



## President's Message

The year was 1986, and it was my first trip to Europe. Armed with my copy of "Europe on \$25 a Day," we were going to see the world. Well, that was until we saw some of the accommodations in the book and realized we needed to up our budget; after all, Marie and I had both our moms in tow with us. We had booked round-trip air to Amsterdam, and a car for six weeks and took on faith we would find places to stay.

This was before smartphones so no GPS, no language translation, no internet. We did not understand the road signs, roads were dangerously narrow, we did not speak the language in most of the countries we were visiting, every country had borders and checkpoints, and each country had different

currencies. It was mysterious, frustrating, confusing, and the best vacation we ever had. We circled round the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and were finally heading into Italy!

I was glad we got a car with air conditioning! But now we were low on gas and every station we passed was closed. What's with these darn Italians? By early afternoon, everywhere we went, everything was closed – even the gas stations! What kind of economy shuts down the whole country in the afternoon? Why is everything closed? What's going on here?

I did not understand about riposo, pennichella, or pisolino – where businesses would close, the workers would go home for lunch – often to mama's house – and rest only to return in the evening to work into the night. As an arrogant American, I found it outrageous that in many places, we could not find open stores, gas stations, or attractions. I would just shake my head and say what is wrong with these people?

With age comes maturity. Having since embraced the Italian culture, actually the European culture, I now understand the brilliant solution of riposo – that is, why businesses all across Italy shut down for the afternoon hours – it is a centuries-old solution for the heat. Simply put, air conditioning did not exist, and where it did was just too costly to run, and during the summer, the heat in the afternoon was debilitating. The solution was simple, close up shop and go home, sleep through the midday heat, and reopen in the evening when it is cooler.

We are spoiled by air conditioning. It is not until we have a heatwave, with rolling outages that last for hours or days, that we gain the appreciation of a tradition, a lifestyle, centuries-old, with a simple solution – darn those Italians were smart!

But it does not end there. Over the centuries, this change spawned new traditions just as important, like la passeggiata. Each evening, the Italians descend from their houses and gather in the piazzas, parks, and along the walkways. They walk, they talk, they socialize, they observe others, and appreciate life.

My biggest mistake as an early tourist was focusing on the attractions, places I wanted to go, and things I wanted to see. I have since learned the people are what make up a culture, and when I tour now, I go out at night and spend time with the people, the culture, the vibrant life that thrives only at night – for it is in the cool of night that life begins.

-- Felix Dalldorf / [president@iahfsj.org](mailto:president@iahfsj.org) 🇮🇹



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## New on the IAHFSJ YouTube Channel!

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The Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF) was invited to participate in the Valley Medical Center (VMC) Foundation celebration on August 22 at the Citrix garage. This special evening of fun was to honor the local COVID-19 healthcare workers and to help raise funds for PPE. Since March, the VMC has led local efforts to collect dollars, materials and supplies to keep frontline healthcare workers safe.

The IAHF viewed this event as an opportunity to not only participate in this important event to honor healthcare workers but to also spread the word about the IAHF to the community at large. The IAHF was one of many organizations which participated in this virtual event. We highlighted our Foundation's history, culture, and heritage, displayed posters of events at our hall and the Italian Family Festa, showed videos of Italian tributes, and secured live entertainers to participate at designated times throughout the four-hour event. Six entertainers answered the call to generously donate their time and talents to support the healthcare workers. These included Opera San José; Reno Di Bono, "The Italian Accordionist"; Italian Renaissance Swordsmanship Academy, Tony Barajas, Provost at Arms and his team; Patricia and Lou Dick, ballroom dancers; Robert Binkley, Ukulele player; and Jerry Saucedo, Systema Entertainment. Unfortunately, Opera San José and Jerry Saucedo were unable to participate. To thank entertainers for donating their time, the IAHF provided them with a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon wine and Ghirardelli chocolate.



In addition to securing live entertainers, the IAHF committee zealously worked to successfully secure donations (cash and goods) from local establishments for the swag bags. Participating establishments included Tony and Alba's, Al & Diana Vallorz; Costco, Great Oaks & Almaden; Trader Joe's, Almaden & Coleman; Lunardi's, and Safeway. Nancy Morreale secured a generous donation of bags from Sprouts for the swag bags and Rebecca Morici made a personal donation of \$200 to secure cans of pasta sauce from Zanotto's. The items obtained were included in the 100 swag bags handed out to each car. The bags included Scarpetta pasta, pasta sauce,

grissini, biscotti, and a bag of "life-savers" with the message: "The IAHF thanks the dedicated medical professionals, first responders, and essential workers, who have been our "life savers" throughout the pandemic! Millie Grazie!" The IAHF also donated a basket for the VMC auction that included ingredients for an at-home Italian feast and a \$50 gift certificate from Tony and Alba's with a bottle of their famous salad dressing for dinner at their establishment.

The success of the IAHF participation in this event would not have been possible without the intense work carried out by the IAHF planning committee chaired by Marie Dalldorf and including Dee Dee Farley, Maureen Susino, Jan Prinzivalli, and Felix Dalldorf. A big thank you also to Azie Habib for all his help with transporting items to and from the event. v-- Article by Marie Dalldorf 🍷



Announcing a special IAHF Think Tank Essay Contest for young adults (ages 19 to 25). The winner to be determined by a review committee and will be awarded a \$500 prize made possible by a special donation.

