

Student's Name: _____ Date _____

School/Location: _____ Grade: _____

Lodge Name & Location _____ Member's Name _____

"WHAT MY ITALIAN HERITAGE MEANS TO ME" - John Dabbene Italian Heritage Essay Contest

Immigrants from every part of the world have come to America in search of new opportunities. These ancestors are an important part of our heritage and forming our traditions and culture. Your family life has been influenced by those who came to America.

The Sons and Daughters of Italy in America NYS Commission for Social Justice is sponsoring an "Italian Heritage Essay Contest" for those students in the 7th and 8th grades as well as high school seniors of Italian descent whose direct relations (e.g., parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles) are members in good standing of a local lodge as certified by their lodge president.

Two winners from each District (one [1] from middle school and one [1] from high school) will be selected to receive a monetary award of \$200, in addition to a certificate of achievement.

For this assignment you will be writing about the experiences in your daily life that reflect your Italian Heritage and Culture.

Guidelines:

- Include information about your Italian ancestors and how they adapted to the new country.
- What traditions have they passed on to you and your family? What is your favorite tradition and why.
- Who in your family has had the greatest influence with regard to your Italian heritage? Include any personal stories or experiences that you may have had with this person in your story.
- Write a story with a minimum of *250 words*.
- Include at least one **visual** that represents your family heritage (copies of old pictures, personal documents or objects, etc.). *A note must accompany the artifact to indicate that it is authentic. Describe what this item is in your story.
- The completed assignment must be typed and submitted on time in order to be considered for the contest. (Deadline: May 1, 2021)
- A copy of the scoring rubric for the contest is attached.
- **All essays and accompanying material must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2021. Please send all material to:**
 - **Geraldine Iannello Graham, Chairperson**
 - **John Dabbene Essay Contest**
 - **53 Brookside Drive**
 - **Smithtown, NY 11787**
 - **631-265-0205**
 - **geraldine@sellarolodge.org**

SCORING RUBRIC FOR JOHN DABBENE ESSAY CONTEST

MAXIMUM SCORE = 16 POINTS

In Bocca Al Lupo!

	4	3	2	1
QUALITY OF WRITING	Very informative and well organized	Somewhat informative and organized	Some information given but was poorly organized	Information missing and poorly organized
GRAMMAR AND USAGE	Virtually no spelling, punctuation or grammatical errors	A few spelling and punctuation mistakes and minor grammatical errors	A number of spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors	So many punctuation and grammatical errors that interfere with comprehension
WORD COUNT	250 or more words	At least 225 words	At least 200 words	Below 200 words
VISUAL	Includes several visuals with an attestation of authenticity	Includes at least one visual with an attestation of authenticity	Includes at least one visual but no attestation of authenticity	No visuals included 0 points

STUDENT NAME: _____

SCORE: _____

JUDGE SIGNATURE: _____