



Newsletter

Fall-Winter 2005

<http://www.aati-online.org>

Messaggio del Presidente

This is my final official communication to all of you in the capacity of President of the association. After serving the AATI for many years, first as Treasurer, then as Vice-President and finally as President, by the end of December I will pass the baton into the capable hands of Paolo Giordano. I would like to thank Paolo for all the help and assistance he has provided as Vice-President, and also take this opportunity to wish him well as the succeeding President of the AATI.

Having dedicated many hours of my life to our Association, I have its well-being and successful future very much at heart. It is, therefore, a great pleasure for me to announce that two strong candidates were nominated and have accepted to run for the Vice-Presidency, and if elected, will later become President. Norma Bouchard

and Anthony Tamburri are both prepared to serve the Association as the next Vice President. I am confident that either of them will serve the interests of our organization with dedication and diligence, and bring the AATI standing to new heights in North America and abroad.

Ballots for the election will be mailed to all members shortly, and I urge you to take part in the elections.

Numerous *prime* are in progress: the AP Italian Exam has been approved and will be administered for the first time in May 2006. Also for the first time, our annual conference 2005 will be in Washington, DC, under the sponsorship of the National Italian American Foundation. In addition, for the first time in history, the two national associations of Italian Studies, the AATI

and the AAIS, are organizing a joint international conference in the land of Cristoforo Colombo. The conference will combine the AAIS' April conference and the AATI's Fall conference and will take place in Genoa, May 25-28, 2006.

I hope to see many of you in attendance as the city of Genoa prepares to give us a great welcome. For more information, for organization of sessions and proposal for papers a link will be established at <http://www.aati-online.org> in the next couple of weeks.

Pier Raimondo Baldini

Reader Applications Sought for the AP Italian Language and Culture Exam

High school teachers and college-level faculty are sought to evaluate and score the student responses for the Writing, Culture, and Speaking parts of the AP® Italian Language and Culture Exams.

On May 8, 2006 the very first AP® Italian language and culture exam will be administered. The exams will be scored by a group of teachers and professors referred to as AP Readers during a one-

week period in June 2006. We invite qualified individuals from high schools and colleges and universities to apply now to serve as Readers.

Application Process

The application process involves submitting a Reader application (which can be completed online), and a copy of

the applicant's resume and course syllabus for a comparable college-level course (i.e., either an AP Italian course or the equivalent of a fourth semester college Italian course). Information for how to apply and the online Reader application form may be found at <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/reader>.

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STATEMENTS OF CANDIDATES FOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF AATI

NORMA BOUCHARD

In recent years, our Association has taken crucial steps to ensure the future success of Italian Studies in North America. If elected, I intend to continue the promotion and facilitation of the study of Italian at all levels of education while engaging in the type of outreach activity towards heritage groups and their organizations that resulted in this year's co-sponsoring of our Annual Convention by NIAF. However, I am also convinced that in an increasingly diverse and multicultural world such as our own, we must be committed, as an Association, to finding creative ways to maintain the integrity of the nation-specific knowledge of Italian Studies while, at the same time, being prepared to open our teaching and scholarship to those cross-cultural and cross-interdisciplinary ventures that are increasingly becoming a key to success in our global times.

ANTHONY TAMBURRI

I am both flattered and delighted to be nominated candidate for the office of Vice President of the AATI. My administrative experience within the university in positions as chair and associate dean as well as the offices I have held in professional associations (president, AIHA) over the past decade or so serve as part of a foundation, I believe, that provides me with certain past experience that can only aid me as VP.

The AATI has done very well in negotiating a sound relationship between the various levels of the teaching of Italian in the United States. Because my teaching experience dates back to a high school position in the early 1970s, I am a firm

believer of strengthening even further this synergy between the public school and college/university levels. Most recently, here at Florida Atlantic University, we co-organized a southeastern US conference on the teaching of Italian at both the high school and the university level, with specific regard to the AP exam. A similar conference is in the making for this coming winter.

