

Taste of Italy



Little Italy Lodge Foundation

Annual Scholarship
Fundraising Dinner

Sunday, April 26, 2026
1-5 pm

905 E. Pratt Street
Little Italy / Baltimore, Maryland

littleitalyfoundation.org

littleitalyfoundation@gmail.com

Music by the Italian Show Band,
Ray Massa's EuroRhythms



*Honoring education in the
Italian American community*





The Foundation at a glance

\$438,000

awarded since 1999

111
scholarships

92
students

Through the generosity of Little Italy Lodge members and other donors, the Foundation has awarded to date over **\$438,000** to **92** Lodge members and their descendants. The Foundation is financed through the proceeds raised from today's annual *Taste of Italy* dinner and special contributions received throughout the year. Our supporters believe in our hearty mission of awarding scholarships to further education for Italian Americans in the Baltimore community.

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Rosalie Ranieri

Dr. Andrew Ross

Dr. Carmella Walsh

Message from Vince Piscopo

Chairman, Little Italy Lodge Foundation



A sincere welcome and thank you for joining us at our annual *Taste of Italy* dinner! Our committee has worked very hard once again to plan and implement a wonderful afternoon of dining and entertainment.

The goal of today's fundraiser is to demonstrate to you – our guests – sincere appreciation for your support. *Taste of Italy* is our primary fundraiser for scholarship funding. The Foundation's mission is to award educational scholarships to eligible Little Italy Lodge members and descendants. For the **2025-2026** school year, we awarded **\$60,000** to the top nine applicants. In addition, the Foundation awarded **\$1,000** to each of the remaining excellent applicants who submitted the required documentation for the evaluation process.

The Foundation plans to match these award amounts for the **2026-2027** academic year – and that effort will include a new program of financial assistance for applicants electing to attend trade schools, apprenticeship programs, or a community college-based technical school program.

We are honored to host **Nino Mangione**, Maryland State Delegate, as emcee for today's program. The Little Italy Lodge Foundation is especially excited to honor and recognize **Bonnie & Tony Montcalmo** for their decades of tireless service to Baltimore's Italian American community.

Chef Mark Orendorff and his kitchen volunteers again receive a standing ovation of appreciation for their skill and efforts in providing a remarkable menu. And a major **THANKS** is extended to the co-chairs, **Maureen Chandler** and **Nancy Barbieri Wolfe**. In addition, let's applaud our slew of dinner volunteers to whom we feel grateful for their enthusiastic planning and excellent service at today's event.

On behalf of the Foundation members, I extend a noteworthy **THANKS** to the major scholarship contributors and all guests with us today. **Enjoy!**



years of La Famiglia Scholarship

The Little Italy Lodge *La Famiglia Scholarship* - in its 26th year - was established in 1999 to assist deserving Lodge members and descendants in good standing as they pursue college/university undergraduate degrees. By providing assistance to students, we can help to advance them as they demonstrate the value, contributions, and advancements our Italian legacy has displayed throughout history. **For the 2025-2026 school year, The Foundation has granted scholarship awards totaling \$68,000 presented to these 15 outstanding young people.** We feel extremely proud as we offer our congratulations, as do our many individual supporters who help make the *La Famiglia* program so successful. **Saluti** to all awardees, applicants, and donors!

Haylee Kurek
(Angie Kurek)

Sophia Montcalmo
(Tony & Bonnie Montcalmo)

Maria Kazlauski
(Robert Kazlauski)

Lydia (Logan) Montcalmo
(Tony & Bonnie Montcalmo)

Madalyn Caiazzo
(Guy & Carol Caiazzo)

Claire Peiffer
(Mary Ann Pollina Knab)

Irene Zielinski
(Clara Zielinski)

Jacob Bland
(Frank Cippolini)



2025-2026 Winners!
(sponsors in parenthesis)

**\$68,000 presented
to 15 students**

Anthony Applauso
(Nicolino Applauso)

Spencer LeBar
(Dr. Andy Ross)

Olivia Heredia
(Eugene Kidwell)

Lily Blatterman
(Fran Blatterman)

