

February Questo Mese Newsletter

From Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America <nationaloffice@osia.org>

Date Saturday, February 1st, 2025



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ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS
OF ITALY IN AMERICA

Questo Mese

A Monthly Newsletter



February | Febbraio 2025

A MESSAGE FROM

National President, Michael G. Polo



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope that you have all had a great start to the new year! The past month has been both a busy and productive one for the National Office. Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of meeting with business and government officials in Milan with Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF) President Joseph Sciamè to strengthen ties between our organization and the region of Lombardy, as it will be our Region of Celebration during this year's NELA Gala. A highlight of our trip was meeting with Attilio Fontana, President of the Region of Lombardy, who will be honored during this year's NELA Gala with our International Leadership Award. I am excited by our growing relationship with the Italian government, and working more closely with officials in the region to expand our member benefits.

On the subject of our NELA Gala, I am pleased to announce that this year's event will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. Be sure to save the date in your calendar, and to be on the lookout for further information from the National Office. Each year, NELA raises money for the SIF's scholarship program as well as our various philanthropic efforts. Applications for this year's scholarship program are still open, and will be until March 14th. I would encourage all who are eligible to get a head start on their application while there is still time! Find more information about our scholarships [here](#).

On a final note, I wanted to extend my thoughts to all of those impacted by the Palisades Wildfire in California, and to those who lost loved ones, their homes, and their livelihoods as a result of the devastation. As many of you know, our recent OSDIA/SIF Disaster Relief Fund raised more than \$7,000 to provide relief to those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton last fall. Our organization remains committed to providing aid to those who need it most in times of disaster. For this reason, our disaster relief fund will remain open to collect donations to support wildfire relief efforts, and to support relief efforts for any future disaster.

I encourage all members to donate to the fund by clicking the button below, and selecting "Disaster Relief." Alternatively, donations can be made via check.

Checks can be made payable to the Sons of Italy Foundation, and mailed to the address below:

Sons of Italy Foundation
Attn: Hurricane Relief
219 E St NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Sempre Avanti,

Michael G. Polo
National President
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

[Donate Now](#)

**OSDIA Delegation Meets with Lombardy
President to Strengthen Ties with Regional
Leadership**



(From left to right) Undersecretary to the Presidency Raffaele Cattaneo, Lombardy President Attilio Fontana, OSDIA President Michael G. Polo, and SIF President Joseph Sciame pose for a photo at the Palazzo Lombardia in Milan, Italy. (January 15, 2024)



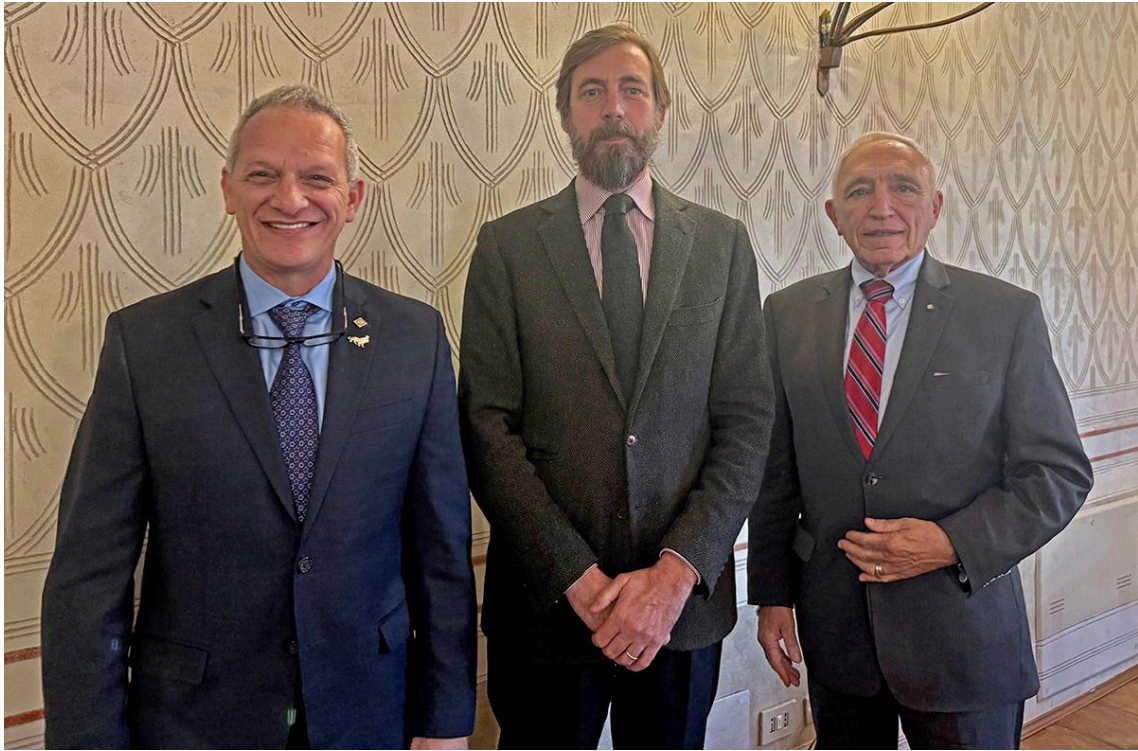
From January 12-17, OSDIA National President Michael G. Polo and SIF President Joseph Sciame traveled to Milan, Italy for a series of meetings with government and business leaders to strengthen organizational ties to the region, and to confirm Lombardy as the official Region of Celebration during this year's NELA Gala in Washington, D.C.

