

Student's Name: _____ Date _____

School/Location: _____ Grade: _____

Lodge Name & Location _____ Sponsor Member's Name _____

APPLICATION

"WHAT MY ITALIAN HERITAGE MEANS TO ME" - John Dabbene 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.

You may 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.

Guidelines:

- Write a story with a minimum of **250 words** on the above topic. ***Previously submitted essays will not be accepted at any level.***
- A copy of the scoring rubric for the contest is attached.
- Include **authentic visuals** that represent your family heritage (copies/photos of old pictures, personal documents or objects, etc.). Describe what this item is in your story.
- Submit a signed attestation of the authenticity of your included visuals. This must be signed by an adult family member.
- The completed assignment must be typed and submitted on time in order to be considered for the contest. **(Deadline: May 1, 2022)**
- **All essays and accompanying material must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2022. 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)

NOTE: An email from the lodge president must be sent to the chairperson affirming that the sponsor is in good standing with the lodge. Please return the APPLICATION with your essay.

SCORING RUBRIC FOR JOHN DABBENE ESSAY CONTEST

MAXIMUM SCORE = 16 POINTS

After judges have read and scored each essay, a total of 70 points (minimum) is necessary to qualify for the contest.

In Bocca Al Lupo!

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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 3 or more authentic visuals that pertain to the topic	Includes 2 authentic visuals that pertain to the topic	Includes 1 authentic visual that pertains to the topic	No visuals included 0 points

STUDENT NAME: _____

SCORE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

JUDGE SIGNATURE: _____

JOHN DABBENE ESSAY CONTEST
ATTESTATION OF AUTHENTICITY

Student's Name: _____

Student's Address: _____

Contact Number: _____

This document must be submitted with your essay to affirm that your included visuals are authentic. This must be signed by an adult member of your family who can verify the validity of each photo. Please, only submit photos of actual artifacts that pertain to your essay or family photos that pertain to your essay.

If this form is not returned, you will lose a point.

Remember to review the rubric for point value for each authentic visual submitted.

Thank you.

To: John Dabbene Essay Contest committee members

I, _____ (print name) do attest that all of the visuals that were submitted with this essay are true and authentic.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____