

Grand Lodge of New York

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

Celebrates

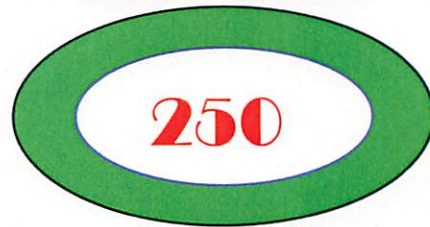
and

Presents

AMERICA



**Italian
American**



State Historian Project
2026

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State Historian

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State President

As we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America, we cannot help but think of our ancestors who came to this wonderful country at the turn of the last century, encountering a multitude of challenges. Yet, armed with the support of loving families, their characteristic strong work ethic, native ability, and community groups like L'Ordine Figli d'Italia, Italians and Italian-Americans have succeeded in every area.



In his Inaugural Address on June 22, 1905, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro noted that Italians came to these shores “...**not to find a new life, but to earn a better one.**” He concluded, “Today I have a dream, and hope that someday, even if it takes a hundred more years before we are fully accepted, our children and their children’s children, even if they carry a single drop of Italian blood, will be able and proud to continue to carry on our traditions, our culture and our language. It is up to us, and what we do today!”

With these words, thus began the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. Now 121 years later, Dr. Sellaro’s dream is still alive. Their children’s children are able and proud to continue to carry on that legacy. They have earned a better life.

This report presents 250 innovations, inventions, achievements and discoveries of Italians and Italian-Americans, which have contributed to the betterment of life in these United States. They have improved the quality of life of all Americans and, indeed, people of all nations.

Obviously, there are more than 250. What would you add?

Carolyn

1	Mazzei, Filippo: He was a friend, neighbor and confidant of Thomas Jefferson, whose thesis on the equality of man was paraphrased in the Declaration of Independence as "all men are created equal." To commemorate the 250th anniversary of his birth, a US 40 cent airmail stamp was issued in his honor.
2	Obici, Amedeo: founder of the Planters Nut & Chocolate Company.
3	Gentile, Antonio: As a thirteen-year-old, his drawing of a human-like peanut was the winner of a contest for the Planters' Company mascot. His drawing, enhanced by a commercial artist, became "Mr. Peanut".
4	Jacuzzi, Candido: invented the whirlpool bath.
5	Zamboni, Frank: Invented the Zamboni ice resurfacers.
6	Gianini, AP: founded the Bank of Italy, which provided loans to immigrants, women, the working class, and customers whom other banks refused. Today, it is the Bank of America.
7	Eruzione, Michael: Captain of the 1980 U.S. "Miracle on Ice" team, he scored the winning goal against the heavily favored Soviet team. The U.S. went on to win the Gold Medal at the 1980 Olympics, Lake Placid, NY. Eruzione's winning goal has become one of the most played highlights in American sports.
8	Marconi, Guglielmo: A recipient of the Nobel Prize for Physics, he invented the first practical radio wave-based wireless telegraph system. He sent the first transatlantic radio signal (Morse code for the letter "S") from Cornwall, England to Newfoundland, Canada. Marconi is considered to be the inventor of the radio; his work paved the way for modern radio, television, and wireless communication.
9	Galilei, Galileo: astronomer, physicist, engineer and inventor, he made groundbreaking discoveries including the microscope. With his improved telescope, the Galilean telescope, the observer could see magnified, upright images on the earth and observe the sky.
10	Cavallari, Arnaldo: invented Ciabatta, a modern Italian bread. It is credited with revitalizing Italian bread-making in the modern era.
11	Ferrero, Michael: created the hazelnut and cocoa spread "Nutella," produced by the Italian company, Ferrero.
12	Broccu, Francesco Antonio: was an Italian artisan and inventor, widely regarded as the first developer of the revolver.
13	Meucci, Antonio: true inventor of the telephone.
14	Marchiony, Italo: (Italo Marcioni) An Italian immigrant, he was selling lemon granita and ice cream from a pushcart on Wall Street. He developed the idea for an ice cream cone in 1896 and was awarded a U.S. patent for a mold to mass-produce the edible cups in 1903.
15	Polerio, Giulio Cesare: In a 1594 Chess Theory book, described for the first time the Sicilian Defense, an opening chess move created in Italy around the 16th century.
16	Delligatti, James: invented the McDonald's Big Mac.
17	Spagnoli, Luisa: She invented Baci Perugina, originally calling it "Cazzotto" (punch) because its shape resembled a punch. To evoke a romantic appeal, the confection was renamed "Baci" (kiss).
18	Volta, Alessandro Giuseppe Antonio Anastasio: He invented the first true electric battery, the "voltaic pile," in 1800. By stacking alternating discs of zinc and copper separated by cardboard soaked in brine, he produced the first continuous, stable electric current, revolutionizing the study of electromagnetism and electrochemistry.

19	Reina, Salvatore Alan: Influential Italian-American Pharmacist and entrepreneur on the West Coast. He opened the Venice Drug Company, which grew into the largest pharmacy serving the local Italian-American community.
20	Bellanca, Giuseppe Mario: An aviation pioneer and legendary aeronautical designer, he designed the "Miss Columbia" which achieved the first nonstop flight from New York to Germany in 1927. He founded Bellanca Aircraft Company and was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame.
21	Capezio, Salvatore: An Italian born shoemaker, he opened a repair shop opposite the old Metropolitan Opera House. It became a business crafting high-quality pointe shoes. In 1892, he was appointed official shoemaker for the Metropolitan Opera House.
22	Sciame, Joseph: He is the President of the Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF) and the Chairman and CEO of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum (GMM) on Staten Island, New York, a National Historic Landmark listed on the National Register. The Museum is considered to be a "Jewel of the Order," meaning the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSDIA), which owns the Museum through the SIF. The GMM honors the lives of Antonio Meucci, the true inventor of the telephone, and Giuseppe Garibaldi, the 'Hero of Two Worlds' who contributed to Italy's unification.
23	Lupo, Thomas A.: President of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSDIA), established in 1905. OSDIA is the oldest and the largest organization of Italian men and woman. It is committed to preserving Italian culture, heritage and tradition while promoting education, civic engagement and mutual support among its members. It is a leader in philanthropy through the Sons of Italy Foundation and in fighting anti-bigotry and promoting a positive image through the Commission for Social Justice.
24	Turri, Pelligrino: inventor of the first commercially successful typewriter and invented carbon paper to provide ink for his machine.
25	Cristofori, Bartolomeo: He invented the piano in the 1700's. NY's Metropolitan Museum of art has in its collection one of three of his pianos still in existence, and it is the oldest surviving piano in the world.
26	Boiardi, Ettore: founder of the Chef Boyardee brand of pasta products.
27	Cardini, Caesar: inventor of the Caesar Salad.
28	Oliveri, Pat and Harry: inventors of the Philly Cheesesteak.
29	DiMaggio, Joseph: "Joltin' Joe" and "The Yankee Clipper" holds the Major League Baseball record for getting a hit in the most consecutive games (56) set in 1941. DiMaggio is a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.
30	Mondavi, Robert Gerard: founder of Robert Mondavi Winery. His technical and marketing strategies brought worldwide recognition for the wines of the Napa Valley in California.
31	Serratelli, Pio: An Italian immigrant, he settled in NJ and founded the Serratelli Hat Company. The company originally repurposed waste and supplied fur felt to hat manufacturers. It has evolved into a premier maker of luxury cowboy hats with five generations of craftsmanship.
32	Barsotti, Carlo: founder of <i>Il Progresso Italo-Americano</i> , the first Italian language daily newspaper in the United States.
33	Pasin, Antonin: Founder of the Radio Flyer company, best known for making the Radio Flyer stamped steel toy wagon – the Original Little Red Wagon.
34	Porcello, Samuel J.: invented the modern creme-filling for Oreos. He holds five patents for Oreos and was given the nickname, "Mr. Oreo".