One such meeting was with Lombardy President Attilio Fontana and Undersecretary to the Presidency Raffaele Cattaneo on January 15th. The meeting, held at Palazzo Lombardia in Milan, covered ways to bolster Lombardy's presence during this year's NELA Gala and to connect OSDIA membership with the rich cultural history of the region.

(From left to right) SIF President Joseph Sciame, U.S. Consul General Douglass Benning, and OSDIA President Michael G. Polo pose for a photo at the Consulate General in Milan, Italy. (January 16th, 2025).



OSDIA leadership during a tour of Fondazione Pirelli, which focuses on archiving and showcasing the history of the Pirelli brand (January 14th, 2025).



(From left to right) OSDIA National President Michael G. Polo, Pirelli SVP of Institutional and Regulatory Affairs Aimone di Savoia-Aosta, and SIF President Joseph Sciame pose for a photo (January 14th, 2025).

Presidents Polo and Sciame also met with a variety of other leaders in the region, including the corporate leadership of Pirelli, the Consul General of the U.S. in Milan, and Milano&Partners, the official Destination Marketing Organization of the City of Milan.

"These meetings underscore our broader efforts to strengthen our relationship with regional governments in Italy and to deepen the connection between our membership in the U.S. and their Italian roots," said President Polo of the meetings, adding that the trip "also reinforced our commitment to members of our Italian chapters to eventually include all regions of Italy."

"By meeting directly with leadership in the region, we are able to more authentically celebrate and represent the region of Lombardy during this year's NELA Gala," added President Sciame.



Grand Lodge of Delaware Raises \$11,000 in Annual Christmas Charity Event



(From left to right) Delaware State President Joseph Facciolo, Nemours Hospital Child Life Director Hilary Bruno, Prince of Piedmont Lodge #475 President James Lemmon, Lodge #475 Member Roger Fernandez, and State Treasurer Marie Malatesta pose for a photo with the 2024 Christmas donations.

During its annual Christmas fundraiser, the Grand Lodge of Delaware raised approximately \$11,000 in donations. Every year since 1995, Delaware lodges have worked together to contribute toys and clothing to three local charities: The Nemours Children's Hospital, the Latin American Community Center, and the Ronald McDonald House.

The annual charity event is made possible through the work of the four local Delaware lodges, and other community business partners who collect toy and clothing donations, as well as monetary donations through a GoFundMe page.



**2025 SIF Scholarship Applications
Open Until March 14th**

Applications for the Sons of Italy Foundation's (SIF) National Leadership Grants are open for 2025! These merit-based scholarships vary from \$5,000-\$15,000 each year and are given to selected individuals* of Italian descent**, enrolled in 4-year undergraduate programs, graduate programs, or professional schools at an accredited academic institution for the Fall 2025 term.

Applications will close on March 14th, 2025, so get your application started today! For more information and details on applying, please click on the button below:

[Apply Today](#)

* U.S. Citizens and Green Card holders

** At least one Italian or Italian American grandparent



January Lodge Anniversaries

This past month, the following lodges reached important milestones. The National Office congratulates these lodges for reaching such important anniversaries, and wishes them the best for the years ahead!

