



VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270

# The Roar of the Lion

August 2025

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I can't believe that it's already August and summer is coming close to an end. It's been a busy few months with the State Convention in June and a superb Scholarship Night at our July general assembly meeting. Thank you to our scholarship committee and everyone else who helped make it a successful night.



We will be celebrating **Ferragosto** at our upcoming August meeting, which is August 14<sup>th</sup>. Ferragosto is celebrated on August 15<sup>th</sup> in Italy. It's not only August 15<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Assumption, but is one of the biggest public holidays of the year in Italy. It refers to the idea of

vacationing in August, a time forest going all the way back to Emperor Augustus Caesar. In place of **"Did you know?... with Ed"**, **Sr. Melissa Distaffen** will give a brief presentation on the Ferragosto holiday and the celebration will commence directly after the meeting.

Also happening in August is our annual **Members Picnic on August 23<sup>rd</sup>** at Quinzi Lodge in Eyer Park. **If you plan on attending, please send in your RSVP and payment to Sr. Marisa Przepiora by August 15<sup>th</sup>.** Good food, good company and all-around good time! Who could ask for anything more?

I'm grateful to announce that Br. Richard Meleca has agreed to make the sausage for the picnic again. They could use as much help as they can get and will be making the sausage on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at around noon. Please contact Br. Tom Meleca if you're interested at [tomsanmeleca@gmail.com](mailto:tomsanmeleca@gmail.com) or 315-986-1097.



Tanti auguri per l'estate!

Jeremy DiFilippo



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## EDITOR

Annette DeCarolis\

### 2025 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

August 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 Council Meeting
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 General Assembly Meeting
September 4 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 Council Meeting
September 11 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 General Assembly Meeting
October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6:30 Council Meeting
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 General Assembly Meeting
November 6 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 Council Meeting
November 13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 General Assembly Meeting
December 4 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 Council Meeting
December 11 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 Meeting/Holiday Gathering

### 2025 Lodge Events

<b>August 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Ferragosto Celebration</b>
<b>August 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Sausage Making</b>
<b>August 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Summer Picnic</b> Quinzi Lodge, Eye Park
<b>September</b>	<b>Annual Pie Sale</b>
<b>October 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Italian-American Heritage Dinner</b> Webster Country Club
<b>November</b>	<b>Turkey Raffle TBD</b> St. Nicholas Hall
<b>December 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Holiday Gathering</b> Eyer Building

**This is YOUR organization**

**YOU** can be at every Monthly Meeting



Meeting ID: 816 1122 4522

Passcode: 906332

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88687598885?pwd=k0Okv9fYp3llkNiaefMdbj80frcNF6.1>

**Whether in person or by Zoom,  
attend meetings and  
be a more informed and active  
member of the lodge.**



### Geneva Lodge

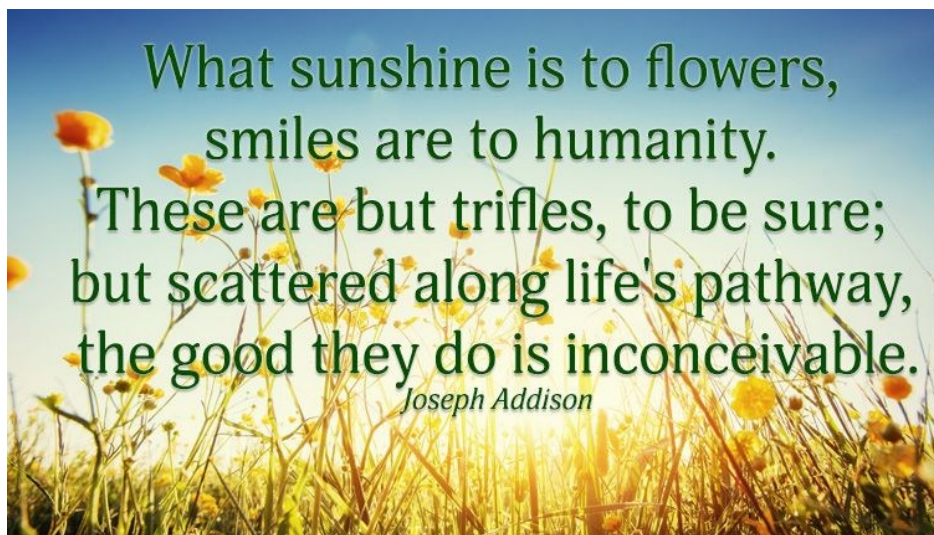
### ITALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL!

