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Ulster County Italian Festival back at Kingston waterfront on Oct. 10

KINGSTON—The Ulster County Italian American Foundation’s 14th-annual Italian Festival will return to T.R. Gallo Park at the foot of Broadway on Oct. 10 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Last year’s festival was scaled back and moved to the town of Ulster due to the COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings.

“We did our best last year with a mini-festival at Tech City, but we’re working hard to make this year’s festival a real family and community celebration,” said Les Lombardi, president of the foundation.

The opening ceremony begins at 11 a.m. on the main stage followed by a full day of entertainment, children’s activities, food and craft vendors, a spaghetti-eating contest and street performers.

During the festivities, the Ulster County Italian American Foundation will honor the 2021 *Signore* and *Signora* of the Year, yet to be announced.

Musical acts scheduled to perform include vocalists Angela Bruno, Andrew Hoben and Vanessa Racci as well as Vince Chiarelli and his band and world-famous accordion player Cory Pesaturo. The Michael Dell Orchestra will close out the day with a dance party.

The 300-member Ulster County Italian American Foundation, established in 2015, aims to promote, preserve and celebrate Italian heritage and culture in Ulster County.

Shuttle buses to the festival will be available at Kingston Point (handicap accessible); Kingston Plaza and the Cornell Street municipal parking lot.

The festival is free. For vendor and sponsor information as well as schedule updates, visit www.uciaf.org. All proceeds from the festival will go to UCIAF's annual education awards and community grants programs.