With your support, I promise to acquit myself to the best of my abilities in the major areas of conference organization, synergy between all levels of Italian Studies, and as ambassador of goodwill of the organization both here and abroad.

AP READERS (cont. from p. 1)

Compensation

The College Board® provides an honorarium of \$1,450 for the service and covers all travel expenses, lodging, and meals.

The Reader Experience

Accounts of the reading experience have all been positive. In the section below, there are several Web Sites that you can access to learn from experienced readers what the reading process is like.

Readers testify wholeheartedly to the quality of the Reading experience by noting that they have gathered valuable information about what others in the AP Italian language and culture course are doing in the classroom and beyond to prepare students to be successful. Furthermore, Readers in other languages point out that they have forged lasting professional ties with their colleagues across the country.

Informative Websites

The College Board has several websites that will provide you with information about an AP reading session.

1. "Become an AP Reader." This site provides you with access to an online reader application form to facilitate the process.

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/reader>

2. "Seeing Is Believing: Changed by the AP Calculus Reading." Although this site recounts the experience of one AP calculus reader, it is a useful account of the experience.

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/members/article/1,3046,151-165-0-42248,00.html>

3. "All About the Reading"

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/members/article/1,3046,184-0-0-23492,00.html>

4. "The AP Reading Experience"

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/members/article/1,3046,184-0-0-8872,00.html>

5. "The AP Reading: A Labor of Love"

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/members/article/1,3046,149-0-0-10584,00.html>

6. "An AP Reading: Summer Camp at Clemson University"

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/members/article/1,3046,184-0-0-11864,00.html>

7. "Life as an 'Acorn': My Experience as a First-Time AP Statistics Reader"

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/members/article/1,3046,184-0-0-9927,00.html>

We welcome your application!

Frank Nuessel, Chief Reader
University of Louisville

Italian Americans in Major League Baseball

Lawrence Baldassaro (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) will present a paper on the oral history of Italian Americans in Major League Baseball at the annual meeting of the American Italian Historical Association, "Speaking Memory: Oral History, Oral Culture and Italians in America," held in Los Angeles (Nov. 3-6). He also was an invited speaker at a weekend event at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, honoring Italian American contributions to baseball (Nov. 11-13) and at the Italian American Book Fair in Stone Park, Illinois (Sept. 24).

Italian News from Allan Hancock College

The enrollment in Italian courses at Allan Hancock College, located in Santa Maria, California has increased significantly in the last few years. The Italian program began about ten years ago with one class and now five classes are being offered every semester. More than 100 students enroll in elementary Italian courses. In the past two semesters courses have been offered in situ as well as online. In the fall of 2005 Intermediate Italian will also be offered online. All work will be done online but the final exam will be held in Santa Maria. Students may also make arrangements to take the final exam at another site. Allan Hancock College is one of the very few California Community Colleges to offer Italian online. For information, contact Professor Domenico Maceri (dmaceri@hancockcollege.edu).

Helpful Site

The following website, which celebrates Italian culture for children and adults, is a means of exposing students to Italian culture. See Candida Martinelli's Italophile Site at:

http://home.wanadoo.nl/candida_martinelli/index.htm

Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana awarded to Cathy Balestrieri

AATI member and Tomales High School Italian teacher Cathy Balestrieri Burton has been awarded the title of Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana (Knight of the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity) by Italy's President, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. The award is conferred to Italians abroad and foreigners for special contributions to the prestige and honor of the Italian Republic. Mrs. Burton has been involved in numerous activities that promote the Italian language and culture, has made several presentations to teachers in the foreign language field, and is the co-leader with her husband, Spence F. Burton, of an exchange program between Tomales High School and Italian schools. Her paternal grandparents were Italian immigrants from Sicily.

Premio Flaiano

Federica Deigan ha vinto il Premio Flaiano di Italianistica 2005 (ex aequo con un collega francese e una collega portoghese) per il suo volume Alessandro Manzoni's The Count of Carmagnola and Adelchis (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004). L'ha ritirato il 9 luglio scorso in Italia. I dettagli dell'evento si trovano in un articolo de Il Tempo, cliccando su Letteratura per l'albo d'oro al seguente sito: <http://www.premiflaiano.it>.