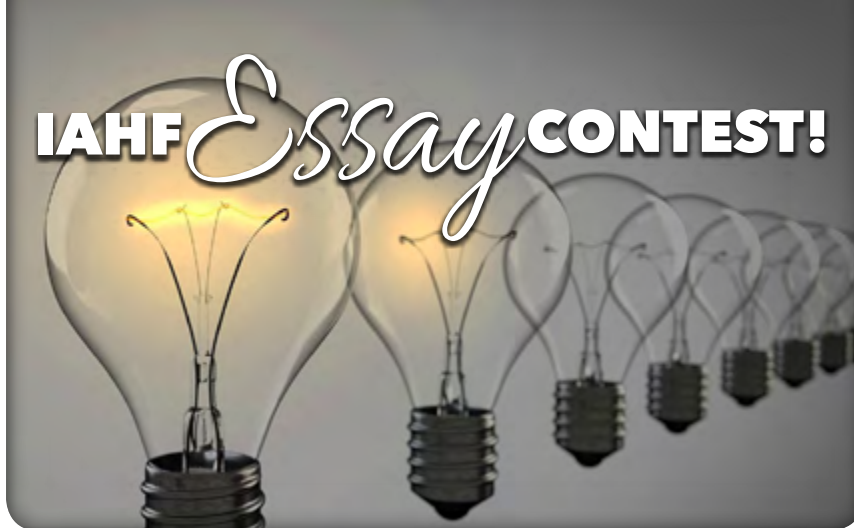
The theme of the contest is "An Age or Issue Gap." Think beyond the box and be creative! Submissions should explore the following ideas:

- How does your generation view and or define Italian American heritage/culture?
- What are the roles and/or relevancy of heritage and culture in your life today?
- Is there a generation gap within the Italian American Community, or is there an issue gap?

Applicants must be IAHF members, or the child or grandchild of a member in good standing for at least three months, and between the ages 19-25 years.

The essay should be no more than five double-spaced, typed pages.

# IAHF Essay CONTEST!



By submission, the winner grants permission to publish the essay in the IAHF newsletter either in full or in summary.

A qualified selection committee of five distinguished IAHF members with academic, professional and/or research background will select the winning essay. All identifying, personal information will be redacted to ensure complete impartiality

by the judges thus verifying that the names and relations to family members will not influence the selection.

The prize funds are made available by a donor for this specific purpose. No IAHF funds are being used for the essay contest.

Address your essay to the attention of Ken Borelli, Chair of IAHF Cultural Committee.

Send by email to [iahfsj6@gmail.com](mailto:iahfsj6@gmail.com) or by postal delivery to the IAHF, 425 North 4th Street, San Jose, CA 95112.

Entrees must be received by Friday, November 13th at 5:00 pm.

-- Article by Ken Borelli 🐞

## ELECTIONS OF IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*We are seeking members of our 2021 Board of Directors.*

Nonprofits excel because of a dynamic Board of Directors. We are seeking energetic Board members to help us move the IAHF forward. Board qualifications and skill requirements focus on a person who can help organize events, assist with strategic planning, marketing and promotion of the organization and event management. Directors will be asked to attend monthly Board meetings, and participate in events, direct committee chairs, support volunteers, identify and promote cultural opportunities, help run the organization, etc. While skills and time commitment are definitely important, the value of a new member will be to support the Board to function better.

The time commitment is as much as you are willing to give, but minimally limited to reviewing materials prior to meetings, attending Board meetings, attending

committee and annual meetings.

All officer positions are available. The term for a Board member is two years and the term for an officer is one year, which also requires being re-elected each year. If any of these positions interest you, please check our website [iahfsj.org](http://iahfsj.org) for the application. All prospective members will go through the full application and screening process, including an interview, to ensure consistency and to avoid any conflicts of interest. The due date to submit your completed application is September 5, 2020. Selected Board members will be introduced at our October Membership event. Depending on how many applicants apply for each position, an election may be necessary. For additional information regarding these vacancies, please contact Felix Dalldorf at [president@iahfsj.org](mailto:president@iahfsj.org).

-- Article by Dana Zuccarello 🐞



# Cena Fuori

& THE NEW NORMAL  
@  
ITALIAN BROTHERS  
RESTAURANT



July saw us "gingerly" reopening our Cena Fuori series at Italian Brothers Restaurant in Los Gatos. We had about 30 members of the IAHF along with two guests from the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce, Jeff and Catherine Somers, join us for a warm summer evening meal. It could have been a warm summer night at your favorite trattoria in Italy, *albeit* with masks!.

The menu included a special orange tossed green salad, choice of grilled swordfish, chicken piccata and gnocchi with pesto, a house dessert, and coffee. The new normal also included reserved and assigned seating, with name tags, starting at 6:30, and outdoor seating under a tent at the facility next to the restaurant. We were fortunate to have our own dining area with tables, tents, and masks.

The food was excellently prepared by the same family operation that also prepares Italian Brothers Bakery selections on West San Carlos Street. Both the restaurant and bakery are amazing culinary experiences. When you are able, I really want to encourage you to visit either or both establishments for delicious flavors from "bella Italia".

On a more spiritual level, it truly was a sense of soul food for all of us who have been home for a long period of time... and even if we were not able to chat away from our assigned seating and "bubble," just being able to glimpse or connect with friends was a blessing I don't think we will ever take for granted

Next month we will be visiting Fiorillo's Restaurant in Santa Clara. If you are interested in joining us there call the IAHF and make a reservation. We collect at the door. Also, as we live with today's reality, we go from day to day and all our events are subject to local guidelines and conditions. Likewise, since all the events are out of doors, we also factor in the weather too, and provide updates to all who are planning to attend. Looking forward to seeing those who are able to join us at Fiorillo's in Santa Clara. Seating is limited and reservations are required in order for us to plan according to "new normal" guidelines.

A special thank you to Azie Habib for helping to facilitate the dinner, Nanci Wilborn for doing name tags, and Frank LoCicero for helping to plan for Fiorillo's in August. Ciao, Ken Borelli 🍷

## Join Us

FOR THE NEXT  
CENA FUORI @

VIN SANTO / Sept 30 / 6:30 PM / 1346 Lincoln Ave, SJ  
/ \$40 person @ the door / Call 408.293.7122 to RSVP

## Historical Columbus



### SAVE THE DATE

Zoom lecture about Historical Columbus on Oct 15 with author and historian Richard Di Giacomo. Details in October newsletter.

Keep the  
Italian spirit  
**ALIVE!**



Check out the new  
**Donate** page on the  
IAHF website.

While you're there, why not  
make a **donation**?



# RALPH DI TULLIO REMEMBERED



Dear friends at the IAHF,

We wish to honor Ralph on the news of his passing. He touched so many people's lives at the IAHF and other groups and organizations that it is difficult to try to do justice to his achievements and legacy in this article.

He died with good thoughts and his entire family was present including grandchildren.

Many, especially those who knew him intimately, will miss him.

