



The Ambassador



*Embassy of Italy
Washington*

I am very pleased to introduce this year's edition of Eduitalia's "Study in Italy" guide.

Eduitalia is a member of the National Observatory of Italian Language, and an Association which includes 111 schools, academies and universities offering Italian courses to international students in areas as different as Art, Fashion and Design -and more. It has long been a key partner in the promotion of Italian language and culture.

Our Italian language is the hallmark of all our activities. It is part of our heritage, our past, but it is also inextricably bound to our present, and is very much alive today. Moreover, it is currently enjoying a phase of tremendous success, as the numbers we achieved clearly show: 2,658 AP Italian exams taken in 2019, about 187,000 students of Italian in the US, and close to 37,000 US students studying in Italy - a growth of 4,5%, compared to 2018.

Thanks to Eduitalia, as well as to the perfect synergy between all actors of our *Sistema Italia* promotion network, we will continue to consolidate, and build upon, this success in the years to come.

On October 25, 2019, Eduitalia publicly rewarded 21 highly valued AP Italian students, who will now have the privilege of spending three or more weeks in Italy, in one of Eduitalia's partner schools, universities or academies. As in previous editions, Eduitalia also awarded scholarships to six brilliant teachers. Additionally, last year Eduitalia did even more, by recognizing two school principals and the world program supervisor in the District of Columbia for their outstanding contribution to promoting the Italian program. These teachers and principals are from the consular jurisdictions of Washington D.C., Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, Miami and San Francisco (from sea to shining sea!), and will spend two weeks in Italy attending courses on teaching and methodology.

I am thus confident that the partnership with Eduitalia will grow and prosper in years to come, and that, by offering scholarships for students to stay and study in some of the most distinctive places of our beautiful Italy, it will continue to play a pivotal role in our mission to promote Italian language and culture. In fact, students will experience Italy in the best possible way: by being there in person. To paraphrase our Embassy motto, they will represent *USinitaly* and, I am sure, bring back some *ItalytoUS*.

Grazie mille, Eduitalia!

Armando Varricchio