Appointment to Promotion of Italian Language Council

Dr. MaryAnn Diorio, Assistant Professor of Italian at Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ, recently accepted an appointment by the Higher Education Committee of the New Jersey Italian and Italian American Heritage Commission to serve on the "Promotion of Italian Language Council".

The Council will formulate strategies to increase the number of Italian teachers in New Jersey and the number of opportunities to study Italian in the state.

Commedia dell'arte at CSULB

In line with its mission to promote Italian language and culture in local schools, the Graziadio Center for Italian Studies at California State University, Long Beach presents two lectures/performances by Commedia dell'Arte actor/director Marco Luly, currently artist-in-residence in the Theatre Arts Department at CSULB for a student production of "Dr. Harlequin or the imaginary autopsy" (Oct. 7-22).

San Pedro High School, San Pedro, California Sept. 30 at 11:30.

Millikan High School, Long Beach, California Oct. 4 at 11:45

Marco Luly will present a lecture on Commedia dell'Arte alternating a historical illustration of the main features of this traditional theatre genre with short skits in costume. Specifically designed for high school students, this activity will be presented in Italian in an interactive form to expose students to the techniques of Commedia dell'Arte while entertaining them. Both events are sponsored by the Graziadio Center for Italian Studies at California State University Long Beach, and co-ordinated by Prof. Teresa Fiore (CSULB).

PUBLICATIONS

Closet Italians

Nick J. Mileti, *Closet Italians: A Dazzling Collection of Illustrious Italians with Non-Italian Names* (Xlibris, 2004), 358 p. (ISBN 1-4134-6144-1). Presents biographical sketches of some 170 individuals who, although Italian by birth or heritage, are generally known by their non-Italian name (e.g., Jules Mazarin, Napoleon Bonaparte, Sir Arthur Sullivan, Georgia O'Keeffe, Alfred Drake, Yves Montand, and Bruce Springsteen). The volume attempts to set the record straight concerning the great influence that Italians have had on world history over the centuries, an influence which has often been obscured precisely because these individuals were known by their non-Italian names. For information about the book, contact Nick Mileti at closetitalians@aol.com or visit the website: <http://www.closetitalians.com>.

World Literature and Its Times

Newly released for fall 2005 is the groundbreaking *World Literature and Its Times: Italian Literature and Its Times*, a reference that profiles 50 literary works in the context of their times, from Cavalcanti's *Stil Novo Poetry* through Castiglione's *Book of the Courtier* to Franco's *Poems in Terza Rima*, Gramsci's *Letters from Prison*, Calvino's *Paths to the Spider's Nests*, and more. The volume is the seventh in an award-winning series distributed by Thomson Gale that capsulizes great literary works available in English translation and ties them to the historical issues of their days.

Available from Thomson Gale
ISBN: 0-7876-3725-4
Product number: 113373
Page count: 600
Price: \$130

La traduzione è servita! ovvero Food for Thought

È il primo volume della **Trilogia: Tematiche in Traduzione**, autore Rosanna Masiola Rosini, Università per Stranieri di Perugia. Il libro è suddiviso in 4 Parti, completo di indice e bibliografia specializzata, con note. Sono stati analizzati più di cento autori, con i loro traduttori e traduzioni (italiano, inglese, altre lingue), nelle descrizioni tratte da testi letterari, che sono più ancorate alla specificità culturale, ed alla tradizione culinaria. La terminologia e le liste cibarie, i processi di descrizione focalizzano una dissimmetria tra mondo protestante-nordico e mondo mediterraneo. Ma quanto rimane di dolce aroma e misterioso profumo una volta che dal traduttore arrivano alla tavola del *lettore-degustatore*?