- Sacramento, CA: Sacramento Lodge #1352 reached its 100-year anniversary on January 7th, 2025.
- Philadelphia, PA: Vita Nuova Lodge #2327 reached its 50-year anniversary on January 16th, 2025.



**Register Today for Our Members-Only
Italian Real Estate Webinar**



Are you interested in buying a home in Italy, or do you want to learn more about the Italian real estate process? Register today for our exclusive members-only webinar on the differences between real estate in Italy and the U.S., on **Wednesday, February 5th at 11:00AM EST.**

The webinar will feature Giandomenico De Tullio, Managing Partner at De Tullio Law Firm, which has offices in Rome and Martina Franca, and manages property transactions throughout the entire Italian territory. Giandomenico is a multilingual lawyer with more than 20 years of experience in cross-border property transactions. As a distinguished professional in his field, he has been featured in prominent publications such as The Times for his expertise.

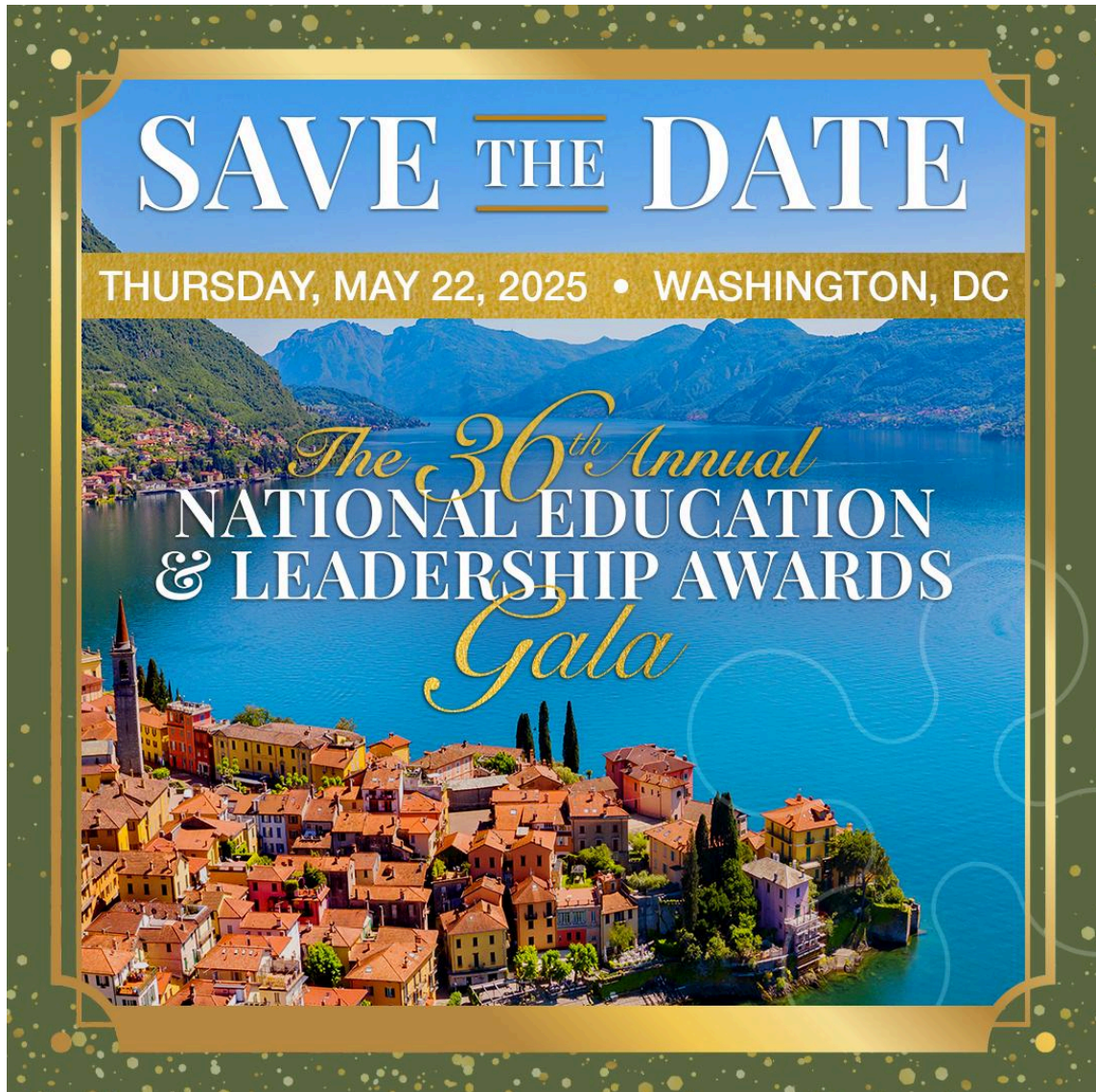
Giandomenico is also a proud member of the Capitolo di Roma Lodge #3002, in Rome, Italy, made up of professionals and entrepreneurs with strong social, cultural and business ties to the United States. Chartered in 2019, Capitolo di Roma is also OSDIA's first lodge to be established outside of North America.

