



May 20, 2020

Ciao Tutti!

As we continue to navigate these uncertain times, I want to let you know UCIAF, through our dedicated Board, Committees and Volunteers, has been extremely active. Please read this newsletter, visit our website www.uciaf.org and Facebook page and do something to help our community in some way.

Website Updates: Check out our new UCIAF video on our Home Page. As an organization, we are very proud of our accomplishments of the last five years. <https://ucitalianamericanfoundation.org/> Our new "Donate Now" button let's you decide where your donation will go via PayPal. This feature makes it easier to support us and especially our relatively new Community Care Project.

Community Care: From Mary Tuma, Coordinator: We are pleased to report that because of your generosity, we have already distributed \$2000 to the most needy in our county through two local Ulster County Agencies. Each agency "vets" the person in need and administers the money through a UCIAF grocery gift card. If you are able to help UCIAF continue this mission, please consider making a donation. Any amount is greatly appreciated. Use the "Donate Now" button on our website and designate "Community Care Fund". Or if you prefer, make checks payable to UCIAF, note Community Care in the memo, and mail to PO Box 4427, Kingston, NY 12402. If you want to volunteer or know of a member in need, please contact Mary Tuma at mtuma@hvc.rr.com or 845-430-0497.

Educational Awards and Community Grants: Both committees have collected and are evaluating the applications. Awards will be announced before our Awards Dinner August 11th (hopefully) at Diamond Mills in Saugerties, 6pm, \$35 per person.

Upcoming Events: In addition to the Awards Dinner on August 11th, here are some other planned events:

Sunday, August 23rd – Bocce Picnic and Wine Making... and more. 1pm Charles Rider Park (Ulster Landing). Bring your family and guests.

Sunday, September 20th at 5pm for the movie "Il Signor Jackson" and discussion with guests Cav Edward Jackson, ABD and filmmaker Anton Evangelista with pizza, salad, pasta and dessert also at Diamond Mills \$25/pp.

Other events will be announced when we are permitted to meet.

Tutto Italiano: Starting this Sunday from 1-2pm, we will return to our regular HOST rotation with guests via Zoom technology. This Sunday, Guiseppe and Nicole will host our special guest and friend, Sarah Litvin from the Reher Center. They will discuss the upcoming June 14th Virtual Multicultural Day. RADIO KINGSTON/WKNY 1490AM/107.9FM or RadioKingston.org

Digital Cultural Quilt Project: This project will celebrate our diversity by creating a digital cultural quilt through a collaborative virtual art project. Please see the attached flyer and contact Karen Pillsworth at kpstories@aol.com with any questions. Let's have our Italian Culture represented with submissions from our UCIAF members!

Sponsorships: With the future of our October Festival uncertain at this time, it has been extremely difficult to solicit sponsorships. This year we changed to an Annual Sponsorship format but the Festival is our largest public event. It is even harder to solicit sponsorships from so many businesses that are closed or just struggling to stay in business. Both Nina Postupack and Tony Marmo (our "founders") head up the Sponsorship Committee and are working on ways to raise funds through this sponsorship program. Remember that UCIAF, in normal times, hosts over 40 community events and supports our community through scholarships, community grants and other civic events. With almost 300 active members, we are an amazing group that has plenty to offer. Our new sponsorship form is available on our uciaf.org site.

We want to THANK three sponsors that have stepped up in these difficult times. They understand that UCIAF is more than just the Festival. Their logos are included at the end of the newsletter; Please extend your personal gratitude and business to each of them.

Italian Festival: Anna Brett and our Festival Steering Committee will meet again Tuesday May 26th. A decision on our Festival will be made in early July and they are exploring other options. Thanks to Anna and her committee for preparing for a Sunday October 11th event.

Congratulations to our Graduates! No matter what, the Class of 2020 will be remembered as the "Corona Virus Class". Although there will be no traditional graduation ceremonies, please reach out and congratulate all our graduates in your own way. UCIAF congratulates all our graduates on their achievement and extends our Best Wishes for whatever the future brings.

Please honor our deceased veterans this Memorial Day. So many of us lost family members and friends in service to our country. Many of us had relatives lost during WWII fighting in Italy.

My thoughts: Each time I sit down to write one of these "Epistles", I am extremely thankful for all those members who have stepped up to help UCIAF stay vibrant and growing. Phone calls, texts, email and even "snail mail" with checks enclosed have made me realize that WE have a great organization based on CARE for each other. A special "THANKS" to everyone especially throughout these times. Always feel free to call (914-388-9652) or email me (lombardiles@gmail.com) to talk about how you can be a part of the action.

Sincerely,



Les Lombardi, President, UCIAF





Any questions please
Contact Karen Pillsworth
at kpstones@aol.com

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Celebrating Diversity in the Hudson Valley Through Art

ABOUT

Join us in celebrating our diversity by contributing to the **Digital Cultural Quilt** of the Hudson Valley! This virtual, collaborative art project invites all children, teens and adults in the region to come together and share our heritage during this time of social distancing. See the quilt-in-progress on Instagram at **#CulturalQuiltHV** and online on June 14th at the Kingston Multicultural Festival and Barrett Art Center websites.

PROJECT

Make your own **Upcycled Collage Square**: Using scrap paper, flyers or newsprint, participants will create their own collage square that will be included in a larger **Digital Cultural Quilt**. When making your own collage square, think about how color, shapes, or symbols can represent your own heritage or identity. Express who you are through art!

GET INSPIRED!

Please see our **Quilts Around the World** handout for ideas on what patterns different cultures have used throughout history, including Mexican, African-American and Japanese cultures.

MATERIALS

- Blank piece of paper (any color)
- Assortment of scrap paper, flyers, or newsprint (the more colors, the better!) Elmer's glue
- Scissors
- Optional: Pencils, color pencils, crayons or markers

IMPORTANT TERMS: collaboration, diversity, culture, heritage, identity, symbols, composition

DIRECTIONS

- Cut your blank piece of paper into a square shape. It doesn't have to be perfect.
- Using your assortment of scrap paper, flyers or newsprint, cut out different shapes and symbols that reflect your heritage or identity.
 - **Think:** What rituals do you have with your family? What foods are important to your culture? What flowers or birds are local to your area? How do you represent these in color and shape?
- Glue your shapes and symbols onto your square piece of paper.
 - **Consider Composition:** Something important to your identity may go in the center, while smaller parts of you may go on the sides.
- Optional: using pencils, color pencils, crayons or markers, decorate your quilt square further. This is your chance to add some details to your artwork. Have fun!

SHARE

Share your finished collage with us online! Take a picture of your collage and crop the picture into a square so no edges are showing. Upload to Instagram using the hashtag **#CulturalQuiltHV**. Describe how your collage represents your culture so viewers can learn about you. Collages will be reposted publicly for all to enjoy! Don't have Instagram? Email your picture and description to **sarah@rehercenter.org** and we'll help you post!

For a full How-To and more info, visit barrettartcenter.org and rehercenter.org **THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!**



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