



DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY OF PUEBLO



**INTERIM BOARD MEMBERS
(UNTIL DECEMBER 2024 ELECTIONS)**

PRESIDENT: DR. CHRIS PICICCI • **1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** ANISSA MADRILL • **2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** BARBARA FERRERO • **TREASURER:** JOEY GAVATO • **SECRETARY:** WYATT FARRIS • **BOARD MEMBER (AT LARGE):** DONNA STUTZMAN • **BOARD MEMBER (AT LARGE):** WARREN DIODOSIO • **BOARD MEMBER (AT LARGE):** OPEN • **BOARD MEMBER (IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT):** MICHAEL SALARDINO

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP: DR. CHRIS PICICCI • **ITALIAN CLASS COORDINATOR:** DR. CHRIS PICICCI • **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** OPEN • **SUMMER FESTA COMMITTEE:** OPEN • **REGIONAL DINNER COMMITTEE:** BARBARA FERRERO • **CARNIVALE COMMITTEE:** BARBARA FERRERO • **CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE:** OPEN

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT OFFICERS:

DANTE GLOBAL LIAISON: ANISSA MADRILL • **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** ANISSA MADRILL • **HISTORIAN:** OPEN • **MARKETING LIAISON:** OPEN • **WEBMASTER:** DAVID SALAY

PAST PRESIDENTS: DONNA STUTZMAN, BARBARA FERRERO, ROCCO DENIRO



President's Message:

Dear Dante Alighieri Members,

Happy fall to all of you! It is with a tremendous amount of gratitude that I write this message. Over the past several years, I have been actively involved in the DA Society of Pueblo. I am thankful for the loyal membership and for your support in honoring the Italian language and culture. I admire the dedication and hard work that each Board Member has put into making this organization a success. I am equally grateful for the continued support and enthusiasm that you show for the promotion of the Italian language and culture in our community and in Southern Colorado. I have seen first-hand the impact that our scholarships have on students' lives. In this newsletter, you will read testimony of the influence that the Dante Alighieri scholarship had on 2 CSU Pueblo undergraduate students.

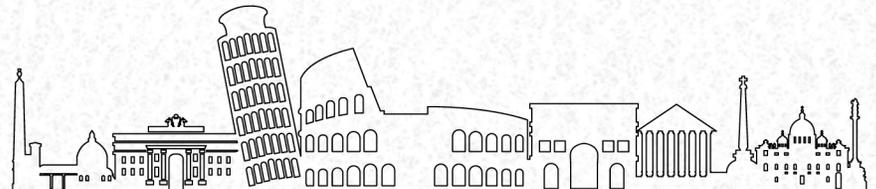
The DA of Pueblo began in 1977 thanks to Fr. Tomatis, a native of Turin, Italy. We became the first DA in Colorado and eventually influenced Denver to start its own chapter. As we continue to evolve and seek to expand our membership, we recognize the vision of our founders and proudly stand behind our mission of protecting and promoting the Italian language and culture. As we approach our 50th Anniversary, we recognize the unwavering support of our membership and past and present board members.

With each new season comes change, on behalf of the Dante executive committee and membership, I'd like to thank Michael Salardino, Luigi Spera and Donna Gutierrez for their service and commitment to the DA of Pueblo. We truly appreciate the leadership and energy they have given and will continue to give the organization. We are grateful for their years of service and continued support.

As we look ahead, we invite you to join us for the cultural dinner on Friday, November 22nd in the Ballroom at Pueblo Community College. We will be celebrating the northern Italian region of Lombardy this year. We would also kindly ask you to mark your calendars for our Christmas party at Walking Stick Golf Course on Sunday, December 15th from 2-5 p.m. We will be voting in a new DA Board of Directors that will serve for the next 2 years. Members are encouraged to run for a Board seat and/or serve on one of our many committees.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Warmly,
Chris Picicci



Menu

Antipasti

Caprese Salad (set family style)

Primi

Stuffed Cheese Tortellini in sage & pancetta butter sauce with peperonata

Dolce

Vanilla gelato with amaretto cookie

Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo Presents 2024 Regional Dinner

A Taste of Lombardy

When: Friday, November 22nd, 2024

Where: Pueblo Community College
900 W. Orman Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004

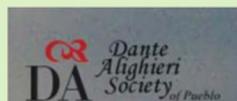
Guest Arrival & Cash Bar: 5:00pm

Appetizers Served: 5:30pm

Dinner Served: 6:00pm

Cost: \$40 per person

**RSVP by Nov. 11th to Barbara Ferrero
(719) 250-6898 or barbferrero.1@gmail.com**



Mark your calendars, folks!
You won't want to miss the Dante Alighieri Society's Regional Dinner event—it's going to be a blast! Friends and family welcome. We will spend an exciting evening visiting, learning about the region and much more. Door prizes and free recipe card give away.
RSVP today or contact Barbara Ferrero (info below) for more information