35	Castro, Bernard: created the convertible sofa, famous for its space-saving design and multifunctional use.
36	Langone, Ken: The co-founder of Home Depot, he donated \$300 million to the NYU School of Medicine and NYU Medical Center (later named NYU Langone Health in his honor).
37	Cicccone, Vincent: He was the co-founder of Blow Pops, the first lollipop ever made with a soft bubblegum center.
38	Rossi, Anthony T: He was an Italian immigrant who founded Tropicana Products.
39	Rizzuto, Leandro: He was the co-founder of Conair Corporation developed the "yellow bird" hairdryer.
40	Paulucci, Luigino (Jeno): founded CHUNG KING adding Italian spices to the Chow Mein recipe, and originated Jeno's Inc. inventing the frozen pizza roll.
41	DaVinci, Leonardo: He was the artist who painted of the Mona Lisa, a masterpiece of the Italian Renaissance. Considered the most visited, best known and most sung about work of art. Subject: Lisa DelGiocondo.
42	Pei, Mario: A prolific Italian-American polyglot and Columbia University professor. He wrote over 50 books, which explained the complex linguistic histories and etymologies to the masses.
43	Paca, William: Paca was from Maryland and was a signatory to the Declaration of Independence.
44	Tiburzi, Bonnie: The first woman to pilot an American commercial plane.
45	Petrone, Rocco: He was the head of NASA at the time of the 1969 moon landing.
46	Siciliano, Angelo: (Charles Atlas) The father of modern fitness. The 97 lb. weakling, who created a system of exercises that was later called "Dynamic Tension."
47	Winwar, Frances: (Francesca Vinciguerra) A biographer and writer most noted for her romanticized biographies of 19th century English Romance and Victorian writers. She was an accomplished translator.
48	Lombino, Salvatore: He legally changed his name to Evan Hunter. (Ed McBain) Named a Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America. A prolific writer who wrote across genres. He used Evan Hunter "for mainstream literary work such as <i>The Blackboard Jungle</i> and Ed McBain for the legendary detective novels <i>87th Precinct</i> series.
49	Fermi, Enrico: The father of nuclear science in America. In 1938, he received the Nobel Prize in Physics. Fermi directed the first controlled nuclear chain reaction. During World War II, Fermi was part of the Manhattan Project research at the University of Chicago; directed the first controlled nuclear reaction.
50	Riggio, Leonard: built Barnes & Noble into the nation's largest upscale bookstores.
51	Rodney, Caesar: He was a signer of the Declaration of independence. Although gravely ill, he made a horseback ride from Dover, Del to Philadelphia, PA, in a storm, to cast the deciding vote in Delaware's support of Independence.
52	Cafaro, William: a pioneer in mall development, who founded the Cafaro Company, one of the nation's largest commercial real estate developers.
53	Grasso, Ella: From Connecticut, she became the first woman governor elected in her own right.
54	Elsa Peretti: A Florence-born icon who revolutionized American jewelry during her half-century partnership with Tiffany & Co. Famous for her minimalist, sculptural, and highly tactile creations like the Bone Cuff and open heart pendants.

55	Lombardi, Vince: In 1971, the Super Bowl trophy was named in his memory and he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. As head coach, he transformed a struggling Green Bay Packers team into a dominant force in professional football, winning five NFL championships and the first two Super Bowls. Lombardi excelled as a motivator, and was widely esteemed for his views on the virtues of hard work and winning.
56	Vincenzo, Sellaro, MD: A pioneering ob-gyn, who founded of <i>L'Ordine Figli d'Italia in America</i> (Order Sons of Italy in America) in 1905. Sellaro saw a need for a fraternal organization that would unite all Italians and would help them assimilate into American Society during the immigration boom of the early 20th century. He formed a group of bi-lingual medical doctors who treated the Italian immigrants and oversaw the opening of the Columbus Italian Hospital where Italian was spoken.
57	Tacopina, Joseph: A prominent NY State criminal defense attorney, he represented high profile clients. He is a media personality and sports executive known for his involvement in professional football club management.
58	Piccirilli Brothers: (Attilio, Furio, Orazio, Feirruccio, Getulio, and Masaniello). The Italian-American brothers carved the 19 foot-tall seated statue of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C. Completed in 1920, under sculptor Daniel Chester French, the statue was carved in their Bronx studio from 28 blocks of Georgia white marble and assembled in DC.
59	Piccirilli Brothers: Carved the lions (Patience and Fortitude) which stand guard at the New York Public Library, and the six allegorical figures representing History, Romance, Religion, Poetry, Drama, and Philosophy that adorn the Library's Fifth Avenue facade.
60	Piccirilli, Attilio: A Piccirilli Brother who was a sculptor and carver in his own right. Included in his works are the Maine Monument in Central Park, the Firemen's Monument in Riverside Park, and an innovative glass relief at Rockefeller Center.
61	DiCaprio, Leonardo: Possessor of a legendary acting range, he transitioned from a teenage heartthrob to an Oscar-winning actor known for collaborating with famous directors like Martin Scorsese. He chose critically acclaimed roles and starred in <i>Titanic</i> , one of the highest-grossing movies in history.
62	Caboto, Giovanni: John Cabot was the first European to explore the coast since the Vikings; he discovered Newfoundland and Cape Breton Island.
63	Del Bianco, Luigi: chief carver of Mount Rushmore National Monument responsible for carving the intricate, lifelike details of the eyes, lips and brows of the presidents.
64	DelVecchio, Leonardo: An Italian billionaire businessman, he founded Luxottica, the world's largest eyewear company. The company holds licensing brands such as Chanel, Prada, Versace and Tiffany & Co. It is the first Italian Company to list on the NYSE.
65	Catalano, Salvatore: A Sicilian-born sailor, he was the pilot who navigated the <i>Intrepid</i> into Tripoli Harbor during Decatur's 1804 raid to destroy the captured <i>USS Philadelphia</i> . Following the successful burning of the <i>USS Philadelphia</i> . Catalano masterfully navigated the Americans back out to sea. His linguistic skills, calm composure, bravery, and critical service earned him admission into U.S. Navy on Decatur's recommendation. He became a naturalized citizen.
66	Darin, Bobby: (Walden Robert Cassotto) His career spanned music, film, and TV. He was known for his versatility across pop, rock and roll, swing, folk, and country. He earned a Grammy for <i>Mack the Knife</i> and a Golden Globe for his film debut, <i>Come September</i> . He received an Oscar nomination for <i>Captain Newman, M.D.</i>

