

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKSELLERS

LEONARD RIGGIO
CHAIRMAN

December 11, 2017

Mr. Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

Being Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade was the experience of a lifetime. Marching together with my family and lifelong friends could not have been more heartwarming. We will never forget praying together in the majestic St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Sitting in the first row at the Mass, tears came to my eyes as my mind drifted to my parents Lena and Steve Riggio. How I wished they could have been there with me. My thoughts also turned to my wonderful grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, and the very special people who lived in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, USA. They were, and are, the music of my life.

Like all Italian-Americans, my heritage is important to me. It's not just a matter of where we came from, but who we are. Our forebearers did not have a walk in the park, and their genius was seldom recognized. Yet, they never wavered in their love for their adopted country, and never failed to answer the call to be good citizens. We walk boldly in their footsteps.

As you may know, this year's parade celebrated a group of Italian-Americans whose contributions to our society are enormous: Italian-American authors. Although most do not share the celebrity status of sports stars, entertainers, and business and political leaders, their important work is woven deeply into the fabric of American society. More than 100 authors marched in the parade this year, and many helped pass out free copies of a leather-bound edition of *The United States Constitution*. I couldn't have been more proud.

It is the Constitution which made noble the dreams and aspirations of our parents and grandparents, and it is this document to which our future generations will be indebted.

May God bless our Italian-American heritage.

Sincerely,



Leonard Riggio

RECOGNIZING OUR HONOREES

The Columbus Citizens Foundation was honored to have Leonard Riggio serve as the 2017 Grand Marshal. Mr. Riggio is the Founder and Chairman of Barnes & Noble Inc. The Foundation also paid tribute to its Honorees, Executive Vice President & COO of NewYork-Presbyterian, Dr. Laura Forese and Founder of Judlau Contracting Inc., Thomas Iovino. ■■

Grand Marshal

LEONARD RIGGIO

Founder & Chairman

Barnes & Noble Inc.

Honoree

DR. LAURA FORESE

Executive Vice President & COO

NewYork-Presbyterian

Honoree

THOMAS IOVINO

Founder, Judlau Contracting Inc.

CEO, Judlau Enterprises LLC





COLUMBUS CELEBRATION KICKOFF EVENT – HOSTED AT EATALY NYC DOWNTOWN

On Tuesday, October 3, the Columbus Citizens Foundation was thrilled to host its official kickoff event and sashing ceremony at Eataly NYC Downtown in the heart of the financial district and World Trade Center.

Eataly business partner (and CCF Member) Lidia Bastianich welcomed Foundation Members to the ceremony, where guests enjoyed food and wine with stunning views of downtown Manhattan.

Anchor and Global Markets Editor for FOX Business (and CCF Board Member) Maria Bartiromo was on hand to introduce our Honorary Celebration Chairman, Governor Andrew Cuomo. Governor Cuomo spoke of the importance that Columbus Day and the Columbus

monument continue to hold in the Italian-American community — and he spoke of the significance of Columbus not just to Italian Americans, but to America, as a symbol of all immigrants.

Honorees Dr. Laura Forese and Thomas Iovino offered brief remarks and were officially sashed as 2017 Honorees.

As a closing to the ceremony, the 2017 Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio took to the stage and paid tribute to the 100 Italian-American authors that would be marching with him as he led the Parade up Fifth Avenue. He also told the gathered crowd how appropriate and timely it was that the company he founded — Barnes & Noble — would be distributing 50,000 copies of the

Clockwise from top left:


MC Maria Bartiromo; CCF President Angelo Vivolo; Honoree Dr. Laura Forese; Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio; Honoree Thomas Iovino; New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo and Lidia Bastianich.

Executive Director David Iommarini; Vice-President Marian Pardo and CCF Member Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello.

Authors Gay Talese; Adriana Trigiani and Lorenzo Carcaterra gather with Grand Marshal and Barnes & Noble Founder Leonard Riggio.

New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo addresses guests.

U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence during the 2017 Parade.

The evening ended with a reminder to the crowds at Eataly NYC Downtown to attend both the Wreath Laying on Sunday, October 8 and the Parade on Monday, October 9. 



COLUMBUS CELEBRATION 73RD ANNUAL GALA BENEFIT

The Columbus Citizens Foundation's 73rd Annual Gala was held on Saturday, October 7. The 2017 Gala was the first to be held at the Hilton Midtown Hotel and the venue did not disappoint: with plenty of room for classic and modern Alfa Romeo automobiles on display; dancing enjoyed by all; a jazz band from Italy who performed during cocktails; a tremendous silent auction; and a

dinner dance featuring entertainment by award-winning Barry Manilow that entranced Members, Honorees and guests alike.

