

LASA

Italian American Studies Association



57th Annual Conference
Montclair State University
November 6-9, 2025

IASA

Italian American Studies Association



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 57th annual Italian American Studies Association Conference.

We are delighted to present this year's event in partnership with Montclair State University, in particular the Joseph and Elda Coccia Institute for the Italian Experience in America, the Italian Program in the World Languages and Cultures division, and the Theresa and Lawrence R. Inserra Chair in Italian and Italian American Studies. We appreciate, as well, support from the New Jersey Italian Heritage Commission whose financial contribution enables us to feature a local treasure from Paterson, New Jersey, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, who will read her poetry Thursday evening.

The theme of this year's conference is Intersecting Transitalia in Communities: Nation(s), Transnation(s), Neighborhood(s). The programs and panels will explore how, historically, Italians have worked in building their local communities and how they have attempted to bridge gaps across communities both nationally and globally. Our keynote speaker, Mary Jo Bona, is a pioneering feminist scholar whose work has defined and advanced the field of Italian American Studies. Our 35 sessions, representing more than 100 authors, poets, creatives, culturists, historians, sociologists, linguists, and Italianists address topics ranging from "Creative Voices in Italian Americana" to "Italian Language Press in the United States," and "The Italian DNA of American Business" to "Labor, Unions, and Mutual Aid Societies"--to name just a few. Two sessions panels commemorate colleagues who have passed this year -- John Domini, Novelist and Book Critic, and Richard N. Juliani, Professor of Sociology at Villanova University.

Every year, IASA presents awards for the outstanding book, outstanding dissertation, and service to the organization, as well as travel grants for graduate students. We will present these awards before our Friday evening keynote this year. Poet Jennifer Martelli, who assisted with the book award, also passed in September. We will remember Jennifer during the awards presentation.

Organizing a conference requires the collaboration of many people. Our local committee was instrumental in identifying places and spaces that showcase this year's venue, including the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center and the fabulous city skyline viewable from the 7th floor of University Hall. A special thank you to Cristina Latino for taking the lead on event management, and to Alan Gravano and Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, for both developing and assembling the program and being responsive to participants' requests throughout. To everyone who contributed in some capacity to making this conference a reality: *Molto apprezzato*.

Here's to a stimulating conference with many opportunities for conversation and community building!

Michele C. Deramo
President

Please post your photos and thoughts to your socials with our conference hashtag: **#IASANJ2025**.

IASA
Italian American Studies Association

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Michele Deramo (2027), Virginia Tech

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Book Award Committee

Marc DiPaolo

Jessica Femiani

Lisa Paolucci

Conference at a Glance

Day & Time	Activity	Location	Page
Thursday, November 6			
3:30–6:00 PM	IASA Executive Council Meeting	Coccia Institute	7
6:30-7:30 PM	Welcome Reception	Yogi Berra Museum	7
7:45–8:00 PM	Introductions & Opening Remarks	Yogi Berra Museum	7
8:00-9:00 PM	“Maria Mazziotti Gillan Reads”	Yogi Berra Museum	7-8
Friday, November 7			
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Conference Registration	University Hall, 7 th Floor	9
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Book Exhibit	University Hall, 7 th Floor	9
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	University Hall, 7 th Floor	9-14
5:45–6:45 PM	IASA Business Meeting	University Hall, Room 1030	15
7:00 PM	IASA Awards and Keynote	University Hall, 7 th Floor	15-16
Saturday, November 8			
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Conference Registration	University Hall, 7 th Floor	17
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Book Exhibit	University Hall, 7 th Floor	17
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	University Hall, 7 th Floor	17-21
	Farewell Banquet	Uncle Momo	22

Thursday, November 6

3:30 – 6:00 PM: IASA Executive Council Meeting

Location: Coccia Institute, Dickson Hall, Suite 171

Park on the 5th Floor of the Red Hawk Deck. Exit the parking garage from the back exit to the main campus. Stay to the right, and you will see Dickson Hall on your right.