67	DaVinci, Leonardo: The artist of The Last Supper, (Il Cenacola, L'Ultima Cena) a mural painting depicting the scene of the last supper of Jesus and his disciples, according to the Gospel by John. It is housed in the Basilica di Santa Maria delle Grazie, Milan, Italy.
68	DaVinci, Leonardo: The artist of the Vitruvian Man, a pen and ink and metalpoint drawing of a nude male figure in two superimposed positions within a square and a circle.
69	Lombardo, Gaetano Alberto "Guy": Mr. New Year's Eve. Lombardo formed the Royal Canadians Orchestra billing themselves "the sweetest music this side of Heaven." Starting in 1929 and continuing for 48 years, Lombardo broadcast live from New York City on New Year's Eve, first from the Roosevelt Grill in the Roosevelt Hotel and then from the Waldorf Astoria playing "Auld Lang Syne" at midnight.
70	Carusi, Gaetano: At the request of President Thomas Jefferson, he arrived at the Washington Navy Yard in 1808 with fourteen Italian musicians to form the first American military band. They became soldiers and officers of the Marine Corps.
71	Cipriani, Giuseppe: founder of the legendary Harry's Bar in Venice, he invented the Bellini by blending fresh white peach puree with Prosecco.
72	Cardullo, Mario: He patented RFID (Radiofrequency Identification), which is a wireless technology that uses electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track objects, people, or animals via tags.
73	Adducci, Anthony: co-founder Cardiac Pacemakers, Inc.. The company that manufactured the world's first lithium battery powered artificial pacemaker.
74	Bastianich, Lidia: The indisputable "Matriarch of Italian cooking in America." Through her long-running PBS series (like Lidia's Kitchen) and iconic NYC flagship restaurants like Felidia, she introduced multi-generational, regional Italian food to millions of homes.
75	Malaspina, Alessandro: He mapped the Pacific from Mexico to Alaska and on to the Philippines.
76	Genovese, Joseph: established Genovese Drug Stores in 1924 in Astoria Queens with a strong focus on neighborhood care and customer service. His eldest son, Joseph, Jr., pioneered self-service, fueling the chain's growth. When son Leonard became Chairman and CEO, the company expanded to over 140 locations in the NY tri-state area.
77	DaVerazzano, Giovanni: An explorer who sailed on explorations from Florida to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, discovered New York Bay, Manhattan Island and Narragansett. Drew the first map of the Atlantic coast from North Carolina to Maine. The Verrazano Narrows bridge, named in his honor, is a double decked suspension bridge spanning the Narrows Strait, and connecting Brooklyn and Staten Island.
78	Gucci, Guccio Giovanbattista Giacinto Dario Mari: An Italian businessman and fashion designer and founder of the fashion house, Gucci.
79	Bressani, Father Francesco, SJ: The first Jesuit in the United States, he was captured and tortured by the Iroquois and then sold as a slave. He escaped and returned to teach them.
80	Uddo, Giuseppe: began selling olives and cheese from a horse drawn cart in New Orleans. He and his wife's (Eleanora Taomina) family merged their businesses to form Uddo & Taomina Corporation, officially inaugurating the Progresso Brand.
81	Vitali, Ubaldo: He is a fourth generation of Italian metalworkers, and is celebrated for his masterful blend of traditional silversmithing techniques with innovative design. He is sought out as a conservator for historical silver, restoring artifacts for institutions such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

82	Capellas, Michael: founded First Data Corporation, which became a major player in payment processing.
83	Romita, John Victor, Sr.: comic book artist best known for his work on Marvel Comics' <i>The Amazing Spider-Man</i> and for co-creating characters. He transformed superhero comics through his emotive art style, clean linework, and character design.
84	Massimino, Michael: Massimino, a NASA astronaut, is a veteran of two Space missions both dedicated to servicing the Hubble Space Telescope during four spacewalks. He carried a museum-quality replica of Galileo Galilei's telescope into space provided by the Museo Galileo in Florence, Italy. He was the first person to tweet from space, marking a milestone in NASA's use of social media.
85	Pugliese, Stanislao: He is a Professor of modern European history at Hofstra University, the Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Professor of Italian and Italian-American Studies, and serves as a Fellow of the Hofstra Cultural Center. A specialist on the Italian antifascist resistance and Italian Jews, he is the author, editor or translator of fifteen books on Italian and Italian-American history. He had directed or co-directed conferences on Primo Levi, Italian Studies, Naples, Soccer and Frank Sinatra at Hofstra.
86	Bennett, Tony: (Anthony Dominick Benedetto) A legendary crooner who brought warmth and soul to American music, he is known for his timeless renditions of standards like "I Left My Heart in San Francisco." His Italian roots were a core part of his identity, and his humble demeanor and lifelong passion for music made him an enduring American treasure.
87	Bellisimo, Theresa: She invented buffalo wings at the Anchor Bar in Buffalo, when her son brought hungry friends to the bar late at night and she needed a quick snack.
88	Germanotta, Stefani Joanne Angelina: Lady Gaga, is a multi-talented singer, songwriter, and actress. Gaga's bold, innovative style and incredible voice have made her one of the most unique artists of her generation.
89	Varipappa, Andy: professional ten-pin bowler. A legendary trick-shot artist and showman, he was named "Person of the Century" by the <i>Bowlers Journal</i> for his incredible precision.
90	DiPiazza, Samuel: He served as Global Chief Executive Officer of Price Waterhouse Coopers, one of the world's largest professional services networks.
91	DelRicchio, Lorenzo: developed a photo-finish camera, which revolutionized finish line photography for horseracing and other professional sports.
92	Conti, Dominic: He sold the original submarine sandwich at his NJ grocery store.
93	Collodi, Carlo: Under the pen name Carlo Lorenzini, he created Pinocchio. <i>Le avventure di Pinocchio</i> , the book, followed the serialized version which appeared in 1881. The story blends humor, tragedy, and moral instruction, emphasizing the consequences of dishonesty and disobedience. Pinocchio has a dark side and exhibits rascally behavior, stealing, and lying. Pinocchio's nose grows when he lies. Pinocchio quickly became a cultural icon, widely translated and adapted into numerous media. The 1940 Disney animated film softened Pinocchio's harsher traits, emphasizing innocence and mischief, and cemented his place in global popular culture.
94	Francis, Connie: (Concetta Rosa Marie Franconero) A singer and actress and one of the most successful female vocalists of the late 1950s and early 1960s, with over 200 million records sold worldwide. She was the first female to reach number one on the Billboard Hot 100 ("Everybody's is Somebody's Fool") and recorded in multiple languages including Italian, Spanish, and German. "Where the Boys Are" became her signature song and was the theme for her acting debut in the movie of the same name.

