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Buffalo's Italian Cultural Center Celebrates 1 Year Anniversary & Italian Heritage Month

The CCI is marking one year of operations, its 1000th member, and kicking off Italian Heritage Month

BUFFALO, **New York** - The <u>Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo</u> (CCI Buffalo) celebrates one year since its ribbon cutting, its 1000th member, and a number of major accomplishments. To celebrate the occasion, the CCI is hosting a 1 Year Anniversary event at its Delaware & Hertel Ave location.

In one short year, the CCI has grown and expanded into a dynamic, vibrant, and inclusive cultural institution serving thousands in the Western New York community. The organization grew to more than 1000 members and also received "Best Cultural Programming 2022" from Buffalo Spree Magazine.

11:00 am October 8, 2022: a brief program with remarks from State Senator Sean Ryan, State
Assemblyman Bill Conrad, Erie County Executive Mark Polocarz, and Buffalo City Councilmember
Joel Feroleto as well as Executive Director John Vecchio and Deputy Director Lindsey Lauren Visser.

"The CCI has accomplished a great deal in a short time. From the adaptive reuse of the former North Park Library to the robust schedule of programs and events- the CCI has become a vibrant asset to our community," said **Senator Sean Ryan**. "I've been happy to support this project and to provide the capital to make it possible."

"This year has exceeded our wildest dreams," said **Executive Director John Vecchio**. "The outpouring of support from the community has been tremendous and we hope we've made them proud."

After the program, the CCI is offering docent led tours, a pop-up lunch in the caffe, espresso beverages, face painting, and other activites.

The event also marks October as Italian Hertiage Month. The CCI will be offering a slate of programs throughout the month to provide people the opportunity to learn more about Italian food, cultural, and heritage.

About Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo:

Awarded Best Cultural Programming in WNY by Buffalo Spree Magazine 2022, the Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded by Dr. Francesco Giacobbe and his late wife, Renata Giacobbe in 2010. For over ten years, the CCI has been sharing and promoting education, history, and inspiring current and future generations within the Buffalo community. CCI Buffalo's mission is to preserve and promote Italian culture, heritage and language through educational opportunities and community engagement in the Western New York region. For more information visit, ccibuffalo.org.

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