Thursday, November 6

All evening events will occur at the Yogi Berra Museum & Learning Center

6:30 – 7:30 PM:

Welcome Reception

Yogi Berra Museum & Learning Center
8 Yogi Berra Drive on the Montclair State University campus

7:45 – 8:00 PM:

Introductions & Opening Remarks

Michele Deramo, Ph.D., IASA President
Mark Rotella, Director of the Coccia Institute, Montclair State University
Fatma Mili, Interim Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Montclair State University
Enza Antenos, Montclair State University
Mary Ann Re, New Jersey Italian Heritage Commission

8:00 – 9:00 PM:

“Maria Mazziotti Gillan Reads”

**Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Bartle Professor and Professor Emerita
of English and Creative Writing, Binghamton University, SUNY**

Introduction by Peter Covino, University of Rhode Island

Bio: Maria Mazziotti Gillan is the Founder and Executive Director of the Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College in Paterson, NJ, and editor of the *Paterson Literary Review*, and the Bartle Professor and Professor Emerita of English and creative writing at Binghamton University-SUNY. She has published more than twenty books of and about poetry and has edited four anthologies. Her most recent book is *When the Stars Were Still Visible* (Stephen F. Austin University Press, 2021). You can visit her website at <http://mariagillan.com>.



Friday, November 7

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Conference Registration

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Book Exhibit

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

8:00 AM – 5:30 PM: Concurrent Sessions

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch

Location: Feliciano School of Business, Room 140

5:45-6:45 PM: IASA Business Meeting

Location: University Hall, Room 1030 (1st Floor)

7:00-8:15 PM: IASA Awards and Keynote Address

Location: Conference Hall in University Hall, 7th Floor

8:00 – 9:15 AM

Session 1: Transnational Approaches to Music: Identity, Culture, Community

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Jonathan Cavallero, Bates College

- Laura Montanari, Montclair State University, “Bella Ciao: A Traveling Song”
- Lorraine Mangione, Antioch University, “Italian American Performers Creating Community: Sinatra, Bennett, Dion, and Springsteen”
- Jonathan Cavallero, Bates College, “Born in Italian America: Bruce Springsteen, Italian-American Ethnicity, and the White Ethnic Revival”

Session 2: Italian Americans in New Jersey & Guido Culture

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Nancy Carnevale, Montclair State University

- Anne Bosworth, Palm Beach State College, “From Newark’s First Ward to South Florida: Transplanted Traditions and the Making of Italian American Community”
- Angela Murolo, St. Francis College and Lena Campagna, Caldwell University, “St. Ann’s and Madonna di Martiri: An Analysis of Hoboken’s Italian Feasts, Assimilation and Gentrification”

- Marcella Martin, New York University, “Standing on the Shoulders of Guidos: Youth Culture and Italian America Online”

Session 3: Gendered Voices & Perspectives in the Creative Italian American Literary World

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Mark Rotella, Montclair State University

- Nancy Schiesari, University of Texas, Austin, Reading from “Reconstructing Memoire from a Granddaughter’s Feminist Perspective”
- James De Monte, Lakeland Community College, Reading from *Where Are You People From?*
- Ken Marchionno, Independent Scholar & Artist, Reading from “Toward Home”

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Session 4: Teaching Italian Across Borders: Transnational Strategies, Print Culture, and Identity Formation

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Franco Pierno, University of Toronto & Accademia della Crusca

- Mattia Ragazzoni, University of Toronto, “XIX Century Italian Grammar Books: A Preliminary Historical (Meta)Linguistic Analysis”
- Matteo Brera, Università degli Studi di Padova & Seton Hall University, “Frank Loria and the Dante Alighieri Society of New Orleans: The Campaign for Italian Language and Identity in the Ethnic Press”
- Sara Galli, Dickinson College, “The Norris Collection at Dickinson College: Transnational Pedagogies and (Early) Italian Language Instruction”

Session 5: Reconsidering Italian Americans: Challenging Italian American Stereotypes on Television

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Alan J. Gravano, Rocky Mountain University

- Alan J. Gravano, Rocky Mountain University, “Cultural Bridges from New Jersey to Okinawa: Japanese and Italian American Identity in *The Karate Kid Part II* and *Cobra Kai*”
- Valentina Morello, University of Arkansas, “Italian Americans and Urban Identity in *The Deuce*: Representation, Marginality, and Cultural Memory”
- Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas, “Beyond *The Godfather*’s Shadow: Lorna Morello, Representation Theory, and the Subversion of Italian American Feminine Tropes in *Orange is the New Black*”

