

COLORADO'S

ITALIAN COMMUNITY

DIRECTORY



2024

ANDIAMO!TM

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Italian American organizations originally formed in the United States out of necessity—a way to provide much-needed support and camaraderie to Italian immigrants trying to make their way in a brand new country.

They helped members navigate the road to citizenship, learn English, find work, afford education, secure insurance benefits, connect with new friends and old family, and so much more.

Today, Italian American groups continue to do great things for our communities. Some focus on advocacy and charity work, while others exist to promote friendship and fun. No matter what their aim, Italian American groups keep us united through our shared heritage and are important to us all.

The following directory has been compiled and provided by *Andiamo!* (for free), as part of our ongoing mission to help keep our community connected.

Groups are listed alphabetically with information ***as provided by the group***.

Please note this is an *ongoing* effort and while we work to keep this directory continuously up-to-date and correct to the best of our knowledge, *each group is responsible for sending us their current information*. If you belong to a group that isn't listed yet, or have an update for an existing listing, please contact us!

PLEASE CONTACT GROUPS DIRECTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

 DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY OF DENVER

Year Established: 1985

City / Location: Denver, CO**Website:** <https://dantealighieriofdenver.com/>**Organization Summary:**

Since its founding, non-profit Dante Alighieri Society of Denver has shared the essence of Italian life and culture with our community, thereby enriching Colorado with even more zest and vitality. Our principal activity is raising funds to provide scholarships for the study of Italian language, culture and music to American college and university students in the Denver metropolitan area and in northeastern Colorado. The Society underwrites cultural and entertainment programs for the Denver area, striving to appeal to a broad range of interests. The Society also offers high quality instruction of the Italian language for adults.

Type of Organization: Social, Community Service, Education & Language**How to Join:** \$25 per year for individuals; \$40 for joint membership; \$10 for full-time students**Contact Info to Learn More:** Visit <https://dantealighieriofdenver.com/> for a full list of contacts.

 DENVER SISTER CITIES - POTENZA

Year Established: 1983

City / Location: Denver - Potenza**Website:** <https://denversistercities.org/>**Organization Summary:**

We connect the local and the global; turning visionary diplomacy concepts into tangible realities.

Type of Organization: Social, Language, Business, Charity/Community Service**How to Join:** Contact Pietro Simonetti**Contact Info to Learn More:**Pietro Simonetti: 303-817-2687 pietrosimontetti@yahoo.com

 FIORI D'ITALIA BOCCE CLUB**Year Established:** 1995**City / Location:** Westminster, CO**Website:** <http://www.fioriditalia.com>**Organization Summary:**

We are a non-political, nonsectarian organization, created to learn and promote our Italian Heritage, including the game of bocce. We are involved with different charities, including Caruso Family Charities, Mt. St. Vincent, and different schools. We hold regular leagues for fall/winter and winter/spring seasons with tournament!

Type of Organization: Social, Community Service, Bocce Leagues, Tournaments, & Fundraisers**How to Join:** Anyone can join.**Contact Info to Learn More:** Sandra Rappanecker: nardo2@msn.com or Rachelle Rendon tzattk@msn.com

 FILITALIA INTERNATIONAL

Year Established: 1987

City / Location: Denver, CO**Website:** <https://filitaliainternational.org/>**Organization Summary:**

Filitalia International is a non-profit organization, founded in 1987, to promote and preserve the Italian heritage, language, and customs throughout the world. The goal of Filitalia International is to solidify and expand the Italian culture, tradition, and heritage through social and humanitarian events. We offer many programs including Scholarships for younger members, Italian Language classes, networking events for young professionals, and cultural events to experience and learn about the Italian Culture firsthand. (The Denver chapter is new as of 2024!)

Type of Organization: Social, Community Service**How to Join:** \$25 for individuals, \$40 for family membership**Contact Info to Learn More:** Jenna Peccia jpeccia11@gmail.com or Jamie Yantorno jryantorno@gmail.com

🇮🇹 ITALIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (IABA)

Year Established: 2006

City / Location: Denver, CO (monthly meetings rotate)**Website:** <https://www.denveriaba.org/>**Organization Summary:**

The purpose of the IABA is to unite, serve and support Italian American business and organizations. Individually and collectively, our members work to support and improve business for our community. We do this by shopping our members first; facilitating the introduction of Italian American-made products to the greater Denver retail market; building good will between our association and local governments, businesses and the community-at-large; and establishing a spirit of cooperation to promote economic growth.

Type of Organization: Business, Social**How to Join:** \$100 for individuals; \$175 for businesses (up to 4 members)**Contact Info to Learn More:** Janet Lombardi – janet@shearproductions.com

🇮🇹 ITALIANS OF AMERICA**Year Established:** 2001**City / Location:** Denver, CO**Website:** <https://italiansofamerica.org/>**Organization Summary:**

IOA is a cultural society but not exclusive of Italian heritage. We are open to all those who share our mission. "We work together with our peers in the community to preserve heritage and strengthen fellowship."