Jack Greaver
(Tony Greaver)

Maggie Doughty
(Michael Doughty)

Ethan Zielinski
(Clara Zielinski)

2025-26 essay prompt: *Many Italian American families can trace their roots back to a specific region in Italy. Investigate your family's region of origin, noting any special customs, dialects, dishes, or festivals unique to that area. Compare how those traditions are practiced (or remembered) in your household today. Discuss which elements you'd like to preserve, adapt, or leave behind as you grow into adulthood.*



**We applaud
Sponsors, Donors, & Friends
of the Foundation**

Legacy Sponsors

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Dr. Thomas M. Scalea & Family

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Tony & Bonnie Montcalmo
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Rev. Oreste Pandola Learning Center
Christopher & Rebecca Pisano
Society of Italian American Businessmen (SIAB)
Gina Skinner





We acknowledge our Committees ~ Donors ~ Volunteers Bravissimi!

Taste of Italy Committee

Maureen Chandler, Chair
Nancy Barbieri Wolfe, Co-Chair

In the Kitchen

Chef Mark Orendorff
Michael Doughty
Bill Hughes
John Rusinko

Food Donors

Chiapparelli's Italian Restaurant
DiPasquale's Espresso, Coffee, Tea
DiPasquale's Italian Market
Ovenbird Bakery
Roma Sausage
Vaccaro's Italian Pastry Shop

Event Volunteers

Ray Alt
Kathy Belt
Rose Camobreco
Henry Crusse
Armand Esposito
Gabby Gustafson
Lucy Gustafson
Drena Izzì
Marc Izzì

Celeste Hughes
Mary Ann Barbieri Owens
Katie Kelel
Kristen Piscopo
Morgan Somerville
Bernadette Smith
Daisy Sudano
Sharon Tamassia
Lucien "Evan" Votta

Basket Raffle Donors

Benny's Restaurant, Little Italy
Guy & Carol Caiazzo
Nicole Cernigliaro
Garry & Maureen Chandler
Tim Elliott
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Nancy Minghetti
Betsy & Gary Molino
Bonnie & Tony Montcalmo
Marie Noplock
Richard Panella
Rebecca & Christopher Pisano
Julie & Vince Piscopo
Rosalie Ranieri, Pandola Learning Center
Chuck & Carmella Walsh

Program booklet design

Suzanna Rosa Molino
Director, Promotion Center for Little Italy, Baltimore



Honoring Tony & Bonnie Montcalmo

In addition to honoring our student scholars today, the Foundation honors Anthony (Tony) and Bonnie Montcalmo, on behalf of the Foundation, the Little Italy Lodge and the Italian-American community!



Though neither was born or raised in Baltimore, Tony and Bonnie have adopted - and been adopted by - our Italian community. Tony, who grew up in Wilmington, Delaware, says, "Stories of growing up in Baltimore's Little Italy are similar to stories of growing up in Wilmington's Little Italy, only the nicknames are different!"

Bonnie, born in Denver, Colorado, lived wherever her father's military career took the family, domestically and internationally, including four years in Taiwan and Thailand. She completed her business education in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Bonnie and Tony met when he was assigned to Aberdeen Proving Ground during his three years of United States Army service after graduating from college; Bonnie was employed there as a senior civilian employee. They worked together for two years and began to date after Tony invited Bonnie to a farewell party before he left to attend graduate school. She accepted and they were married within the year - in 1970.

The Montcalmos settled in Baltimore with their two sons, Christopher and Joseph. In 2000, while attending a Saint Leo Church ravioli dinner, they were seated with Joe and Ann D'Adamo, legendary Little Italy Lodge figures. By dinner's end, the D'Adamos offered to sponsor Bonnie and Tony in the Lodge. They accepted and quickly became immersed in Lodge life.

In 2005, Tony, then Director of International Human Resource Programs at McCormick & Company, took an early retirement (after 28 years of employment) to accept a teaching position in Towson University's Graduate Program (and later taught International Business at Stevenson University). Bonnie was working at a prominent Baltimore gift shop, featured as "Miss Bonnie - the Story Lady." With their family and careers established, they increased their Lodge involvement.