**August 15-16**

**FEATURING:**

**HOMEMADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE  
FRIED DOUGH / ITALIAN PASTRIES  
EGGPLANT PARM/PIZZA  
CHILDRENS GAMES / ICE CREAM  
PASTA DINNER SATURDAY 4-7 PM**

*For more information call:  
315-781-2242*



### August Birthdays

- 8/12 Linda Agnello
- 8/12 Jerry Griffo
- 8/13 Patricia Rask
- 8//14 Hon. Frank Affronti
- 8/23 Jeremy DiFilippo
- 8/24 Tom Meleca
- 8/31 Dr. Joseph Rubé



### Get Well Wishes

- Sandy Meleca
- Dawn DiGennaro's wife, Nancy
- Vince Giannantonio and Family
- Sam LaPietra's son, Joey
- Patty and Gordie Rask
- Nancy Rubé
- Ron Santoli



### Sympathy and Condolences

*to all our members who have suffered recently with illness or loss of a loved one.*

### Vincent Lombardi Lodge Scholarship Committee

Marisa Przepiora, Chair

Melissa DiStaffen

Marjorie Focarazzo

Ed Groszewski

Maurice Palucci



*We are grateful for your time and dedication to the process of selecting our winners.*



### Red Wing Baseball

*Italian American  
Heritage Night*

*August 12th*

*Only \$7 a ticket*

**Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270**

# Annual Picnic

**Saturday—August 23, 2025  
1:00**

**Quinzi Lodge—Eyer Park, East Rochester**



**Featuring our homemade  
Italian sausage**

The council will be supplying  
peppers and onions,  
Zweigle's red and white hots,  
rolls, baked ziti, pasta salad,  
green salad and baked beans

You are welcome to bring  
appetizers, snacks and desserts

**Please make your reservations to Marisa by August 15th**

**\$10 for lodge members and their spouses**

**\$20 for non-member guests**

**\$5 for children under 13**

**Come join fellow lodge members  
for food and fun**

## 2025 Scholarship Winners - July 12th Awards Night



Domenic Romach, Gabriella Zocco, Gia Rosato, Morgan Stanley, Krisina Fisher, Aiden Johnson, Ella Hall



Marjorie Focarazzo (*Scholarship Committee*), Jeremy DiFilippo (*Vincent Lombardi Lodge President*), Lorenzo Tantalo (*2024 scholarship winner*), Mark Dozoretz (*NYS Grand Lodge Treasurer*), Gia Rosato (*2025 scholarship winner*), Ella Hall (*2025 scholarship winner*)

