

# IAHF NEWS

ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER • JUNE 2011 • FOUNDED AUGUST 5, 1975 • CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

## President's Message

by Ken Borelli



## IF WE DON'T DO IT, WHO WILL?

That was the question I concluded with to our membership, as well as all those interested in our Italian culture and heritage, in last month's article. The question ties into the two-part aspect of sustainability of our foundation and of promoting our heritage. The Festa plays an important part in this question as it relates to the general viability of our heritage within the greater Santa Clara County. Likewise, we hope to increase revenues for the IAHF, so it has a fund raiser roll, too. And, speaking of fund raising, which is never too far off from my mind these days, the Festa Committee is planning a Casino Night to augment our Festa budget. We are very appreciative of the City of San Jose's community arts grant, but the grant itself is only a part of the fiscal picture in terms of seed monies for the Festa. Casino Night, along with previous Festa benefits and member sponsorships, provides the seed monies for the initial Festa operations. In addition to the Festa, the question of the viability of our heritage is really the issue, along with "what it will take to grow with the generations?"

Our recent Festa della Repubblica on June 2 also highlighted this viability and focus, with the Flag Raising and Recognition Lunch at the IAHF, supported by the President of the Board of Supervisors Dave Cortese, Chairs Corrado and Zina Russo, along with many of the major Italian American organizations in the Valley. This year, as a special tribute to the 150th

Anniversary of the unification of the modern state of Italy, it was particularly gratifying to have Pasquale Esposito sing his stirring rendition of the Italian National Anthem at the Santa Clara County Government Center. I don't think I have heard it sung with such feeling and articulation. At the luncheon we also received an update on developments in the emerging Little Italy neighborhood by Josh DeVincenzi Melander, and supportive words by San Jose City Councilman Pierluigi Oliverio, and our honorary Vice Counsel General Silvia Raviola. It was really great seeing old friends at the luncheon network!

We have recently sent out several event flyers as a part of our new outreach, and there really should be something for pretty much everyone at the IAHF. As noted these events serve to call attention to "Italian Americana", and our roll in the community. Even as we gear up for the Festa, there are additional events also being planned, such as our "The Sky is the Limit Family B B Q, Celebrating This Year's Scholarship Honorees" on July 17. My congratulations to all members of the committee for having to select from such a wonderful

group of young scholars. This year we were fortunate to have 7 scholarships; would we could accommodate all the young applicants.

We are also planning a very fascinating event about every one's favorite painting, the *Mona Lisa*, in addition to a lecture on Italian wines. Also continuing is our film night and regional lunches. Regarding our regional lunches, I am still recruiting IAHF cooks who would like to share a bit of their regional heritage in the form of a typical lunch menu from a region you are knowledgeable of, either as part of your background or visit. It has taken us two years to go through each region, and while it was a fun experience, we also managed to learn a lot about the traditions and folk ways of today's Italy. What was unique, too, about the latter lunches, was we had a rare opportunity to learn about how Italian cuisine impacted other areas outside of Italy, such as Argentina, East Africa, and even the southern US, in New Orleans.

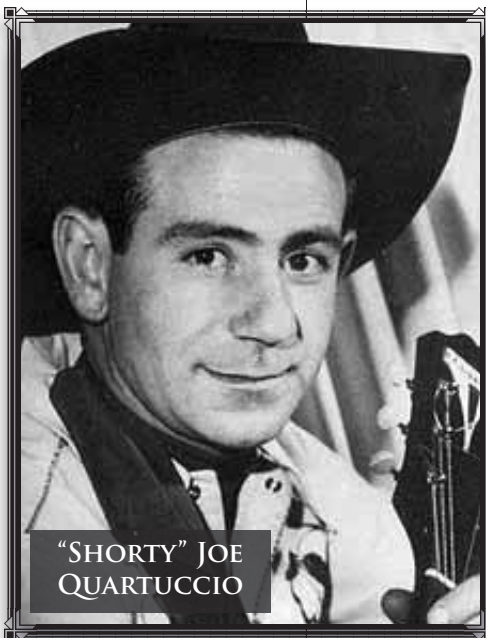
On my to-do list, too, is trying to update our photo collection. This is an "imperative". The photo collection was started by John and Lonnie DeVincenzi early on in our IAHF history, and was an ongoing part of John's free time at the IAHF for many years. After the hall renovation, the collection was moved to the hall display cases where they exist today. Over the 20 years (continued on page 2)

