

AMERICA-ITALY SOCIETY

Founded in 1956, the America-Italy Society of Philadelphia promotes a broader understanding of the Italian cultural and artistic heritage through a series of lectures, films, concerts, and language studies. It has over 750 members in the Philadelphia area who share a love for Italy by regularly participating in these programs.

As a member, you will receive our calendar of events and will have the opportunity to attend a wide range of cultural and educational activities many of which are free. Become a member today and enjoy the following benefits.

LANGUAGE CLASSES

The America-Italy Society offers a four-year Italian language program at its center city offices.

The Italian language classes, which are led by Franca Riccardi, have more than 300 students ranging in skills from neophyte to fluent and in age from child to retiree.

Conversational skills can be practiced by attending the Italian-speaking luncheon group "pranzo e chiacchiere" which meets periodically at local Italian restaurants.

Private lessons are also available.

CONCERTS

The three concerts of Italian Baroque music presented annually by the Amerita Chamber Players and sponsored by the America-Italy Society remain the Society's most popular event.

The Amerita Chamber Players, an ensemble specializing in the music of the great Italian composers of the 17th and 18th centuries, is under the direction of harpsichordist Davyd Booth and bassist-gambist Michael Shahan.

This ensemble itself consists of a string quintet and harpsichord, and is augmented with a guest instrumentalist or vocalist at each performance.

ART EXHIBITIONS

The America-Italy Society invites its members to special previews and arranges day trips to neighboring cities to visit art collections and to view special exhibits on Italian themes.

With the help of scholarly guides, these events provide members with a greater appreciation of many Italian masterpieces of painting, sculpture and drawing on display in the greater northeast.

FILMS

Each season the America-Italy Society conducts its own Italian film festival by showing movies from time to time, which are in Italian or Italian with English subtitles. This series enables members to see outstanding Italian films and documentaries and to become familiar with the work of the great Italian directors such as Moretti, Magni, Scola, DeSica and Fellini.

LECTURES

An annual lecture series is scheduled where renowned authorities talk about Italian history, politics, fine arts, literature, archeology, etc. These lectures keep the membership informed about current events and trends in Italy as well as enhancing their understanding of Italy's colorful history. These lectures are preceded by receptions, which enable members to meet the speakers.

SOCIAL EVENTS

During the year, dinners and/or parties are arranged to enhance our members gastronomic appreciation of Italian cuisine. These events provide an informal setting for members to socialize and learn more about each other's experience.

EDUCATION / SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the America-Italy Society presents cash prizes to the best Italian students at the University of Pennsylvania. These awards are named for Domenico Vittorini, a beloved professor of Italian at the University who died in 1958.

TRAVEL

The America-Italy Society conducts study tours in Italy which provide members with an opportunity to meet notable Italians and to view their private collections of art and antiques. Groups of members travel with art historians and other expert lecturers as they visit the historic villas and castles of Italy.

VISITOR SERVICES

The Society offers hospitality and arranges professional contacts for distinguished Italians visiting the Philadelphia area. In addition, the Society arranges opportunities for its members to meet many of these visitors at special receptions.

CONSERVATION OF VENETIAN ART

The America-Italy Society is a member organization of the UNESCO International Committee for the Safeguarding of Venice and participates in saving and restoring Venetian Art and monuments.

AIS began its participation following the great floods of 1966 when torrential rains caused the Arno River in Florence and the canals of Venice to overflow and since then has funded numerous restoration projects.

LIBRARY

An information center for Italian affairs is maintained at the center city office for use by members. The collection consists of books, pamphlets, and periodicals in English and Italian on all aspects of Italian art and culture.

MEMBERSHIP

The America-Italy Society is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization supported by membership dues and contributions. Membership categories offer some flexibility, but the maximum support per category is greatly appreciated.

Members in the Patron and Benefactor categories will receive invitations to a private reception or event designed exclusively for them.

Seniors / Students	\$ 50.00
Individual	\$ 65.00
Family / Dual	\$ 125.00
Contributing	\$ 150.00 - \$ 250.00
Sustaining	\$ 300.00 - \$ 450.00
Patron	\$ 500.00 - \$ 950.00
Benefactor	\$1,000.00 or more

All dues and contributions are tax deductible.

Please enroll me as a member of the America-Italy Society. I have circled the appropriate membership category and have enclosed a check made payable to the America-Italy Society of Philadelphia in the amount of \$_____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/Home: _____

Business: _____

Email: _____

The America-Italy Society of Philadelphia is registered as a charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-(800)-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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