95	Bon Jovi, John: (John Francis Bongiovi, Jr.) He was a legendary singer, songwriter, guitarist, actor and entrepreneur. He is best known as the frontman and founder of the hard-rock band, Bon Jovi.
96	Valli, Frankie: (Francesco Stephen Castelluccio) The iconic frontman for the Four Seasons was known for his falsetto.
97	Ciccone, Madonna Louise: (Madonna) "Queen of Pop" is a singer, songwriter, and record producer. She is known for her versatility and reinvention of music, song writing and visual presentation.
98	Bardazzi, Emmuele: a dual licensed attorney (U.S. and Italy), he handles U.S. and Italian commercial law and immigration and Italian citizenship law.
99	Gentiluomo, Joseph: A World War II veteran and RPI graduate, he holds 28 patents, including several designs for golf balls and for the modern bowling ball. Using his engineering background, he created specialized ball designs focused on aerodynamics, density, and lift.
100	Belli, Remo Delmo: invented the first successful synthetic drumhead.
101	Lantz, Walter: (Lanza) Founded Walter Lantz Productions and conceived the cartoon character Woody Woodpecker.
102	Bonaparte, Charles: During his tenure as U.S. Attorney General, he formed the Bureau of Investigation (now the FBI).
103	Rogallo, Gertrude and Francis: invented the self-inflating flexible wing (Rogallo Wing) precursor to the modern hand glider.
104	Martin, Dean: (Dino Paul Crocetti) Known for his effortless charm, smooth voice, and timeless appeal, Martin became a Hollywood legend. From his early days in comedy with Jerry Lewis to his solo success as a singer and actor, he will be forever remembered for his cool, crooner style.
105	Gebbia, Joe: Co-founded Airbnb. The company revolutionized the short-term housing rental market.
106	Vignelli, Massimo: He invented color coding for the NYC Subway map.
107	Lombardi, Gennaro: He opened the first pizzeria in the USA on Spring St. In Manhattan's Little Italy and pioneered the coal-oven pizza.
108	Arcaro, George Edward "Eddie": An American Thoroughbred Horse Racing Hall of Fame jockey who is the only rider to have won the Triple Crown twice (Whirlaway in 1941 and Citation in 1948). He is widely regarded as one of the greatest jockeys in the history of American Thoroughbred racing.
109	Viola, Vincent: Founder of Virtu Financial, one of the world's largest high-frequency electronic market-making firms, he was the owner of NHL Florida Panthers, co-owner of the Kentucky Derby winner <i>Always Dreaming</i> , and served as chairman of the New York Mercantile Exchange.
110	Gallo, Ernest and Julio: brothers who co-founded the E.& J. Gallo Winery in California. They built it into the largest wine empire in the United States.
111	Bellini, Mario: Internationally renowned architect and designer Mario Bellini is an eight-time Golden Compass Award winner. Twenty-five of his works are in the permanent design collection of the New York Museum of Art.
112	Marucci, Jack: He established Marucci Sports and was the head athletic trainer for the LSU Tigers baseball team. Unable to find a suitable bat for his 8 year old son, he crafted a wooden bat for his son, Gino, which led to the creation of custom bats for Major League Baseball players.

113	Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini: (Mother Cabrini) She was the first U.S. citizen to be canonized by the Catholic Church. Her legacy lives on in the numerous schools, hospitals, and charities she founded, helping communities to this day.
114	Piano, Renzo: One of the most celebrated architects in the world, he has been awarded the Cavaliere di Gran Croce Ordine al Merito Della Repubblica Italiana. His projects include the Whitney Museum of Art in New York City.
115	Zappacosta, Mario: Senior economist at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in Rome, Italy where he leads the Global Information and Early Warning System for food and agriculture.
116	Golisano, Blase Thomas: A billionaire businessman and philanthropist, he is the founder of Paychex, which offers payroll and human resources services to businesses.
117	Sinatra, Frank: Francis Albert known as "Ol' Blue Eyes" and "Chairman of the Board," one of the most influential entertainers of the 20th century, was celebrated for his unparalleled voice phrasing. He was an academy award winning actor (<i>From Here to Eternity</i>) and the effortless cool leader of the Las Vegas "Rat Pack." "New York, New York" became his signature song. Sinatra was a symbol of Italian-American success.
118	Auriemma, Luigi (Geno): the head coach of the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team and the winningest college basketball coach in history.
119	Gabelli, Mario: stock investor, investment advisor and financial analyst. He is the founder, chairman and CEO of Gabelli Asset Management Company Investors.
120	Repole, Mike: An entrepreneur, businessman, and racehorse owner, who built a multibillion dollar fortune launching enormously successful beverage and snack companies. (Smartwater, Vitaminwater, Pirate's Booty, and Body Armor Superdrink). He founded Repole Stables, fielding top horses, including Mo Donegal (2022 Bemont States winner).
121	Tanny, Vic: (Victor A. Iannidinardo): A bodybuilder, entrepreneur, and physical culture advocate, he founded the Vic Tanny gym chain, pioneering the concept of modern health clubs. The health clubs encouraged annual memberships and promoted them to everyone, not just hard-core bodybuilders.
122	Martignetti, Anthony: He was the young boy of the 1969 Prince Spaghetti commercial, who was seen running through the streets of Boston's North End responding to his mother's call out "Anth-o-nee!" Some say the ad that "Wednesday is Prince Spaghetti Day" transformed Italian food from being "foreign" to being "American".
123	Agostinelli, Robert: He was the chairman and co-founder of private equity firm the Rhône Group.
124	Menniti, Mary: Founder of the Italian Garden Project, which documented the oral histories and agricultural techniques of Italian immigrants across the U.S., preserving their cultivation traditions.
125	DeLuca, Fred: creator of the Subway chain stores, with the concept of the submarine sandwiches taken from neighborhood Italian delis and made mainstream.
126	Viterbi, Andrew, Dr.: discovered the Viterbi Algorithm, mathematical breakthrough that makes modern cellular communication possible. Co-founded Qualcomm.
127	Stallone, Sylvester: Actor and filmmaker best known for the "Rocky" and "Rambo" franchises.