He was an anachronism to the latest few generations but stood out as a prime member of the proud American generation we can all remember for their supreme sacrifices. He was a Navy man during WWII and a true patriot. While one could agree or disagree with Ralph, you just had to be prepared to explain and or defend your position. Yes, he loved a good discussion.

He was an icon of his generation and he never shied away from sharing his thoughts or beliefs.

He indeed was a GOOD MAN who will indelibly live on in many of our hearts and memories.

As a World War II veteran, Ralph was invited on a special trip to Washington, DC, to honor our World War II servicemen. Ralph was an aerial photographer during that time and gave a talk about the award ceremony during an IAHF regional lunch.

Ralph was a very active member of the IAHF, serving several terms on the Board, volunteering at many

events, including chairing and co-chairing bocce at the Festa and lending a hand with his wife Ruth stuffing envelopes, helping Joe Ponte with IAHF's hall maintenance, and being there to support his friends at the IAHF.

He was a lifelong learner and an active participant in Delia Schizzano's Italian Language Class.

He put it to good use driving around Italy a couple of years ago, stopping where the spirit moved him.

He was a sailor, carpenter, wood-craftsman, photographer, car collector, and entrepreneur. He made a trip to the east through the Panama Canal. As he sailed the Pacific, he visited many ports of call on his home-built yacht.

One of his last projects was to repair, rebuild, and restore two classic Maseratis and a Lamborghini.

He and his son with the help of a mechanic friend in Santa Cruz recently completed these projects. He planned a road trip through the U.S., similar to his Italy adventure, in his most recently restored grey Maserati. Unfortunately, it was cut

short by his health.

Many Ralph stories are being collected by a group of friends and classmates. They are planning a Zoom tribute to him. If you wish to share your Ralph story please contact Sal Alini via the IAHF. Likewise, more information will be forthcoming about a celebration of the life and legacy of Ralph per family plans.



-- Article by Tony Cedolini, Sal Alini, and Ken Borelli 



# RALPH DI TULLIO: HONOR FLIGHT

IAHF member Ralph Di Tullio wanted to share his recent experience as an Honor Flight awardee. (Many of you may recall IAHF member John Papp's experience with the program last year). Ralph continues the tradition and writes: Allow me to relate to you an outstanding event recently experienced. A national volunteer group called "Honor Flights" hosted, at absolutely no cost to recipients, a flight to Washington, DC to visit the war memorials for WWII veterans. A group of 26 veterans, 24 men and 2 woman, plus an extra escort for each person, was flown from San Francisco to Washington DC, housed and dined at a Hilton Hotel and included chartered buses with a hostess to visit the war memorials. This was a two-day event. We were even escorted by two police cars through heavy city traffic with lights flashing and sirens blaring.

At every memorial we were given ample time to walk around at our own pace. 24 veterans had the use of wheelchairs. One woman and I were the only ones who were able to walk on our own. Upon our arrival at the airport a large gathering of people and signs thanking us for our service surprised us. It was overwhelming and somewhat embarrassing.

Among the sights we visited included the Lincoln Memorial, and Navy, Marine, Vietnam, Korean and WWII memorials. We also visited the Smithsonian Museum and the very impressive changing of the guard at the



tomb of the unknown soldier. On the night of our arrival at the Hilton Hotel, we were served a buffet dinner and special banquet. Every veteran received a packet of letters from family members and school children who were studying the history of that period. Each veteran was called on to read one of the letters at the special banquet. It was a very moving experience.

When I had the occasion to speak to veterans personally, I asked the same question: "Do you consider yourself a hero?" The response was universally "no," myself included. When others were reading their letters (I had been the first to be called), I read a letter from Ryan, an eight-grade student from Holy Family School. One sentence stood out--"You are a hero." As I reflected on that I was asked to say a few words to the group. My opening statement was, "No, we are not heroes with a big "H", we did not wipe out a snipers den, or throw our bodies over a comrade to save his life or any such spectacular thing, but we were willing to defend our country, willing to put ourselves in harms way and willing to give our lives if necessary, so in that regard we are all heroes with a small "h".

Upon our return, at the airport in San Francisco a greeting of friends waving flags, a military honor guard and a marching bagpipe band stunned us. It was an overwhelming conclusion to an event not many people are fortunate to experience.

-- Article by Ken Borelli



# Dream ♦ Believe ♦ Achieve

## 2020 IAHF SCHOLARSHIP ESSAYS

THE SECOND PART OF THREE IN THE SERIES



### JACK GRECO

"Do you have a job?" is the first question my grandparents ask us grandchildren at every family get together. The Italian work ethic has been threaded through my family starting with my great-grandfather, Carmen, who immigrated in the 30s and worked in the Pennsylvania coal mines to

make enough money to bring his wife to America. That work ethic also applied to doing well in school which led my great grandparents to instill the value of education in their children. After enlisting in the army and serving during the Korean War, my grandfather took advantage of the G.I. Bill to pay for his higher education. He graduated from San Jose State University and was the first of his family to matriculate from college. From there he became a pillar in his community as a teacher and coach for 35 years who helped create the Mid- Peninsula Intermediate Sports League which is still in existence today. He even has a baseball field named after him at San Bruno's Parkside Elementary School. Seeing how hard he worked to attain his goals and accomplishments has always been an inspiration to me.

School hasn't ever been easy for me. I had a series of ear surgeries starting at 13 months old and cumulating with eardrum reconstruction surgery when I was 10 years old, which finally allowed me to hear within the normal range. The hearing issues I had during my early education led to speech, spelling, and reading difficulties. With the Italian work ethic woven through my DNA, I persevered,

worked really hard, and made good grades. I was able to challenge myself and test my work ethic when I decided to enroll in Project Lead the Way, an engineering pathway, from seventh grade to 12th grade. I believe it was my strong work ethic that allowed me to be one of the few students to complete all the courses in this rigorous pathway.

I am excited to continue my education at Boise State University where I will study Business Administration and minor in Entrepreneurship. I hope to continue on to graduate school and earn a Master's Degree in Business Administration. My classes at Silicon Valley Career Technical Education in metal's technology sparked my interest in fabrication. Therefore, after joining the workforce and saving some money, I plan on opening my own fabrication shop where my minor in Entrepreneurship, master's in business, and skill in fabricating will be combined and utilized. Like my grandfather, I hope to be a pillar of any community in which I reside. Aside from owning a business, I plan on being a volunteer coach for rugby and football. That would make me the third generation of my family to coach youth sports where I would continue to instill the Italian work ethic in future generations.