Session 6: Crosscurrents: A Reading from *Di là dal mare/Across the Sea: Contemporary Italian and Italian American Poetry*

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Mike Maggio, Northern Virginia Community College

- Mary Lou Buschi, Independent Scholar & Writer
- Julia Lisella, Regis College
- Maria Lisella, Independent Scholar & Writer

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Session 7: Neo-Grifters, Old Scallywags, and the Memes of Production (and Opposition) in Italian American Online Space

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Anthony Dion Mitzel, Università di Bologna

- Stephen J. Cerulli, Fordham University, “‘Saving Columbus,’ an Italian American Settler Colonial Project: Convenient Narratives for Inconvenient Histories”
- Anthony Dion Mitzel, Università di Bologna, “Santa’Meme Subito! Holy Meme, Digital Saint: The Memetic Beatification of ‘San’ Luigi Mangione”
- Anthony Julian Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY, “Notions on Carpetbaggers and Scallywags within Italian America, Part 1”

Session 8: Italian Americans on Screen and in the Theatre

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: John Mitrano, Central Connecticut State University

- Giuliana Muscio, Università degli Studi di Padova, “Film Theatres in Greater NY”
- Paola Bonifazio, University of Texas, Austin, “Italian Silent Westerns and Italian Communities in the Wild West”
- Elisabetta Sanino D’Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology, “Find Your People: *Fresh Kills* (Jennifer Esposito, 2023)”

Session 9: Italian Diasporic Women’s Poetry and Collective Trauma

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Jessica Femiani, SUNY Oneonta

- Maria Di Francesco, Ithaca College, “Medusa and Me”
- Alise Versella, Independent Scholar & Writer, “Writing Immigrant Life & The Path to Remembrance”
- Jen DeGregorio, Associate Director of CWP, SUNY Binghamton, *What to Wear Out*
- Jessica Femiani, SUNY Oneonta, “The Poetic Reproduction of Italian American Women’s Labor”

12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch

Location: Feliciano School of Business, Room 140

On-site Pizza (Must be pre-paid)

***NB: Dining Services are available on Friday at Montclair State University**

1:30 – 2:45 PM

Session 10: The Italian American Community: Illusions and Disillusions

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: David Aliano, University of Mount Saint Vincent

- Donna M. Chirico, York College/CUNY and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY, “How Expressions of Self, Such as Wealth and Position, as Primary Sources of Identity Subvert Ethnicity in the Italian American Community”
- Fred L. Gardaphé, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY, “Irony Deficiency and the Future of Italian American Culture”
- Anthony Julian Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY, “Notions on Carpetbaggers and Scallywags within Italian America, Part 2”

Session 11: Identit(ies) of Italian Americana

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Cristina Latino, Montclair State University

- Jerry Krase, Brooklyn College, CUNY, “The Unchanging Image of Italian Americana”
- Rebecca Bauman, Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY, “Fashioning the Guidette: Re-Framing Female Subjectivity in a Subcultural Phenomenon”
- Cristina Latino, Montclair State University, Eric Lavin, James Caldwell High School, and Diana Zoino, Cresskill High School, “Modern Italian America: The Contributions of Italian American Youth and Current Italian Immigrants”

Session 12: All Roads Lead Home: Memoirs from the Italian Diaspora

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: George Guida, New York City College of Technology

- Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City University
- Joey Nicoletti, Buffalo State University
- George Guida, New York City College of Technology

3:00 – 4:15 PM

Session 13: The Italian DNA of American Business

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas

- Serena Maggio, Montclair State University, "Italian Roots, American Branches: When Strategy Is the Export"
- Robert Campana, "'Stop Italian Sounding': The Soft Power of Italian Sounding Names"
- Enza Antenos, Montclair State University and Cristina Latino, Montclair State University, "When Made in Italy is Not Made in Italy: A Case Study of New Jersey"

Session 14: The Italian-Language Press in the United States: Studying Diaspora in Print (1890-1950)

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Martina Di Florio, Trinity College

