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- Italian-American Club of Solon
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IACF President Lisa Amato Reid (center) and Dr. Giuseppina Mileti (far right) with the four winners of the IACF Literature Award at John Carroll University, April 30, 2009

IACF Literature Award Program Attracts Almost 100 Essays!

IACF is pleased to announce the winners of this year's essay awards, along with the dozens of other qualifying entries. Some of the most popular books were Mario Puzo's "The Fortunate Pilgrim", Tony Ardzzone's "In the Garden of Papà Santuzzu", collections of David Citino's poetry, Maria Luarino's "Were You Always an Italian?" and works by John Fante and Fred Gardaphè. We'll be reproducing portions of some winning essays in future issues of La Gazzetta Italiana.

A special big Thank You goes to our judges for their care and promptness in reviewing so many works: Dr. Paola Basile, Dr. Egidio Lunardi, Dr. Lydia Thiel, and Dr. Miriam Pipino.

John Carroll University
1st Place - Marissa Palumbo
2nd Place - Trevor Russo
3rd Place - Ana Dieglio
Honorable Mention - Dana Infante

Lake Erie College - co-sponsored with Americans of Italian Heritage
1st Place - Katie Fox
2nd Place - Allison Wright
3rd Place - Aliana Ferenczi
Honorable Mention - Bridget Beury, Alison Raser, Kristen Robbins, Cali Arndt, Jennifer Lauren

Archbishop Hoban High School - co-sponsored with Le Radici Club of Akron
1st Place Senior - Francesca Girona
2nd Place Senior - Brett Santoferraro
3rd Place Senior - Marissa Decker
1st Place Sophomore - Anna Straus
Qualifying Entry - Maria Rizzo

Benedictine High School - co-sponsored with Americans of Italian Heritage
1st Place Senior - Gino Andreanno
1st Place Junior - Joseph Bova
1st Place Sophomore - Anthony Colo
Qualifying Entries - Michael DiGeronimo, Tim Kendig

Lake Catholic High School - co-sponsored with Americans of Italian Heritage
1st Place Senior - Matt Wollerman
2nd Place Senior - Steve Kramer
3rd Place Senior - Emily Scafidi
1st Place Junior - Jessica Morich
Honorable Mention, Junior - Luciano DeSensi
1st Place Sophomore - Gabrielle Ploplis
Qualifying Entries - Bailey Sharrits, Patrick Cawneen, Alexandra Il'Giovine

Mayfield High School
1st Place Senior - Josette Galiano
2nd Place Senior - Olivia Morris
1st Place Junior - Antonia Kopp
Honorable Mention, Junior - Christa Berlinger

1st Place Sophomore - Leah LaRiche
Honorable Mention Sophomore - Anthony Grano
Qualifying Entries - Alyssa Kristosik, Kayla Coffey, Gianna Argie, Steph Buda, Jen Martorello, Alison Vandrak, Emily Johns, Elizabeth Vitale, Alicia Aplis, Melissa and Stephanie Paponetti, Christina LoPresti, Alessia Russo, Nicole Falsone, Natascia Zullo

Padua Franciscan High School - co-sponsored with the Southwest Italian American Club

1st Place Senior - Rosie Bona
2nd Place Senior - Michelle Baytosh
3rd Place Senior - Allison Bonvissuto
1st Place Junior - Genoveffa Morway
Honorable Mention, Junior - Larissa Jantonio, Sophia Viglione, Nina Penna, Tim Moscarino
Qualifying Entries - Jill Germana, William Fullington, Anthony Ahlegian, Anita Fini, Casey Vocaire, Amalia and Doug DeGirolamo, Maria Deliberato, Alexandria Ochoa, Ken Galletta, Nicole Wulk, Courtney Hasson, Jessica Dell'Aquila, Julie DeStefanis, Alexis Hipkins, Kelly Bier, Kaitlin Jurcisin, Robert Dohar, Eric Monteforte, Erica Virzi, George Diorio, Gina Glorioso, Gabriella Rakoczy, Stephen Bedell

Solon High School - co-sponsored with the Italian American Club of Solon

1st Place Senior - Kimberly Castagnola

St. Edward High School - co-sponsored with the Circolo Italo Americano Corenese
1st Place Senior - James Kavalec
2nd Place Senior - Mike Oradini
3rd Place Senior - Peter McNamara
1st Place Sophomore - Matt Ventura
Honorable Mention Sophomore - Giuseppe Miranda
Qualifying Entry - Kyle Kasper

Wickliffe High School - co-sponsored with the Wickliffe Italian American Club
1st Place Senior - Salvatore Continenza
2nd Place Senior - Joseph Dhondt
1st Place Junior - Nicolette Ciasullo
1st Place Sophomore - Luciano Ruscitto

IACF "A Trip of a Lifetime To Italy" Update

Dolores and Frank Donia, winners of IACF's 2008 raffle ticket for a trip to Italy, have been enjoying their trip, with stops in Rome and Umbria. Peter D'Attoma has put together a wonderful trip with wineries, cheeses and cultural events. We'll be telling you all about their trip in a future issue.