

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

In June, 2007, NOIAW inaugurated a Cultural Exchange Program in conjunction with the Italian Foreign Ministry. College-age female Italian students were selected to be guests in the homes of members in the New York City area. Visits during their two week stay included professional, cultural and social activities in New York City, as well as two days in Washington, D.C. In June of 2008, NOIAW will be sending twenty Italian American young women of college age to Italy.

COMMITTEES

Conference/Luncheon Committee

Coordinates the activities and responsibilities associated with the Organization's biennial luncheon/conference.

Fundraising Committee

Plans events that raise money for the Organization, in accordance with the policy of the Board of Directors.

Membership Committee

Encourages and promotes new membership in the Organization.

Mentor Program Committee

Encourages the educational goals of the membership by establishing and promoting one on one mentor-mentee relationships, whereby members may serve as role models for students aspiring to professional careers.

Program Committee

Provides stimulating, imaginative and instructive programs for the benefit of the members and the community at large.

Public Relations Committee

Encourages and promotes a greater understanding between the community and the Organization and publicizes the activities of the Organization and the community.

Scholarship Committee

Raises funds for scholarships and evaluates and selects qualified students to participate in the Organization's scholarship program.

Web Site Committee

Maintains and updates NOIAW's web site.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

NOIAW's events are educational, cultural, and professional in nature and are as diverse as its membership. The following list of annual membership programs is open to NOIAW members and their friends.

Cultural Events

Evenings at the opera and theater, lectures by prominent Italian American women, book related events featuring Italian American authors and book signings, film screenings, food and wine events, and sponsored trips to art exhibits.

Networking

Events, cocktail parties, and monthly gatherings provide opportunities for members to interact in a social setting.

National Luncheon/Dinner

Formal functions held biennially in New York City honoring distinguished women and men of Italian background. Yearly scholarship awards are presented at this time.

Trips

Biennial group trips to Italy providing members and their friends an opportunity to explore the art, history, and culture of various regions of Italy, as well as the chance to meet and dine with local officials and establish new friendships abroad. Occasional domestic excursions highlighting Italian American communities in cities across the U.S.

International Conferences

Conferences bringing together women of Italian heritage from around the globe to discuss universal topics such as health, education, and employment. These conferences provide a forum for women linked by heritage to share their experiences and to strengthen the international community of women of Italian ancestry.

**VISIT US ONLINE!
WWW.NOIAW.ORG**

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NOIAW
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF
ITALIAN AMERICAN WOMEN





OUR STORY

The National Organization of Italian American Women was founded in 1980 by a group of Italian American women who sought to create a national network to support the educational and professional aspirations of its members and to combat ethnic stereotypes by promoting positive role models.

Over 25 years later, we are still the only national membership organization for American women of Italian ancestry. Our membership is comprised of a diverse group of women—professionals in a wide range of fields, homemakers, students and retirees.

NOIAW sponsored events are educational, cultural and social in nature and focus on issues of interest to Italian American women. The programs recognize and promote the accomplishments and contributions of women of Italian ancestry, as well as acknowledge women as keepers of the culture.

Through travel and international conferences, NOIAW has established links with women of Italian ancestry in Italy, Argentina and Australia, broadening the borders, network and influence of the organization beyond the United States.

In 2005, NOIAW opened its membership to those not of Italian descent who wish to support NOIAW's efforts on behalf of Italian heritage and culture.

While NOIAW continues to grow, the Board of Directors work to ensure that the spirit of the organization retains the sense of community and camaraderie with which it began, so that each NOIAW program attended feels like time spent with family.

MENTORING

The Mentor Program reflects NOIAW's mission and commitment to supporting young Italian American women by providing positive role models. Members provide mentees with advice, suggestions, and opportunities while encouraging ethnic pride, self-esteem, and professional identity.

NOIAW members can be found at the top of their fields, and many have achieved successes in a wide range of professions, including medicine, law, business, education and the arts. The one-on-one relationships between mentors and their mentees have contributed significantly to the future success of the young women embarking upon new careers.



Hon. Geraldine A. Ferraro with Hon. Patricia de Stacy Harrison, President and CEO, Corporation of Public Broadcasting.



Carol Silvagni Macleod, NOIAW President.

See more event photos:
www.noiaw.org/galleries

SCHOLARSHIPS

The National Organization of Italian American Women is committed to encouraging young women of Italian descent who have achieved success in their academic endeavors and who hope to realize academic dreams of higher education. Since 1980, NOIAW has awarded scholarships on a yearly basis to deserving young women in their pursuit of educational advancement. In addition to scholarships, NOIAW also awards the Geraldine A. Ferraro Endowed Scholarship to an eligible Italian American woman pursuing a degree in the field of law.

To be eligible, an applicant must be a female student, matriculating full-time and must demonstrate financial need. At least one parent must be of Italian descent. The eligible applicant must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5, complete the application form, and provide a typewritten, one page biography.



Chairwoman and Founder Aileen Riotta Sirey and Distinguished Member Lidia Matticchio Bastianich.



NOIAW Board of Directors