Learn Italian with Dr. Picicci every Tuesday at Thunderzone
Pizza 7pm to 8pm

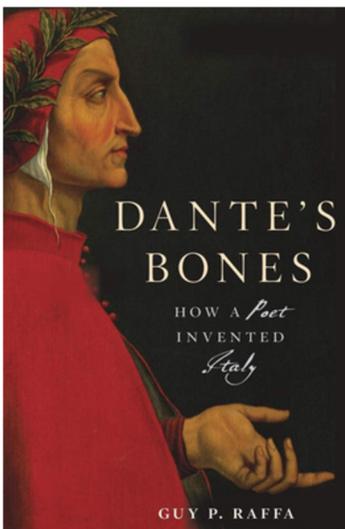


SAVE THE DATE! Dante Alighieri's Annual Meeting and Christmas Party is going to be on Sunday, Dec. 15th @ 2pm at Walking Stick Golf Course. Dante Pueblo will provide appetizers and a cash bar. We will vote in the new Board and say good-bye to 2024! Bring a white elephant gift to participate in a fun gift exchange.

(participation optional)



Dr. Picicci will be hosting a 4 week course of Italian for Travelers in the coming weeks. Location and times are still being finalized. Stay tuned for details.



Book Recommendations:

Dante's Bones: How a Poet Invented Italy
by Guy Raffa

To learn more about Dante Alighieri and his legacy the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo recommends Guy Raffa's Dante's Bones: How a Poet Invented Italy. (Harvard University Press, 2020).

"A richly detailed graveyard history of the Florentine poet whose dead body shaped Italy from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance to the Risorgimento, World War I, and Mussolini's fascist dictatorship.

Dante, whose Divine Comedy gave the world its most vividly imagined story of the afterlife, endured an extraordinary afterlife of his own. Exiled in death as in life, the Florentine poet has hardly rested in peace over the centuries. Like a saint's relics, his bones have been stolen, recovered, reburied, exhumed, examined, and, above all, worshiped. Actors in this graveyard history range from Lorenzo de' Medici, Michelangelo, and Pope Leo X to the Franciscan friar who hid the bones, the stone mason who accidentally discovered them, and the opportunistic sculptor who accomplished what princes, popes, and politicians could not: delivering to Florence a precious relic of the native son it had banished.

In Dante's Bones, Guy Raffa narrates for the first time the complete course of the poet's hereafter, from his death and burial in Ravenna in 1321 to a computer-generated reconstruction of his face in 2006. Dante's posthumous adventures are inextricably tied to major historical events in Italy and its relationship to the wider world. Dante grew in stature as the contested portion of his body diminished in size from skeleton to bones, fragments, and finally dust: During the Renaissance, a political and literary hero in Florence; in the nineteenth century, the ancestral father and prophet of Italy; a nationalist symbol under fascism and amid two world wars; and finally the global icon we know today."

(Source of citation - Harvard University Press)



Carnivale is back! Let's Celebrate Venetian style. Its back and going to be better than ever! **SAVE THE DATE** and plan on attending. Carnivale in Venice is a celebration steeped in rich history that dates back to the 13th century. This vibrant festival is not just a feast for the senses - it's a dazzling showcase of Italian heritage that embodies a spirit of community and cultural exchange. Imagine yourself wandering through the winding streets adorned with masks and costumes, as laughter and music fill the air, inviting you to partake in the joy and artistry of this timeless tradition. Carnivale is a joyful reminder of our shared humanity, promoting inclusivity and connection among diverse cultures, which is perfectly aligned with the mission of the Dante Alighieri Society. So, come and immerse yourself in this spectacular celebration, where every mask tells a story and every moment is a memory in the making! We warmly invite you to explore more about our cultural programs and scholarship opportunities, because together, we can continue to enrich our communities through the beauty of Italian culture.