In 2011, Tony was voted Lodge President, with Bonnie as his "First Lady." During his term, membership increased by 50%, the 44-foot ship, *LIL Santa Maria*, was "launched," relationships were strengthened with other Italian-focused organizations, Italian student groups were hosted, and his term ended with a financial surplus.

(Montcalmos continued)

Bonnie worked with the Lodge's Ways & Means Committee on wine tastings, monthly Bingos, annual Sock Hops, and other events. In 2012, she assumed the role of Lodge "Sunshine Girl," through which she reaches out to members to provide comfort and support when needed, share information, and request prayers.

In 2016, as Chair of the Lodge's Scholarship Committee (which he had joined in 2006), Tony initiated a review of the Committee in its changing environment. The Committee's primary fundraiser, the *Taste of Italy* dinner, was restructured and a three-fold increase in the funds raised was realized. The Committee structure itself was reviewed, resulting in the establishment of today's independent (though still Lodge-affiliated) Foundation. Tony continues with the Foundation as it has further increased fundraising results and scholarships granted under recent chairs, Paul Rao and Vince Piscopo.

Tony also serves as Secretary to the Board of the Italian American Civic Club and as a Trustee and Past Grand Knight of the St. Vincent Pallotti Council based at St. Leo. Since 2021, he has organized the *Marcia delle Bandieri* and opening ceremonies for the Italian Heritage Festival.

Bonnie continues as Sunshine Girl, lodge volunteer, and since 2021, as a Lodge Trustee. Individually and jointly, the Montcalmos are active with the Asian Arts Culture Center at Towson University; English Internship Program at University of Delaware; Mensa Scholarship Foundation; Appian Society, and - always and especially - with their family and five grandchildren.



Tanti Auguri!

LIL Foundation
is grateful to
American Citizens for Italian Matters / ACIM
Legacy Sponsor



Denise Giacomelli Loehr
President

Nancy Barbieri Wolfe
First Vice President

Shannan Sortino
Second Vice President

Francesca Mastanduno Ehmman
Corresponding Secretary

Maryann Albaugh
Recording Secretary

Linda Licata
Treasurer

Established in 1966, ACIM is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization consisting of an active group of dynamic and energetic ladies - an Italian sisterhood - woven together by a mutual love for humanity. Their mission includes a commitment to develop the educational potential of Italian women through scholarships, volunteerism, and community initiatives, demonstrating ACIM's passion as a generous top level donor to the Foundation.



Save the date
ACIM 60th Anniversary Gala
Una Serata di Eleganza
An Evening of Elegance
Saturday, November 7, 2026
7-11 pm
Black Tie • Plated Dinner
Martin's Valley Mansion
Cockeysville, Maryland

Taste of Italy Committee
is grateful to

Dr. Thomas M. Scalea
Legacy Sponsor

Named after the Scalea Family, this scholarship was initiated by Anne Scalea's son, Dr. Thomas M. Scalea, who wished to honor his mother's guidance and inspiration. As a single parent and an elementary school teacher, Mrs. Scalea instilled in her five children a spirit of service and a passion for learning.

The hallmark of the Scalea children's upbringing was centered on doing for others. At all levels, she taught them the value of education and striving to do the best they could (regardless of how good that was) as long as they gave it their all. Because of her support, Dr. Scalea chose a career in medicine.

Today he is Physician in Chief at the Shock Trauma Center at the world renowned University of Maryland Medical Center. Dr. Scalea has gifted our scholarship program with a kind and generous donation over two years which benefits the Foundation's mission and today's event.



The Scalea Family

John, Carol, Rob, Anne, Tom, Donald

*Taste of Italy Committee
is grateful to
Lawrence Julio & Carl T. Julio
Legacy Sponsor*

A special **THANK YOU** from the Little Italy Lodge and the Lodge Scholarship Foundation to our dear friends, Carl Julio and his son, Lawrence Julio, for their generous support of Baltimore's Italian American community. Their significant financial contributions over many years for the scholarship program are greatly appreciated.





