashion Made in Italy

L'economia russa sembra finalmente aver imboccato la via della ripresa (Moody's parla di una crescita moderata intorno all'1% per il 2017) dopo alcuni anni difficili e questa notizia fa sorridere anche il Belpaese.

In effetti i primi sintomi del rilancio si sono già manifestati positivamente nei primi 9 mesi del 2016, specialmente nel comparto moda, dove le vendite di prodotti Made in Italy sono cresciute del 5% rispetto allo stesso periodo dello scorso anno a fronte di un calo di quello degli altri 14 principali Paesi Ue e dei nostri principali competitor: Germania (-12%), Spagna (-4%) e Francia (-3%).

Bisogna però rilevare che il mercato dell'abbigliamento russo, cresciuto ininterrottamente dal 2003 al 2008 (da 3 a 38,2 miliardi di euro), era poi crollato fino a 27,4 miliardi nel 2009 e, dopo le sanzioni internazionali, il trend continua ad essere negativo tanto che le stime del 2016 parlano di un calo del 14% rispetto al 2015 per un valore totale pari a 21,5 miliardi e dunque ben inferiore rispetto a circa un decennio fa.



L'Italia però è in controtendenza e, considerando solo l'abbigliamento, nel periodo gennaio-settembre è stato l'unico Paese a crescere e resta saldamente al primo posto nel comparto moda con una quota di mercato che copre il 45,9% del totale. *(La redazione di ItalPlanet)*

NEWS FROM ITALY Sicily to host G7 Summit.

In May, Italy Foreign Minister Angelino Alfano will chair the 43rd G7 (Group of G7) meeting in Taormina, a town on the east coast of Sicily. The summit will heavily focus on reincorporating Russia into the group after it was forced out in 2014 when western countries accused Russia of manipulating conflict in Ukraine. Founded as the G6 in 1975, the G7 is composed of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States. According to the International Monetary Fund, the group represents 64% of the world's wealth, a total of \$263 trillion and meets annually to discuss world economies.



Italy's Struggling Economy Has World's Healthiest People by Wei Lu and Vincent Del Giudice.

When it comes to living a long life, Italy is the place to be.

The high-heeled boot surrounded by five seas is ranked the healthiest country on Earth in the [Bloomberg Global Health Index](#) of 163 countries. A baby born in Italy can expect to live to be an octogenarian. But 2,800 miles south in Sierra Leone, the average newborn will die by 52.

While Italy is among the most developed countries, growth has stagnated for decades, almost 40 percent of its youngsters are out of jobs and it's saddled with one of the world's highest debt loads relative to the size of its economy. Yet Italians are in way better shape than Americans, Canadians and Brits, who all suffer from higher blood pressure and cholesterol and poorer mental health.

Italy also has "an excess of doctors," said Tom Kenyon, a physician and CEO of the global relief organization Project Hope. Case in point, one of the country's most watched and long-running television shows is called "[A Doctor in the Family](#)."

Then there is the diet, rich in vegetables and drizzled with extra virgin olive oil. Adam Drewnowski, director of the Center for Public Health Nutrition at the University of Washington, has written about the importance of consumers having access to fresh produce, fruit, lean meats and fish. Each country in the index was graded based on variables such as life expectancy, causes of death and health risks ranging from high blood pressure and tobacco use to malnutrition and the availability of clean water. Iceland, Switzerland, Singapore and Australia rounded out the top five most-healthy in the world.

The developed world isn't without its risks — obesity among them. The U.S. placed No. 34 with a health grade of 73.05 out of 100. It's ranking for prevalence of overweight people is 67.3 — tipping the scale as one of the world's heaviest nations. The poorest states: Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and West Virginia are the heaviest with more than 35 percent of their populations considered obese, according to U.S. Centers for Disease Control. (*Bloomberg*)

ITALIAN HISTORY, LAND AND CULTURE

Portofino is a fishing village and vacation resort famous for its picturesque harbour and historical association with celebrity and artistic visitors. It is a town located in the Metropolitan City of Genoa on the Italian Riviera. The town is clustered around its small harbor, and is known for the colorfully painted buildings that line the shore



In 1171, together with the neighboring Santa Margherita Ligure, it was included in Rapallo's commune jurisdiction. After 1229 it was part of the Republic of Genoa. The town's natural harbor supported a fleet of fishing boats, but was somewhat too cramped to provide more than a temporary safe haven for the growing merchant marine of the Republic of Genoa. In 1409 Portofino was sold to the Republic of Florence by Charles VI of France, but when the latter was ousted from Genoa the Florentines gave it back. In 1815 it became part of the Kingdom of Sardinia and, from 1861, of the unified Kingdom of Italy.

In the late 19th century, first British, then other Northern European aristocratic tourists began to visit Portofino, which they reached by horse and cart from Santa Margherita Ligure. Aubrey Herbert and Elizabeth von Arnim were amongst the more famous English people to make the area fashionable. Eventually more expatriates built expensive vacation houses, and by 1950 tourism had supplanted fishing as the town's chief industry, and the waterfront was a continuous ring of restaurants and café

WEBSITES TO VISIT FOR MORE ABOUT ITALIAN CULTURE

Societa' Centrale Dante Alighieri – <http://ladante.it>
Societa' Dante Alighieri di Roma - <http://www.dantealighieri-roma.it>
Dante Alighieri Society of Denver, Colorado – <http://www.dantealighieriofdenver.org>
Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo: <http://www.dantealighieriofpueblo.org>
DAS of Denver in Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Dante-Alighieri-Society-of-Denver/153670041417079>.
News from Italy – <http://video.sky.it/news/diretta>.
Italian art - <http://www.arte.it/>.
Italy news in English – <http://www.thelocal.it/>.
Travel and Events – <http://www.i-italy.org/>.
The World of Dante – The study and teaching of the Divine Comedy, <http://www.worldofdante.org>.
Web site for TG5 (Mediaset) *Notizie dall'Italia* – <http://www.mediasetitalia.com/nazioni/colorado.shtml>.
US Citizenship – <http://www.uscitizenship.info/italian-american-history-and-culture/>.
Contemporary art and culture – (Arte e cultura contemporanea), <http://www.artwireless.it>.
First Web TV on Italian language and culture – <http://www.alma.tv>.
Italian American Museum - <http://www.ItalianAmericanMuseum.org>.
Radio Italia – <http://www.radioitalia.it/player.php>.
Stations based in Italy as well as international stations – <http://www.italiansinfonia.com/stations.htm>.
Wikipedia's list of Italian radio stations – http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_radio_stations_in_Italy.

2016 Calendar

Cultural Meetings

Events

Classes

Language – Summer begin June 19

May 7 – Scholarship Luncheon
May 19 - Night at the movies

June 9

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.