# Families Celebrating with the Honorees



**Morgan Stanley**



**Gabriella Zocco**



**Domenic Romach**



**Aiden Johnson**



**Gia Rosato**



**Kristina Fisher**

## GIA ROSATO

**VLL EDWARD MARUGGI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$2500**

**HIGH SCHOOL: AQUINAS INSTITUTE**

**COLLEGE: ITHACA COLLEGE**

**FIELD OF STUDY: RESPIRATORY or PHYSICAL THERAPY**



Gia is a soccer and basketball player from the Aquinas Institute and will be attending Ithaca College in the fall to study respiratory or physical therapy. Gia has a long list of volunteer service from throughout her high school career, including St. Anne's Community, Splitz Ice Cream Easter Event, The Parish of the Holy Family, the Happy Birthday Cha Cha Cha program for children in the Rochester City School District, Foodlink, the summer reading program at the Chili Library, the Homestead for Hope program, a political campaign, and sewing mastectomy pillows for breast cancer patients as her Capstone Project. On the athletic side, Gia was the captain of her JV soccer and basketball teams, and her varsity soccer team, and received the Fighting Irish Award in Soccer. She is a National Honor Society student, a mathlete, a member of the Core Ministry Team, Women's Leadership, and Student Government. She has been honored with a number of awards including the St Joseph the Workers award, The Hastings Award, the General Excellence Award, the Physics Award, several merit scholarship awards, and any number of student of the month awards and certificates of achievement in a variety of areas.

*"Gia took the time not only to retain educational knowledge regarding therapy skills and the rationale for each individual patient, but she also took the time to relate to them on a deeper and more personal level. She was very special. She found a way to connect with each resident despite being separated by multiple generations. This single trait alone will speak to her success in the workplace and help her care for people as it is so much easier to convince people to do hard things when they feel they can relate and trust. Gia is a dedicated student athlete who is not only able to balance her academics but manages her time to be a successful athlete while also making considerations for her future. Gia will be successful no matter what direction she chooses to explore in the upcoming years, however it is very clear that she would excel in a career helping to care and improve the lives of others." ~Andrea Sprague, Supervisor*

*"Miss Rosato is an exceptional young lady in all regards. She demonstrates intellect, leadership, compassion, love and a servant's heart in all functional areas of her life. Miss Rosato is one of the kindest human beings I have ever met...she will have an extremely positive impact on the human race. She truly is a game changer. She has the strongest work ethic to compliment her intellect, which makes for a formidable combination when it comes to her academic ability and potential for future success. As a team leader, she continuously makes wise, intelligent decisions while demonstrating care and compassion towards her peers. I know you will be able to take great pride in Miss Rosato as she continues to improve and enhance the human condition. She gives me such hope for a brighter future". ~ Adam Schwartz, Soccer Coach*



## ELLA HALL

**VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE SCHOLARSHIP - \$2000**  
**HIGH SCHOOL: BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**COLLEGE: CORNELL UNIVERSITY**  
**FIELD OF STUDY: CULINARY ARTS**

Ella is a tennis and basketball player from Brighton High School who will be attending Cornell University in the fall to study culinary arts. Ella was a member of the varsity tennis and basketball teams, the Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra, New York State Conference All State Orchestra, the Food Science Club, Harmonies for Healing, and French Club. She is a student athlete mentor at her high school, teaching younger athletes how to manage sports and school, and the importance of responsibility in school and life, a cello teacher, and on top of all of this, managed to develop her own bakery business, Bakes by Ella, where she manages all aspects of the business, including baking, pricing, sales, marketing and customer service. Ella is a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete and has won both team and individual section V championships for tennis. She is an AP Scholar with honors, a member of the National Technical Honor Society for Culinary Arts and has won a Class Excellence Award for Culinary Arts and 3rd place in the Skills USA Commercial Baking Regional Competition.



*“Ella is a wonderfully engaged and kind student who has the intellectual flexibility that allows her to creatively problem solve any challenge. She is a passionate thinker and uses those gifts often to aid in the realization of our extended projects in orchestra. Her positive attitude and natural leadership are infectious and her ability to pivot in various situations makes her an excellent candidate to continue her path towards making major community contributions. Ella is a compassionate and thoughtful young person who is always willing to help bring our musical and artistic vision to life. She is incredibly generous in her free time, always willing to lend a hand and engage in community service activities. I recommend Ella highly without reservation.”* ~Dr. Rachel Lauber, Orchestra Teacher