In addition to honoring our 2017 Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio, Chairman and Founder of Barnes & Noble, the evening also paid tribute to our two Honorees: Dr. Laura Forese and Mr. Thomas Iovino.

The Gala was hosted by CCF Board Member and acclaimed journalist Maria Bartiromo, who opened the evening's entertainment program in the Hilton's Grand Ballroom. She spoke of how proud she was to have been hosting the Foundation's Gala for over twenty years. In addition to welcoming all guests, she spoke of how, while "change is good", some things never change — including



Opposite, Clockwise from top left:

Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio waves at the guests.

Maria Bartiromo proudly serves as MC for the annual event.

From left: Governor Andrew Cuomo; Dr. Robert Downey; Honoree Dr. Laura Forese; Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio; Louise Riggio; CCF Board Member and MC Maria Bartiromo and CCF President Angelo Vivolo.

Above:

Guests fill the new venue of the New York Hilton Hotel.

Below:

Award-winning musical sensation Barry Manilow was the Gala's Featured Performer.



“what [the Celebration] represents... pride in our culture.”

Following Bartiromo's opening remarks, President Angelo Vivolo took to the podium and delivered an overview on the Foundation's mission of “giving back to others.” He was happy to report to all that he had “never seen such resolve and commitment” within the Italian-American community as he had in the lead up to this year's Celebration.

The Gala was honored to have a special guest and speaker in our Honorary Celebration Chairman, Governor Andrew Cuomo. The Governor thanked President Vivolo for his leadership to the community during a difficult year and reminded all that we still need “to tell the true story of Italian Americans in this country.” Cuomo got the crowd to their feet in applause, as he stated clearly and emphatically that as long as

he is Governor of New York, the monument to Christopher Columbus will remain in New York City.

His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York delivered the Invocation, and thanked the Heavenly Father for “the gifts of faith, family, friendship and fun” as well as paying tribute to “towering heroes” such as Christopher Columbus.

Honoree Dr. Laura Forese spoke of the pride she had for her Italian roots, and emphasized “the value of family.” She also spoke of how many first generation Italian Americans came “in search of a better life” and were welcomed and helped by other Italians who came before them. She urged listeners to embrace those Italian-American values in the present day.

The emphasis on values and giving back to others was reflected in

Right:

Governor Andrew Cuomo delivers a powerful message to the assembled guests.

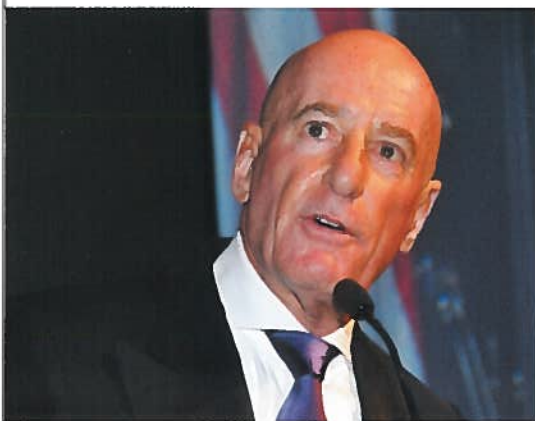
Authors Gay Talese, Mary Carlomagno and Gina Barreca attending the Gala to support our Grand Marshal Riggio.

Below:

2017 Honoree Dr. Laura Forese celebrates with her family.

Our 2017 Honoree Thomas Iovino takes to the podium.

Guests enjoying the dancefloor.



Honoree Thomas Iovino's speech as well. Iovino told guests stories of growing up the oldest of five in a crowded home — and how his life was “truly... the American dream.”

Gala attendees were given an advance preview of the video segment on the Foundation's scholarship program that aired during the Columbus Day Parade broadcast on WABC-7.

Bartiromo reminded all attending that the creation of opportunity is at the heart of the CCF's mission, and that our goal is to “set Italian Americans on the right path.”

When the time came for our 2017 Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio to take to the podium, he was introduced as a man who represents so many of the Italian-American community's values; hard work, integrity and love of family. Riggio referenced the writers that he was sharing the honor of Grand Marshal with, and told them that they “bring honor to all Italian Americans.”