Il Cibo *... the food*

by Chef
Mark Orendorff

A full-course homemade Italian meal

Antipasti (before pasta)

- Individual charcuterie boards with assortment of Italian cheeses, cured meats, olives, jam & honey
- Focaccia bread by Ovenbird Bakery
- Sausage & peppers by Roma Sausage
- Chiapparelli's famous *insalata* (salad)

Primo piatto (first course)

Frutti di Mare da Amedeo
Signature seafood soup

Secondo piatto (second course)

Short ribs over risotto and sauteed greens

Dolce (dessert)

Vaccaro's Cannoli Cake





Wine Pairings

abbinamenti di vini

Selections by
Filippo Lapedes, Sommelier
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Enovation Brands

Amore di Amanti Prosecco

served upon arrival

Region: Veneto. Varietal: 100% glera grape

Ca' Montini Terre di Valfredda Pinot Grigio

Region: Trentino. Single Vineyard. Varietal: 100% pinot gris grape

and

Emporium Appassimento

served with charcuterie, soup, salad, sausage & peppers

Region: Puglia. Varietal: 50% primitivo, 50% negroamaro grapes

Poggio del Concone Super Tuscan Rosso Toscano

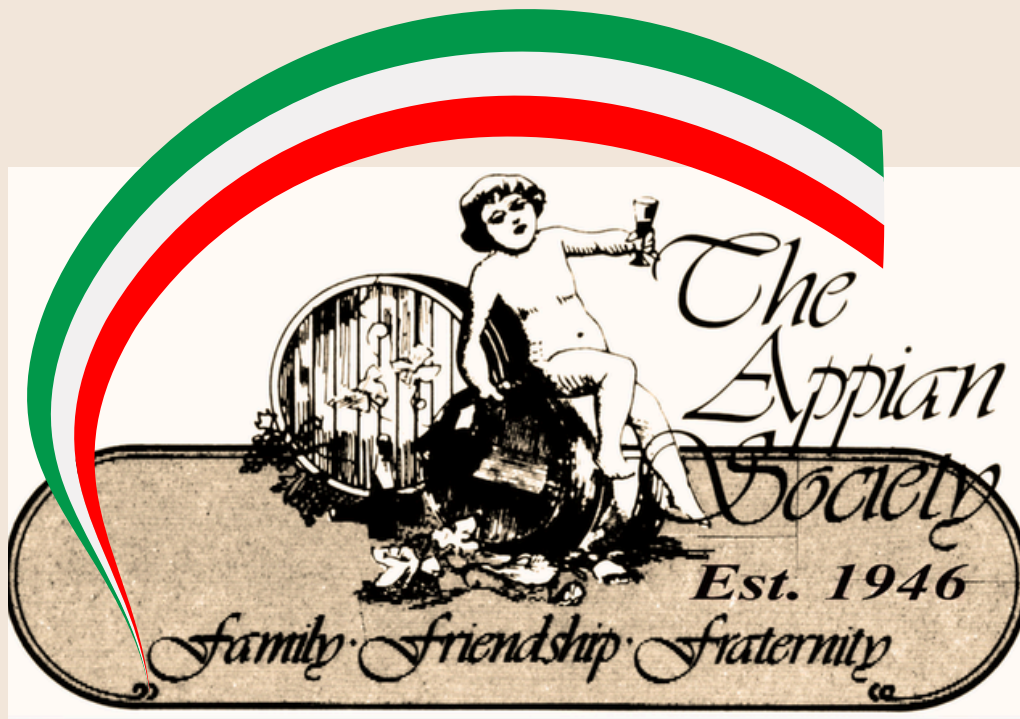
served with short rib

Region: Toscana. Varietal: 75% sangiovese,
15% cabernet, 10% merlot grapes

Gemma di Luna Moscato

served with dessert

Region: Piemonte. Varietal: 100% muscat grape



The Appian Society

congratulates Little Italy Lodge Foundation

Much success with Taste of Italy!

We are proud to join the Foundation in its recognition of our Appian Brother, TONY MONTCALMO, and his wife BONNIE.