## SAVE THE DATE

ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA

AUGUST 27 & 28, 2011

GUADALUPE RIVER  
PARK & GARDENS



"SHORTY" JOE  
QUARTUCCIO

(continued from page 1) or so of exhibits, these photos are starting to fade and wear, so we really need to get a group of volunteers to the rescue and remount some of the photos with adequate explanation of the significance of the photos. We also get additional photos as families go through their old albums to share, but without a dedicated cadre of history buffs, some of these tasks fall through the cracks.

And, finally something very special: on

Sunday, Oct. 23rd, we are planning a musical tribute to "Shorty" Joe Quartuccio. Shorty Joe will be gathering up some of his very talented friends, including, as of this writing, Maestro Anthony Quartuccio, to entertain us from Country Western to Italian favorites in a musical celebration of Shorty Joe's living history as a Bay Area Country Western Star. How the son of Sicilian immigrants to the area became a Country Western star is quite an interesting

story in its own right, but the bottom line is, it is representative of our community and the role we have played and are still playing in the cultural life of Santa Clara County. Part of our job is to really tell our story; after all, *if we don't do it who will?* On that note I hope you join us at some of these activities, and share this information with your family, friends, and neighbors, as "Cultural Ambassadors" of our rich Italian American Heritage! 🍷

## TO ALL OUR DEDICATED MEMBERS

We are pleased to report that last month's "State of the Festa" article has had a positive response with a few members donating generously to this year's event, *grazie a tutti!* That said, we still have a way to go to reach our goal of \$8,000. As stated in the article, the costs required to stage an event of this type are daunting, but we are committed to pushing on with an on-going effort in raising funds through our sponsorship program, member donations, and our two remaining fundraisers. Please support our efforts by your donations and by attending our fundraisers. Our next fundraiser is "Casino Night" which takes place in July, you should be receiving a flier in the mail, if you haven't already. This is going to be a fun event with all the glitz and excitement of a mini-Las Vegas casino, with great food, outstanding entertainment and casino tables. The third in a series will be the BBQ Festa Kick-Off Dance Party in August; date and time for the BBQ will be announced in July's newsletter.

We are going to have a few surprises this year for our guests with new activities and a very special guest - stay tuned for more details as they become available. If you haven't signed up as a friend on our Facebook page, please do so to see all the latest Festa announcements. You can also log on to the IAHF website to get updates and information. Lastly, as surprising as this sounds, if everyone in our membership gave a \$10 donation we could raise \$8,000, which would go a long way to help our profitability.

Mille Grazie! -- Your 2011 Festa Committee 🍷

## FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA, JUNE 2, 2011



Pasquale Esposito sings the Italian anthem at Festa della Repubblica



Supervisor Dave Cortese, Silvia Raviola Jercinovich, Vice Consul of Italy in San Jose, and IAHF President Ken Borelli



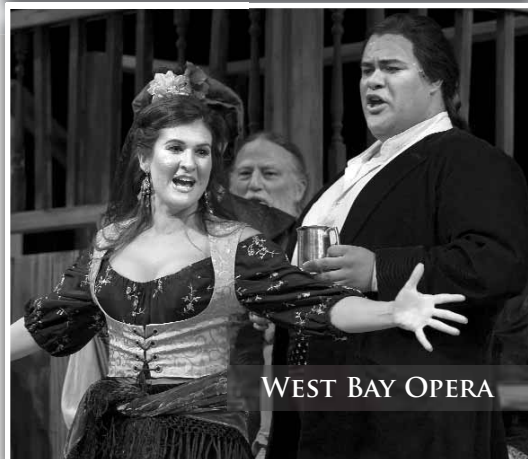
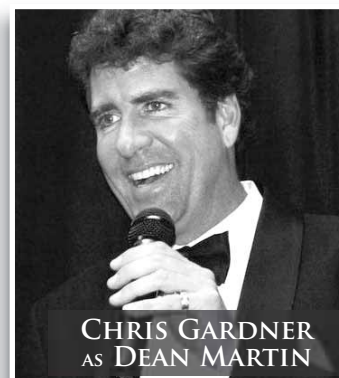
The 31st Annual

# ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA

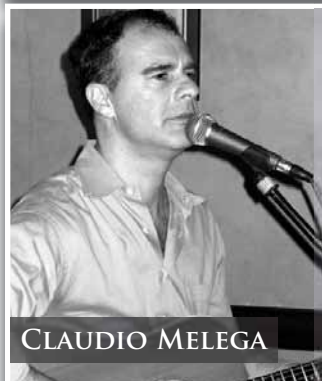
SATURDAY, AUG. 27, 2011 - 12 PM TO 9 PM • SUNDAY, AUG 28, 2011 - 12 PM TO 6 PM

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SAN JOSE LITTLE ITALY SITE AT JULIAN & ST. JOHN



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Entertainers



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2011 IAHF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!



## **Jerry Campisi / \$2,000 IAHF Endowed Scholarship / Oak Grove High School > Cal State University, Long Beach**

Hi, I'm Jerry, a 17 year-old high school graduate. I love movies - watching them, making them, and being in them! I love making my friends laugh, and most of all, I love acting. I graduated high school in the top 5% of my class, with a 3.8 GPA.

My world has become one of school, drama performances, and musicals. I have performed in and out of school since I was seven years old. My passion for acting started with my participation in the Children's Musical Theater of San Jose, with whom I've performed in three productions. Those early experiences on stage moved me to continue performing, and eventually to choose acting as my career goal.

As soon as I entered high school, I pursued my ambition by enrolling in drama class, and auditioning for my high school's theatre program. I landed a lead in my first play, and won "Best Supporting Actor"! I also became co-leader of the drama club. I continued to audition for every high school production, and have been cast in every musical and play the school has produced. In my junior year, I won the award for Best Male Performer in Musical Theater Class. I also took a video production class at the Occupational Center, in order to learn more about scripting, filming, and editing to support my acting career.

I will be pursuing my education in the fall at Cal State Long Beach and will major in theater, with a minor in video production. This scholarship will help me greatly in achieving my B.A. degree. My goal is to become a working actor, and to have a career in TV & Film, or on stage in the theatre industry. 🍷



## **Madelyn Ferrito / \$3,000 Gerald Bocciardi Scholarship / San Benito High School > San Jose State University**

As a child, it was hard for me to find the joy in life. There weren't many opportunities for me to live the life of a normal kid, without a care in the world. I had a lot of things on my mind that were well beyond my years; however, when I made time to enjoy the comic genius of my favorites, like Jim Carrey, Chris Farley, and David Spade, I would find that I was smiling in spite of myself. It was the nonstop laughter that would arise from watching one of my favorite comedies that got me through every day. I soon came to realize that my purpose in life was to spread joy through the art of comedy as many of my favorite comedians already have.

I wish to follow in the footsteps of such legendary names like Danny DeVito, Kathy Griffin, and George Carlin. My dreams have been made possible with this generous donation from the Italian American Heritage Foundation, and I can't thank them enough. I will be spending the next four years at San Jose State studying Theatre Arts in hopes of perfecting my craft and becoming the next big comedian of tomorrow so that one day I will fill peoples' hearts with laughter, as the comedians of yesterday once filled mine. *Mille grazie!* 🍷



## **Joseph Guttadauro / \$2,000 Diana Hurst Scholarship / Bellarmine College Preparatory > UCLA**

Joey Guttadauro is a 2011 graduate of Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose CA. While at Bellarmine, Joey was involved in soccer and in many community and school volunteer programs. He especially enjoyed tutoring middle school kids and helping out at an orphanage in Mexico City during a summer immersing trip.