Riggio spoke of giving away 50,000 copies of the Constitution on the parade route, stating that this document “enabled our forefathers to become citizens of equal standing in America.” He also spoke of living his life with a balance between a “drive to excel and a sense of humility” — shaped in part from his father who told him to “aim for the stars” and his mother who warned him “not to get too big for [his] britches.” In the video segment that preceded his speech, he emphasized his constant desire of “being better, not to be richer, but to be better”.

The Gala was packed with exclusive live entertainment through the evening. As guests arrived for the cocktail hour they were wowed by the swing group who travelled from Italy to perform, Rudy Valentino ei Bailerias. During the dinner, the always popular Infernos performed a selection of popular standards that had guests on the dancefloor in between courses.

The entertainment closed with our featured Gala Performer, the award-winning Barry Manilow. Manilow's performance came courtesy of our Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio, who presented the singer with an Honorary Italian American award in the middle

of his set, joking that he would just need to lose the "w" at the end of his name. Manilow sang some of his most beloved songs including: "Looks Like We Made It;" "Can't Smile Without You;" and "Copacabana" to a delighted crowd.

Overall, the Gala was a huge success, generating revenue from ticket sales, sponsorship packages and the successful Silent Auction and Alfa Romeo raffle. All net proceeds from the Gala go directly to the Foundation's scholarship fund. ■ ■



Clockwise from top left:

Maria Bartiromo and Angelo Vivolo award 2017 Grand Marshal Riggio with his commemorative Columbus bust.

1968 Alfa Romeo Tipo 33/2 Stradale on display for Gala attendees.

Leonard Riggio presents performer Barry Manilow with his "Honorary Italian American" award.

Guests browsing the Silent Auction items.

Italian swing band Rudy Valentino ei Baileras perform standards during the cocktail hour.

The 58th annual Wreath Laying ceremony took place on Sunday, October 8. It was the largest crowd seen in many years as civil servants from America and Italy gathered in Columbus Circle to commemorate the Columbus Day holiday, and pay tribute to the achievements of Italian-American uniformed service men and women who have served their country and their city with honor.

COLUMBUS CIRCLE WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

The event is held jointly every year by the National Council of Columbia Associations of Civil Service and the Columbus Citizens Foundation. Civil servants from all Columbia Associations were represented, and it was wonderful to see so many of our Foundation Members out in the misty and windy weather to support the work these groups do for the city of New York.

As tradition dictates, the ceremony opened with performances of the Italian and American national anthems, which were followed by an Invocation from Monsignor Hillary Franco.

Joseph Guagliardo, President of the National Council of Columbia Associations of Civil Service, delivered opening comments, introducing speeches by Italian Consul General for New York, Francesco Genuardi and Columbus Citizens Foundation President Angelo Vivolo. We were also honored to have our 2017 Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio address the assembled crowd in Columbus Circle about the importance of the Columbus Day Celebration.

All four speakers gave thanks to the servicemen and women for their tireless work protecting and preserving the city of New York, and spoke of the dedication of Italians and Italian Americans to civic duty. Following the speeches, a wreath was laid at the base of the Columbus Circle monument.



Top to bottom:

Columbia Association, Department of Sanitation gathers on the steps of the Columbus monument.

CCF Members were well-represented in the crowd of spectators.

Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio was introduced to the podium by CCF President Angelo Vivolo.



COLUMBUS CELEBRATION MASS

2017 marked the 40th annual Columbus Day Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The morning of gratitude and prayer was, as always, a truly special way to give thanks to Christopher Columbus and the Italian-American community in the United States.

We were honored to have His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan as our Celebrant and His Excellency Dominick Lagonegro, Auxiliary Bishop of New York, as our Homilist.

The importance of giving back to the next generation of Italian Americans was made clear as two former Columbus Citizens Foundation scholarship recipients were selected to give readings during the Mass.

Bishop Lagonegro made use of the Homily to offer this valuable piece of advice; "Our country is not perfect, but I love her because of the good that she accomplishes. We must work to make the country better, not by tearing her down but working to build her up."

The Mass was well attended by CCF Members, our Grand Marshal, Honorees and their families and many of the Foundation's Scholarship recipients. ■ ■



Above, top to bottom:

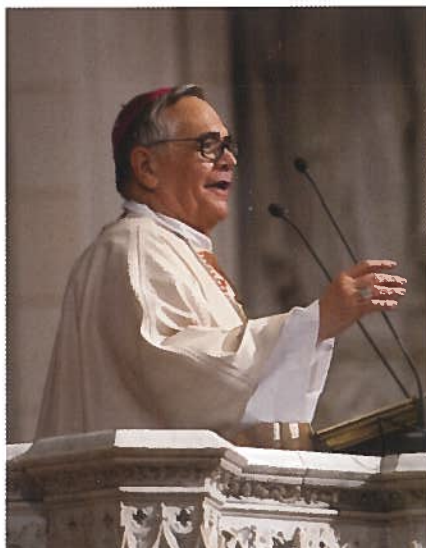
His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan proceeds down the center aisle of St. Patrick's Cathedral as the service begins.

Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio, Louise Riggio, Judy Iovino and Honoree Thomas Iovino in attendance.

Right, left to right:

His Excellency Dominick Lagonegro delivers the Homily.

2017 Honoree Dr. Laura Forese attended the Mass with her parents and husband.



The Columbus Citizens Foundation thanks
the hard work of the 2017 Columbus Celebration Chairmen
for their tireless efforts to make the 2017 Columbus Celebration an extraordinary success.

2017 COLUMBUS CELEBRATION CHAIRMEN



Angelo Vivolo
President / Weekend Chairman



Lawrence E. Auriana
Italian Affairs Chairman



Janice Galli Becker
Silent Auction Chairman



Matthew Classi
Dinner Chairman



Frank G. Fusaro
Media Chairman



Anthony F. Giordano
Journal Chairman



Michael F. Pedone
Marketing Chairman



Domenick J. Schinco
Mass Chairman



Aldo Verrelli
Parade Chairman



COLUMBUS DAY PARADE MARCHES UP FIFTH AVENUE

Rain clouds overhead, political debate regarding statues, warnings of a tropical storm — nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of the more than 25,000 marchers, 100 Italian-American authors, a fleet of Alfa Romeos and over 15 parade floats as they made their way up Fifth Avenue on Monday, October 9 for the 73rd Annual Columbus Day Parade.

Led by Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio, Founder and Chairman of Barnes & Noble Inc., the Foundation's parade celebrated Italian-American achievements and was themed around "A Celebration of Italian-American Authors."

In keeping with the parade's theme, 100 Italian-American authors (including Gay Talese; Danny Aiello; Nelson DeMille and Adrianna Trigiani) marched right behind our 2017 Grand Marshal, and they were followed by a magnificent Barnes & Noble float that wowed the crowds along Fifth Avenue. A second Barnes & Noble float appeared later in the line of march and distributed 50,000 copies of a special edition of the US Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence — a fittingly patriotic gift from Leonard Riggio to all 2017 Parade spectators!

Our major sponsor Alfa Romeo provided a cavalcade of cars that transported our Grand Marshal's family and our two Honorees. Alfas both contemporary and classic were a thrill to see driving up the parade route, including: a 1933 Alfa Romeo 8C-2300 Monza; a 1966 Romeo Service Van; a 1972 Alfa Romeo A12 Car Transporter and several 2018 Alfa Romeo Stevio All Sports. In addition, two Alfa Romeos (a 1984 Alfa Romeo Dallara 384 Formula 3 and a 2018 Alfa Romeo Stelvio All Sport) were featured on an elevated float for all to see.



Laura L. Forese, M.D., M.P.H.
Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer

525 East 68th Street
Payson 114
New York, New York 10065

TEL 212-746-5563
FAX 212-746-8313

ForeseL@nyp.org

October 16, 2017

Mr. Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

I am writing to express my sincerest gratitude to the Columbus Citizens Foundation for selecting me as an Honoree for the 2017 Columbus Day Parade. What an absolutely delightful weekend! It was such a memorable experience to participate in all the festivities. Thank you for bestowing me with the honor of representing our Italian-American culture and heritage.

I have never been prouder of my heritage than I was this weekend. My family originally came to the United States with only the dream of a better life and were so fortunate to be helped by others. I know they all marched with us in spirit on Columbus Day!

I would also like to thank you and the entire team at the Columbus Citizens Foundation for your tireless efforts, passion and enthusiasm in giving back to our community, and thank you, personally, for the magnificent work you do with the Foundation.

Sincerely,

Laura L. Forese, MD

Thomas Iovino
1115 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10128

October 25, 2017

Mr. Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

Angelo,

I wanted to express my sincerest thanks to you and the Foundation for a truly rewarding Columbus week experience. My family truly enjoyed every aspect of it from Eataly to the dinner and dancing Saturday night, Barry Manilow, the laying of the wreath Sunday and parade Monday. Although raining, it was an experience I will treasure forever. I want to make sure you realize just how comfortable the entire staff made me, my wife and family feel. They were there every step of the way, facilitating all our movements, keeping us comfortable in difficult weather and making us feel truly special.