Type of Organization: Social**How to Join:** Cost is \$50 to join. See webpage and contact us for forms and details.**Contact Info to Learn More:** Richard DiManna – rdmddi@comcast.net or Roger Creason rogercreason1@comcast.net

🇮🇹 LOUISVILLE SOCIETY OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS

Year Established: 1986

City / Location: Louisville, CO**Website:** <https://www.societyofitalianamericans.com>**Organization Summary:**

The Louisville Society of Italian Americans is an organization dedicated to the appreciation and celebration of the Italian culture in America. Children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of Society members in good standing for a minimum of two years are qualified to apply for a \$1000 scholarship toward a college/vocational education. Every second Sunday in August, the organization sponsors our "La Festa Italiano di Louisville" to celebrate our Italian Heritage.

Type of Organization: Social, Community Service**How to Join:** \$25 per year for couples, \$15 for individuals.**Contact Info to Learn More:** Ron Buffo, President - ronbuffo@yahoo.com

 MORRA SOCIETY OF DENVER**Year Established:** Over 60 years ago**City / Location:** Westminster, CO**Website:** www.morrasociety.com**Organization Summary:**

The Morra Society of Denver strives to preserve the game and culture of Italian-Americans. The art of Morra, a hand game, involves concentration, strategy, tactics and energy. It requires no equipment and is played in Italian communities by men and boys alike. The "Sei" sculpture awarded at the end of the season is more than just a trophy. It is a representation of what we believe in, who we are, the tradition we carry with us, and why we play the game of La Morra.

Type of Organization: Social**How to Join:** Check the website for contact information**Contact Info to Learn More:** <https://www.morrasociety.com/contact/>

🇮🇹 OSDIA CRISTOFORO COLOMBO LODGE #1309

Year Established: 1924

City / Location: Salida, CO**Website:** NA**Organization Summary:**

We provide annual scholarships to local high school seniors with Italian heritage. We provide charity donations to other local clubs. New members and ideas are always welcome. WE currently offer a \$20 Italian cookbook as our fundraiser which includes many old pictures of Salidan families.

Type of Organization: Social, Community Service**How to Join:** Dues are currently \$45 a year. We accept Italian heritage as well as social members interested in Italian culture.**Contact Info to Learn More:** Bernard A Post - bernardapost@gmail.com

 OSDIA DENVER LODGE #2075

Year Established: 1958

City / Location: Wheat Ridge – 5925 W 32nd Ave**Website:** <https://osiadenver2075.org>**Organization Summary:**

An organization made up of those of Italian descent, social members as well as junior members with activities and events for all. Centrally located in Wheat Ridge, CO, the hall can hold over 300, has a large parking lot, and both indoor and outdoor bocce courts.

Type of Organization: Social, Community Service**How to Join:** \$65 per year; prorated quarterly. No restrictions or requirements - just go to the website and contact us for an application**Contact Info to Learn More:** Sal Siraguse – siraguse56@msn.com or soidenver2075@gmail.com or Patrick Lubrano – patricklubrano@yahoo.com

 OSIA ROYAL GORGE LODGE #2738

Year Established: 1999

City / Location: Pueblo, CO 81003

Website: <http://www.osia2738.com/>**Organization Summary:**

The Sons of Italy of Southern Colorado Lodge #2738 was founded in 1999. One of the main reasons this lodge was formed was to *protect* and maintain the Monument in Pueblo in honor of Christopher Columbus. The lodge feels that it is their responsibility, and a great honor to be the *Guardians* of this important Pueblo Treasure that has been passed down to us.

Type of Organization: Fraternal

How to Join: Man born Italian, married to an Italian, or adopted by an Italian may join. Dues are \$60 per year per person. A simple application form must be completed.

Contact Info to Learn More: Gino Carleo – ginocarleo@yahoo.com - 719-671-0205

 OSDIA ROYAL GORGE LODGE #2866

Year Established: 2010

City / Location: Canon City, CO 81212**Website:** www.osiaroyalgorge2866.com**Organization Summary:**

A group of Italian Americans promoting Italian culture and heritage in our community. A major component of our organization is awarding scholarships—to date 29 \$1,000 scholarships have been awarded.

Type of Organization: Fraternal

How to Join: Man or woman born Italian, married to an Italian, or adopted by an Italian may join. Dues are \$40 per year per person. A simple application form must be completed.

Contact Info to Learn More: Robie Scutti – rscutti46@charter.net 719-269-3519

🇮🇹 OSDIA PIKES PEAK LODGE #2870

Year Established: 2011

City / Location: Colorado Springs - VFW Post #101, 702 S. Tejon**Website:** <http://www.sonsofitalypp.com/>**Organization Summary:**

The Pikes Peak Lodge is committed to preserving and celebrating Italian culture, language, heritage, and traditions. To meet these goals, we host potluck dinners and have various group outings which celebrate our culture. We have a cultural moment during our general meetings. We offer college scholarships to students with connections to our lodge. We raise funds for national and local charities with various activities including spaghetti dinners and wine tasting events. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at the VFW Post #101, 702 S. Tejon in Colorado Springs.