*“Throughout the years, Ella has exemplified a steadfast dedication to excellence, balanced remarkably with her gracious demeanor and unwavering reliability. Her aptitude and determination in tennis were paralleled by her academic prowess, where she consistently excelled, showcasing her commitment and discipline. Ella’s Italian heritage is a core part of her identity, one that she embraces with pride and celebrates through active participation in community and cultural events. Her ability to intertwine her heritage with her personal and professional life exemplifies a young leader poised to make significant impacts, not only within her community but also in broader spheres. Ella consistently goes above and beyond expectations, bringing thoughtful insights and innovative solutions to challenges, thereby enriching those around her.”*

~ Nick Mancuso, Tennis Performance Coach and Boss

## MORGAN STANLEY

**PAST HONOREE SCHOLARSHIP - \$2000**  
**HIGH SCHOOL: SPENCERPORT HIGH SCHOOL**  
**COLLEGE: SUNY BROCKPORT**

**FIELD OF STUDY: MEDICAL FIELDS, NURSE PRACTITIONER**



Morgan is a basketball, lacrosse and soccer player from Spencerport High School who is attending SUNY Brockport in the fall for a degree in the medical fields. Morgan's volunteer service is extensive, with work at Strong Memorial Hospital, The Spencerport American Legion, St Peter's Kitchen, St. John's Church, and 8 Days of Hope. She played varsity basketball and lacrosse, and club soccer, and participated on the Principal's Advisory Committee and the School Start Times Committee. She was the winner of the award for Outstanding Achievement in AP US History, was a Scholar Athlete, and a member of the National Honor Society and Hispanic Honor Society.

*"It has been an honor to get to know such an amazing young lady. Morgan is smart, personable, funny, dedicated and just an overall wonderful person. She is incredibly reliable and hard working. She is an awesome teammate and is a very trustworthy player. Her outgoing personality keeps everyone upbeat and communicates very well with everyone. Morgan is exactly what a student athlete embodies. She works hard on the basketball court and in the classroom. She is the most loyal and caring teammate you could have wished for. This young lady is amazing."*

~Daniel Johnson, Basketball Coach

*"Morgan is considerate, kind, and respectful, with a strong attention to detail and excellent time management skills. I have observed Morgan interacting with individuals across various age groups and she consistently demonstrates a level of respect and kindness that is truly exceptional. She consistently displays qualities such as responsibility, initiative and competence, all of which are essential for success in today's world. She is a hardworking and reliable individual who gives her best effort in everything she does. I am truly honored to be a part of a community that includes Morgan as a representative of a young Italian American individual.* ~ Molly Smales, Young Life Leader

## KRISTINA FISHER



**PAST HONOREE SCHOLARSHIP - \$1500**  
**HIGH SCHOOL: WEBSTER THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**COLLEGE: NAZARETH COLLEGE**  
**FIELD OF STUDY: DATA SCIENCE**

Kristina is a flag football and field hockey player from Webster Thomas High School who will be attending Nazareth College in the fall for Data Science. Kristina has extensive volunteer service experience, including Friends of Strong in several capacities, Holy Trinity Church, the Dominical Republic Global Impact Project, and Titan Service Scholars. Her leadership experience includes student council president, Citizen Selected ALA Empire Girls State, an RIT College of Health Science and Technology research presentation, a Global Citizenship Conference Presentation, a Link Leader, Future Business Leaders of America, Unified Basketball, Class of 2025 Executive Board Committee, NHS Member, Student Athlete Advisory committee, a Spanish tutor, and is CEO of WanderShare Travel App, an app she developed. She has received the Compassion in Action Award, the Scholar Athlete Award, the Titan Award, Section V Division 1 Field Hockey Player of the Year, and All-State Field Hockey.