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**The Chandler Family
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Tony and Bonnie Montcalmo**



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Alex Tarasco/Chair; Mike Gallerizzo/Vice-chair; Bill Martin

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Thank you, Taste of Italy
Volunteers & Committee, and
CONGRATULATIONS
to Bonnie & Tony Montcalmo!



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The Iacoboni Family



The Iacobonis wish to congratulate **Tony & Bonnie Montcalmo** on receiving their well-deserved award. They work tirelessly for our community and are great friends. We wish the **Little Italy Lodge** all the best for a successful fundraiser as they raise money for charity and scholarships. Thank you as well to the **volunteers**.



Thomas J. Iacoboni

President

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Congratulazioni studenti!

***Auguri to honorees,
Bonnie & Tony Montcalmo
and***

***Saluti a tutti attending the
Taste of Italy dinner!***



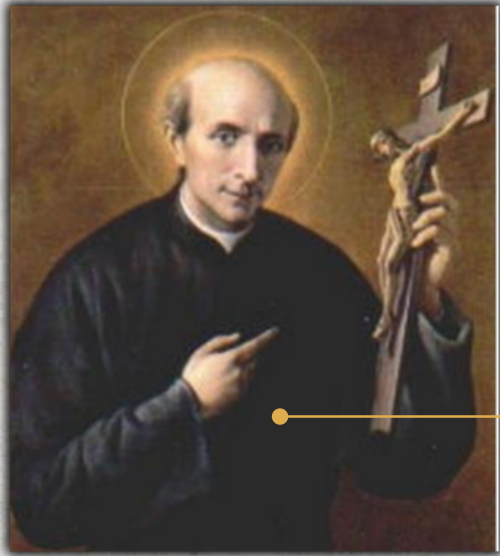
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Faithful Navigator**

Based at St. Leo the Great Church, the SVP Council and SJ Assembly support the Little Italy Lodge Foundation. We are pleased to join them in recognizing TONY MONTCALMO, Past Grand Knight, and his wife, BONNIE MONTCALMO, for their community efforts.



The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest and most dynamic Catholic fraternal organization. Its membership is open to male Catholics age 18-older. For more information, contact Fran Blattermann, 410-207-7075.

Deneice & Tony Fusco

commend Little Italy Lodge Foundation scholarship recipients past, present and future, whose hard work and dedication have resulted in earning scholarship awards.

As well, we proudly join in recognizing today's honorees,

Bonnie & Tony Montcalmo

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thru
Sunday

September
25-27
2026

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sweet moments together

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Italian American Civic Club of Maryland, Inc. / IACC

celebrates Christopher Columbus,
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We also salute **Tony Montcalmo**, member of our
Board of Governors, with his wife **Bonnie Montcalmo**.

IACC's membership is open to all eligible gentlemen of Italian extraction. Meetings occur each Monday night at 1214 Saint Paul Street in Baltimore, Maryland. Doors open at 5pm with a full-course Italian dinner at 6pm. Join us any Monday evening.

Sempre avanti!

facebook.com/ItalianAmericanCivicClubofMaryland



**La Famiglia Petrucci offers
their congratulations to the
Foundation's continued success
and to La Famiglia Montcalmo,
2026 honorees.**



Little Italy Lodge 2286

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
6 PM SOCIAL HOUR, 7PM MEETING STARTS

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

FIRST AND THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
DOORS OPEN AT 5PM

905 EAST PRATT STREET
LITTLE ITALY/BALITMORE, MD



Italian American events
in Baltimore's Little Italy & beyond



Andiamo! is published by Promotion Center for Little Italy as its newer e-publication, replacing the long-running ***Neighborhood News from Little Italy.***

It promotes events in Baltimore's Little Italy and around Maryland counties, hosted by Italian American orgs. Submit event flyers to suzannamolino@promotioncenterforlittleitaly.org.

Sponsors welcome - \$60 per issue

Promotion Center for Little Italy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 2010.