And Angelo, special thanks to you. You are indeed a sincere, thoughtful and genuine human being. The Foundation is blessed to have you at the helm especially given the controversy of the statue in Columbus Circle this year. You touched my heart this special week and I will never forget you for it.

Warmest Regards,

Thomas Iovino



Opposite:
Barnes & Noble leads the Parade with a stunning float featuring some of the over 100 Italian-American authors marching in the Parade.
Clockwise, from left:
The Board of Governors leading the Columbus Citizens Foundation marching group.
"The Italian Fairy" Simona Rodano performs "Pinocchio Pop" with young dancers and actors.
A classic Alfa Romeo automobile makes its way up Fifth Avenue to the delight of onlookers.



Many other sponsors took to Fifth Avenue in colorful and creative floats and vehicles, including the Daily News; Casa Building; Gabrielli Trucking; Generoso Pope Foundation; New York Community Bancorp; WCBS FM; Gabelli Funds; Country Bank; L'Arte Del Gelato; Wagner College and Formaggio.

The parade was broadcast live on WABC-7, and once again renowned broadcast journalist Maria Bartiromo and actor/radio personality Joe Piscopo served as hosts. **The broadcast was enjoyed by over 602,500 viewers, representing a 10% increase from last year.** This steady growth of ratings from

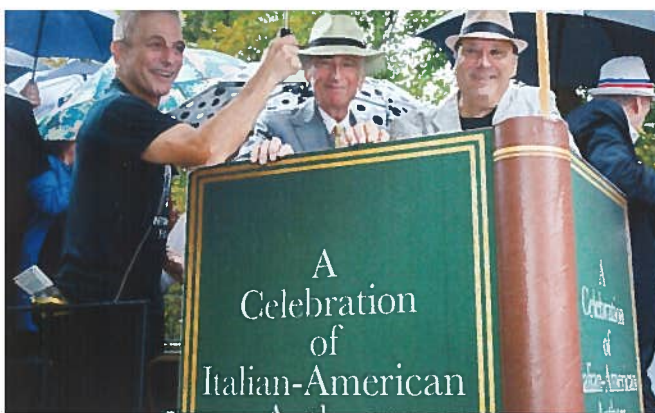
2014 to 2017 in a world where viewership is becoming more and more fragmented is truly cause for celebration — and is indicative of the support the New York market has for the celebration of Columbus Day.

Angelo Vivolo, 2017 President of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, said of this year's event: "Even the weather could not stop us from celebrating our heritage this Columbus Day. We are so grateful for the incredible theme our Grand Marshal Len Riggio implemented for this year's parade — and we are thankful for his inspiration and participation. It was truly wonderful to see how many

marching groups and spectators braved the weather conditions to share their pride as Italian Americans."

Our 2017 Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio is the Founder and Chairman of Barnes & Noble, the world's largest bookseller. He is a prominent Italian-American business leader who has dedicated much of his life outside the workplace to contributions to philanthropy and community service. He has also been a Member of the Columbus Citizens Foundation since 1991.

Mr. Riggio commented on being 2017 Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade, "I am honored and pleased to



carry on this important tradition and join the ranks of distinguished Italian Americans who have served in this role before me. At the same time, I am thrilled to use this opportunity to recognize the achievements of Italian-American writers and their enormous contributions to the literary fabric of America.”

The 2017 Parade spoke to the vitality and importance of Italian Americans in the city of New York with the participation of renowned contractor Thomas Iovino, responsible for the 2016 completion of the Second Avenue Subway and groundbreaking VP and COO of NewYork-Presbyterian Dr. Laura Forese as Honorees of the 2017 Columbus Day Parade.

The parade’s 2017 red carpet sponsor was the new app Emojitalia, a unique digital keyboard that also helps users sign petitions and contact their elected officials in support of Columbus Day. Emojitalia enjoyed full branding on a stage that was packed with entertainment. Spectators in the grandstand and viewers of the live broadcast on WABC-TV were treated to red carpet entertainment that began in traditional fashion with West Point Academy’s Military Band and a poignant rendition of “The Flag Still Flies High.”