Earning this scholarship would allow me to follow my dreams of owning my own business. Since I plan on attending graduate school, I will accumulate more educational debt and this scholarship will allow me to focus on my academics and worry less about finances.

I am thankful for my Italian family and the inspiration they have given me by modeling hard work, perseverance, and dedication in work and life. 🌀



### VITTORIO PASTORE

Throughout my years of schooling, both in the United States and in Italy, I have often been asked to reflect on the content of my personality. My response has changed drastically over the years of course, as my hobbies and interests have developed with age, but one aspect has remained

untouched: my passion for Italian culture. This underlying love for my culture has bled into many aspects of my life and even into my goals for the future.

As a young boy living in Monza, Italy, I took the deeply intertwined history, culture, and art in my city for granted. I did not recognize the impact they would have on the development of my personality and mindset. Looking back now, I acknowledge how much of my

personality is due to the culture I was raised in. From small aspects like my love for music and art to major elements like the Romantic mindset, I have my culture to praise. The most prominent way my culture has formed me though is the utmost value of creativity found in the Italian lifestyle. Creativity is often misconstrued for intelligence or knowledge and is therefore not taught extensively. Even though all those qualities are crucial, I learned to appreciate how intertwined creativity is in Italian culture, which is partly the reason I decided to create the CreativItaly club at my high school. I founded and led the club after I realized how many people could benefit from learning about Italian culture by finding their own creativity. During meetings, I presented Italian intellectuals like Leonardo Da Vinci, Dante Alighieri, and Galileo Galilei to show how they represent the creativity found in Italian culture. Through these examples and deep cultural immersion, I encouraged the members of my club to find their

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own creative mindset. I decided to take this goal to the next step when I organized the 2019 Advanced Engineering Study Abroad Trip to Modena, Italy in collaboration with MUNER (Motor Valley University of Emilia Romagna) and the San Francisco Italian Consulate. This trip was an intense two-week study abroad adventure in which seven high school students and I visited several Italian apexes of innovation including Ferrari, Ducati, and Dallara. We also attended college-level lectures administered by Italian professors in English. This entire trip originated from my enthusiasm to share my love of Italian culture and creativity which has impacted me in so many ways. Other than the club and study abroad, I have been an active promoter of Italian culture both in my community and online. For several years in a row, I took part in the Taiwanese Culture Festival as the person in charge of the Italian stand. Furthermore, I helped my mother, Doctor Ferrara, research, and plan events to encourage the community to get involved with the Italian lifestyle.

After attending the study abroad trip to Italy, I knew that the automotive industry is where I could pursue my dreams. Seeing the immense amount of innovation and creativity at Ducati and Ferrari inspires me to work towards a place in the industry. Next year I will be studying Mechanical Engineering at Virginia Tech and hope to minor in Electronic Engineering to remain relevant to the trends in the industry. After attending university here in America, I hope to return to Italy and participate in a post-graduate program at MUNER to

specialize in a specific aspect of the automotive field. All this is just a dream for now and, as proven by the current situation, everything is susceptible to change. All that is certain is that I dream of one day working on the instruments that propel our society forward.

As for most people in modern times, my dreams will not come for free. Of course, I will work tirelessly for my aspirations, as I have been doing so far, but my effort is not enough here in this contemporary society. My educational path requires both my intense efforts and monetary support. Earning this scholarship would mean receiving the opportunity to focus further on studying and arming myself with the best possible tools to face the future and give back to society.

All throughout my pursuit, I cannot say that I have not been faced with a sizeable amount of challenges. From the day I started schooling in the U.S. the language barrier pushed me to work twice as hard to catch up to my classmates and remain competitive. I struggled to maintain the standards set upon me by myself and my family. This hardship though only motivated me to work harder and developed rigorous study habits instead of discouraging me.

To conclude, my passion for Italian culture has been part of my personality for the entirety of my educational life and has led me to the discovery of my true goals. I sincerely hope to continue being a vector of this wonderful lifestyle wherever my pursuit leads me. I also hope that I will not have to face these financial challenges standing between me and my goals alone. 🍷🍷



## GRACIANA PAXTON

From a young age, I have had a strong understanding and deep appreciation of my Italian Heritage. One of my favorite parts of waiting for Christmas, is the delivery of a giant platter of cuccidati from my grandmother, Philanncie. My mother, Angelena is an exceptional cook and has taught me

to make ravioli, rigatoni, pizzelle, sfogiatelle and many other delicious Italian recipes. My grandfather, Philip Sanfilippo's grandparents emigrated from Sicily in search of a better life in the United States. Although I never met my great grandfather, Philip Sanfilippo Sr., he was pediatrician in San Jose who took care of the children of many families in the Santa Clara Valley. This is ironic as I have been accepted to UCLA and UC Berkeley in the field of science and plan to enter as a Pre-Med student in hopes of helping others that need quality medical care.

Last spring, I traveled to Appalachia and volunteered repairing homes in Salem, West Virginia. I met radiant community members in Appalachia but also saw the cycle of poverty and the effects of poor healthcare on community members. My goal is to become a doctor in one of California's Central Valley towns, just 61 miles from my home. According to The Sac Bee in March of 2019, California is facing a severe "doctor drought" and "poorer areas like the Central Valley – where health care resources are already strained – will be hardest hit." Doctor shortage, especially in rural and low-income areas is a public health problem. I can serve these communities with my aptitude for science, respect for research and passion for medicine. In my high school career at Presentation High School, I have served

as a Student Body President, Varsity Field Hockey Captain, Chair of California Scholarship Federation, a member of Peer Ministry, a member of the Varsity Lacrosse Team, a member of Panthers in Medicine and a member of Math and Science Academy.