128	Amelio, Gilbert: is s technologist who developed the first practical Charge-Coupled Device(CCD) image sensor. The CCD acts as the "eyeball" of the Hubble, capturing the astronomical images it transmit to earth.
129	Cantisano, Assunta and Giovanni: They founded the Ragu Packing Company, making sauce in their home in Rochester, NY.
130	Giuliani, Rudy: As mayor of NYC, Giuliani implemented aggressive policing strategies, including a zero-tolerance approach to minor infractions and emphasizing quality-of-life enforcement, which contributed to a significant reduction in crime rates across the city. After the attacks of Sept. 11, he coordinated emergency response efforts, communicated effectively with the public, and supported first responders amid the collapse of the World Trade Center towers, earning him the nickname "America's Mayor" and <i>Time</i> Person of the Year in 2001.
131	Scorcese, Martin: A director, producer, writer, editor, actor, and film preservationist, he is considered one of cinema's most influential and greatest directors. He is celebrated for his bold directing style, exploration of complex moral themes, and decades-long dedication to preserving film history. His films <i>Mean Streets</i> , <i>Taxi Driver</i> , <i>Raging Bull</i> , and <i>Goodfellas</i> are often cited among the greatest films ever made.
132	Scalia, Antonin: First American of Italian heritage to be appointed as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. He was known as a champion of originalism and textualism, renowned for his sharp wit, scathing dissents, and strict interpretation of the Constitution based on its original public meaning.
133	Alito, Samuel: the second American of Italian heritage to be appointed as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. He calls himself a "practical originalist."
134	Baratta, Joseph: Global head of Private Equity at the asset management firm, Blackstone.
135	Pelosi, Nancy: Served two terms as Speaker of the House. She was the first female elected speaker and the first Italian-American to hold the position.
136	Cantalupo, Jim: served as chairman and CEO of McDonald's.
137	Ferraro, Geraldine: 1st female nominee for the Vice Presidency of the United States. Served as a member of the United State House Representative.
138	Brunetti, John J., Sr. (Jack) was the prominent owner and CEO of the historic Hialeah Park Racetrack In Florida.
139	Ranieri, Lewis: pioneer of mortgage-backed securities.
140	Belluzzo, Richard: served as computer industry executive at Hewlett Packard, Silicon Graphics, Microsoft, and Quantum Corp.
141	Segale, Mario: A self-taught and shrewd businessman, he founded the heavy construction general contracting firm, M.A. Segale Inc. The company specialized in many areas, from site development to highway construction to building dams. Mario's name became the inspiration for Nintendo's iconic plumber, Mario.
142	DiZio, Dan: Co-Founder of the Philly Pretzel Factory. He grew the company from a single location to a franchise of over 170 locations.
143	Belluzzo, Richard: served as computer industry executive at Hewlett Packard, Silicon Graphics, Microsoft, and Quantum Corp.
144	Capellas, Michael: served as CEO of First Data Corporation, which was a massive, industry-leading payment processing and financial technology company.

145	McCarthy, Kevin: He was the 55th Speaker of the House and the second of Italian descent. McCarthy's Mother was Roberta Darlene Palladino. His maternal grandfather immigrated through Ellis island in 1921.
146	Amelio, William: As president and CEO of Lenovo, he oversaw the integration of the IBM PC Division, which the company purchased in 2005.
147	Farina, Giovanni Maria (Johann): Italian-born perfumer, famously known for creating the world's first Eau de Cologne in 1709, and also formulated 18th-century pomades and cosmetic balms, most notably a recipe historically known as "Pomade Divine."
148	Romeo, Robin: A standout star in women's bowling, she won 17 professional championships including the 1989 U.S. Women's Open.
149	Boschetto, Laurence: served as senior advisor at the Interpublic Group of Companies.
150	Bartiromo, Maria: First journalist to deliver live reports from the floor of the NY Stock Exchange. The "Money Honey".
151	Attanasio, Mark: A businessman who is the principal owner of the Milwaukee Brewers.
152	Funicello, Annette: Cast by Walt Disney as one of the original Mouseketeers, she became a "teen idol," starring in a series of "Beach Party" movies with Frankie Avalon for American International Pictures.
153	Dattalo, Thomas: an Italian-American master candy maker, created the nougat recipe used Mars Bars.
154	Ferrara, Salvatore: originated "Red hots" cinnamon-flavored hard candy.
155	di Arezzo, Guido: theorized modern music notation, Guidorian Solmization, assigning each note of the diatonic scale to a Solfege (or sol-fa) syllable. Ut (do), re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, do.
156	Ponza, Lorenzo, "Larry": inventor of the modern baseball pitching machine.
157	Armani, Giorgio: A renowned fashion designer who founded the Armani luxury fashion house in 1975, revolutionizing modern fashion with his minimalist and elegant designs.
158	Pucci, Emilio: An Italian aristocrat and designer, who revolutionized mid-century luxury fashion with vibrant free-flowing jersey dresses, trousers, and scarves. He also created colorful, high-fashion uniforms for Braniff International Airlines flight attendants.
159	Baratta, Joseph: the Global Head of Private Equity at Blackstone.
160	Ferretti, Alberta: A designer of elegant clothing for women, she designed uniforms for Alitalia personnel bringing a timeless, elegant aesthetic to the aviation industry.
161	D'Alessandro, Anthony: Founder and owner of Accent Uniforms. The company produces the vast majority of the custom dress uniforms worn by officers in the U.S. Navy, Marines, Army, and Coast Guard. D'Alessandro's factories supply uniforms for prestigious institutions such as West Point and the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.
162	Cotillo, Salvatore: First Italian-American to serve in both houses of the NY State Legislature and the first Italian-American to sit on the NY State Supreme Court.
163	Grucci, Felix, Sr.: Fireworks by Grucci has been America's First Family of Fireworks since 1850 and is renowned for blending artistry with innovation - delivering world class performances of fireworks displays.
164	Ameche, Don: (Dominic Felix Amici) He was an actor, comedian and vaudevillian. His long career as a radio master of ceremonies launched his film career, which spanned nearly six decades, from vaudeville and radio to film, stage, and television. But it was his late career triumphs in the 1980s (<i>Cocoon</i> and <i>Trading Places</i>) that made him a household name again and earned him lasting acclaim.

