



Newsletter ~ January 2017

Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo

P.O. Box 1561, Pueblo, Colorado 81002

President: Michael G Salardino • **1st Vice President:** Chris Picicci • **2nd Vice President:** Frank Sagona • **Treasurer:** Lou Spera • **Corresponding Secretary:** Mary Ann Hegler • **Recording Secretary:** Dorothy DeNiro • **Past Presidents:** Donna Stutzman, Barbara Ferrero, Rocco DeNiro

Committee Chairs: **Education:** Chris Picicci • **Membership:** Frank and Vivian Sagona • **Historian:** Patty Retzlaff • **Events:** Warren Diodosio • **Reservations:** Carol Arias, Betty Giltner, Linda McBride and Janet Sciortino

Mission Statement

The mission of the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo, Colorado is to promote and preserve the Italian language, culture and customs in Pueblo and Southern Colorado regions. To achieve this mission, the following goals are set forth:

- * To award scholarships to Pueblo area senior high school students to continue the study of Italian language at the university level.*
- * To sponsor cultural and social activities to enhance the Italian American community.*

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Dante Alighieri Society Members,

A very happy New Year to you all, or should I say, Buon Anno!

Thank you for having the confidence in me to elect me as your president. Following in the footsteps of Donna Stutzman, Barbara Ferrero and the legendary Rocco DeNiro is an awesome charge. But with the other officers you have chosen, First vice president, Chris Picicci, Second vice president, Frank Sagona, Treasurer Lou Spera, Recording Secretary Dorothy DeNiro and Corresponding Secretary [Mary Ann Hegler](#), I am confident we can continue the high ideals of this esteemed society.

We are committed to living our mission statement listed above and doing so with excellence. No organization has done more to keep our language and culture alive and to educate our youth in our beautiful language and culture or the past 40 years as the Dante Alighieri Society. Our support of the Italian language department and the endowment for Italian studies is second to none. But I believe we can even do more. We can do more to send our youth to study in Perugia and our beautiful Sister City of Bergamo. We can make many more Italian Americans and lovers of Italian aware of our cultural events such as Carnevale, the scholarship lunch, the

Summer Festa and our Regional dinner. These events allow us to celebrate our beautiful culture while eating great food, hearing phenomenal music (Thank you Mr. DeNiro) and having a great time.

Spread the word! Ours is a vibrant, meaningful and fun society. Avanti!

Michael G Salardino

President, Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo and Southern Colorado

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Felice Anno Nuovo!

Carnevale Dinner Dance ***Historic Pueblo Union Depot*** ***Friday, February 24, 2017*** ***5:30 pm***

Scholarship Awards ***Pueblo Country Club*** ***Sunday, May 7, 2017*** ***12:00 pm***

TRAVEL

THE GRAND TOUR OF ITALY

Have you ever thought about visiting Venice, Florence, Rome and Pompeii? Now is your opportunity with Colorado State University's Education First College Study Tour. Join faculty and students on a fun-filled tour of the Italian peninsula from June 8 to June 18, 2017. On this journey from northern to southern Italy, you will experience some of the country's most iconic landmarks and savor several examples of its regional cuisines. Wander the winding cobblestone streets of Venice or take a gondola ride on its sparkling crystal blue canals. Enjoy views from the top of the Duomo of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence and sip on a cappuccino at Caffè Rivoire in Piazza della Signoria in front of the original spot where Michelangelo's David was placed in 1504. Inspire your spirituality in Assisi with visits to the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi and the Basilica of Saint Clare, the latter church houses the actual San Damiano Cross that supposedly spoke to the Franciscan saint. Visit Pompeii, the most well preserved city of antiquity and see first-hand Roman frescoes and plaster casts of the victims of the 79AD eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. Finally, imagine yourself standing in the Coliseum, looking up at the Sistine Chapel or experiencing nightlife on the recently renovated Spanish Steps like a Roman. Rome is truly an unforgettable city and its treasures and people will never cease to amaze you.

For more information visit the following webpage:

<http://www.efcollegestudytours.com/professors-trip/1850950UP>

or contact Dr. Picicci at chris.picicci@csupueblo.edu / tel. (719) 549-2243.



SCHOOL NEWS

Courses at the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center

Italy and the Grand Tour

Instructor: Chris Picicci / Thursdays, 5:30 – 7:00 pm / May 4, 11, 18, 25

The Grand

Tour was a formational journey to major European cities undertaken by young men of means as part of their formal education. This class will focus on the history of this cultural phenomenon and consider why it became such a popular and important part of European culture. We will also take an in-depth look at the major Italian cities that were considered da non perdere (not to be missed) as part of the tour. Students will learn about the culture and monuments of Venice, Rome, Florence and Naples and their importance to the itinerary. We will also read short first-hand accounts of travelers who chronicled their experiences in diaries and letters. Finally, we will discuss basic Italian pronunciation and useful everyday phrases for those thinking about taking their own Grand Tour of Italy!

Power and Vision in Baroque Art: A Lecture Series

Instructor: Adrienne Picicci / Saturday, 4:00 – 5:30 pm / May 6, 13, 20, 27

In anticipation of the Rembrandt exhibition (Sorted and Sacred, June 2nd –Sept. 24th), at the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, this series of lectures will focus on works of art produced in the seventeenth century, a period that is commonly identified as the Baroque. Defined by its dramatic realism,

Baroque art is filled with puzzling contradictions that unfold with great theatricality. Through dynamic compositions, extreme contrasts and sensationalized subjects, Baroque art stirs the viewer's senses and demands complete participation in the "truth" of the depicted narrative. The course will be broken up into a series of four lectures examining the work of Caravaggio, Velazquez, Rembrandt and Vermeer.

VENITE AL CIRCOLO ITALIANO

Join us this semester for Italian conversation, food and fun. Dante members are encouraged to come and speak the language.



Thursday evenings, (February 2nd, 23rd, March 9th and April 6th from 6-7 p.m. @ Manhattan's Pizza Parlor

1110 US HWY 50 WEST

Membership Renewal

Please find the 2017 Dues Renewal Form and an addressed envelope in this newsletter. We kindly request that you send dues for 2017 at your earliest convenience. Dues are payable from January through March. As always, thank you for inviting friends and family to join our organization.