In my community, I have made service my passion. In November 2019, I traveled to the Ignatian Family Teach-in in Washington, D.C. and met with staffers of Senator Dianne Feinstein to lobby for humane immigration policies in the United States. This crisis resonated with me as I saw images of children ripped from their mothers, I kept imagining my own young 8 year old brother and the trauma he would experience if he were separated from my own mother. This crisis reminds me that my Italian family members were once Immigrants, as well.

As Varsity Field Hockey Captain and Varsity Lacrosse player, I found my voice on the field. Athletics have given me confidence to advocate for justice. I have committed the last four years as an after-school coach and head liaison for BAWSI, Bay Area Sports Women's Sports Initiative. In working with underserved girls (2nd-5th graders), with more than 70% receiving free lunch, I am fostering a commitment to sports and self-esteem that will carry into their futures as young women. I work with young girls and help them gain confidence through sports.

In a 2018 report published by The Girls and Sports Impact Report which surveyed more than 10,000 girls across the country found a positive correlation between playing sports and increased confidence, body image, academic performance and personal relationships. This impact is extremely significant. With social media bombarding girls with unrealistic body standards, I believe it is important for girls to see athletic role models. I also volunteer as a math tutor at my school and in my

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community at Santa Maria Urban Ministry and help canvass neighborhoods for food donations for Sacred Heart Community Center.

In my college education, I plan to travel abroad and learn more about my Italian culture. There are current abroad programs in Science/Medicine that travel to Italy to study the longevity and effects of diet

and lifestyle on the people of Genoa. My Italian culture is incredibly important to me as it exemplifies passion, family, food and community. With the current shelter-in-place in Santa Clara County, I appreciate the celebration of family, culture and food more than ever. 🌿



## SARA SANDRI

Wiggling loose from my grandpa's firm grip, I bolted forward. With neither patience nor pause, I trampled towards one of the many pizzerias located in the fashion sanctuary of the world: Milan, Italy. This was my yearly "study abroad experience," allowing me to connect with my roots and

delve into a completely different environment. Snaking through the sea of legs, I was no longer a mere child: I was a predatorial acrobat. Milan is my mother's city, holding its title as my intellectual shrine. My grandfather often spends hours lecturing my brother and me on various topics, two of which have been molded into passions I cherish deeply today: science and art. His humble brilliance and relentless thirst for knowledge stands as a symbol of the person I want to become: one who is wise yet childishly curious. My grandfather has taught me to never settle, to go beyond the necessary in both knowledge and action, to never view any information as useless. The curiosity my annual visits with him have bred pushes me to unceasingly strive for mastery of a subject rather than a mere understanding of it. I have become a zealous learner, collecting every piece of knowledge in hopes of solving the puzzle of life.

My father's town is different; located in the countryside of Verona, Raldon is a quaint and simplistic area. Unlike Milan where every resource I needed was visible, here I had to seek my own. My separation with the industrialized city of Milan gave me the opportunity to experience hard work in its purest form and has taught me the value of disengagement from society's urban complications. I have not only grown an appreciation for simplicity but also an ability to adapt. Distancing myself from the metropolitan city of Milan ultimately fostered within me the ability to embrace a variety of lifestyles and find fulfillment from each one. Because of this, I have become a resilient person, allowing the situations and challenges I encounter to sculpt my attitude and mindset.

Throughout my life, I have applied my malleability and inquisitiveness to various activities including working as a Lead volunteer at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center and being a teacher at Lord of the Light art studio. Both leadership positions have made me realize the value of the versatility I have built, allowing me to adjust my frame of mind based on the situation and the people I find myself with. My adaptability has proven to be especially crucial in regards to the interactions I have with patients and the children I teach, highlighting the importance of opening one's own perception in order to compassionately understand others.

Simultaneously, the ability to learn from one's mistakes and constant search for knowledge has made me a more educated individual, continuously striving to expand upon the information I have already collected in regards to medicine and creativity.

The qualities of curiosity and adjustability have also proven to be essential when traveling through India this past summer, where I had the honor of experiencing an incredibly unique culture. India's unfiltered way of life was highlighted in all of the locals I managed to interact with, people who never hesitated to share their honest opinions, thoughts, and stories regardless of the language barrier. Visiting a country on the opposite side of the globe challenged me in a multitude of ways, yet it affirmed my adaptability and interest in a global context.

When reflecting upon the recurring ways my trips to "the boot" have molded me, my curiosity and flexibility stand as prominent traits I have acquired. Not only do both skills prove advantageous when weaving and scouring through the streets of Milan, or when navigating the bustling roads of India, they also allow me to appreciate simplicity and luxury. Experiencing a multitude of lifestyles has grown my eagerness to interact with a diversity of people and find a common ground.

Growing up in an Italian household, it seemed as though my entire life was being lived through amplified speakers, endlessly blasting thoughts and responses. My heritage has taught me to hear others with the intent to reply, a concept which fundamentally led me to believe that influence was found through vocalization. I have been repeatedly taught that opportunity is not attained by a stagnant lifestyle; rather, it is grasped by an understanding that prosperity comes with resilience and self-expression.

I intend to pursue a biological major and attend medical school in order to become a pediatrician. Biology holds a prominent role in my life, pushing my curiosity past the boundaries of school with the aim of constant discovery. Biochemistry and Cell Biology are both extremely intriguing topics as they examine the root of existence and various organisms' molecular and developmental complexities. Interwoven with my love for biology is my appreciation for art and language. My appeal for both verbal and nonverbal human communication plays a central role in my life. My love for art and enthrallment for language has enhanced my open minded mentality, one which is accepting of an array of people and ideas.

The balance I have maintained through my fondness for both the technical and abstract sides of life is what I hope to enrich in the future.