*“Kristina is one of those young people who brings a level of focus, seriousness and professionalism to everything she does, and she does A LOT. Kristina displays maturity beyond her years. She always arrives prepared, focused and ready to lead by example. She is undaunted by any unexpected situations that occur and handles it all in stride. Kristina makes meaningful connections. She is reliably friendly and helpful, and never condescending or judgmental. In the quietest and most modest way, Kristina has made lasting and meaningful contributions to our school’s struggling field hockey program. She communicates easily with people whose loves differ greatly from her own. She seems to always be looking for a way to make a situation better, a learning process easier, and to make goals more achievable.” ~Trish Amos Fischer, family friend*

*“Kristina’s natural drive and commitment, academic capabilities combined with volunteer experience, dedication to service, and extracurriculars makes her the ideal student. Kristina has grown her passion for using her positive qualities and leadership skills to contribute positively to all the communities she is a part of and society as a whole. Her leadership skills are not just in the classroom. She has become a leader at Webster High School and genuinely shows her care and concern for others, and her interest in being a positive force for change inside school and out. I am proud of the young woman she is and believe she deserves recognition for her passion for making our world a better place.” ~ Erika Stuff, English Teacher and NHS Advisor*

## AIDEN JOHNSON

**JOSEPH DARRYL DISTAFFEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1500**  
**HIGH SCHOOL: MONROE BOCES 1**  
**COLLEGE: ALFRED STATE COLLEGE**  
**FIELD OF STUDY: HEAVY MACHINERY OPERATION**



Aiden is a trade student at Monroe BOCES #1 in the field of Collision Repair Technology who will be attending Alfred State College for Heavy Machinery Operation. Aiden volunteers at Monroe BOCES #1 as a prospective new student open house tour guide and at Auto Concepts. He is a part of the National Technical Honor Society and won 3rd place in the Skills USA Competition for Collision Repair.

*“Aiden is an outstanding student, both academically and personally. He consistently displays a deep commitment to excellence in every aspect of his education. His intellectual curiosity and strong work ethic have enabled him to excel throughout our shop. What sets Aiden apart is his abilities and the positive influence he has had on others. Aiden has shown an outstanding capacity for collaboration and leadership, fostering an atmosphere of respect and mutual support. Aiden is a person of exceptional character, integrity and perseverance. He consistently faces challenges with resilience and a positive attitude. I have every confidence that Aiden will continue to achieve great things and make valuable contributions to both the college community and the world beyond.”*

~Holly Sand, Collision Repair Teacher



*“Aiden consistently demonstrates strong problem-solving skills, taking pride in his work and being continuously reliable. He successfully contributes to planned goals within the service center in day-to-day operations, showcasing steadfast leadership and setting the example for team members around him. He is one of the most dedicated people I have had the pleasure of supervising. Beyond his technical skills, Aiden is known for being supportive of his peers and coaching the other team members how to be more successful and efficient in their roles. I am confident that Aiden will bring the same level of commitment and dedication to any opportunity he pursues.”*

## GABRIELLA ZOCCO

**RUBE' FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF JENN RUBE' - \$1500**  
**HIGH SCHOOL: MERCY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**COLLEGE: MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY**  
**FIELD OF STUDY: METEOROLOGY**



Gabriella is a dancer, piano and clarinet player from Mercy High School, attending Millersville University in the fall to study Meteorology. Gabriella has an extensive list of service activities. She has volunteered at Bethany House, InterVol, Moving Day: Rochester, the Rush-Henrietta Academic Support Center, the Ugandan Water Project, World Wildlife Fund, One Tree Planted, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, Operation Christmas Child, local fairs, various can drive and trunk or treats, and held a public relations position at Lima Christian School Missions Club for five years. Within the school setting, Gabriella was a member of the Yearbook Club, Model UN, Lorax Club, Mercedes Journalism, Book Club, Sunshine Club Student Ambassador Program, the Red Cross Club, the Leadership Distinction Program, and the National Honor Society. She competes and has won titles in NYS Beauty Pageants, and has also won the Rachel Carson Healthy Planet Award, US History and Environmental Award, Moral Foundations/Issues of Morality Academic Award, Youth Leadership Recognition Award, Spanish 2 and English 9 Academic Awards, was on scholarship roll for Academic Achievements, and has a certification of completion in Business Ready Entrepreneurial Success Masterclasses from the Golisano Institute for Business and Entrepreneurship.