- Stefano Morello, CUNY, "Fiction in the Newsroom: Bernardino Ciambelli's Mythopoesis and the Birth of an Italian American Public"
- Martina Di Florio, Trinity College, "Regional Belonging, National Longing: Italian American Newspapers in Connecticut, 1920-1946"
- Stefano Luconi, Università degli Studi di Padova, "Italian-Language Newspapers and Voting Behavior in the Little Italies, 1920-1944" (Virtual)

Session 15: The Archaeology of a Good Writer: John Domini and the Italian Diaspora

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: George Guida, New York City College of Technology

- Fred Gardaphé, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY, "The Archaeology of a Good Writer: 'Indigenuity' in the Works of John Domini"
- Marisa LaBozzetta, Independent Scholar, "Domini on Domini: The Writer Behind and Within the Writing"
- George Guida, New York City College of Technology, "John Domini, Fellow Traveler"

4:30 – 5:45 PM

Session 16: Tourism *all'italiana*: Business, Historical, Marketing, and Sociological Considerations

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Mark Rotella, Montclair State University

- John Mitrano, Central Connecticut State University, "Heritage Tourism's Role in Strengthening Italian American Identity: A Case Study of the National Italian American Foundation's 'Voyage of Discovery' Program"

- David Aliano, University of Mount Saint Vincent, “Reshaping Italian American Identity through Travel to Italy”
- Angela Sabetta, Montclair State University, “Made in Italy for the World”
- Simone Puleo, Central Connecticut State University, “Don Pepino as Mustache Pete: Stereotypical Representations of Italians in Corporate Marketing”

Session 17: Honoring Richard N. Juliani: A Legacy in Italian American Scholarship

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Michele Deramo, Virginia Tech

- Anthony Julian Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY
- Dominic Candeloro, Casa Italia, Chicago
- Jerry Krase, Brooklyn College, CUNY

Session 18: Ancestral Dialogues of Italian Diaspora

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Joel Strangis, Independent Scholar

- Lucia Medici, Università degli studi di Parma, “Growing Up Italian American ‘Montanaro’: Ancestral Ties and the Legacy of a Parmense Apennine Community in New York”
- Joel Strangis, Independent Scholar, “Once Upon a Time in a Small Village in the South of Italy, There Were Five Brothers – A Case Study of Repeated Trans-Atlantic Migration by Five Calabrian Brothers”
- Joseph U. Lenti, Eastern Washington University, “Shoes and Rouge: Italian Labor and the Formation of Community in Southbridge, MA”

6:00 – 6:45 PM: IASA Business Meeting

Location: University Hall, Room 1030

7:00 PM: IASA Awards

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

IASA Book Award

Presented by Jessica Femiani

Marisa Labozzetta for her short story collection *Men Who Walk in Dreams*

IASA Memorial Fellowship Award Winner

Presented by Alessia Martini

Marcella Martin, New York University, *Curating Italian Modernity: Art, Fashion, and the View from America since 1945*

IASA Travel Award Winners

Presented by Alessia Martini

Tony M. Royle Jr., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Cassandra Marsillo, Concordia University (Montreal, Canada)

IASA Service Award Winner

Presented by Alan J. Gravano

Mary Jo Bona, Past President of IASA (2007-2008)

7:15 PM: Keynote Address

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

**Mary Jo Bona,
Distinguished Professor Emerita
Stony Brook University
“Matrilineal Desire and Geographies of Return in Multi-
[Italian] America”**

**Introduction by Loredana Polezzi, Alfonse M. D’Amato Chair in Italian
American and Italian Studies, Stony Brook University**

Bio: Mary Jo Bona is SUNY Distinguished Professor Emerita of Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies and English at Stony Brook University. A specialist in the field of Italian American/diaspora studies, multiethnic American literature, and feminist literary studies, her authored books include *Mothers, Mobility, Narrative: Maternity in US Literature*; *Women Writing Cloth: Migratory Fictions in the American Imaginary*; *By the Breath of Their Mouths: Narratives of Resistance in Italian America*; *Claiming a Tradition: Italian American Women Writers*, and a book of poetry, *I Stop Waiting For You*. Bona is also editor of *The Voices We Carry: Recent Italian American Women’s Fiction* and co-editor (with Irma Maini) of *Multiethnic Literature and Canon Debates*. Bona is the series editor of *Multiethnic Literatures* for the State University of New York (SUNY) Press.