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- Charity -
- Friendship -

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Little Italy / Baltimore, Maryland
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A Catholic organization open
to women ages 16 years-older
Founded 1897 in New Haven, CT

Contact Sandra Wright, Treasurer
wrightsandrar@verizon.net

Saluti to the mission of the
LIL Foundation and the
Montcalmos' dedicated
work in our community!



~ Kenny Singleton
& Suzanna Molino



CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL TOUR

June 15 - 21, 2026
San Gimignano, Italy

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\$1,000 DEPOSIT DUE MAY 1, 2026

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- 6-9 PM DJ Music with Rudy D'Antoni
- 9 PM Open-air movie, Moonstruck (weather permitting)
- Beer, vino, cannoli, meatballs, sausage & peppers, pizza, Italian subs
- Vendor

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026
11 AM - 7 PM

- \$5 donation admission (age 12-under FREE)
- First 1500 donation/admissions receive festival tote bag & bottled water
- 11 AM - 3 PM on stage - Steve Monaldi's 'Center Stage'
- 1 - 2 PM balloon artist / 2:30 - 3:30 PM stilt walker / 4:30 - 5:30 PM hula hoops
- 3 PM Kids ages 8-12 Spaghetti-eating contest! (limited space)
- 3 PM - 7 PM on stage - Mario Monaldi & Friends
- Italian food & desserts, beer & vino, kids' games & activities, raffles & game wheels Vendors open all day ... plus a Garage Sale in Church Hall
- All day indoor Pasta Dinner in School Hall

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026
11 AM - 7 PM

- \$5 donation admission (age 12-under FREE)
- First 1500 donation/admissions receive festival tote bag & bottled water
- 9:30 AM Feast of St. Anthony Mass followed by street procession
- 11 AM - 3 PM on stage - Greg Moxey 'Straight Ahead'
- 1 - 2 PM hula hoops / 2 - 3 PM balloon artist / 3 - 4 PM stilt walker
- 3 - 7 PM on stage - The Monaldis
- 3 PM Sunday - our traditional sausage-eating contest!
- Italian food & desserts, beer & vino, kids' games & activities, raffles & game wheels
- Vendors open all day ... plus a Garage Sale in Church Hall
- All day indoor Pasta Dinner in School Hall

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED • NO CARRY-IN ALCOHOL PERMITTED

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History of Scholarship Recipients

1999 to 2025

2025

Haylee Kurek
Sophia Montcalmo
Maria Kazlauski
Lydia (Logan) Montcalmo
Madalyn Caiazzo
Claire Peiffer
Irene Zielinski
Jacob Bland
Anthony Applauso
Spencer LeBar
Olivia Heredia
Lily Blatterman
Jack Greaver
Maggie Doughty
Ethan Zielinski

2024

Antonio Applauso
Madalyn Caiazzo
Benjamin Carroll
Maria Kazlauski
Sophia Montcalmo
Claire Peiffer
Irene Zielinski
Lille Zielinski

2023

Derek Caiazzo
Carolyn Davis
Brendon Elliott
Isabella Keh
Ashley Keister
Claire Peiffer
Charles Petro

2022

Brendan Elliott
Isabella Keh
Ashley Keister
Ingrid Lenzenweger
Madelin McLean
Sophia Montcalmo
Ethan Zielinsky

2021

Derek Caiazzo
Brendan Elliott
Marco Hague
Ashley R. Keister
Gabriella Lasek
Mia Lenzenweger