*“Gabriella is a leader among her peers who exemplifies positive nurturing interactions with students, faculty, staff and community members. When her teacher became terminally ill, Gabriella advocated having a sticker made in honor of the teacher and sold it as a fundraiser for her family. This fundraiser contributed several thousand dollars to a scholarship fund in her teacher’s name and brought our community together during a very difficult time. Throughout her advocacy for this fundraiser, Gabriella emphasized how we could all support each other, lean into our faith, and find joy in our days. Gabriella is a compassionate young woman who understands the needs of people in her community. She has made a difference in people’s lives. Gabriella’s Italian heritage is a very important part of who she is. She has spent much time learning the Italian language, celebrating family traditions, and sharing her culture with others. Commitment, compassion, excellence, positive energy and enthusiasm set Gabriella Zocco apart from her peers. She is a natural leader with commitment to people, her culture and community.” ~Sherylanne Diodato, Principal*

*“Gabriella completely embodies all the positive traits necessary to be in a leadership and welcoming role. I have had the pleasure of witnessing her exceptional academic abilities, passion for Italian culture and language, and strong, beautiful character. She has a natural aptitude for linguistics, excelling in Italian language and culture. She is actively engaged in activities and traditions that celebrate Italian heritage, such as participating in Italian Cultural events, excelling in language comprehensions, and even sharing that with her peers. Beyond academics, she embodies the qualities of leadership, perseverance and dedication. I wholeheartedly support Gabriella’s application and am confident she will make meaningful contributions, with her dream to receive a minor in Italian or International Studies.” ~ Susan Tubolino, Dance Teacher*

## 2025 NYS Grand Lodge Scholarship Winners

**GIA ROSATO**



### NYS GRAND LODGE AGNES FUNK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

**Gia Rosato**, a recent graduate of Aquinas Institute, will attend Ithaca College in September to study how exercise helps the body to function and to concentrate on the elderly to be able to live healthier lives. She has received many academic and school awards, but it is her volunteerism that is most impressive. For her capstone project Gia created and sewed mastectomy pillows for breast cancer patients. Her empathy extends to those in need. At RCSG, she helped low-income students celebrate their birthdays by delivering gifts food and hygiene bags. She has worked with Foodlink to end hunger and build healthier communities. She has worked alongside those with special needs harvesting fruits and vegetables. Gia has volunteered with the public library in the children's reading program. She has given more than 230 hours of community service during her high school years.



Gia's leadership skills transcend the classroom where she was able to help classmates who struggled with the material. The Director of Mission and Ministry at Aquinas describes her as having unwavering faith, organizes events that foster a sense of community and spirituality, facilitates discussion and activities that promote growth and reflection. Her goal is to make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate.

### Who is Agnes Funk?



Agnes Funk was a noted philanthropist who supported charities for children including the National Center for Disability Services; Schneider Children's Hospital; the Long Island Philharmonic; Meals on Wheels; St. Mary's Children & Family Services in Syosset; and St. Christopher -Otilie; the Gift of Life donor program; and the Children's Medical Fund. She gave millions to Parkinson's research.

## NYS Grand Lodge District Awards

*District Scholarships are monies donated within each of the eight districts of the NYS Grand Lodge OSDIA in memory of or in honor of prominent Italian Americans within their communities for scholarships in perpetuity.*

### DOMENIC ROMACH

RICHARD DI MARCO SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP  
DONATED BY JOHN DIMARCO  
and the  
GIAMBRA FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP  
and the  
PAUL AND CHERYL SPERANZA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP



**Domenic Romach** graduated East Rochester High School and will attend SUNY Geneseo to study Business Management/Entrepreneurship. He is described as an inquisitive scientist, asking the right questions and experimenting until he finds the answers. He is organized and plans ahead to balance academics, work, extracurriculars, and sports. He always puts forth 100%. He mentors younger athletes with guidance to improve themselves but also to make them feel valued. He values his Italian heritage, which has given him a deep appreciation for teamwork, resilience, and service.

