



June 2024

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Welcome to the 48th annual celebration of Italian Heritage and Culture Month. Each year, the Board of Directors of the Italian Heritage and Cultural Committee of New York, Inc., (IHCC-NY, Inc.) selects a new theme and then proceeds to publish a theme poster and publish its “Calendar of Events” for the annual October celebration. We encourage you to discover your heritage with programs that celebrate any facets of the theme as indicated above,

The Board of Directors of the IHCC-NY, Inc. is delighted to announce that for 2024 the selected theme will be **GIOVANNI DA VERRAZZANO 1524-2024 | 500 YEARS**. In 1524, Giovanni Verrazzano was the first European to sail into New York Harbor and the coast of North America

IHCC-NY celebrates Verrazzano’s importance that includes his being the first to come up the eastern coast of these United States and entering the harbor that we know today should have been named after him. History did otherwise but his tenacity and goodness as an explorer and discoverer are noteworthy. He treated people not as a conqueror but as someone wanting to know more as to what he found here on this continent. Today we take for granted what his sail meant to us then, but we celebrate that connection that became a reality with a bridge some 60 years ago as well.

Giovanni da Verrazzano deserves our attention for he was with others, a true discoverer!

We also take this occasion to emphasize that the mission of the IHCC-NY, Inc., is made possible through the generosity of donations, and we very much need your support. Therefore, we would like to call upon you to help sustain our activities by making a tax-deductible contribution. No dollar amount is too small! Every dollar helps to foster the programmatic offerings that document and preserve the history and culture of Italians in America. Know that we welcome and appreciate your generosity. Once again your gift will be acknowledged in the Italian Culture Month Magazine and the IHCC-NY, Inc. website at www.ITALYCULTUREMONTH.org. Instructions for donation and AD dates and payments can be found on our website. Please help us in this endeavor.

On behalf of the IHCC-NY, we thank you for your support and participation. We remain,

Sincerely,



Comm. Joseph Scieme
President/Chair
IHCC-NY, Inc..

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Gran. Uff. Angelo Gimondo, Ph.D.*

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*Deceased

5.9.24