The following acts included Italian sensation and winner of “The Voice Italy” Sister Cristina; acclaimed Italian Broadway vocalist Francesca Capetta and renowned classical cross-over artist Franco Corso. “The Italian Fairy” Simona Rodano provided family fun, and viewers were given a sneak peak of the off-Broadway show “This One’s For The Girls” when cast members performed a medley of 60’s hits. Other performances included: fan favorite Angelo Venuto; the girl group The Sirens; new pop artist LysXOXO and the 2017 semi-finalist from “America’s Got Talent”, Christian Guardino.

The impact of Italy was felt throughout the parade, as the Line of March included the Polizia Stato (Italian National Police), a musical marching band from Castiellammare del Golfo and an absolutely stunning procession from the Umbria region of Foglino’s Joust of Quintana. Italian dignitaries marched with the Italian Consulate General, including visitors from Frosinone; Tuscany and Abruzzo — as well as the Associazione Nazionale Carabinieri. Spectators also felt the culture and traditions of Italy come alive with actor/director Massimiliano Finazzer Flory in costume as renowned Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi.

The parade was attended by a wide array of American and Italian politicians and dignitaries. Governor Andrew Cuomo marched with the Foundation to kick off the Parade, and Mayor Bill DeBlasio marched alongside the FDNY. Mayoral candidates Nicole Malliotakis and Bo Dietl also joined the parade. Other politicians marching included: New York Congressman Tom Suozzi; NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli; Public Advocate Leticia James and New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer.

The Columbus Day Parade dates back to 1929 when New York City businessman and Italian immigrant Generoso Pope led a parade from East Harlem down to Columbus Circle. Today, the vibrant parade is planned and executed by the Columbus Citizens Foundation with the help of staff, Foundation Members and the assistance of more than twenty city agencies to deliver a safe and successful parade to New York City.

The annual New York City event is the largest Columbus Day Parade held in the United States, with all preparation and planning undertaken by the Columbus Citizens Foundation. ■ ■



WABC-TV

Angelo Vivolo
President
Columbus Citizens Foundation
8 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

October 13, 2017

Dear Angelo,

When you said "we're marching- rain or shine" – you really meant it!

Congratulations to the Foundation on another Columbus Day Parade, and if it makes you feel any better about the wet weather, 602,560 people saw the parade on Channel 7, 10% more than last year.

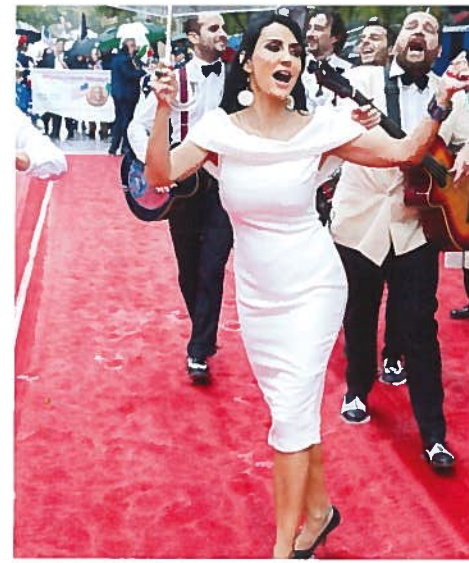
We share your mission to make the parade a celebration of Italian culture, and the positive influence it can be on future generations.

Keep up the good work!

Thanks.

Dave

Dave Davies
President & General Manager



Opposite, left to right:

Cohost Joe Piscopo leads the crowd in "New York, New York" at the end of the broadcast.

Authors Tony Danza; Gay Talese and Lorenzo Carcatarra on the official Barnes & Noble float.

Grand Marshal Leonard Riggio and wife Louise staying dry while marching.

Clockwise from above:

Letter of congratulations from WABC-TV on another record-breaking year of viewer ratings for the Parade.

Television personality Francesca Alderisi dances across the red carpet with Italian swing band Rudy Valentino ei Balleras.

RC Diocese of Brooklyn's float makes its way through the parade.

Waves from a fire engine, as the Columbia Association FDNY cruises up Fifth Avenue.

The NYPD motorcycle police start off the Parade.

The wet weather did not deter the Young Adults Auxiliary from proudly marching with their banner.



The 2017 Spring Luncheon was held in May and showcased the work of acclaimed Italian designer Chiara Boni. Also present at the Spring Luncheon were Saks Fifth Avenue, who ran a pop-up boutique at the Foundation and sold \$30,000 of merchandise in just two hours — ten percent of which went straight to the Auxiliary's Scholarship Fund.

The Ladies Auxiliary welcomes any potential new members. Please contact Janice Becker for details on how to become involved.

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