

# INSIEME #4

# 2017



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## THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE CENTRE AT FESTITALIA 2017

The ILC Centre was the venue for a number of exciting events during the recent celebration of all things Italian at FESTITALIA on Sunday 8 October 2017.

All day, visitors streamed in to view the colourful display of Venetian masks. Once the masks were viewed for inspiration, children (and adults) had the opportunity to create their own masterpiece

at the Venetian Mask Making Workshop. Also on display were the winning and highly commended entries of the ILC's 2017 Calligram Competition.

This year, the theme was 'Bandiere e colori' and with the slogan 'disegnare con le parole', students from all over Queensland created images using words (in Italian, of course).

A number of students who were present at Festitalia came to view the Calligram display and proudly pointed out their winning entry.

Before leaving ILC, visitors had the opportunity to find out about all the Italian language courses currently on offer at the Italian Language Centre.

# MIUR\* DELEGATION VISIT TO BRISBANE



The governments of Italy and Australia, specifically the State of Queensland, have enjoyed cordial relations for many years.

This productive relationship was strengthened by the recent signing of a Statement of Intent (SOI) which outlines the intention to cooperate in the field of Education.

During their mandate in Australia, the Italian authorities Dott. Ludovico Carlo Camussi, Italian Consul for Queensland and the Northern Territory and Dott.ssa Anna Rita Tamponi, Director of the Italian Embassy's

Educational and Cultural Office in Canberra, have been tireless in supporting events that promote the teaching of Italian.

The Italian Government gives high priority to the teaching and learning of the Italian language in Queensland.

This is an agenda so evident in the signing of the abovementioned SOI as well as the provision of funding to support Italian programs in Queensland schools.

The close cooperation between the Italian authorities and

Stephen Biggs, Executive Director of DET International, ensures the continuation of the StuditaliA prize, now in its 23rd year.

It also promotes strategies to ensure a constant supply of suitably qualified teachers of Italian for Queensland schools whilst ensuring educational cooperation through initiatives such as the establishment of sister schools, exchange programs for Principals and students and the sharing of effective educational practices. The result of this cooperation was a recent visit to Australia



of a delegation led by Rossella Schietroma, Director-General of the Rome based MIUR Office for the Internationalisation of Education.

She was accompanied by a senior MIUR officer and five secondary school Principals and their deputies from Genova, Cagliari, Reggio Calabria, Catania and Cividale del Friuli.

After meeting with the Italian Ambassador in Canberra, they were accompanied to Brisbane by Dott.ssa Anna Rita Tamponi. Here, they were hosted by DET International at an event to

meet the StuditaliA 2017 prize winners.

Co.As.It.-ILC President Nereo Brezzi and Co.As.It.-ILC Director Dina Ranieri organised an event where the delegation met and networked with principals and teachers of Italian from State and Catholic High Schools in and around Brisbane.

A highlight of the visit was a dinner hosted by Dott. Ludovico Camussi. The delegation also had the opportunity to visit Griffith University on the Gold Coast before ending their Australian trip in Sydney.

The high-profile delegation visit is proof of what is possible subsequent to the signing of the Statement of Intent which seeks to:

- strengthen ties
- foster collaboration and
- encourage continued support for the promotion and teaching of Italian language and culture in Queensland schools.

(\*Ministero dell'istruzione, dell'università e della ricerca)

# SHOWCASING SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

THE OPPORTUNITY  
FOR ITALIAN LANGUAGE  
STUDENTS TO SHOWCASE  
THEIR LINGUISTIC SKILLS  
AT THE MLTAQ SUNSHINE  
COAST SPEAKING  
COMPETITION  
AND THE MLTAQ CAIRNS  
ALL LANGUAGES  
SPEAKING COMPETITION.



The Modern Languages Teachers Association Queensland (MLTAQ) was formed in 1959 with a membership of 105 teachers.

The scope was to form a support network for language teachers and it has since grown to include thousands of members across Queensland.

During the month of August, the MLTAQ Sunshine Coast and MLTAQ Peninsular branches each organised Language Speaking Competitions for students to showcase their linguistic skills.

The speaking competition month kicked off with the annual

Cairns Languages Speaking Competition, which took place on 9th and 10th August at the Cairns School of Distance Education.

Now in its seventh year, the competition has steadily grown and this year over 550 students from over 25 schools in the Cairns district came together over the two days, presenting speeches in the Italian, Chinese, French, Indonesian and Japanese divisions.

This year, for the first time, students were also able to take part in several collaborative art projects, which will be

displayed at participating schools over the next 12 months.

Next, it was the turn of the MLTAQ Sunshine Coast Branch whose members teach languages in schools across a vast area that ranges Caboolture to Gympie and west to the Great Dividing Range.

Teachers of Italian, French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and Indonesian had the opportunity to enter their students in the 10th annual MLTAQ Speaking Competition held at the University of the Sunshine Coast on Sunday 27



August 2017. Over 600 entries were received and throughout the day students presented their speeches to teams of judges across all languages.

The Italian judging teams at both competitions sat before students from year 4 to Year 12 and expressed their opinion on their fluency, pronunciation and accuracy.

Judges agreed the standard was extremely high, reflecting the effective language teaching and learning taking place in Italian classrooms throughout the Cairns and the Sunshine Coast areas. All participating students received a bag of Italian goodies as a memento of the day and winning students were presented with medals and certificates.

Dina Ranieri, Director of Co.As.It. ILC firmly believes in supporting the promotion and teaching of Italian in Queensland by sponsoring events such as the MLTAQ Sunshine Coast Speaking Competition and the Cairns All Languages Speaking Competition.

**IN ADDITION TO SUPPORTING ITALIAN PROGRAMS IN QUEENSLAND SCHOOLS, ILC ALSO OFFERS ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES FOR ADULT STUDENTS, ITALIAN AFTER SCHOOL HOURS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS AND GIROTONDO ITALIAN PLAYGROUP FOR 3-5 YEAR-OLDS.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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