Scholarship Winners Express Gratitude



Studying abroad in Italy was an incredibly enriching and culturally immersive experience, one that I will cherish for the rest of my life. This life-changing opportunity was made possible by the Dante Alighieri Scholarship Board, to whom I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude. During my time in Italy, I formed deep and lasting friendships with my fellow CSU Pueblo Thunderwolves, local Italians and fellow international students in my classes, creating a lifetime of connections that I will carry with me always. Along with Professor Picicci's guidance, the program significantly boosted my confidence in writing, understanding, and speaking Italian. It has sparked a passion within me to continue my studies until I achieve true proficiency. I have savored new and delicious cuisines, enjoyed the sounds of traditional Italian music, and marveled at the country's breathtaking landmarks. This program has deepened my appreciation for the diversity and beauty of the world. I am eager to share my experience with others, encouraging fellow students to embrace the opportunity to study abroad and immerse themselves in the Italian language and culture. Moreover, the experience has influenced me to donate to this scholarship when I am out of college to help students like myself. My heartfelt thanks go to the Dante Alighieri Board and membership for recognizing my potential.

- Ms. Shaylan Wilson

When I found myself as a single mom of two, I thought my dreams of traveling were forever out of reach. However, everything changed when I met Dr. Picicci, who introduced me to the opportunity for CSU-Pueblo students to study Italian in Italy over the summer. Eager to participate, I couldn't afford the trip alone. It was the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo Scholarship that made it possible for me to travel and study abroad in Bergamo, Italy, for which I am forever grateful. Prior to the trip, I enrolled in Italian classes with Dr. Picicci, which was invaluable for navigating Italy and connecting with her people. While I expected to be enthralled by the historic sites and renowned art, it was the warmth, sincerity, and open heartedness of Italy's people that truly touched me. Their genuine kindness and eagerness to communicate left a lasting impression on me. I found that with a few words in each other's language, many gestures, and mountains of goodwill, it was easy to communicate. The most treasured souvenirs I brought back are the connections I made there with countless people of different backgrounds and lived experiences. I deeply cherish the meaningful connections I made and look forward to revisiting Italy.

-Ms. Holly Bacon

Regional Spotlight: Lombardy

One of Italy's richest and most inhabited regions, Lombardy (Lombardia), is located in northern Italy and shares its alpine border with Switzerland. The name "Lombardy" comes from the Longobards - Germanic people who conquered most of the Italian Peninsula between 568 – 774 CE. Their name most likely comes from the Proto-Germanic long (langaz) beard (bardaz) describing their facial hair.

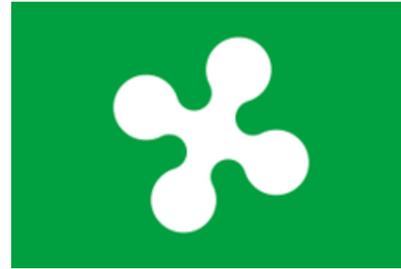
The capoluogo (administrative center) of Lombardy is Milan. It is the second largest city in Italy and well-known for its art, architecture, cuisine and as well as being the fashion and design capital of Italy. Milan is part of the industrial triangle in northern Italy that includes two other major Italian cities - Turin and Genoa.

Lombardy has an extensive and rich history that is known for its vibrant cities, complex cultural heritage, and breathtaking landscapes. In fact, the lakes within this region are some of the most popular in all of Italy.

Lombardy is the most affluent region of Italy and has a diversified economy, contributing to approximately 20% of Italy's GDP. Industries such as finance (the Italian stock exchange is in Milan), manufacturing, construction, fashion, production, technology, and tourism all contribute to the vibrancy and success of the region's economy.

The region is home to eleven provinces and boasts 1,502 comuni (municipalities) and ten UNESCO world heritage sites. Lombardy is a paradise for lovers of architecture, art, and historical landmarks. Its churches are some of the most famous in all the world. Visitors will find ancient Roman ruins (e.g. Columns of San Lorenzo), medieval castles and Renaissance treasures, and ultramodern architecture throughout the region. The cities and landscape of Lombardy offer multiple opportunities to appreciate beauty and live the sweet life – "La dolce vita".

The rich culinary traditions of Lombardy are a testament to the region's diverse people, geography and traditions. The use of local, fresh, organic seasonal produce is commonplace throughout the region. From Lombardy's hearty dishes in the alpine valleys to the unique cuisine of Lombardy's cities, visitors will not be disappointed. The local animals, vegetables, and fruits provide ingredients that are unforgettably delicious. Some popular dishes include: Risotto alla Milanese, Ossobuco, Pizzoccheri, Tortelli di Zucca, Polenta Tauranga. The production of wine (Franciacorta wine is from the region) and cheese (e.g. Grana Padano, Mascarpone, Gorgonzola & Taleggio) is also big business in Lombardy



Flag of Lombardy



Piazza del Duomo, Milan



Columns of San Lorenzo



Ossobuco (braised veal shanks)
"bone with a hole" in Milanese



Pay your Membership Dues online!

www.dantealighieripueblo.org

or mail your check to:

Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo
P.O. Box 1561
Pueblo, CO 81002

