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Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo

P.O. Box 1561, Pueblo, Colorado 81002

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Newsletter January 2016

Mission Statement

The mission of the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo, Colorado is to promote and preserve the Italian language, culture and customs in Pueblo and Southern Colorado regions. To achieve this mission, the following goals are set forth:

- * To award scholarships to Pueblo area senior high school students to continue the study of Italian language at the university level.
- * To sponsor cultural and social activities to enhance the Italian American community.

Dear Dante Alighieri Society Members:

Best wishes to all of our friends and family for a prosperous New Year filled with peace and happiness!

As we begin 2016, we look forward to several upcoming events. Please join us for the annual Carnevale Celebration at Union Depot on Friday, February 5. You are welcome to invite guests to this special evening featuring an exceptional dinner and music by the Alan Polivka Band. We encourage you and your guests to join us as we preserve this Italian tradition for our community.

On Monday, March 14, we have the opportunity to attend a performance by O Sole Trio at Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center. This renowned trio has received rave reviews and we are pleased to be among the sponsors of this event. According to one reviewer, "Their show is an eclectic mixture that ranges from opera to pop, with all selections having a decidedly Italian flavor."

If you haven't already done so, be sure to visit the exhibit of Michelangelo's *Bozzetti* at Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center. As a recent visitor to the exhibit exclaimed, "Who would believe we have works by Michelangelo displayed in Pueblo, Colorado?"

Thanks to all of you who joined us for the Italian Regional Dinner at Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center on Friday, November 13. This year's dinner featured the region of Sicily and Chef Franco Catinella prepared an exquisite menu. Many thanks to Alan Polivka for providing the musical entertainment.

We wish to give special thanks to Rocky and Dorothy DeNiro for hosting the annual Dante Christmas Party on Sunday, December 6. Members enjoyed a joyous evening of friends, food, and music. What a wonderful party!

Felice Anno Nuovo!

Calendar of Events

Carnevale Dinner Dance	Historic Pueblo Union Depot	Friday, February 5, 2016	5:30 pm
O Sole Trio Reception & Concert	Sangre de Cristo Arts Center	Monday, March 14, 2016	6:00 pm
Scholarship Awards	Pueblo Country Club	Sunday, May 1, 2015	12:00 pm

WEBSITES TO VISIT

Società Dante Alighieri di Roma – Sede Centrale: <http://www.dantealighieri-roma.it>
Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo: <http://www.dantealighieriofpueblo.org>
News from Italy: <http://video.sky.it/news/diretta>
Italian Traditions in the United States: <http://www.wetheitalians.com>
Language classes and cultural events in Denver: info@italianinstitute.com
Italian art: <http://www.arte.it/>
Colorado's Italian-American community: <http://www.italianamericanheritage.com/index.html>
Dante Alighieri Society of Denver: <http://www.dantealighieriofdenver.org>
News from Italy in English: <http://thelocal.it/>.

BENVENUTI! WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

Laura Baroni

John D. & Beverly Musso

ITALIAN FOR TRAVELERS CONVERSATION CLASS

What: Italian for Travelers!

Where: The Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center

Who: Chris Picicci, Instructor

When: Thursdays, 6:00-7:00 pm

How much: \$63 for SDC members|\$70 for non-members

Session 1: Jan 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 18, 25

Session 2: Mar 3, 10, 17, 31, Apr 7, 14

Why: Join us for beginning Italian. Students will learn basic Italian language and culture and how to communicate with native speakers while traveling abroad. This is an excellent course for anyone who is planning or thinking about traveling to Italy.

Membership Renewal

Please find the 2016 Dues Renewal Form and an addressed envelope in this newsletter. We kindly request that you send dues for 2016 at your earliest convenience. Dues are payable from January through March. As always, thank you for inviting friends and family to join our organization.

O SOLE TRIO

Members are invited to reserve discount tickets for the "O Sole Trio" Concert at Sangre de Cristo Arts Center on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:30 PM. Prior to the show at 6 PM the Dante Alighieri Society will host a wine and cheese reception in the Michelangelo's Models exhibition in the King Gallery. Please plan to attend this special event!

Dante Alighieri Society members admission \$20, Regular admission \$30, Arts Center member admission \$24.

If you wish to reserve tickets at \$20, please call Donna Stutzman at 545-2870 by February 19. We have a limited amount of tickets available at the group rate.

"O Sole Trio is a new, vibrant musical ensemble that brings together an exhilarating and unique performance, capturing the essence of the Italian-American songbook in North America and beyond. Their program showcases a cornucopia of beloved Italian opera arias, Neapolitan songs as well as jazz and pop standards made popular by such singers as Louis Prima, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Connie Francis and Andrea Bocelli. O Sole Trio made their Carnegie Hall debut in June of 2014 to a sold-out audience."

TOUCHED BY THE HANDS OF GOD: MICHELANGELO'S MODELS

Dante members are encouraged to visit Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center to view a special exhibit featuring bronze casts of six of Michelangelo's *Bozzetti*, small sculptural models made of clay, wax and wood. Michelangelo's models are on display in the King Gallery until May 29, 2016.

The Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo is a proud sponsor of this exhibit.

A Taste of Italy Join Professor Chris Picicci for a 10 day tour to Italy in June 2016. Increase your Italian language skills while you eat your way through Italy! Cities include Turin, Cuneo, Parma, Bologna, Florence, and Milan. For prices and tour information, contact Chris Picicci at (719) 549-2243 or chris.picicci@csupueblo.edu.

Il Mio Viaggio in Italia

During June of 2015 I traveled to Europe on a trip organized by CSU-Pueblo's English and Foreign Languages Department in collaboration with Education First College Study Tours. In Italy, I visited Lavagna, Cinque Terre, Pisa, Florence, Rome and Vatican City. Our group arrived by bus at the Italian Riviera in the early morning with a spectacular sunrise. I did not expect to see such a developed coastline and trees with such radiant beauty. The people in each region of Italy were most friendly. Only about 4 of us in the entire group of 29 spoke Italian, I was one of them. Without a doubt, the Italian food was some of the most delicious on our trip. I grew up eating primarily marinara sauce and was thrilled to try various other kinds of sauces one of which was pesto. Pesto sauce is now one of my favorites. In Cinque Terre, the locals were helpful and consistently gave us generous compliments. The Ligurian Sea was breathtaking. Pisa was a great, awe inspiring city and its iconic Leaning Tower welcomed groups of tourists to climb its tilting stairs every half hour. I never imagined that a place surrounded by medieval walls could be host to such large masses of tourists and commercialism. Rome and Vatican City were the most fascinating cities I have ever seen. In Vatican City all of us hiked under torrential rains and were baptized by nature; we all entered the Vatican Museum soaking wet! Photographs of the Sistine Chapel pale in comparison to actually standing on its marble floors and looking up at Michelangelo's frescoes. My favorite of all the places we visited was Florence, the city of Dante Alighieri. Florence is where the Renaissance began and it truly is an open air museum; its unending charm, beautiful architecture, delicious food and lively nightlife are just a few of its attributes. The Florentine steak is a local delicacy and is a must for anyone visiting Florence. I really enjoyed my time in Italy and want to thank the Dante Alighieri of Pueblo for their generosity and support. I've already started planning and saving for another trip to Italy next year!
Aaron S. Vialpando



Il Ballo in Maschera

Carnevale Dinner Dance

Friday, February 5, 2016

6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Pueblo Union Depot

132 West B Street

Please join the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo for the festivities!

Appetizers—Cocktails—Cash Bar

Dinner, dancing and musical entertainment featuring the

Alan Polivka Band

Dinner Menu

Roast Baron of Beef

Italian Stuffed Shells

Honey Glazed Carrots & Steamed Baby Peas with garlic butter

Fresh Green Salad, Sicilian Crudités, Rolls and Butter

Tea and Coffee

Dessert

Cost \$30 per person, \$15 for students, \$10 for children 6 to 11

Please call reservations to Phyllis Gardner at 564-1628 by January 29.

***Guests may request a vegetarian plate when making reservations.

All proceeds to benefit the Dante Alighieri Society Scholarship Fund.

Please note that you will be required to pay for your reservations unless you cancel ahead of time.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.



Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo

New and Renewal Application for Calendar Year 2016

The Dante Alighieri Society was formed in Italy in July 1889 to “promote the study of the Italian language and culture throughout the world...independent of political ideologies, national, or ethnic origin or religious beliefs. The Society is the free association of people -not just Italians- but all people everywhere who are united by their love for the Italian language and culture and the spirit of universal humanism that these represent.” The Society was named after Dante Alighieri (1265-1321), a pre-Renaissance poet from Florence, Italy. Dante, the author of *The Divine Comedy*, is considered the father of the Italian language. The Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo, Colorado was founded by Father Christopher Tomatis on October 24, 1977 and ratified by the Dante Alighieri Society in Rome, Italy on December 3, 1977.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo, Colorado is to promote and preserve the Italian language, culture, and customs in Pueblo and the Southern Colorado Region.

- Scholarships will be awarded to selected senior high students who have completed two or more years of Italian language classes in the Pueblo area high schools.
- Cultural and social activities will be sponsored to enhance the Italian-American community.

Activities of the Society

Cultural Dinner Meetings
 Carnevale Dinner Dance (February)
 Scholarship Awards (May)
 Dante Summer Festa (August)
 Italian Conversation Classes

Italian Regional Dinner (November)
 Annual Christmas Party (December)
 Artistic Performances and Speakers
 Sister City Festival Participation
 Italian Language Scholarships

To join the Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo or to renew your membership, please detach and mail with your check. Dues are payable between January and March of each calendar year.

Dante Alighieri Society Membership Application Calendar Year 2016

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

_____ Please check here if you prefer to receive the Dante newsletter electronically.

(Check one)

___ \$25 (Single)

___ \$40 (Couple)

___ \$10 (Student)

___ \$50 (Family)

(Check one)

___ New Application

___ Renewal Application

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for the 2016 calendar year dues.

Mail to: Dante Alighieri Society Treasurer, PO Box 1561, Pueblo, CO 81002