



Il Grifone

Seattle-Perugia Sister City Association News

www.seattle-perugia.org

Food, fun and friendship at Aug. 13 members picnic

It's that time of year again! Our annual members meeting and picnic is Sunday, Aug. 13, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Ravensdale, Wash., at the historic Borracchini farm. Only about 45 minutes from Seattle, this lovely corner of King County feels like a world away.



As usual, several delicious entrees will be provided. Our host, Dan Borracchini, will make the pasta, cooked *al dente*, and the SPSCA board will be grilling sausages. Everything else is potluck. That means you!

Please contribute a salad, antipasto dish, snacks or a dessert, plus whatever you'd like to drink, both alcoholic and non. [RSVP here and tell us](#) what's in your picnic basket and how many guests you are bringing.

The picnic is your chance to meet new members, catch up with old friends and learn what SPSCA has coming up for the rest of 2017. We'll also elect board officers (see related article, below).



So grab your sunscreen, straw hats and hearty appetites! And don't forget your singing voices. Our event always includes a sing-along of Italian tunes, both old and new. The picnic is the

[JULY 2017](#)

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Want to find out the latest SPSCA news? Short features and news releases are posted on our [website blog](#). Look here first when you want to know what's going on. That's also where you'll find the *Il Grifone* archives. On social media, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Benvenuti



A warm welcome to our newest members. Thank you for your support:

* Ray and Rachel Edmonds

It's time for dues



Don't miss a single month of events and activities! Our membership year runs

most anticipated event of the year, so don't miss it!

Date: Sunday, Aug. 13, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Address: 33801 SE Courtney Rd
Ravensdale, WA 98051

[RSVP Here](#)

Board of directors opening

Do you like organizing events, have expertise in website design or simply want to give back? We have one board opening and we invite you to apply.

SPSCA is governed by an all-volunteer board, each serving a three-year term. We develop cultural and educational events and exchanges, and we also work to nurture and extend our relationship with Perugia.

To submit your name, please email a write-up of about 100 words explaining why you would like to serve and what skills you have to share. Email your submission to [our Board of Directors committee](#) by July 21.

To be considered, you must be a dues-paying member; be willing to actively participate in monthly board meetings (third Wednesday of each month, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Seattle); chair or serve on a committee; volunteer at and attend events such as the annual picnic or Italian film festival; and be available for the annual board retreat held in October.

Piazza Perugia dedication set for Oct. 14 in Seattle

It's official: The dedication ceremony for Piazza Perugia is Saturday, Oct. 14, at 10 a.m. And **you** are invited!

Both mayors are scheduled to participate in the ribbon-cutting. Mayor Andrea Romizi will be traveling from Perugia with a small delegation and Seattle Mayor Ed Murray will be on hand as well with other city officials.

There will be music, speeches, light refreshments, ceremonial involvement from the Duwamish Tribe, and a big turnout from the local Italian and Italian-American community.

The piazza is part of Julia Lee's Park in Madison Valley at E. Harrison St. and Martin Luther King Jr. Way S. We are excited to have this permanent local reminder of our sister-city friendship, which goes back to 1993.

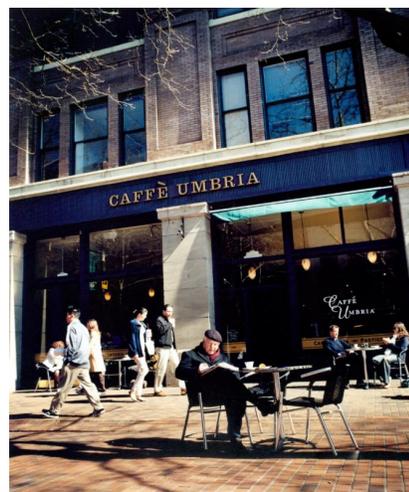
L'Antica Deruta, a ceramic arts studio in Umbria, designed and created decorative tiles that will be installed in the park by Nadine Edelstein, a tile artist from Vashon Island. Giorgio Moretti, L'Antica Deruta director, is expected to be at the event.

July 1 to June 30, so dues are due NOW. [Renew on our website](#) where you can use PayPal. At \$25 for individuals and \$35 for couples, it's Seattle's best cultural bargain! Consider an additional donation at the same time; details on our home page. Questions? [Email membership chair.](#)



Cinema Italian Style

You heard it here first-- the dates for this year's *Cinema Italian Style*, that is! This year's festival runs Nov. 9-16. It's an event *non da perdere!* ("not to be missed"). Titles and ticket information will be on the [SIFF website](#) when confirmed.



La Tavola Italiana

Want to practice your Italian? Join us at Caffè Umbria in Pioneer Square. You'll meet like-minded people who love all things Italian and you'll improve your language skills, too. All levels welcome.

Monthly 1st and 3rd Sundays
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

[Caffè Umbria](#), Pioneer Square

Choose SPSCA when shopping on Amazon

Did you know that your Amazon dollars can be used to support the Seattle-Perugia Sister City group?



Two long-time friends of SPSCA played a major role in funding for the park: Emanuele Bizzarri, owner of Caffè Umbria, and Leonardo Baldaccini of Umbra Cuscinetti, an Italian aircraft components manufacturer based in Everett. *Grazie mille!*

A big shout-out to former SPSCA president Mike James, who doggedly pursued the idea of a Seattle-based park for many years. And thanks go to the fundraising committee (Donna James, Roberta Torgeson and Elisabetta Valentini) for securing funds to make this possible.

Watch for additional details about the piazza dedication on [our blog](#), Facebook page and in the September issue of *Il Grifone*.

Study Italian in Perugia: applications due Oct. 31

Have you ever dreamed of spending a month in Italy, studying the language, enjoying the delicious food and living *la bella vita*? Here's your chance.



Apply for one of the scholarships we award to our members to study Italian at the University for Foreigners (Università per Stranieri), the famous language and culture university in the historic heart of Perugia.

This year, we've moved up the application process by two months. Applications will be accepted starting Aug. 1 and will close on Oct 31. To apply, you must be a member of SPSCA, at least 18 years old and a U.S. citizen with basic knowledge of the Italian language.

[Download an application](#) from our website and review the scholarship FAQ there, as well. Any questions? Please [email our](#)



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Film and art events attract large member turn-out

More than 50 members and friends joined us at the North American premiere of Max Croci's "The Truth About Love Is...". The film was the SPSCA-sponsored selection at this year's Seattle International Film Festival. Our members packed the Triumph Bar before the screening (see below) and many ended up there after the film, as well.



In June, [Pottery Northwest](#) warmly welcomed our sister city exchange artist, Qing Qu, to Seattle for three weeks. Qing is the second recipient of the ceramics exchange program, known as the de Poi Award. Seattle artist Myra Kaha was the first recipient, spending three weeks at the Moretti studio in Deruta, Italy, last year.

Qing, a student at Perugia's prestigious Accademia delle Belle Arti (Academy of Fine Arts), was chosen in a blind selection process. On June 23, she gave a multimedia, bilingual presentation at Pottery Northwest-- an event attended by SPSCA members and Pottery Northwest supporters.



We hope to continue the de Poi Award in 2018 when the next recipient will be on his or her way to Deruta for a three-week in-studio residency.

Your board is here to serve

We are always happy to hear from you. If you have any feedback, email [board president Leslie Keller](mailto:board.president@lesliekeller.com).

Your SPSCA Board Members

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