Saturday, November 8

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Conference Registration

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Book Exhibit

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

8:00 AM – 5:30 PM: Concurrent Sessions

Tentatively 8:00 PM: Farewell Banquet

Location: Uncle Momo
702 Bloomfield Ave, Montclair, NJ 07042

8:00 – 9:15 AM

Session 19: Creating and Expressing Community in Italian Canadiana: Toronto & Montreal

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Vienna Paolantonio, Independent Scholar & Historian

- Vienna Paolantonio, Independent Scholar & Historian, “On the Move: Re-Building Community in the Suburbs”
- Cassandra Marsillo, Concordia University, “*Poutine à l’italienne*: Inventing Montreal’s Italian Food”
- Rosaria Moretti-Lawrie, York University, “Cultivating Culture: Italian-Canadian Urban Farms in Postwar Toronto”

Session 20: Regional Glimpses of Italian Americana

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Valentina Morello, University of Arkansas

- Carla Cornette and Lorinn Waisner, University of Missouri, “Italian American Women at Work in the Late 19th Century Missouri: Out of the Archival Shadows”
- Massimiliano Giuseppe Del Gaudio, Scuola Superiore Meridionale, “Immigration Reform and Ethnic Formation: Scalabrinians, *Fra Noi*, and the Rise of Italian American Activism in Chicago, 1961-1976”

Session 21: Labor, Unions, and Mutual Aid Societies

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Alessia Martini, Sewanee: The University of the South

- Marcella Zulla, University of South Florida, "'I'm Outta Here!' Opportunity and Detriment at Birmingham's Steel Mills and Coal Mines in Sicilian American Oral Histories"
- Alessia Martini, Sewanee: The University of the South, "Società di Mutuo Soccorso: Italian American Labor Unions, Political Activism, and Community Support"
- William Connell, Seton Hall University, "Tusiani v. Scalia: The Poet Takes on Original Intent"

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Session 22: Publishing in Italian American Studies: A Conversation with Journal Editors

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Mark Pietralunga, Florida State University

- David Aliano, University of Mount Saint Vincent, *Italian American Review*
- Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas, *Diasporic Italy: Journal of the Italian American Studies Association*
- Alan J. Gravano, Rocky Mountain University, *Italian Americana*
- Anthony Julian Tamburri and Nicholas Grosso, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY, *Voices in Italian Americana (VIA)*

Session 23: Literary and Artistic Representations of Italian Americana

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Lisa Paolucci, St. Francis College

- Lisa Paolucci, St. Francis College, "Italian American Communities in Children's Picture Books"
- Lucia Cristina Tirri, Independent Scholar, "Diasporic Italian Minds: Space, Identity, Writing and Memory in North America"
- Anthony Cavaluzzi, SUNY Adirondack, "Blurring Boundaries: Gaetano Pesce's Diversity in Design"

Session 24: For a Pedagogy of Memory: Teaching the Triangle Fire

Room: Diane di Prima

Moderator: Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City University

- Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City University, "The Intimate and The Political"
- Paola Corso, New York Foundation for the Arts Poetry Fellow, "Of My Eye: The Poetry of Teaching the Triangle Fire"
- Jacqueline Ellis, New Jersey City University, "Teaching the Triangle Fire as Affective History"

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Session 25: *BlackItalian*: Workshopping a Film-in-Progress

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: John Gennari, University of Vermont

- John Gennari, University of Vermont
- Christina Zanfagna, Santa Clara University

Session 26: Cross-Cultural Dialogues on Identity, Displacement, and Community

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Mary Ann Re, Casa Italiana Sociocultural Center

- Michele Deramo, Virginia Tech, “Performing Identity: Discovering the Italian Diaspora Through Refugee Resettlement”
- Michelle Reale, Arcadia University, “A Place for Us: At the Intersection of Identity and Belonging Among African Refugees and Italian Americans”

Session 27: *Italian Americana* Presents Its Authors: Voices from Past Volumes

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Alan J. Gravano, Rocky Mountain University

- Joey Nicoletti, Buffalo State University, Poet
- Maria Giura, Casa Belvedere Cultural Foundation, Author, & Poet, *If We Still Lived Where I Was Born* (2025)
- George Guida, New York City College of Technology, Author & Poet
- Joanna Clapps Herman, Author & Poet
- Peter Covino, University of Rhode Island, Poet & Translator