Gianni Brera scriveva "Albione raffinata sui campi di calcio, ma barbara a tavola". È ancora vero? Il libro offre una enorme casistica di diversità nel tradurre e nel cucinare con le parole. Si delinea il percorso traduttivo di come una parola cambi sapore se "cucinata" in altra lingua. Eppure basta sondare questo vasto campo, per rendersi conto di quanto sia fruttuosa una analisi sistematica incentrata su tematiche descrittive, tra coppie di lingue, globalizzazione e la tendenza al localismo, ed alla *topofilia* cibaria. È forse il caso di dire che l'appetito vien leggendo? In ogni caso *Bon appetit!*

Edizioni Università di Trieste, EUTS, 2004, pp. 590; fax +39-040-676377; email. Eut@amm.univ.trieste.it

Annali d'italianistica

The twenty-third volume of *Annali d'italianistica*, devoted to Literature and Science, will appear in the fall of 2005. The journal's twenty-fourth volume will be guest-edited by Norma Bouchard (University of Connecticut-Storrs) and will appear in the fall of 2006. Dino Cervigni will edit the 2007 volume, to be devoted to "Literature, Religion, and the Sacred." For further information please visit the journal's website: <http://www.ibiblio.org/annali>.

A volume entitled *Boccaccio and Feminist Criticism*, edited by Regina Psaki and Thomas C. Stillinger will soon appear in the series "Studi & Testi" sponsored by Annali d'italianistica.

La Befana Soon to Appear on DVD

The DVD version of the epic poem telling the full story of the beloved Italian twelfth night gift-giver, la Befana, will soon be available for teachers, parents and grandparents. It will include subtitles in both English and Italian!

The DVD format allows the viewer to freeze a frame for discussion, or to go immediately to any part of the tale at the click of a finger. The languages of the subtitles and the bilingual audio of the DVD can be inter-mixed from frame to frame in any way the viewer chooses. A libretto of the text with side-by-side poetic translations is included.

The half-hour poems in both English and Italian were written and narrated by Judi Mazziotti, award-winning veteran Italian teacher. The VHS version is currently available at <http://www.ritornello.com>. It is an example of what a non-native speaker with lots of passion for the Italian language and culture can produce. Share the heart-felt origins of Italian gift-giving with your students and families!

Italian Teachers Association of New York

La Italian Teachers Association di New York and Westchester, capitolo della AATI, ha concluso l'anno scolastico con la solita cerimonia annuale al Jolly Madison Hotel di Manhattan. Nel corso della cerimonia Lucrezia Lindia, presidente dell'associazione, ha ringraziato tutti quelli che si sono impegnati a divulgare la lingua e la cultura italiana e in particolare il comitato esecutivo che ha lavorato instancabilmente e ininterrottamente nell'organizzare aggiornamenti, concorsi di poesie, eventi, ecc.

Essendo il 2005 "anno delle lingue" e l'anno dell'introduzione dell'AP nelle scuole liceali americane, la ITA ha consegnato il "Dr. Leonardo Covello Lifetime Achievement Award" a coloro che hanno portato a termine il lavoro di team per raggiungere il traguardo: la First Lady Matilda Raffa Cuomo, la figlia dottoressa Margaret Cuomo Maier, il professore Christopher Kleinhenz, ex presidente della AATI, la professoressa Dolores Mita e la dottoressa Vittoria Cifone.

Nel corso del luncheon sono state assegnate anche delle borse di studio agli studenti che si sono classificati tra i primi posti nell' Italian National Contest.

Tra gli illustri invitati erano presenti anche il dott. Alfio Russo dell'ufficio didattico del consolato di New York e il dott. Luigi De Sanctis, direttore dell'ufficio didattico del consolato di Washington.

WE DID IT! AP Italian courses begin in Rhode Island and in the USA

On August 24, 25, and 26 thirteen teachers of Italian from Rhode Island and Massachusetts took part in a workshop entitled "Preparation for the AP course", taught by Bruna P. Boyle, President of the Rhode Island Teachers of Italian, at the W. Alton Jones Campus of the University of Rhode Island. The secretary was Dianne C. Fonseca. In this course, teachers of Italian learned important strategies and methods to prepare their students for the AP Italian Language and Culture Exam, which will be given on Monday, May 8, 2006.