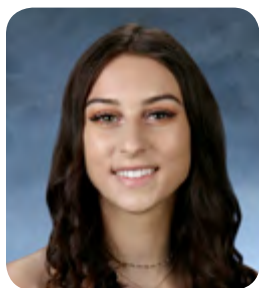
In the midst of the pressing global concern of illegal immigration, I intend on utilizing my knowledge on history, language, and culture as well as science to engage with this issue. As a daughter of Italian immigrants, I simply cannot imagine the alienation my parents would have suffered upon being rejected from seeking a better future in America. In order to truly understand the perspective of others, one must have a cultural and social awareness of the problems these individuals have faced and are facing currently. My commitment and devotion to serving the immigrant community at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center has allowed me to intertwine the topics of science with those of heritage and [continued on next page >](#)

language, ultimately showcasing the connectedness of these areas. Medical insurance is a rampant issue in regards to this problem, where immigrants around the globe are denied proper healthcare due to their "foreign" status. This conflict can only be resolved with sufficient knowledge on both the healthcare/ scientific side of the situation as well as the cultural/social aspect of this scenario. In my experience working with those who lack medical insurance, I believe the first step to invoking change is communication: being able to compassionately understand the position and background of these people through interacting with them and simply listening to their thoughts. Once a cultural and social awareness of these problems is obtained, a scientific and logical mentality is useful in formulating solutions to this concern. An understanding of how the healthcare

system works is necessary in analyzing the situation from an objective standpoint and weighing what would solve the circumstance in an efficient manner while also satisfying those involved. The global struggle of immigrants being denied adequate care has to be approached from both a sympathetic and logical perspective.

Science alone tends to numb society of its fundamentally immoral and inhumane complications, ultimately making history and cultural awareness necessary to counterbalance science and view issues from a humanitarian stance.

I would be honored to receive the IAHF Scholarship which would help me face the enormous financial burden that my 8 years academic plan entails. 🌀



## OLIVIA PORZIO

Sometimes I wonder what defines Italian vs. American culture. Although there are similarities, family is a significant value that distinguishes Italian Culture. Italian families are very sociable and spend a lot of time celebrating and eating together. Cooking and eating together is our way

of communicating, sharing our joys and sorrows, and feeling close. Our reunions go beyond our immediate family, and extend to include uncles, cousins, and even friends as well. It seems like we have endless stacks of chairs and food. Yes, La Famiglia as my Nonno would say is definitely an Italian characteristic where we celebrate and enjoy the company of one another in the atmosphere of love. My maternal grandparents are one hundred percent Italian and one of my paternal grandparents is also one hundred percent Italian. On my mother's side, my grandparents are first generation and they speak more Italian than English.

When I hear them speak English, I hear a charming beautiful accent, and a ravishing musical one, when they speak Italian; and of course, they speak dialect when they argue. On my paternal side of the family my grandpa is one hundred percent Italian, but he does not speak Italian. Both sides kept all of their Italian traditions. Growing up I spent a lot of my time with my maternal grandparents, my grandma to this day is the best cook, I would even call her a chef. She spoiled us to the most sophisticated Italian dishes and not just the usual meatballs and spaghetti. My grandfather would always be playing classical music while I watched my grandma cook. Opera arias and other Italian songs from his collection of more than 2000 CDS would fill the house with harmony. Art books, books of beautiful cities, and Italian literature were an education. They made me appreciate Italian culture, even before I visited Italy. My time with my grandparents brought me a lot of joy and appreciation for the value of family.

The most wonderful part about my family is that we are all connected throughout the third generation, Which is great because I have so many cousins whom I am close with throughout the USA, Italy, and Spain. As a little girl my grandparents told me they would take me to Italy and finally in the summer of 2017 we all went to Lake Como, an enchanting place for my aunt's wedding. It was like a dream, my en-

tire family, all the way throughout the third generation were there, in this beautiful place. After the wedding and also on another occasion, I traveled throughout Italy, and could savor the culture firsthand. I loved exploring the towns, eating the different regional foods, eating gelato, and shopping for Italian fashion. When I came back, I realized how lucky I was, that as a teenager I had the chance to visit the land of my ancestors, and these trips had a strong impact on me. I deeply appreciate my background and I felt a great sense of pride to be Italian.

Committing to Sacramento State wasn't an easy decision for me as I was accepted into several colleges. I wanted a balance between a good education and a feeling of belonging, and not too far from home. I also grew up skiing and Sacramento State is only an hour away from the snow, so it is a perfect place to occasionally spend my free time doing what I love. Also, while visiting the campus and walking around I had an overwhelming feeling of home. I knew Sacramento State is where I wanted to spend the next 4 years of my life investing into my future.

At Sacramento State I will major in Business Administration/ Financing. I chose this because in high school, I took a course called Business Math, and I really was fascinated by the subject and it attracted me to the business world. I also considered that this major would make me a more independent woman, as I could manage my personal finances. This major applies to many fields such as: Real Estate, Budgeting, Financial Advising, and many more. I would have many choices of career, after graduating without being limited to one field.

This Scholarship will help to start my freshman year with some independence, this money and the money that I have earned working part time will teach me how to budget and afford things without asking my parents who are already providing generously for all my needs.

Receiving a scholarship and recognition for my hard work up to now is also a major morale booster. Most of all it would be an honor to get recognition from an Italian Cultural Foundation, which promotes the cultural heritage of my ancestors. It will also be a great memory, and remind me that I can be a good citizen, without relinquishing my strong Italian background. 🌀

WATCH FOR THE NEXT SERIES IN OCTOBER





A special thank you for all your support and energy in helping the IAHF make the Getaway Raffle a fun filled success, both financially and in helping to forge a supportive "can do" network during these challenging times. The event was conceptualized during the bleak lock down times of the COVID-19 virus, and plodded along online looking to the time that daytrips would be available. Hopefully, with realistic conditions, that time is upon us, and some fascinating day trips are available in the form of this raffle. Likewise, the prizes are great ideas, too, for short getaways to break the monotony of stay-at-home and/or limited contacts. By your purchase of one book or more of tickets, the IAHF is the direct recipient of your generosity, and that means a lot during these difficult times.

## Thank You To Our IAHF GETAWAY RAFFLE PATRONS



None of this would have been possible without our sponsors who include: Clancy and Nanci Wilborn, Rebecca Morici, Ken Borelli, Delia Schizzano, Richard Zamar, Jo Macaluso, Azie Habib, Tony and Alba's Pizza and Pasta (Al and Diana Vallorz), Nonno's (Ralph DiTullio Jr.) and Lima Campagna Family Mortuaries.

Likewise, sincere thanks to our very enthusiastic and amazing volunteers who helped out with so many logistical

tasks. They included: Cathy De Maria, Tony and Rebecca Morici, Andrea Kenter, Nanci and Clancy Wilborn, Delia Schizzano, Richard Zamar, Mariana Varela, Sal Alini, Zachary and Spenser Actil, Azie Habib and Stanley Olivar. Our regrets for any unintentional omissions. Bravi!