### MARTINA BIANCA CALABRESE

GENEVA LODGE #2397 SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF DECEASED MEMBERS  
and the  
GUGLIELMO MARCONI LODGE #154 SCHOLARSHIP  
and the  
JANE LIPPA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

**Martina Bianca Calabrese**, who attended Pittsford Sutherland High School, plans to study hotel administration/hospitality at Auburn University for a year and then transfer to Cornell. She has dual citizenship and grew up between two rich cultures and speaking both languages fluently. Her work experience transcends two continents having worked in the US and Italy gaining experience in the hospitality industry but also helping with clean-up projects and initiatives in underfunded towns in Italy. Her extracurricular activities are very impressive. She interned with an assistant dean of students and Title IX Coordinator on how to protect oneself from sexual misconduct. She wrote summaries for investigative reports and interviews. She served on the Youth Advisory Board for the office of Health Equite at URMC. She is a young entrepreneur and founded a charter bus company where she was involved in all aspects of the business. Her career goal is to turn creative ideas into practical solutions, to use business strategies to tackle social issues and boost local communities.





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## REPORT OF THE CSJ NYS GRAND LODGE CONVENTION NAGA AND COLUMBUS “EDUCATE NOT ERADICATE”

The New York State Grand Lodge Commission for Social Justice collaborated with One Voice Coalition and other organizations to work alongside the Native American Guardians Association (NAGA). Over the years there has been a lot of controversy, debate, and misinformation on how Native Americans perceive Christopher Columbus. **Together we are committed to fighting bigotry and challenging distorted historical narratives.** NAGA’s motto, “Educate not Eradicate,” is a testimony to both of our heritages wanting to honor our respective legacies.

Claims against Columbus are based on lies, fabrications, distortions, and half-truths from so-called writers of history of the 20th and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries who have mistranslated words or phrases, pieced together parts from different sentences, established erroneous timelines, took language out of context, or created false circumstances. NAGA has refuted much of what revisionists have written and want us to know if we use imperialism, conquest, and slavery as reasons not to celebrate or acknowledge Columbus Day, then we should not celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day for the exact same reason. Warfare was a part of the culture for many tribes even before European colonization. Like most societies, some wanted to engage in peaceful solutions while others were involved in nonpeaceful engagement to settle territorial disputes, for control of resources, trade routes, for ritualistic reasons, or take captives.

Revisionists don’t want to eliminate Columbus Day. They want to rename it to *Indigenous Peoples’ Day* from coast to coast, in every municipality, everywhere! To go along with all this renaming, they want to rename Thanksgiving Day to UnThanksgiving Day. To say revisionist have their own agenda is an understatement. Their activism has not only been the major cause for vandalism to Columbus statues or even the removal of them but have also perpetrated damage and defacement to the statues of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and many others. Additional outcomes are pitting people against one another, blacks against whites, Indigenous Peoples against Italian Americans. **What revisionists say they want and what they believe in is the complete opposite of their actions and words.** They say they are in favor of inclusion, but they exclude important events that have been a part of our history. They have eliminated from our libraries, schools, public buildings, “halls of fame,” products and advertising images like Uncle Ben and Aunt Jemima, eradicating Indigenous names of sports teams and heroes from the Department of Defense with their lies, bigotry, and hatred. **To have the truth be known, we must *Educate not Eradicate.***



**Reminder:** The deadline for submitted entries for the **Italian Heritage Essay Contest** sponsored by the NYS CSJ is September 30, 2025. For an application and additional information, contact [mafocarazzo@gmail.com](mailto:mafocarazzo@gmail.com).

OSDIA Vincent Lombardi Lodge  
37 Farnsworth Road N  
Rochester NY 14623

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Vincent Giannantonio

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**Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to:  
President Jeremy DiFilippo, 37 Farnsworth Road N, Rochester NY 14623  
jjd1976.osdia@gmail.com**