



April 12, 2013

My Fellow Italians and Friends of Italian Culture:

It is my pleasure as President to welcome you to our AIFEDSE 17TH Biennial Convention of the American Italian Federation of the Southeast. I would like to thank the Gulf Coast Italian American Cultural Society and its president Jason Savarese for hosting the Convention this year.

Our convention theme of "Great Outlook For The Future" is very appropriate. As Italians and American Italians we have always had a great outlook for the future since we are blessed with the strong Italian work ethic and the beautiful Italian Heritage. An important advancement for the future took place in 2012; the new Federation enhanced internet website <http://www.aifed.org>. It was due in large part to Nicoletta Giannico our Webmaster devoting so much of her time to this effort. This ability for member organizations to communicate through the American Italian Federation web site has allowed their individual members to stay inform of many activities taking place relating to Italian Culture.

The Federation presented a scholarship award in honor of Joseph Maselli, past president, one of the founders, and the founder of the American Italian Museum in New Orleans, at the annual Louisiana American Italian Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet. The Federation presented a scholarship award to an local opera student in honor of Salvatore Panzeca, past president, one of the founders, and the past president of the New Orleans Opera Association, at Loyola University of New Orleans. These are the types of events that keep our Italian Culture and Italian Organizations out into public awareness.

Special thanks to E. C. "Chuck" Anselmo, Jr., past president, one of the founders, and the current Chairman of the American Italian Federation Advisory Board for his determination and continuing dedication to our Italian Heritage.

We are fortunate to share this beautiful Italian Heritage either through birth or appreciation and friendship. Communications, your ideas and your support are most important. I look forward to visiting with you at the convention.

Sincerely,

Victor P. Musso, President  
American Italian Federation (AIFEDSE)