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch

Location: University Hall, 7th Floor

On-site Boxed Lunch (Must be pre-paid)

***NB: Dining Services will have limited options on Saturday at Montclair State University**

1:30 – 2:45 PM

Session 28: Pedagogical Perspectives in Italian Americana

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas

- James Pasto, Boston University, “Undoing Race Reductionism in Critical Language Pedagogy: Lessons from Italian American English”

- Alexandra de Luise, Independent Scholar, "Subversive Writing Exposed: The Crusade to Eliminate Two Textbooks from the Public Schools"
- Roberto Dolci, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, "Peter Sammartino and the Promotion of Italian Language in the US: Between Education, Identity, and Propaganda"

Session 29: Historical Considerations of the Italian American Story

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: David Aliano, University of Mount Saint Vincent

- Carl Antonucci, Central Connecticut State University, "Italian Americans in Connecticut During World War II"
- Daniel Falcone, Independent Scholar, "Giuseppe Garibaldi in New York: A Historiographical Sketch, 1850-1882"

3:00 – 4:15 PM

Session 30: Transnational Communication through Various Correspondence

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Mark Rotella, Montclair State University

- Mark Pietralunga, Florida State University, "Guido D'Agostino's Writings on Italian Immigrants: Americanism vs. Love of America"
- Alessandro Huber, Università degli Studi, Roma Tre, "From Exile to Ethnic Press: Italian American Newspapers in the 1850s"
- Alessandro Ceteroni and Federico Giannuli, University of Connecticut, "Transnational Dialogues: The Correspondence of Glauco Cambon"

Session 31: Considering Race, Whiteness, and Passing in Italian Americana

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: John Genari, University of Vermont

- Joseph M. Conte, University at Buffalo, "Espera DeCorti Revisited: Sicilians in New Orleans and the Color Line"
- Tony Royle, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, "Navigating Black-Italian Life in the Diaspora through Film and Literature"

Session 32: Reading *La madre Italia*

Room: Diane di Prima

Chair: Joanna Clapps Herman, Manhattanville University

- Gail Reitano, Author
- Rosanna Staffa, Author
- Kathy Curto, Montclair State University

- Jennifer Romanello, Pace University

4:30 – 5:45 PM

Session 33: Celebrating the Life and Career of Mary Jo Bona

Room: Helen Barolini

Chair: Alan J. Gravano, Rocky Mountain University

- Loredana Polezzi, Stony Brook University, “Weaves and Traces: Memory and Material Culture in the Work of Mary Jo Bona”
- Jennifer Kighlinger, Independent Scholar & Writer, “Community Weaving: Mary Jo Bona and the Art of Mentoring”
- Christa Baiada, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY, “Mary Jo Bona’s Indelible Impact”

Session 34: Italian American Identity, Social Media, and Pastimes

Room: Rose Basile Green

Chair: Jonathan Cavallero, Bates College

- Courtney Ruffner Grieneisen, State College of Florida, “From Maranello to TikTok: The Italian F1 Image in American Teen Culture”
- Chris R. Vaccaro, U.S. Press Officer of the Federation of Italian Baseball/Softball & Executive Trustee of the Italian American Baseball Foundation, “America’s Pastime with Italian Blood and Soil”
- Stephanie Longo, Penn State Scranton, “The Digital Piazza: Italian Americans and Social Media” (Virtual)

Session 35: Book Presentation: *Texas Tavola: Sicilian Rituals of Food, Family, and Faith in the Lone Star State*

Room: Diane di Prima

- Author: Circe Sturm, University of Texas, Austin
- Respondent: Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City University

8:00 PM: Final Banquet

Location: Uncle Momo
702 Bloomfield Ave, Montclair, NJ 07042

(Prior Reservation Required)

IASA

Italian American Studies Association
PLEASE JOIN US FOR

"Once Upon a Time in a Small Calabrian Village There Were
Five Brothers . . ."

The story of five brothers from a "not poor" family who
crossed the Atlantic 18 times in search of a better life and
why they were "Poster Boys" for the Great Diaspora.