This is an exciting time for teachers of Italian all over the country because it is the first time that the Italian language has its own AP Exam. Other languages such as Spanish, French, and German have had an AP Course and Exam since 1955. Just this past year has Italian finally been added to the list of College Board AP Courses!

The majority of teachers present at the workshop will be teaching the AP course during this 2005-2006 school year, although a few teachers present plan to start the AP course in their schools in the ensuing school years.

Dott. Carlo Cipollone, Educational Director, from the Consolato Generale d'Italia in Boston, was also present at the workshop and expressed his enthusiasm and support of the AP Italian course now being offered nationally.

The following teachers received the AP training at the workshop and are now certified to teach AP Italian:

Antonietta Coutcher,
South Kingstown High School
John Felice, The Prout School
Graziella Giampaoli,
St. Mary Academy-Bay View
Alerino Iacobo, Classical High School
Daniela Johnson,
Narragansett High School

Lidia Magliari,
South Kingstown High School
Nancy Magliari, Westerly High School
Matthew Papino,
Aldrich Junior High School
Jerry Papitto, La Salle Academy
Ornella Passaretta, Pilgrim High School
Jennifer Silveira, Tollgate High School
Antonella Servant, Coventry High School
Asha Weider, Melrose High School, MA

We thank the Ministero degli Affari Esteri and the Italian Consulate Office in Boston for sponsoring this "Preparation for the AP Course" workshop in Rhode Island. Their support is very much appreciated and contributes greatly to the success of our programs in the Italian language and culture.

RITI strongly encourages teachers and their schools to participate in this new and rewarding endeavor.

AP Italian at San Pedro High School

Michele Sguerri, Italian major at California State University Long Beach, is currently doing an internship at San Pedro High School, San Pedro, California as language assistant to Mrs. Brennan, who is offering an AP Italian course to 20 students. Sguerri is primarily responsible for conversation sessions and cultural insights. He will be under the supervision of Prof. Teresa Fiore to understand the inner workings of the AP course and exams and will regularly report to her in order to gain experience in this field for a future teaching career in high schools. This internship will be regularly offered in the future as an opportunity for majors with proper language competence at CSULB to acquire 3 credits, while expanding their knowledge of the high schools' teaching methods and system

2005 Rhode Island Foreign Language Teacher of the Year: Maria C. Mansella

Maria C. Mansella was born in Italy where she earned a Diploma of Maturità Magistrale from the Istituto Vincenzo Gioberti, Sora (FR). She holds a BA Cum Laude from Rhode Island College in Secondary Education with a concentration in French and Italian and a M.A. from Middlebury College. Maria C. Mansella attended Brown University and the University of Rhode Island, the Salamanca Program, in Spain. She currently is a Professor of Italian at the Community College of Rhode Island and Coordinator/Director of the Summer Travel/Study Program in Orvieto, Italy. In addition she is a special lecturer for Providence College. Active in several language associations, Maria C. Mansella is the past President of the Rhode Island Teachers of Italian (*RITI* 2000-2004) and as a member of the American Association of Teachers of Italian she serves on their National Examination Committee. She serves on the C.A.S.IT. Board (*Centro Attività Scolastiche Italiane*), an office of the Italian Consulate in Boston; she is also Corresponding Secretary of RIFLA (*Rhode Island Foreign Language Association*); a member of the Italian American Historical Society of Rhode Island (IAHSRI) and the Renaissance-Alliance Lodge-Sons of Italy. Maria C. Mansella has presented several Foreign Language workshops at the local and state levels.

In introducing Maria at the RIFLA Spring Dinner Meeting, Susan Erinakes of RITI said: "Maria is the ideal educator. She has integrity, sincerity, all the qualities we admire and would like to emulate. She has a willingness to help on all levels-elementary, middle, high school, and college ...If I had my identity stolen and was asked who I was, I would say Maria Mansella."