– Article by Nanci Wilborn and Ken Borelli 

### Congratulations to the winners of our Benefit Getaway Raffle held on August 21!

- Cornelius Fiocco
- Jo Macaluso
- Joe Sordi
- Rosita DeLuca
- Pete & Marge Gaudio
- Frank Locicero
- Joe & Kaye Lucito
- Maryanne Nola
- Joe Taddeo
- Joe Rizzuto

**Thank you to all of our members and friends who supported the organization during these troubling times.**



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Hi, my IAHF friends,

I loved Ken Borelli's news article on the start of the IAHF foundation, very nice and informative. I've been a member for 40 years, also; in fact, I was a member of the Young Italian Club with Joe Lima and his brother Gus in the early 80s... wow, and Jerry Strangus, too... lot of fun! Love the email news letter, very nice... Hope next year the festival goes on... see you again. -- Mark Lemucchi

## MEMBER

## SPOTLIGHT

### **BENVENUTI** New Family, Individual & Student Members / As of May 2020

- |                       |                       |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| • Louise P. Canepa    | • Darlene Gardner     | • William Longo       | • Andy Pasquin            |
| • Teresa & Pete Celli | • Tisha Hartman       | • Bill & Karen Lowe   | • Antonia & John Rowdon   |
| • Marlo Cortese       | • Antonio Landi       | • Jo Macaluso         | • Maria & Robert Thompson |
| • Katie D'Amico       | • Aleta & Andy Lewis  | • John Francis Maggio | • Mary & Jim Trembley     |
| • Corina Galano       | • Ralph & Darla Longo | • Michael Messmer     |                           |

### **GRAZIE** February 2020 Patron Members

- |  |                                 |                                  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Al & Diana Vallorz                     | • David Venuti & Kelly Sheahan  | • Joseph Bogusky                 | • Paolo J. Romano                     |
| • Al & Kathy DiFrancesco                 | • Dee Dee Farley                | • Joyce Allegro & Jerry Sheridan | • Patricia & Walter Phillips          |
| • Alfio & Gerry Crema (Crema Properties) | • Dorina Teresa Cereghino       | • Judge Al & Vera Girolami       | • Paul & Mary Stabile                 |
| • Ann & James Myers                      | • Dr. Anthony & Clare Cedolini  | • Karen Vanderpan & John Dods    | • Pauline Lomonaco                    |
| • Ann & Richard Cerniglia                | • Dr. Thomas & Clara Di Stefano | • Kathy & Larry Lohman           | • Peter & Marjorie Gaudio             |
| • Anthony J. Zerbo                       | • Ebe Frasse                    | • Ken Borelli                    | • Peter & Norma LoPresto              |
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| • Ben & Christy Foster                   | • Francois & Beth Rodigari      | • Kevin & Rose Pezzaniti         | • Rebecca & Anthony Morici            |
| • Bill McCraw & Janet Muscio             | • Frank & Roberta La Ducca      | • Larry & Diane Lovaglia         | • Richard & Genevieve Rolla           |
| • Bob Paradiso & Patricia Pangrac        | • Frank & Theresa Cetani        | • Linda & Bob Binkley            | • Robert & Carol Jonlynn Karr         |
| • Bruce & Keeley Unger                   | • Frank Deturris, Sr            | • Lisa & Robert Blickenstaff     | • Rose Crimi                          |
| • Carl & Norma Brannon                   | • Frank Fiscali                 | • Loretta M. Riddle              | • Ruby Domino                         |
| • Carlo & Rosa Severo                    | • Frank J. Locicero III         | • Marge Papp                     | • Sal & Denise Campagna               |
| • Carmine & Stacey Napolitano            | • Gwen Benassi & Rich Daulton   | • Maria Cancilla Bandy           | • Sal & Maeve Alini                   |
| • Charles P. Gullo, Jr.                  | • J. Philip & Jenifer Dinapoli  | • Maria Gloria                   | • Sandy & Chris Carvalho              |
| • Christina & Paul Coghlan               | • Jackie Pighini                | • Marilyn Payne                  | • Sharon McCray & Robert Martinez Jr. |
| • Christopher & Jennifer March           | • James Sanfilippo, DDS         | • Mark & Andrea Kenter           | • Steven & Alma Landi                 |
| • Cleo Logan                             | • Jeffrey & JoAnn Rizzo         | • Mark & Jeanne Lazzarini        | • Theresa Biagi & Robert Krebs, Ed.D. |
| • Col. Bobby Moorhatch                   | • Jim & Janice Jones            | • Maryann & Jim DiBona           | • Tony & Lorraine Maciejowski         |
| • Connie & Joe Rotolo                    | • Jo Ann & Roger Bjornstad      | • Maryanne Nola                  | • Tony & Martha Piazza                |
| • Constance LoBue Scarpelli              | • Joe & Cathy De Maria          | • Mel Di Salvo & Anna Sordello   | • Tony Nespole & Billie Jean Sgarlato |
| • Cornelius Fiocco                       | • Joe & Judi Rizzuto            | • Michael & Emily Ray            | • Vince & Colleen Cortese             |
| • Dan & Patty Bozzuto                    | • Joe & Kaye Lucito             | • Mike Console                   | • Virginia M. Sincich                 |
| • Dana R. Zuccarello                     | • Joe & Rosella Guttadauro      | • Nanci & Clarence Wilborn       | • William Venuti                      |
| • Dave Perzinski & Lucia Clementi        | • John & Debora Poch            | • Nina Boyd                      |                                       |
|  | • John & Diane Paulson          | • Nora & Larry Monette           |                                       |
|  | • John & Marjorie Scandizzo     |                                  |                                       |
|  | • Joseph & Carmella Gullo       |                                  |                                       |