165	Baldacci, David: A #1 <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author known for his legal thrillers and suspense novels, he has written over 50 novels. He is a former trial and corporate lawyer, and a philanthropist. He has written several iconic series featuring beloved characters, including the Amos Decker (<i>Memory Man</i>) series, the Camel Club series, and the Will Robie thrillers. Early in his career, he was forced to write under the name "David Ford," as publishers feared that an Italian-American author might not appeal to the public.
166	DiSpirito, Rocco: He is a New York City Chef, television personality, and highly acclaimed author of fourteen cookbooks. including three <i>New York Times</i> bestsellers. He received the James Beard Award for his first cookbook, <i>Flavor</i> .
167	Hogan, Hulk: (Terry Gene Bollea) A professional wrestler and media personality, he is regarded as possibly one of the greatest and most recognizable wrestlers of all time.
168	Ignarro, Louis J: He was a recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1998 for discoveries concerning nitric oxide as a signaling molecule in the cardiovascular system. The discovery has made possible new medications, such as those used to treat heart and cardiovascular diseases.
169	Bartoli, Gino: An Italian road cyclist, two-time winner of the Tour de France and three-time Giro d'Italia champion and a devout Catholic, he secretly aided a network rescuing Italian Jews during WWII, smuggling forged documents hidden in his bicycle and sheltering families. Through his efforts hundreds of lives were saved.
170	Barrucci, Nick: founder and current CEO of Dynamite Entertainment, a successful multi-million dollar company that is the only independently owned major comic book company.
171	Zappacosta, Pierluigi: businessman and electrical engineer, co-founder of Logitech, manufacturers of high quality computer peripherals.
172	Zappacosta, Marco: founder of Thumbtack, an online marketplace that connects homeowners with local service professionals for projects of home improvements, repairs, cleaning and landscaping.
173	Gruppuso, Vincent: founder of Kozy Shack Enterprises.
174	DiCicco, Dante: executive and head of international expansion for Snapchat.
175	Moriondo, Angelo: credited with inventing the first known espresso machine in 1884.
176	DeJoria, John Paul: co-founder of the Paul Mitchell line of hair products and The Patrón Spirits Company.
177	Palmisano, Samuel: The former president and CEO of IBM, he is the chairman of the Center for Global Enterprise, a private non-profit, non-partisan research center.
178	D'Agostino, Nicholas, Sr.: co-founder of D'Agostino Supermarkets.
179	Turf, Barbara: (Barbara Dorini) She served as CEO of Crate & Barrel.
180	Conway, Kellyanne: (nee Fitzpatrick) (Mother was Diane DiNatale Fitzpatrick) She was the first woman to run a successful U.S. presidential campaign (Trump 2016).
181	di Cesnola, Luigi Palma: (Civil War) Col. 4 th New York Cavalry - First Italian American to win the Medal of Honor for heroism at the Battle of Aldie. He became the director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC.
182	Basilone, John: (World War II) Sgt. US Marines - Medal of Honor recipient for heroism at Guadalcanal. He died at Iwo Jima.
183	Valenti, Michael: (World War I) Private 107 th US Infantry, 27 th Division - Medal of Honor recipient for breaking the Hindenburg Line.

184	Capodanno, Vincent R: (Vietnam) Navy Chaplain - A Medal of Honor recipient known as the "The Grunt Padre," he was killed in action while aiding Marines.
185	Casamento, Anthony: (World War II) Corporal U.S. Marine Corps - Medal of Honor recipient for his heroism at Guadalcanal.
186	Andretti, Mario: He was a legendary race car driver, known for his versatility. Only driver to win the Formula One World Championship, the Indianapolis 500 and the Daytona 500.
187	Puzo, Mario Francis: an American author and screenwriter. He wrote crime novels about the Italian-American Mafia and Sicilian Mafia, most notably <i>The Godfather</i> , which he later co-adapted into a film trilogy directed by Francis Ford Coppola.
188	Lanza, Mario: (Alfredo Arnold Cocozza) A tenor and actor, he pioneered the crossover between opera and popular music, breaking box office records. His defining role came in <i>The Great Caruso</i> . The sound track was the first operatic LP to sell over a million copies.
189	Berra, (Yogi) Lawrence Peter: Member of Baseball's Hall of Fame. Spent 19 years as a catcher, manager and coach, mostly with the NY Yankees (Mets and Astros). Holds World Series records for most championships, most games played, most at-bats, most series hits, and most games caught. He caught Don Larson's perfect game, the only perfect game in World Series history. He is remembered for his quirky and paradoxical remarks (Yogiisms) such as: "it ain't over 'til it's over."
190	Retton, Mary Lou: A gymnast and Olympic Gold Medalist in the individual all around competition. She scored a perfect 10 on the floor exercise and the vault. Named <i>Sports Illustrated's</i> Sportsperson of the Year, America's Sweetheart was the first woman to be depicted on a Wheaties box.
191	Delacorte George T, Jr.: founder of Dell Publishing, a major force in publishing pulp magazine, comic books and paperbacks. His most successful innovation was the puzzle magazine.
192	Franchetti, Lisa: Admiral. US Navy, served as the 33rd Chief of Naval Operations and is the first woman to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
193	Pace, Peter: General, US Marine Corps. He served as the 16th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
194	DeMille, Nelson: He was a <i>NY Times</i> Best Seller author of action adventure and suspense novels. DeMille authored more than thirty novels and numerous short stories. Notable best sellers include <i>Plum Island</i> , <i>The Gold Coast</i> , and <i>The Charm School</i> . <i>The General's Daughter</i> achieved acclaim when it was adapted into a successful film starring John Travolta. DeMille also wrote under the pen names Jack Cannon, Kurt Ladner, Ellen Kay, and Brad Matthews.
195	Ruggeri, Cosimo: A Florentine alchemist, he participated in a competition sponsored by the DeMedici's and won, creating one of the earliest gelati (fiore di latte).
196	Buontalenti, Bernardo: He was famous latter 16th century painter, architect, and engineer, and an amateur cook. He created a frozen custard using milk, eggs, honey and wine - Modern Gelato.
197	Cutò, Francesco Procopio: (Francesco Procopio Dei Coltelli) A Sicilian fisherman brought his grandfather's gelato-churning machine to Paris and opened Café Procope, the first to serve gelato to the general public.
198	Carpigiani, Bruto: In 1946, he began selling gelato-making equipment in Bologna and created Motogelatiero, the first automated gelato making machine. Carpigiani is the global leader in commercial gelato and soft serve equipment.

