



# THE CENTER FOR ITALIAN STUDIES

A Letter From The Director:

August, 2019

Dear Friends,

We had an extraordinary spring semester full of very exciting and relevant events. We are now planning a series of events that will make the coming year equally exciting and special.

As we have been doing for many years, we plan events that meet both the expectations of the mission of a research university and the cultural interests of the community; indeed, the Center's mission, from its outset, is to build a cultural bridge with the community through events that present the rich Italian cultural heritage and reveal the impact of Italian Americans on the historical evolution of our country. Those of you who have been coming to our events are aware of our efforts to present programs which are richly diverse: exhibits, book presentations on a variety of topics, lectures, conferences, documentaries and films. Speakers give assessments that are informative, convincing and engaging. The audience, many people from the community, usually find the events to be a truly exciting forum in which they can both receive well researched information and can engage in discussion.

**This coming semester:** we will again have the Italian vehicle show, the annual event that attracts both the campus and community to admire the combination of Italian creativity with high technology and engineering. We will continue to focus our attention on migration, a complex global phenomenon caused by many problems and needs. Italy, while being a country hosting immigrants from many African and Asian countries is also witnessing a big emigration of its own young citizens. We are uniquely addressing this topic this year with an event where the speakers will be a group of young students from the Liceo Classico of Benevento, Italy and a group of students from Ward Melville High School and Stony Brook University. Not only will we try to understand the political and economic forces of expulsion at play but also what we are doing or not doing in facing this phenomenon, unequal in human history. We hope to discover how the young generations perceive migration and hope that you are interested in what they have to say.

Also being planned are

- ~a conference to assess the direction of the European Union after the elections of this past spring and the impact of Brexit at which scholars, journalists and parliamentarians will present their views;
- ~and a series of presentations by finalists being considered for the Alfonse D'Amato Endowed Chair in Italian and Italian American Studies.

FYI: The special issue of our journal, *FORUM ITALICUM*, was just published with the title "Diritto e letteratura a dialogo nella tradizione italiana." Although law and literature are ontologically different disciplines, the authors of the articles focused on how much they intersect and cross-fertilize each other. The volume truly presents interesting and original ideas.

We hope we have created programs that will encourage your participation in the Center's cultural enrichment activities. If there are topics, issues, personalities that you would like to suggest for programming our events, please don't hesitate to bring them to our attention. It is because of our strong ties to the community that we are able to make a difference through the relevancy of Italianità on our campus and in the tristate area.

In conclusion, I thank you all, wherever you are and however you follow us, for your ongoing interest and support. It is much appreciated.

Cordiali saluti, Mario B. Mignone

# Center for Italian Studies

## Fall 2019 Preliminary Calendar

### **September 12, Thursday, 4:00 p.m.**

Richard Nasti Lecture Series Event: Book Presentation: *Bitter Chicory to Sweet Espresso, Survival and Deliverance from WWII in the Naples, Italy Area, 1940-49* with Author/Professor Emeritus, Carmine Vittoria (Northeastern University). Abstract: As per critics, this book is one of the few that exemplifies Italian heritage and culture in World War II. Location: Center for Italian Studies, Stony Brook University's Frank Melville Memorial Library, Room E4340. Books will be available for sale and autographing by the author.

### **September 15, Sunday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

#### ***Robert D. Cess Concorso d'Eleganza XIV***

#### ***Annual Celebration of Italian Vehicle Excellence and Beauty:***

A display of "art forms on wheels" as a means of illustrating one form of Italian culture.

Display vehicles will rally at Stony Brook University campus on the lawn adjacent to the Graduate Physics Building and directly across from the Sports Complex off John S. Toll Drive.

Participation and viewing are free and open to the public.

Owners of Italian vehicles interested in participating in this display, please contact [josephine.fusco@stonybrook.edu](mailto:josephine.fusco@stonybrook.edu) or call 631-632-7444.

### **September 18, Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.– 12:00 Noon**

#### **Forum With Visiting Students from Liceo Classico**

#### **"Pietro Giannone," Benevento, Italy**

#### **and Stony Brook University Students.**

Ten students from the Liceo Classico, "Pietro Giannone" of Benevento, Italy, accompanied by their principal and two professors, will visit the Center for Italian Studies on this date and be provided with an opportunity to meet and exchange educational experiences with Stony Brook University students as well as anyone from both the campus and community that would like to be part of this encounter.

The program will include welcoming greetings from Michael Bernstein, Acting President, Stony Brook University

and the presence of and remarks by

Thomas Di Napoli, New York State Comptroller.

Also, on this occasion a more formal discussion of ideas will be presented in

*Forum Format* on the topic:

*Today's Migrations in Europe and the United States:*

*How They are Perceived by the Young Generation.*

Location: Center for Italian Studies Stony Brook University's Melville Library, Room E4340.

***All are Invited.***

### **October 23, Wednesday, 4:00 p.m.**

Awarding Ceremony: Gradiva International Poetry Prize, conducted by co-sponsors Professors Luigi Fontanella, Editor of Gradiva Publications, and Mario Mignone, Director, Center for Italian Studies. The 2019 Prize Winner, ALBA DONATI, will be recognized for her book *Tu, paesaggio dell'infanzia* (Milano: La Nave di Teseo Editore, 2018). The program will also include bilingual readings from the Prize Winner and members of the Selection Jury, Irene Marchegiani and Alessandra Paganard, a piano music intermezzo, and refreshments. Location: Center for Italian Studies in Stony Brook University's Frank Melville Memorial Library, Room E4340.