2020

Isabella Keh
Mia Lenzenweger
Madelin McLean
Michaela Rusinko

2019

Anthony Apicella
Isabella Barbieri
Jackson Landgraf
Maria Laske

2018

Isabella Barbieri
Jackson Landgraf
Wyatt Laudicina
Gabriella McClean

2017

Anna Cuffari
Victoria Tully

2016

Isabella Barbieri
Cullen Siepp

2015

Anna Berrettini
Nicholas Butta
Elizabeth Guidice
Brooke Lorber

2014

Nicholas Butta
Alexander Culotta
Ian Hughes
Justin Lorber

2013

Nicholas Butta
Alexander Culotta
Brooke Lorber
Anthony Meek

2012

Michael Butta
Nicholas Butta
Brianna Collachi
Drew Myers

2011

Michael Butta
Charles Corasaniti
Sal Corasaniti
Drew Myers

2010

Jillian Augustyniak
Michael Butta
Maria Ferrante
Jamie Restivo

2009

Katie Ann Augustyniak
Alexandra Elliott
Jamie Restivo

2008

Katie Ann Augustyniak
Alexandra Elliott
Maria Ferrante
Jamie Restivo

2007

Alexandra Elliott
Maria Ferrante
Sarah Kidd
C. Patrick Passaro

2006

Katie Ann Augustyniak
Maria Ferrante
C.Patrick Passaro

2005

Katie Ann Augustyniak
Maria Ferrante

2004

Jennifer DiFolco
Max Pompa

2003

Jennifer DiFolco
Bianca Posterli

2002

Katelynn Petrella
Bianca Posterli

2001

Stephanie Anderson
Michelle Stanley

2000

John J. D'Adamo
Danielle Lombardi

1999

Cathan Daughtery
Danielle Lombardi



Little Italy Lodge Foundation announces new Trade-focused Financial Aid Program

La Famiglia financial aid/degree programs for trade school, apprenticeships, community college technical

TWO 2026-2027 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Traditional Academic Scholarship Program
- **NEW!** Trade-focused Financial Aid Program

littleitalyfoundation.org/applications
littleitalyfoundation@gmail.com

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

- Student applicant must be a member of OSDIA Little Italy Lodge #2286 **OR** sponsored by a member as the spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, step-grandchild, or legal ward of a member.
- A student's sponsor must be a regular member (not social status) in good standing as of 1/1/2025.

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- Student must be a full-time college or university student (equal to/greater than 12 credits per semester or ADA-approved reduced load).
- **OR** a high school student accepted to a U.S. two- or four-year college for the 2026–2027 term.
- Applicants must write and submit an essay - see application page or the essay question below.
- Provide transcripts for the student's last three semesters. **Deadline June 10, 2026**
- FAFSA filing is optional, although strongly encouraged (FAFSA = Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRADE-FOCUSED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

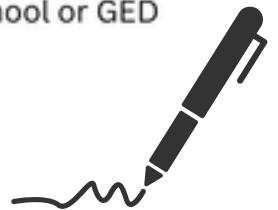
- Must be a high school senior, recent graduate, or GED recipient.
- Written statement consisting of educational and training goals; career goals; and how this program would support the student.
- Financial need considered if FAFSA + SIA submitted (SIA = Student Aid Index).
- Two recommendation letters sent directly to the Foundation: one from a high school or GED teacher; one from a non-family community member. **Deadline June 10, 2026**

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Students may apply for only **ONE** of the Foundation's two programs.
- Awards contingent on verified information from applicant and sponsor.
- Find application, details, and deadline online at littleitalyfoundation.org/application.
- Submission **deadline May 31, 2026** for both scholarship and trade applications.

ESSAY QUESTION

- *Italian heritage is more than food and festivals; it includes values such as family loyalty, hard work, faith, generosity, and pride in one's roots. Choose one or two values that resonate most strongly with you. Explain how these values have shaped your character and how you intend to embody and pass them on in your adult life.*





Little Italy Lodge 2286

ORDER
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We take pride in our scholarship program and the students it benefits.

Congratulazioni to the 2025-2026 recipients!

During our May 15, 2026 Friday Night Dinner:

- Bring this numbered program booklet for a chance to WIN 2 tickets to the 2027 *Taste of Italy* dinner!
- Receive a complimentary glass of *vino* when you show us this booklet!
- Receive a free entree when joining or renewing an expired Lodge membership. One per membership valid 5/15/26.

Grazie to our Scholarship Committee volunteers

for their dedication and effort in the management of this noteworthy program throughout the year, and in coordinating today's signature event.

And ... Congratulations to

Tony Montcalmo, Past President, and **Bonnie Montcalmo**, our "Sunshine Girl," for their longtime devotion to the LI Lodge!

Christopher Pisano
Lodge President, on behalf of
Little Italy Lodge Council & Members