Click the button below to register. If you have any questions about the event, please reach out to nationaloffice@osia.org.

[Register Today](#)



Coming Soon: NELA 2025



Join us on **Thursday, May 22nd** at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC!

This year, we will celebrate the Region of Lombardy and honor individuals who have made meaningful contributions to their communities and beyond.

We'll also shine a light on the bright future of our Italian-American youth and the impactful work of the Sons of Italy Foundation.

Mark your calendars and prepare for an unforgettable evening of recognition and giving back!

[Add to Calendar](#)

[Learn More](#)



Write for Italian America Magazine



Do you have a story idea about impactful work an OSDIA member or a lodge is doing in their community? Are you interested in writing for the most widely read magazine for people of Italian heritage in the United States? We want to hear from you! For consideration in Italian America magazine, which reaches more than 25,000 people each quarter, please submit your story pitches to italianamerica@osia.org.

Story pitches must be no more than 250 words and be a topic pertinent to the Italian American community. Preference will be given to story ideas featuring OSDIA members or lodges, but all stories of interest to the Italian American community will be considered.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Post of the Month



"Despite my appearance, I come from an Italian background. My mother and her family raised me with a love for traditional food, music, dance, art, and literature. It was always a dream of hers to go to Italy. Unfortunately, she passed away in December 2018. In 2023, I was able to fulfill her dream and go to Italy for the first time.

While I love Italy, Napoli, where my family originated, stole my heart. As soon as I arrived in Napoli, I felt the love of my mother everywhere. Both the beauty and the chaos. It was the first time since she passed that I felt connected again. The sights of the sea and Mt. Vesuvius, the sound of music, laughter, and loud voices, the smell of saltwater and wood-burning

ovens, the tastes of delicious food and drinks, the feel of the rapid heartbeat of a city, all five senses engaged. Each person that I met, I fell in love with. For me, being in Napoli is being hugged by my mother again."

Autumn McAllister
Pensacola, FL
1 Year OSDIA Member

[Visit Post](#)



Refer Your Friends & Family!



Invite your friends and family to celebrate our rich heritage, make lasting connections, and be part of our vibrant community.

[Become A Member](#)





Support Our 2025 Scholarship Awards

Through the Sons of Italy Foundation® (SIF), and tens of thousands of family members located in all fifty states and the District of Columbia, the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America® (OSDIA) has awarded tens of millions of dollars in scholarships to date.

If you want to support the cause, and help propel future Italian-American students to new heights, make your donation at the link below!

[Make A Donation](#)



Follow Our Social Channels!

Follow us for daily content celebrating all things Italian-American!

Join our social family today and be part of our mission to preserve our cherished heritage and build a brighter future together.





Advertise Your Business on the OSDIA Website!

Have you thought about advertising on the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America website? You can advertise in our online business directory today!

For more information,

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Advertise on our website!



Advertise Your Business in *Italian America* Magazine!

Want the opportunity to showcase your business for a nationwide readership of Italian Americans? You can always promote it in our *Italian America* magazine! For more information,

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Advertise in Italian America!



Member Benefits

Massive Savings Await!

OSDIA members gain exclusive access to a wide range of products and services, including genealogy research, travel, Italian language instruction, and more!

Access your benefits today by logging into our Members Only Portal, powered by iMembersDB. Click the button below to log in, and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the National Office at nationaloffice@osia.org or at (202) 547-2900.

Members Only Portal



Make sure to follow OSDIA on social media to stay up to date on all things OSDIA, Italian American and Italy related! From news and history to recipes and photos, and everything in between!



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