**November 14, 15, 16, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.**  
**Daily Schedule to be Announced**

**Conference:**  
**QUO VADIS EUROPEAN UNION?**

The Spring 2019 Elections gave the European Union a new Parliament and Governance.  
Is a new European Union the Result?

The objective of this conference is to examine the effectiveness of the functioning of the European Union vis-à-vis its member states as well as the relationship with other power blocs in the world and the extent to which the external forces as well as changes within the political system of the member states have a bearing on the future of the Union.

The program will include Presentations and Discussion by scholars and individuals with experience in the operation of the Union on such topics as:

- ~The institutional building with the European Union from the inception to the present.
- ~Has the expansion of the Union affected its effectiveness?
- ~The effect of populism and nationalism?
- ~To what extent has the concept of the Union evolved over time in the minds of citizens of the member states. ~~The tension between larger and more powerful states and smaller states.
- ~Role and structure of a potential common defense system. Security?
- ~Can diplomacy suffice in dealing with external crisis?
- ~Trade, Labor, Migration; Global Warming, Diversity of Religious Systems,
- ~Relations with the United States, Russia, and China.

Location: Center for Italian Studies in Stony Brook University's  
Frank Melville Memorial Library, Room E4340.

**Proceedings are free and open to the public. All are invited.**

Consult [www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies](http://www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies) for additional information and program updates.

**ITALIAN CLASSES FOR THE COMMUNITY 2019-2020**

**Classes for Adults**

40 hours of instruction (Twenty/2 hour sessions)-October through April for an annual fee of \$260.

Tuesday, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Kings Park High School: Beginner Italian

Wednesday, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Kings Park High School: Intermediate Italian and Advanced Italian

Saturday, 10 a.m. - 12 Noon: Stony Brook University: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced.

**Persons interested in enrolling in any of these classes may call (631) 632-7444**

**for more detailed information, schedule and registration materials or**

**Contact via email> [josephine.fusco@stonybrook.edu](mailto:josephine.fusco@stonybrook.edu)**

**Also visit>[www.Stonybrook.edu/italianstudies](http://www.Stonybrook.edu/italianstudies)**

**Classes for Children**

30 classes of instruction September 17, 2019-June 5 2020

Classes on Tuesdays: For Children 3-6 years of age 4:45 pm

For Children 7-11 years of age- 4:45- 5:45 pm

Class on Fridays: For Children 7-11 years of age—4-5 p.m.

Location: Setauket Elementary School, Main Street, Setauket, 11733

**COST OF THE 2019-20 SESSION OF 30 CLASSES:**

**\$300 +\$10 MATERIALS FEE**

**To enroll in any of these classes please call (631) 632-7444 for more detailed information, schedule and registration materials or via email> [josephine.fusco@stonybrook.edu](mailto:josephine.fusco@stonybrook.edu)**

**Also visit>[www.Stonybrook.edu/italianstudies](http://www.Stonybrook.edu/italianstudies)**

CENTER FOR ITALIAN STUDIES  
Stony Brook University  
Frank Melville Memorial Library, E4340  
Stony Brook, NY 11794  
(631) 632-7444 [www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies](http://www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies)

Director  
Mario B. Mignone

*Advisory Council*

Honorary Co-Chairs: Senator Alfonse D'Amato  
Ambassador Charles Gargano  
Commendatore Peter Kalikow

Chair: Richard Nasti, VP, H.J. Kalikow & Co.

Members: John DeCicco  
Vito Di Simone, Ph.D.  
Lars Leicht,  
Dina Malgeri,  
Dr. Ludovica Rossi Purini,  
Salvatore Rotella, Chancellor Emeritus,  
Dr. Joseph Tromba, M.D.

CENTER FOR ITALIAN STUDIES  
Stony Brook University  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3358

NON PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
STONY BROOK  
UNIVERSITY

---

For the most current and additional information regarding Center for Italian Studies events and activities,  
please consult our web site: [www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies](http://www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies)

Also to be kept informed about the Center for Italian Studies in a timely way, we would appreciate having  
your email address. If you have not already done so, please provide this by  
emailing [Josephine.Fusco@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Josephine.Fusco@stonybrook.edu) or [Annette.Palazzo@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Annette.Palazzo@stonybrook.edu).

---

**The Center for Italian Studies is a community supported entity.  
We are happy to say that we have earned the trust and affection of our followers,  
who individually and collectively, have made it possible to carry out our mission.**

***Thank You For Your Ongoing Support.***

---

**Center for Italian Studies, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3358**  
Phone (631) 632-7444 Website: [www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies](http://www.stonybrook.edu/italianstudies)

Please complete and return this form with your contribution to the address noted above.

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: Individual: \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Family: \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Donor: \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ Contributor: \$100 \_\_\_\_\_  
Patron: \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor: \$1000 \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Stony Brook Foundation (SBF) /Center for Italian Studies.**

\*Please print how name should appear in Fund Raising Publication.