



CONCORSO 2017

The Ontario Association of Teachers of Italian
c/o E. Polin-De Luca

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EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

March 2017

Emanuela Polin-DeLuca
Philip Pocock CSS, DPCDSB
Chief Executive

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Ontario Association of Teachers of Italian is a non-profit organization devoted to the promotion of the teaching and learning of Italian in Ontario.

OATI is supported by the website for Teachers of Italian in Secondary Schools in Ontario. TISSO was created to promote the activities of Italian language, literature and culture programs at both the university and high school levels. It features high schools and their programs, offers suggestions and advice on how to promote Italian in schools and showcases successful activities. Please visit tisso.apps01.yorku.ca for more information.

Executive Organizing Committee

Biagio Aulino
Father Bressani CHS, YCDSB

Maria Ferlisi
Notre Dame CSS, DPCDSB -Retired

In an effort to keep the profile of Italian alive, OATI has been organizing an annual *Concorso di lingua e cultura*. In the last number of years, the *Concorso* has been organized in collaboration with Italian Studies Programs at York University, University of Toronto and University of Toronto, Mississauga.

University Liaisons

Salvatore Bancheri
University of Toronto

Gabriella Colussi Arthur
York University

Maria Ferlisi
Niagara University

As you may know, all language arts courses have been badly undercut thanks to current Ministry of Education guidelines. Furthermore, the reduction of high school instruction from 5 years to 4 years has contributed to an additional reduction of classes. A core group of committed teachers and students is struggling to preserve its program. Their activities culminate with the annual, end-of-year, language contest considered a cornerstone activity and serving to strengthen and increase the importance of studying and learning Italian.

The success of the language contest depends on the support we receive from school administrations, association members, students, parents, various organizations, and the business community. The funds received are used solely for the purpose of prizes, scholarships, and promotional materials for the teaching and learning of Italian. Additional prizes, such as gift certificates or donated materials would also be greatly appreciated.

Mirella Pasquarelli-Clivio
University of Toronto

We would like to invite you to contribute to this year's *Concorso* which will be held at York University, Keele Street Campus, Thursday, May 4, 2017. This year's format allows students to participate in one of two formats: i) Written/Oral Exam or ii) Artistic Expression (this includes—prose, poetry, artistic works, or musical / dramatic representations. We expect close to 140 participants. All sponsors will be listed in the official contest program and mentioned in any media coverage afforded the competition. You will also be listed in the program which will be available on the TISSO website. Should you be available, we would also be pleased to invite you to present your gift or prize in person.

Participating School Boards

TDSB
PDSB
DPCDSB
DURHAM CDSB
NIAGARA
HCDSB
HAMILTON/WENTWORTH
ICS
TCDSB

We thank you in advance and extend an invitation to join us on Thursday, May 4, so that you may experience in person the enthusiasm and passion of these young people for the study of Italian.

Grazie infinite!

Yours sincerely,

Signature for OATI Executive