Session 18: Ancestral Dialogues

Presentation by Joel Strangis

strangnc@aol.com

Friday, 7 November 4:30 PM

Diane Di Prima Room



Grazie mille

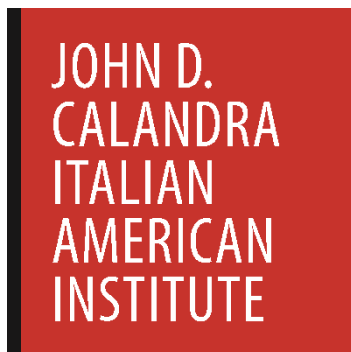
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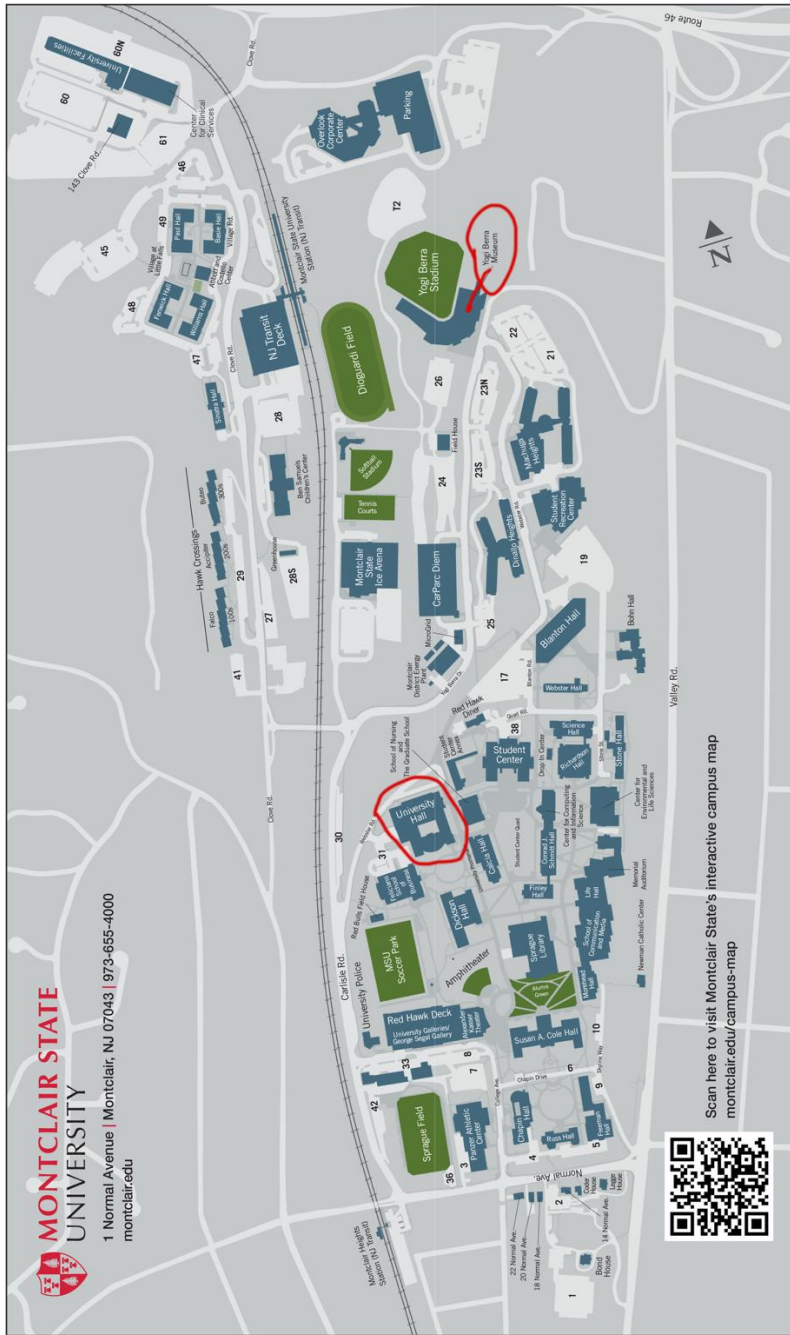
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IASA



Italian American Studies Association

58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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information, check
out the IASA
website:

<https://www.italianamericanstudies.net/>