NIAF AWARD

The Club Italia at California State University Long Beach was awarded a NIAF grant to organize cultural activities this academic year. This \$1,500 grant provides a unique opportunity for this newly re-activated club on campus. The award will be given to the President, Michele Sguerri, who has been invited to attend the official ceremonies and meetings in Washington next October., with the full financial support of the NIAF for travel, room, and board.

Information About CILS

Are you studying, or have you ever studied Italian? If your answer is yes, then go to the next question.

Do you know anything about **CILS**? If your answer is no, then read on...

The Certificate of Italian as a Foreign Language (**CILS**) is the official title that denotes the degree of linguistic competency in Italian as a foreign language and is awarded by the University of Siena for Foreigners, in Italy

FAQ

Who is eligible?

All foreign citizens, Italian citizens residing abroad and foreign immigrants in Italy. Applicants are not obliged to possess educational certificates or degrees, nor is it necessary to have obtained lower levels of the **CILS** exam in order to attempt the attainment of a higher level.

Is there a specific course to take in order to pass the CILS exam?

The **CILS** exams are not bound to the study of specific types of Italian language courses, each candidate may prepare in the way deemed most appropriate.

How many CILS levels are there?

The **CILS** exam covers six levels: each of these levels represents a progressively higher level of linguistic and communicative ability and it is useful for those who study Italian, who work within an Italian context, and who wish to measure their capacity in Italian. Each level has five sections with tests in listening and reading comprehension, analyses of the communicative structures and writing and speaking skills.

The next exam is scheduled for:
December 1, 2005.

For further information on **CILS** guidelines and exam locations, consult the website:

<http://www.unistrasi.it> or contact in Italy:

Università per Stranieri di Siena
Via Sallustio Bandini 35
53100 Siena, Italy

Tel. +3905.77.24.04.67

Fax +39 05.77.24.04.61

E- mail: cils@unistrasi.it for further information about the examinations.

E-mail: infocils@unistrasi.it for those who wish to have further information about **CILS** exams and preparation for candidates.

Abroad: Italian Institutes of Culture
Let's try it and....good luck!

Dr.ssa Andreina Sgaglione
Specialista in didattica
dell'italiano a stranieri
Università per Stranieri di Siena

GET PAID TO LEARN ITALIAN

RECEIVE BOOKS and CDS FREE

Participants needed for a Rutgers University study on the acquisition of Italian

The study will be led by PhD Candidate Tom Means. Qualified participants will be native English speakers and will have had either:

- 2 to 3 semesters of college-level Italian or
- 2 to 3 years of high school-level Italian (or an equivalent learning experience)

Individuals who were raised speaking Italian (or another Romance language) are not eligible.

Details for these small-group Italian language classes are:

- The classes will run 10 weeks from the week of October 3 through the week of December 12, 2005;
- Classes will be held at the Italian Department of Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ;
- Participants will meet for two 90-minute lessons per week (Mondays and Thursdays, early morning or mid-morning sessions);
- Participants will be paid \$50.00 for their full participation.

Please phone, fax, or email statement of interest with name, phone number and a brief description of Italian-language background to:

Phone: (908) 720-6074
 Fax: (212) 974-8717
 Email: info@MeansLanguageCenter.com

Magic Tricks, Amazing Props and Story-telling

The NYS AFLT conference will host Judi Mazziotti in two sessions Saturday morning, October 29th demonstrating how magic tricks using eye-popping props and sound effects injected with Italian culture, combined with personalization, questioning techniques and ample repetition can lead to tons of comprehensible input for Italian students in any setting.

A DVD of these tricks of the trade, complete with a vocabulary reference guide and magic props will be available for sale at the conference as well as on the internet at: <http://www.ritornello.com>.

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The *AATI Newsletter* publishes information about new publications, forthcoming conferences, events, contests, and awards. It also provides a forum for discussion on pedagogy and teaching strategies. Short articles (3-4 pages) or brief notes (1-2 paragraphs) dealing with direct classroom experience, teaching tips, and successful application of linguistic theories are welcome.

Information about your school or local organization, and other items of interest, should be sent to the Editor by February 15, 2005 for inclusion in the Winter-Spring issue.

AATI Newsletter:
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