199	Coppola, Francis Ford: American director, producer, writer and technological innovator. His cinema masterpieces include <i>The Godfather</i> and <i>The Apocalypse Now</i> . He has won five Academy Awards and numerous other awards.
200	Cage, Nicholas: (Nicholas Kim Coppola, he is Francis's nephew) An Award winning actor, producer and director, he is known for his eccentric personality and unique storytelling. His works span multiple genres and include <i>Raising Arizona</i> and <i>Moonstruck</i> .
201	Shire, Talia: a member of the Coppola family (Francis' sister), she is best known for her roles as Connie Corleone in the Godfather Trilogy and Adrian Pennino Balboa in the Rocky Series.
202	Coppola, Sophia: (Francis' daughter) An acclaimed director and screen writer known for <i>Lost in Translation</i> and <i>The Virgin Suicides</i> .
203	Coppola, Eleanor: (Francis' wife) noted documentary filmmaker and artist.
204	Fauci, Anthony, MD: A renowned immunologist who served as the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious diseases. He advised seven U.S. presidents on numerous health crises including AIDS and COVID.
205	Spera, Arthur: President, Grand Lodge of NY, OSDIA and President, NYS Grand Lodge Foundation. The NY Grand Lodge is dedicated to promoting and preserving the Italian culture, traditions, language and the legacy of its ancestors. Through its Foundation, it presents over \$100,000 in scholarships each year to exceptional students throughout the state and donates additional tens of thousands to its charities, including Cooley's Anemia. The NY Commission for Social Justice fights bias and builds pride.
206	Michelassi, Fabrizio, MD: A world-renowned gastrointestinal surgeon and chairman of the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College. He is recognized globally for his leadership and surgical advancements in treating pancreatic cancer and inflammatory bowel disease.
207	Versaci, Armand D, MD: The first Italian American to receive a degree from Harvard Medical School. Chief of Plastic Surgery in New England, he established the region's first plastic surgery residence program at Brown University.
208	Johnson, James Michael: "Mike" He was the 56th Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and the 3rd of Italian Heritage. His maternal grandfather was Sicilian immigrant Nunzio Messina.
209	Sobrero, Ascanio: Italian chemist who created nitroglycerin, which has been used as the active ingredient in the manufacture of explosives, namely dynamite, and is used in the construction, demolition and mining industries.
210	Cianciol, James (Vincenzo): Chef at Brown Derby Restaurant, Rochester, NY, he created the dish "Chicken Francese".
211	Tesoro, Giuliana Cavaglieri: A chemist. She holds over 120 Patents, making advances in textile processing, including improving permanent press properties and developing flame-resistant fibers.
212	DiNapoli, Thomas: At 18, Tom became the youngest person in New York State history elected to public office when he won a seat on the Mineola Board of Education, serving in that position for ten years. He is the 54th and current New York State Comptroller, and is the second longest-serving comptroller in NY history.
213	Romano, Nazzareno: inventor of the Stromboli sandwich in 1944.
214	Olivetti, Camillo: Camillo Olivetti's typewriter history is a story of Italian engineering, industrial design, and a pioneering approach to business that blended product excellence with social responsibility, leaving a lasting mark on both technology and design history.

215	Olivetti, Amodeo: Under Camillo's son, the company ventured into electronic calculators, computers, and office machines, including the Divisumma calculator and the Programma 101 personal computer. Olivetti's holistic approach to design, social responsibility, and innovation left a lasting impact on technology, corporate culture, and industrial design.
216	Bramani, Vitale: Founded the company Vibram. Invented the first rubber lug soles for shoes to provide super traction.
217	Fliri, Robert: invented Vibram Five-Fingers shoes , a distinctive glove-like shoes with individual toe compartments.
218	Mottola, Anthony (Tony): jazz guitarist and prolific session musician. He was a first-call studio guitarist for major artists, including Frank Sinatra. He was a key fixture on early live television, working regularly on The Tonight Show (as part of the orchestra), Melody Street, and shows hosted by Perry Como and Sid Caesar.
219	Torricelli, Evangelista: Invented the mercury barometer. His experiments demonstrated that air has weight and that atmospheric pressure decreases with altitude.
220	Ravizza, Giuseppe: An Italian inventor credited with creating an early variation of the typewriter, which he called the "Cembalo scrivano" or writing harpsichord.
221	Cei-Rigotti, Amerigo: invented the Cei-Rigotti automatic rifle, the first fully automatic rifle ever created.
222	Perotto, Pier Giorgio: He was an Italian inventor and electrical engineer. While working for the Italian company Olivetti, he led the design team that developed the Programma 101, one of the first programmable calculators in the world.
223	Fischer, Arpad and Giorgio: The father and son team of doctors is credited the the invention of Modern liposuction.
224	Faggin, Federico: An Italian American engineer and entrepreneur, he led the design and development of the Intel 4004 Microprocessor, the world's first commercial microchip that laid the foundation for the modern computing era. The 4004 was the first time a central processing unit (CPU) was put on a single chip. Later, Faggin founded Synaptics, a company that pioneered the development of the touchpad.
225	Brumidi, Constantino: He was born in Italy to an Italian mother and a Greek father, and is best known and honored for his fresco work, <i>Apotheosis of Washington</i> , in the Dome of the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.
226	Iacocca, Lee: He was a legendary automotive executive and author best known for spearheading the Ford Mustang in the 1960s and successfully rescuing the Chrysler Corporation from near-bankruptcy in the 1980s. He spearheaded the historic 1980s restoration of Ellis Island at the request of President Reagan.
227	Smith, Alfred E.: Al Smith was a U.S. politician, four-time Democratic governor of New York and the first Roman Catholic to run for the U.S. presidency. Each year the bipartisan Alfred E. Smith Memorial Dinner is hosted by the Archbishop of NY to benefit children in need. Al Smith's Paternal Grandfather was an Italian immigrant, Alfredo Emanuel Ferraro. Ferraro loosely translates to "Blacksmith".
228	Cuomo, Mario: He was the 52nd and first Italian-American Governor of New York, serving for three terms from 1983 to 1995. He was highly regarded for his eloquent oratory and progressive policies. The Governor Mario M Cuomo Bridge, a twin cable-stayed bridge spanning the Hudson River about 20 miles north of NYC, is named in his honor.