Scholastically, Joey maintained a weighted GPA of 4.45 and never received a grade lower than an A- throughout his high school career. He will be attending UCLA in the fall with an undeclared major in the school of engineering. Joey has a deep pride for his Italian culture and heritage; having a unique situation, in which, all four of his grandparents were born and raised in Italy. When not studying, Joey enjoys cheering for his favorite sports teams, working out at the gym and hanging out with his friends. 🍷



## **Tyler Hendey / \$1,000 Joseph and Frances Borelli Scholarship / Bellarmine College Preparatory > University of Arizona**

Tyler Hendey was born on July 31, 1992. His parents are Doug & Elizabeth Hendey and his grandparents are Steve and Rose Cornaglia. Tyler grew up in the Willow Glen area of San Jose. He attended St. Christopher Elementary School and is a 2011 graduate of Bellarmine. Tyler played many sports growing up - soccer, Little League baseball, basketball and his favorite, lacrosse. Tyler played for 2 years on the Bellarmine JV lacrosse team. Tyler will be attending the University of Arizona this fall and is looking forward to the experience. 🍷



## **Kristina Luotto / \$3,000 Gerald Bocciardi Scholarship / Fremont High School > Seattle University**

Hello, my name is Kristina Luotto and I live in Sunnyvale, California with my parents and two sisters. My Italian heritage comes from my father's father, James Luotto. I have taken two trips with my family and grandfather to Italy. There, we visited many beautiful cities, like Florence, where I hope to study abroad during college. Family gatherings are filled with the wonderful stories told by my grandfather. I greatly enjoy his stories about growing up in Brooklyn, New York and his experience as a first generation American.

I went to Stockmeir Elementary School, Cupertino Middle School, and recently graduated from Fremont High School. I graduated as one of the valedictorians and with honors from the National Honor Society and the California Scholarship Federation, as well as a community service medal for 80+ hours of community service during my senior year and a principal's award for significant service and dedication to my school. During high school, I played junior varsity softball for two years, varsity soccer for four years, and volleyball for four years, three of those years as a varsity player. During my senior year, I was captain of the volleyball team and was also voted the "most inspirational" player by my teammates. I was also a tutor for freshmen AVID students at my school, logging more than 100 hours of service to the program that empowers students and gives them the necessary skills to be able to attend a four-year college. *(continued on page 5)*



(continued from page 4) Next year, I will attend Seattle University with a \$16,000 merit scholarship and major in biology with the hopes of one day attending medical school or becoming a researcher. 🍷



**Kaitlin Perata / \$1,000 Delia Schizzano Scholarship / Archbishop Mitty High School > Loyola Marymount University**

Kaitlin Perata is a recent graduate of Archbishop Mitty High School. She will be attending Loyola Marymount University in the Fall where she will be studying English. She spent last summer with her family in Italy traveling through Rome, Venice, and Tuscany. She is very grateful for having been given this award! 🍷



**Lauren Rhodes / \$1,000 Richard Zamar Scholarship / Gilroy High School > Chapman University**

Lauren Rhodes attends Gilroy High School and will be attending Chapman University in the fall of 2011. Over the years at Gilroy High School, she has been involved in leadership, various clubs, basketball, swimming, and water polo. Teammates and supportive coaches have encouraged her to pursue sports. Lauren will continue playing water polo throughout college to satisfy her competitive nature. While athletics are an important part of her life, school is her number one priority. She wants to major in PreMed in hopes of becoming a physician's assistant. 🍷