Type of Organization: Fraternal, Community Service**How to Join:** Please visit our website for information on how to join and contact information**Contact Info to Learn More:** Mark Fini – mark.fini@comcast.net 719-964-5374

🇮🇹 POTENZA LODGE (SOCIETA NATIRI DI POTENZA, BASILICATA) Year Established: 1899

City / Location: Denver – 1900 W. 38th Ave.

Website: <http://www.potenzalodge.com>

Organization Summary:

The purpose set forth by the founders of the society was to help other Italian immigrants from the Basilicata Region become familiar with America while socializing with their fellow countrymen.

Type of Organization: Social, Business, Community Service

How to Join: 1. Must be sponsored by a current member, must have Potentini ancestry on either father or mother's side. 2. Can join as a "social" member. Call for details.

Contact Info to Learn More: Frank Percey frankelly42@hotmail.com or Lisa Lokken lmlokken@msn.com 720-297-6951

🇮🇹 SAINT MICHAEL'S SOCIETY**Year Established:** 1912**City / Location:** Denver**Website:** www.stmichaelsociety.com**Organization Summary:**

Saint Michaels the Archangel is a non-profit, religious organization. Its purpose is to unite its members in a single body for mutual benefit and to better relations between members. The society sponsors dinners, bocce tournaments, support of cultural events, and a wine tasting where all profits are split equally between Laradon Hall and Mount Saint Vincent. The lodge has also donated over \$100,000 to scholarships throughout the years.

Type of Organization: Social, Religious, Community Service**How To Join:** Potential members must be Catholic and of Italian descent. Minimum age is 18 years old.**Contact Info to Learn More:** Frank Yantorno – frank@centerland.com or Tony Ficco – tonyficco@yahoo.com

🇮🇹 TIROLESI TRENTINI DEL COLORADO

Year Established: 1980

City / Location: Denver**Website:** <http://trentini-club-colorado.com/>**Organization Summary:**

The Tirolesi-Trentini Del Colorado is a social club made up of persons whose ancestors originate from the autonomous Province of Trento in Northern Italy. Our club gathers regularly for fellowship and various activities. Our club consists of duly elected officers who effectively run the business of the club, and members who actively participate in the social events of the club.

Type of Organization: Social**How To Join:** \$25 per year - Contact us to learn more!**Contact Info to Learn More:** Tony Dalla – akdalla@msn.com or Anna Vann – tmvenv@msn.com

ONLINE COMMUNITIES & OTHER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

LITTLE ITALY OF DENVER - FACEBOOK PAGE & INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

<https://www.facebook.com/littleitalyofdenver>

<https://www.instagram.com/littleitalyofdenver/>

The Little Italy of Denver Association is a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation established with the hope of celebrating the rich Italian heritage and history of the North Denver area.

MILE HIGH PAESANI - INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

<https://www.instagram.com/milehighpaesani>

A low-key, fun networking and social group for young Colorado Italians, Gen X through Gen Z featuring occasional meet-ups at locations around the greater Denver area to foster new friendships and energy among young Italians!

THE BRAVO AWARDS & GALA

www.bravoawardscolorado.com

The Bravo! Awards & Gala is an annual event presented by the Italian American Business Association in partnership with other local Italian clubs in Colorado. Each spring in March we recognize outstanding Italian Americans from the previous year in several categories such as Italian American of the Year, Italian American Volunteer of the Year, Italian American Business of the Year, and Italian American Rising Star of the Year. Nominations and voting for the previous year is open January through mid February. Nominate a deserving Italian American or vote for your favorites!

Information, tickets, and sponsorship information are available on the website. Join us as we celebrate Italian Americans in Colorado!

Contact Info: Gina Molinaro-Hallisey – bravoawardscolorado@gmail.com or 303-726-6111

ANDIAMO! COLORADO'S ITALIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

<http://www.andiamocolorado.com/>

Andiamo! is published monthly as a celebration of all that makes us proud to be Italian and Italian American. With every issue, we seek to provide a uniting source of news, information, entertainment, and pride for all in Colorado's Italian American community!

HONORARY CONSULATE OF ITALY - COLORADO

www.coitalianhc.com

While Colorado Italians fall under the jurisdiction of the Italian Consulate General in Chicago and will need to consult with the Consulate General of Italy in Chicago for most official services, the Honorary Consulate office in Colorado offers limited services and assistance - *by appointment only*:

Honorary Vice Consul: Giovanna Carriero-Contreras

honoraryconsul@coitalianhc.com

Tel: 720.291.6819

Honorary Consulate of Italy
1355 S. Colorado Boulevard, C-901
Denver CO 80222
Only available by appointment.

Chicago Offices: https://conschicago.esteri.it/consolato_chicago/en

OSIDA GRAND LODGE COLORADO:

<https://www.osdiacolorado.com/>

President: John Carochi - cograndlodge@bresnan.net