



CCI Newsletter No. 8, Vol. 2

## CALENDAR

**Oct 30:** Lecture on Experience Abroad by CCI's Exchange Student Jaydin Letina at **7:00 P.M.**

**Nov. 13:** Lecture on "An Introduction to the Etruscan Tradition" by Theresa Potenza at **6:00 P.M.**

**Nov. 16:** Storytime in *italiano* featuring *A caccia dell'orso* (Michael Rosen's *We're Going on a Bear Hunt!*) at **1:00 P.M.**

**Nov. 26:** Storytime in *italiano* featuring *La mela* (Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*) at **6:30 P.M.**

**Dec. 1:** A traditional Italian Christmas concert featuring award-winning Italian tenor Michéal Castaldo and friends at **6:00 P.M.**, at St. Rose of Lima Church 500 Parker Ave. Buffalo NY 14216. see attached flyer.

**Dec. 11:** Unveiling of the *Presepe* at CCI with a short presentation on the *presepe* tradition in Italy by Dr. Paola Kersch at **7:00 P.M.**

**Dec 14:** Storytime in *italiano* featuring The Legend of Old Befana and Pictures with La Befana and the *Presepe* at **1:00 P.M.**

**Dec. 18:** Reflections on Northern Italy Trip at **7 P.M.**

**Dec 20:** CCI Christmas Dinner & Concert at The Loft at Thinman Brewery at 166 Chandler Street at **7P.M.**

CCI Lectures and story hours are held at 1599 Hertel Avenue and are free to all members.

[Call \(716\) 832-2653](tel:7168322653) or [send an email to ccibuffalo@gmail.com](mailto:ccibuffalo@gmail.com) to reserve a seat!

## CCI BREAKS GROUND!!!!

On Saturday, October 12th, the CCI received the wonderful news that the city signed over ownership of the former Buffalo North Park Library to the CCI for the site of its future center. **Evviva!!**



## Announcements

Check out our newly improved CCI webpage at [ccibuffalo.org](http://ccibuffalo.org) with a link to join and renew membership online!

## Reflection of the 2019 Trip to Italy:

Dr. Francesco Giacobbe (CCI President)

The recent September trip to Northern Italy was truly spectacular and educational! The views from the Alps, from Western Italy with Monte Bianco, the highest peak of the Alps (at over 15,000 feet), to the Eastern Alps with the Dolomite peaks of Lavaredo were nothing short of sublime. The visit to Monte Bianco with two different elevators from Charmonis, France was an experience of a lifetime, literally taking your breath away due to the lower levels of oxygen at these high elevations. The view of the mountaintops covered in snow coupled with the temperatures in the high sixties made for a very unusual but of course pleasant experience.

After our visit of the Northern Alps, the bus took us across the Central Alps with stops at Como and its lake, Lake Garda, the famous Sirmione peninsula, and finally the city of Verona, known for its Ancient Roman arena and of course the home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers. Moving eastward, we reached Cortina d'Ampezzo, Olympic ski resort, and the three peaks of Lavaredo bordering Austria. We then went to Padua, Ravenna and concluded our journey in Venice.

My group was most impressed by the beauty of the Gothic cathedral of Milan, by the city of Turin, known also as the 1st capital of Italy, and the visit to the Shroud of Christ in the Cathedral of Turin, a very moving experience for the devout.

Additional sites included a visit to the city of Padova, famous for the second oldest university in the world (second to the university of Bologna), and its beautiful church of St. Anthony and the Scrovegni Basilica with the renowned paintings of Giotto. In the city of Ravenna, ancient capital of the Roman Empire at the time of Justinian, we visited the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare and San Vitale with mosaics dating back to the 6th century A.D.

Overall, we enjoyed good weather, food, wine and were blessed with a lovely memory. I look forward to planning our next trip of the Tuscany region.

## CCI Production

Thanks to the generous facilitation of board member Mrs. Maria Foss, the CCI has secured plenty of video footage and photography to utilize in our new center promotional efforts. Like and share our first CCI video on our website, Facebook and YouTube.

Rafael Mencia and Kyle Mecca from Lite-Work Media filming in Italy!



## Save the Date!!

Save the date for an elegant Christmas dinner/concert at The Loft at Thin-

man Brewery by Tappo restaurant on Friday December 20th presented by city developer and dedicated CCI supporter, Rocco Termini. Singer Michael Castaldo will provide the entertainment for the evening. This will be a wonderful evening that promises to get everyone into the Christmas spirit. Ticket information coming soon.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Paola M. (Giacobbe) Kersch, PhD

Send your feedback to: [kerschp@dyc.edu](mailto:kerschp@dyc.edu) or (716) 517-5168.