229	Lucchese, Salvatore: Sam and his brothers founded a small boot making shop in San Antonio, serving U.S. Cavalry officers at Fort Sam Houston. The Lucchese Boot Company grew into a legendary, worldwide luxury brand of boots worn by celebrities and presidents.
230	Pastore, John Orlando: He was the first Italian-American elected to the United States Senate, serving as a Senator from Rhode Island from Dec. 1950, to Dec. 1976. Pastore was the first Italian-American to serve as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, serving as the chief spokesperson for the Democratic Party in the Senate.
231	Tucci, Stanley: He is an acclaimed actor, director, and writer celebrated for his incredible versatility, who is best known for his scene-stealing supporting roles in major blockbusters, such as Nigel Kipling in <i>The Devil Wears Prada</i> . He has a deep connection to his Italian heritage and this has heavily influenced him. Tucci won Emmy Awards for his hit CNN travel and food documentary series <i>Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy</i> , and he continued the cultural exploration in his National Geographic series <i>Tucci in Italy</i> .
232	LaGuardia, Fiorello Henry: (Fiorello Raffaele Enrico La Guardia) was the first Italian-American to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing NY from 1917 to 1919.
233	Cannata, Richie: Original Saxophonist for Billy Joel, music producer, saxophonist, keyboardist, and studio owner. Cove City Sound Studios in Glen Cove, NY features world class recording spaces and has attracted top-tier artists from multiple genres.
234	Pastrone, Giovanni: (Piero Fosco) He was an Italian film pioneer whose work in the early 20th century introduced several groundbreaking techniques in silent cinema. In 1912, while producing <i>Cabiria</i> for Itala Film, Pastrone invented and patented the "carrello," a wheeled, mobile camera stand that could move along a track, allowing the camera to glide smoothly forward, backward, or sideways, following the action on screen. The dolly shot, where the entire camera physically moves through space, is the direct result of this invention.
235	Boitano, Brian: 1988 Olympic Champion and two-time World Champion ice skater.
236	Caruso, Enrico: Operatic tenor, renowned for his powerful, emotionally expressive voice, he became the defining star of the Metropolitan Opera in NY.
237	Caruso, Henry: founded Dollar Rent-A-Car in Los Angeles starting with 18 Volkswagen Beetles and expanding it to a global franchise.
238	Pavarotti, Luciano: He was an opera tenor, renowned for the purest tone and incredible range of his voice. He brought opera to the masses through the Three Tenors.
239	DeNovo, Philip: Founder of the American Italian Museum in Albany, NY
240	Scelsa, Joseph: Founder of the Italian American Museum in the heart of Manhattan's Little Italy.
241	Trigiani, Andriana: is a best selling author, playwright, television writer/producer, film director/screenwriter/producer and entrepreneur.
242	Falletta, JoAnn: A Grammy Award-winning orchestra conductor. She is widely recognized as the first woman to be appointed as the music director of a major American orchestra (the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra) and is a champion of contemporary American and female composers.
243	Marshall, Penny: She is best known for starring as Laverne DeFazio in the hit sitcom <i>Laverne & Shirley</i> and for her groundbreaking work as a Hollywood film director. She was the first woman to direct a movie that grossed over \$100 million at the U.S. box office. Her works as a director include: <i>Big</i> , <i>A League of Their Own</i> , and <i>Awakenings</i> which earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Picture.

244	Campanella, Roy: A legendary Baseball Hall of Fame catcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers, he was a pioneer in integrating baseball. He was a three time National League MVP and a World Series Champion. Before joining the Dodgers, he spent nine years as a standout catcher in the Negro Leagues. Born to an African-American mother and an Italian-American father, he became the first mixed-race player to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.
245	Martin, Billy: (Alfred Manuel Martin Jr.) Raised by his Italian mother and grandmother, he was known for his fierce, fiery, and highly successful tenure as the manager of the New York Yankees. He led the Yankees to consecutive American League pennants and a World Series Championship. With his aggressive "Billyball" strategy, he was able to turn struggling franchises into contenders, "The Turnaround Artist" captured division titles with the Twins, Tigers, and Athletics in addition to his success with the Yankees.
246	Bancroft, Ann: (Anna Maria Louisa Italiano) She was an actress widely celebrated for her deeply moving performance as Helen Keller's dedicated teacher, Annie Sullivan, in <i>The Miracle Worker</i> , and her iconic portrayal of the seductive, manipulative Mrs. Robinson in <i>The Graduate</i> . Respected for her acting prowess and versatility, she is one of 24 actors to achieve the Triple Crown of Acting: The Oscar, The Emmy, and The Tony.
247	Imperatore, Arthur Edward: A businessman from NJ, he was the founder and president of the NY Waterway, a ferry service, carrying commuters daily across the Hudson between Manhattan and Weehawken, New Jersey.
248	Prada, Miuccia: She transformed her grandfather's small leather goods business into a multi-billion dollar, globally influential fashion empire. She is recognized for her "cerebral chic" aesthetic, pioneering the use of unconventional materials like industrial nylon, and founding the highly popular sister label Miu Miu.
249	Montessori, Maria: An Italian physician and educator, she is renowned for creating the Montessori Method, a child-centered educational approach. There are approximately 5000 Montessori schools nationwide.
250	Rita Levi-Montalcini: She is best known for co-discovering the Nerve Growth Factor (NGF), a groundbreaking achievement in neurobiology that earned her the 1986 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Her findings are now essential to understanding and treating neurodegenerative diseases.



ORDER
Sons and
Daughters
of Italy
IN AMERICA

Special State Historian Project

submitted by Carolyn Reres

	Years	President	Spouse
		Grand Venerable	
1	1911	Anthony J. Gulotta	Vincenza Gulotta
2	1911-1913	Crescenzo Pitocchi	Almerinda Pitocchi
3	1913-1917	Stefano Miele	Rosalie Miele
4	1917-1921	Corrado Stornello	Maria Stornello
5	1921-1925	Salvatore Cotillo	Ida Cotillo
6	1925-1933	John J. Freschi	Mary Freschi
7	1933-1935	Stefano Miele	Rosalie Miele
8	1935-1941	Frank Catinella	Mary Catinella
9	1941-1943	Andrew J. Malatesta	Grace Malatesta
10	1943-1951	Francis X. Giaccone	Laura Giaccone
11	1951-1955	Ubaldo N. Marino	Marguerite Marino
12	1955-1957	Amodeo H. Volpe	Josephine Volpe
13	1957-1961	Carmine A. Ventiera	Angela Ventiera
14	1961-1965	Peter A. Brevett	Elizabeth Brevett
15	1965-1967	Salvatore Migliaccio	Muriel Migliaccio
16	1967-1969	George Montopoli	Louise Montopoli
17	1969-1973	P. Vincent Landi	Jane H. Landi
18	1973-1975	Joseph G. Bologna	Margaret Bologna
19	1975-1977	Joseph E. Fay	Evelyn Fay
20	1977-1981	Peter R. Zuzolo	Edith Zuzolo
		State President	
21	1981-1985	Joseph A. Montemarano *	Rosemarie Montemarano
22	1985-1989	Nicholas Viglietta	-
23	1989-1993	Joseph Parillo, Jr.	Christine Parillo
24	1993-1997	Joseph Sciamè	-
25	1997-2001	Joseph Cangemi	Michelina Cangemi
26	2001-2005	Joseph J. DiTrapani	Carol DiTrapani
27	2005-2007	Carlo Matteucci	Madeline Matteucci
28	2007-2009	Nancy DiFiore Quinn	John Quinn
29	2009-2011	Salvatore A. Lanzilotta	Rachele Lanzilotta
30	2011-2013	Thomas A. Lupo	Barbara Lupo
31	2013-2015	Joseph F. Rondinelli	Joan Rodinelli
32	2015-2017	Carolyn Reres	-
33	2017-2019	Robert M. Ferrito	Lina Ferrito
34	2019-2021	Anthony Naccarato	Mary Naccarato
35	2021-2023	Michele Cangiano Ment	Eric Ment
36	2023-2025	Biagio J. Isgro, Jr.	Marisol Isgro
37	2025-2027	Arthur Spera	Joanne Spera
		* First Term - Grand Venerble	Second Term - State President

