



Consolato d'Italia
Detroit

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Dear Friends,

After nearly ten years of effort on the part of Italian institutions in the United States, educators and Italian-American associations, the Advanced Placement (AP) Program in Italian Language and Culture was launched in 2005 by the College Board, which is a non-profit organization that creates educational guidelines and programs in a range of subjects for high school teachers. In addition, it administers exams that grant qualified high school students college credit for courses taken in high school.

The program serves thousands of students each year as they learn the beautiful Italian language and appreciate the rich culture, history, and contemporary life of Italy, one of the great nations of the Western world. Through this program, students can fully appreciate the idiomatic expressions, nuances, and significance of the spoken and written Italian language. Two of the primary benefits of successful completion of AP Italian courses are that students are able to demonstrate a high level of achievement in their high school transcripts and, by receiving college credit for their high school work, are able to accelerate the completion of their college studies.

Unfortunately, in April 2008, at the end of the AP Italian Program's third year, the College Board announced that it had sustained significant financial losses related to AP Italian and that it would discontinue the program unless benefactors step forward to support the program.

We cannot allow AP Italian to be discontinued. Simply, it is too great a resource for the education and future of America's children and our communities. We need your support to insure that Advanced Placement Program in Italian is funded in the future.

I invite you join us in our critical mission of developing Italian language studies and sustaining the AP Italian Language and Culture program. The program was made possible also through the dedicated efforts of individuals with a deep-seated commitment to education and the Italian language and culture, most notable of who are Mrs. Matilda Raff Cuomo and Margaret I. Cuomo, M.D.. Together with the Italian Embassy in Washington and the Italian Consular Offices throughout the United States, the Italian Language Foundation, Inc., which is dedicated to promoting and sustaining Italian language education in the United States, supports the College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) program in Italian Language and Culture. A tax-deductible contribution to the Italian Language Foundation, Inc. will help ensure that the study of Italian becomes an ever greater part of the American educational system. You can donate on-line by credit card through the website www.italianlanguagefoundation.org or by mailing a check or money order to:

Italian Language Foundation
8 East 69 St. New York, NY 10021
Tel. 646.289.4600

Please note that the Italian Language Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

While trusting in the collaboration of the associations and also that of the individual representatives of our vast and generous community and while remaining available for possible common undertakings, I extend my best personal regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlo Romeo', with a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Consul of Italy in Detroit