## THE MONA LISA REVEALED: SECRETS OF THE PAINTING

### WHO WAS MONA LISA TO LEONARDO?

**By Caroline Cocciardi / Wed. July 20, 2011, 6:30pm**

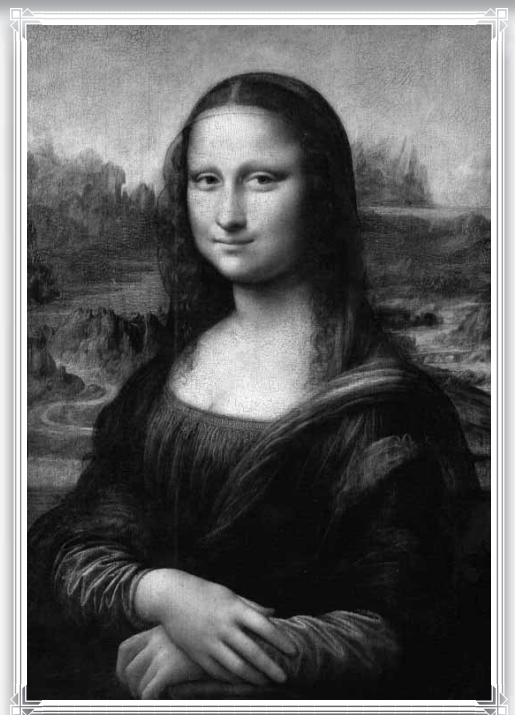
Ms. Caroline Cocciardi, the producer of this documentary, will share some very special secrets of the Mona Lisa painting. On October 19, 2007, news circled the globe that photographer / investor Pascal Cotte succeeded in photographing Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa at a resolution of 240 million pixels, 8 times higher than any professional camera to date. His breakthrough images brought to light never before known secrets that have altered our knowledge of the world's most famous painting forever.

After meeting Pascal Cotte, Ms. Cocciardi, using Cotte's photographs and technique, as well as analysis from the world's leading experts, produced a film that shows for the first time that Leonardo may actually have painted his model with eyebrows and eyelashes.

Ms. Cocciardi states that this film will take you deep into her facial cracks, you will see the delicacy of her many veils, the paintings colors will astound you. and her true beauty at last will be revealed.

This program is being sponsored by the Italian Language Program at the Italian American Heritage, 425 N.4th St. San Jose, Ca. 408-293-7122

Admission is only \$5; refreshments and beverages will be available. 🍷



## ITALIAN MOVIE NIGHT AT THE IAHF

### GIORNI E NUOVE

DAYS AND CLOUDS / 2007 / IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**July 6, 2011**

**Film @ 7:00 PM • \$5 with popcorn • Beverages available**

Silvio Soldini's film "Days and Clouds" suggests that Italy's middle class is as much under siege as that of the United States. In both countries, it appears, job security isn't what it used to be, and corporate downsizing is plunging affluent families into sudden financial tailspins. You will love this film - **don't miss it!** 🍷

**For more information, please call 408-293-7122**

# "TOUR OF ITALY" WINE TASTING & EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

**Thursday, July 28th • 7:00 PM**

**Price: \$20 (includes taste of 4 Wines and Antipasti) • Location: IAHF, 425 North 4th Street, San Jose**

**Details: Wine education & pouring by IAHF Advisory Board Member Joshua DeVincenzi Melander**

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So, if you have moved, we would have no way of knowing if you are receiving all your correspondence from the IAHF.

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Nancy De Vincenzi Melander (2007-2008)

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## IAHF NEWS

*Send your letters, comments and articles to:*

Editor, IAHF NEWS

425 N. Fourth St.

San Jose, CA 95112

Phone: 408-293-7122

Fax: 408-293-7154

E-mail: [iahfsj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:iahfsj@sbcglobal.net)

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**Design: John Romano**

### Ad Rates & Deadlines

We accept business card size ads, camera ready art or digital ads.

Ads are due in THE IAHF office by the 5th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Rates are payable in advance:

- \$75 for minimum of three months
- \$275 for twelve issues.

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**ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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PH. 408.287.7700 FAX: 408.287.8862

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## UPCOMING EVENTS JULY 2011

- ✿ July 17  
Scholarship BBQ
- ✿ July 21  
Regional Lunch
- ✿ July 20  
Mona Lisa Event
- ✿ July 22  
Casino Night Fundraiser
- ✿ July 22  
Photos from Italy & Greece by John Eric Paulson  
Artist Reception / 6 pm to 9 pm  
City National Bank Bldg., 1 Almaden Blvd., 8th Floor, San Jose

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