### **GRAZIE** 2020 Business Members

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| • Anthony Barajas / <a href="#">Italian Renaissance Swordsmanship Academy</a> | • Diane Ferrara / <a href="#">Hill View Packing Co., Inc.</a>          | • San Jose Opera Guild / <a href="#">San Jose Opera Guild</a>   |
| • Pietro Bonanno / <a href="#">Italian Community Services</a>                 | • Charles Gagliasso / <a href="#">Charles Gagliasso Trucking, Inc.</a> | • Blanca Lopez / <a href="#">Blanca's Bridal</a>                |
| • Frank & Charlene Cancilla / <a href="#">FCC Realty Group</a>                | • Guglielmo / <a href="#">Emilio Guglielmo Family Winery</a>           | • Myrlin & George Taddie, Jr. / <a href="#">tadcosupply.com</a> |
| • Madeline Chiavetta / <a href="#">Coldwell Banker</a>                        | • Stephen & Susan Guzzetti / <a href="#">Intero Real Estate</a>        | • Al & Diana Vallorz / <a href="#">Tony &amp; Alba's</a>        |
| • Gloria Citti / <a href="#">Citti's Florist</a>                              | • Daniel & Antonia Ornelas / <a href="#">Perfect Events</a>            | • Kathy & Karl Winkelman / <a href="#">Gioia Company</a>        |





## LEGACY CIRCLE



The following Members chose to honor the contributions of the IAHF to the community with a remembrance in their estates.

LINDA & BOB BINKLEY ♦ ROSE CRIMI ♦ MADELINE DAMIANO & GILDA DE SIMONE-GROCCIA ♦ STANLEY OLIVAR

If you would like to consider becoming a Legacy Circle donor, please contact [legacy@iahfsj.org](mailto:legacy@iahfsj.org) for more information.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Every year we do a membership drive that helps us support our organization. During the first part of the year, we usually remove from our list of Active Members those persons who did not renew. Due to the special circumstances presented this year, the Board decided to extend the membership renewal window for a few extra months.

If you are one of those that forgot or just got too busy, please sign up now because we will soon have to remove from our membership roster those who have not yet renewed. If you have already renewed your membership, our heartfelt thanks go out to you. You have helped save our organization in these troubled times.

-- Article by David Perzinski, Membership Chair 🌸

[CLICK HERE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP](#)

## IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020

### IAHF OFFICERS

- Felix Dalldorf - *President / Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation*
- Frank De Turris - *Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer*
- Ken Borelli - *1st VP / IAHF Events (including Annual Italian Festa) / Cultural Activities / Grants*
- Azie Habib - *2nd VP / Building Administration and Maintenance / Hall Rentals*
- Diane Ayala - *3rd VP / Marketing / Advertising / PR / Website / Newsletter / Social Media*
- Dana Zuccarello - *4th VP / Human Resources / Volunteer Development / Library and Archives / Succession Planning / Bar*
- Marie Rose Dalldorf - *Corporate Secretary / Scholarship Chair*

### IAHF DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- Marie Bertola - *Board Member*
- Lucia Clementi - *Board Member*
- Chuck Gullo - *Board Member*
- Frank Locicero - *Board Member*
- Mario Lucchesi - *Board Member*
- Nancy Morreale - *Board Member*
- Jan Prinzivalli - *Board Member*
- Carlo Severo - *Board Member*
- Nanci Arata Wilborn - *Board Member*

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- Claire Padien-Havens / *Managing Director, Institutional Strategy, Opera San Jose, Opera Liaison*
- Cathy De Maria / *Community Leader, Program Organizer*
- Doctor John Scandizzo / *Retired Physician, IAHF Genealogy Program Leader*
- Emily Ray / *Music Director, Mission Chamber Orchestra, Classical Music Liaison*
- Father Anthony Mancuso / *Former President St. Francis High School, Professor Santa Clara University*
- Frank and Marilyn Dorsa / *Owners of La Rusticana D'Orsa, Community Leaders*
- Hon. Salvatore Caruso / *Consul of Italy, and President of Salvatore Caruso Design Corporation*
- Lance Shoemaker / *Co- President, Hensley Historic District Neighborhood Association, Neighborhood Liaison*
- Nancy De Vincenzi Melander / *Former IAHF President, Daughter of IAHF Founder, Little Italy Liaison*
- Pierluigi Oliverio / *Former San Jose City Council Member, Community Leader*
- Professor Michele Santamaria Ph.D / *Italian Language Chairperson, San Jose State University*
- Rod Diridon / *Former County Supervisor and Public Transportation Leader*
- Vera Girolami / *National President of the Sons and Daughters of Italy*

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## INTERO

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rosetta is a full-time, professional real estate agent assisting in buying and selling homes in all of Santa Clara County. Throughout the years, Rosetta has earned many achievements and awards such as International Presidents Elite, Top Listing Agent, Top Buyers agent, one of Silicon Valley's Top 100 agents and Top Producers with over 19 years of sales, marketing, trust, probate and negotiation experience. Rosetta takes pride in providing 100% quality service to all her clients and has earned an impressive reputation in the real estate community. She is known for her exceptional work ethic, effective communication skills, attention to detail and fierce negotiating experience. With her clients' best interests at heart, Rosetta understands the meaning of commitment and dedication.

### EDUCATION

Since obtaining her California Real Estate license, Rosetta has attended mandatory legal classes, completing various state-required programs, such as Real Estate Principals, Real Estate Appraisals, 1031 Exchange Reinvestment Plan, Limit Liability Company for Reinvestments, Protecting the Fee, Due Diligence and Disclosures, Agency Fair Housing, Trust Funds, Ethics and Risk Management, Survey Course and Risk Management. Professional Philosophy Rosetta's passion and philosophy have always been to put her clients best interests first, provide every client with the highest of business ethics, commitment and 100 % excellent quality service. Building a lifetime relationship by earning the respect and trust of her clients, is her ultimate goal.

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- California Association of Realtors
- National Association of Realtors
- San Jose Real Estate Board
- Re-Infolink Multiple Listing Service

### PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Spending quality time with family and friends, exercising, running and giving back to the community.

It is my ultimate goal, as your professional real estate agent, to provide you with quality service, exceed your expectations and make your real estate transactions a positive and painless experience. My overall local expertise and extensive real estate experience will benefit you whether you currently are selling or buying a home, or are a returning client checking out the many homeowner resources I offer.

*Providing the Quality of Service You Deserve!*