



## NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AUSTRALIAN TEACHERS OF ITALIAN

Each year during the month of October, the teaching and learning of Italian is celebrated worldwide.

Now in its 17th year the XVII settimana della lingua italiana nel mondo is celebrated through a variety of events.

In Australia, the event was celebrated on a national level at the Italian Embassy in Canberra where the 3rd National Conference for Australian teachers of Italian took place.

The conference was convened by Dott.ssa Anna Rita Tamponi, Director of the Educational and Cultural Office at the Italian Embassy.

The theme was “L’italiano al cinema, l’italiano nel cinema”.

After a warm welcome from the Italian Ambassador HE Pier Francesco Zazo, the conference began with the Premio Italia Award 2017 going to Heidi Bula from the University of Melbourne who won the prize for her speech entitled ‘La dolce vita mia’.

Then the keynote speakers took the floor.

John Kinder from the University of Western Australia began with his presentation on the Italian film industry’s very proficient and effective tradition of dubbing foreign films and how the problem

of dubbing different English accents is dealt with.

This was followed by Donata Puntili from King’s College London whose presentation offered an overview of the use of film clips in the teaching of Italian as a second language.

Finally, Gino Molterno from the Australian National University concluded the morning session with his presentation on the presence and function of spoken and written Italian in Italian cinema.

After morning tea, Antonella Cavallini from the University of Melbourne presented a detailed



analysis of the film 'Terraferma' to highlight how specific Italian values are represented through the variety of characters in the film and the version of Italian they speak.

Then Lyndell Lawton from the Yarralumla Italian Bilingual school in Canberra showed how animated stories are used as a tool to teach students in Year 3-4 to speak, recount and write in Italian.

From the Italian Language Centre in Queensland, Marzia Mauro and Rosella Dermedoglou showed how cinematic adverts and the Spaghetti Western genre could be utilised as resources through which to teach the content of the

Australian Curriculum Languages which aims to develop Italian communication skills as well as an understanding of the relationship between language, culture and learning.

The next speaker, Enrichetta Parolin from New South Wales, illustrated NSW Stage 6 Extension Italian Syllabus.

The Syllabus offers students the opportunity of in-depth study of a film in Italian to extend Italian competency and fluency.

The final speaker before lunch, Gabriella Quadraccia from ACT, illustrated how the famous film La Ciociara may be considered a

rich resource to extend learners' linguistic capabilities in Italian.

The final part of the conference in the afternoon took the form of practical workshops directed by Donata Puntil and Enri Parolin who suggested effective use of Italian film clips in the classroom to motivate and stimulate students in their acquisition of the Italian language.

More than eighty teachers of Italian from all over Australia registered to attend the conference. According to the general consensus it was an excellent opportunity to meet and share ideas.

# italian language teaching

## 2ND ITALIAN SPEAKING COMPETITION IN BRISBANE



The new Australian Curriculum Languages is designed to enable all school students across Australia to engage in learning a second language.

This not only extends the capacity to communicate but develops understanding of and respect for diversity and difference.

The aim of Language Speaking Competitions is to allow language students to express their ideas, display their language skills and gain confidence in using the language they are studying.





Over the weekend of 14 and 15 October, students studying Italian in schools in and around Brisbane had the opportunity to show off their linguistic skills at the 2nd Italian Speaking Competition organised by the Italian Language Centre (ILC) in association with

the Modern Language Teachers' Association Queensland (MLTAQ).

ILC competition organisers Marzia Mauro and Rosella Dermedgoglou confirmed that a higher number of entries were received compared to the previous year, making it

necessary for the competition to run over two days. Students from year 2 to year 6 recited poems and those in year 7 to year 12 delivered speeches. Primary students competed on the Saturday while High School students competed on the Sunday.



Each day the program ran over 5 sessions. As each session began, organisers read out a message on behalf of dott. Ludovico Camussi, Consul of Italy for QLD and NT who couldn't be present but sent warm words of welcome and congratulations which were much appreciated by the assembled competitors and their families.

At end of each session all students received participation certificates and a commemorative gift before judges called up the gold, silver and bronze medal winners.

Students were judged on their delivery, fluency, pronunciation and grammatical accuracy and judges confirmed the standard was extremely high.

Judges from ILC and the Dante Alighieri Society congratulated students on demonstrating exceptional linguistic abilities, reminding them that regardless of whether they had won a place, they were all winners for having participated.

Feedback indicates the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended which means it will be back by popular demand in 2018.

ILC and MLTAQ are enormously appreciative of the assistance from judges and teachers who volunteered their time.

Their support as well as that of parents who accompanied their children contributed hugely to the overall success of the day.



**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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## STUDITALIA PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY 2017

Now in its 23rd year, the Studitalia prize encourages and promotes excellence in Italian studies in Queensland schools, and rewards the achievements of Year 12 students of Italian.

The prize is generously supported by the Italian Consulate for Qld and NT, DET International (Department of Education and Training) as well as key members of the Italian community like the Italian Language Centre (ILC), the Dante Alighieri Society and the Italian Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

This year, six year 12 students of Italian were selected as worthy recipients of the 2017 Studitalia scholarships.

The prizes include return airfares and a one-month stay in Italy at the boarding school Convitto Nazionale 'Paolo Diacono' in Cividale del Friuli near the city of Udine.

On Friday 8 September 2017 the awards ceremony at Education House in Brisbane began with the Kelvin Grove State College Junior School Choir singing the

Australian and Italian national anthems.

Assembled guests were then officially welcomed to the Studitalia Awards event by master of ceremonies Gina Ferraro who introduced the first guest speaker, Stacie Hansel, Acting Assistant Director-General of DET state schools.

Guests were then addressed by Dr Ludovico Camussi, Italian Consul for Queensland and the Northern Territory, who congratulated the students and reminded them of the many benefits and rewards inherent in the study of a foreign language and culture.

He confirmed that the Italian Government maintains a strong commitment to support the teaching and learning of Italian in Queensland.

Each prizewinner was then called upon to showcase their linguistic skills by presenting in Italian a speech on the 'Settimana della lingua italiana nel mondo' theme: 'l'italiano al cinema, l'italiano nel cinema'. Matisse Reid from St Monica's College, Cairns, spoke

on the History of Italian Cinema. She was followed by Cordelia Montgomery from Brisbane State High School who focussed on the Italian stereotype in Cinema.

On a similar theme Bethany Lawes of Kelvin Grove State College introduced the idea of Italian representations in English Cinema. A different aspect was introduced by Benjamin Scott of Brisbane State High School who spoke of the Italo-American cultural relationship through film.

Famous Italian directors and films were introduced by Luisa Randall of San Sisto College and finally James Humphris of Cairns State High School introduced his favourite Italian films.

During afternoon tea, guests had the opportunity to view a display of the ILC Calligram Competition 2017 winning entries.

The colourful interpretations of handwritten Italian words arranged in a way to create a visual image are a testament to the passionate Italian teaching and learning that occurs in classrooms throughout Queensland schools.

## **CLASSI INTENSIVE DI ITALIANO: GLI STUDENTI SONO PRONTI PER IL NUOVO ANNO**

Il successo nell'imparare una nuova lingua dipende principalmente dal tempo di esposizione degli studenti ad un particolare ambiente nel quale vengono offerte le opportunità di leggere, scrivere e anche ascoltare e parlare nell'idioma scelto.

A soddisfare la richiesta arrivata degli studenti, sia quelli delle classi scolastiche dal decimo al dodicesimo anno che dalle persone adulte, interessati a mantenere e consolidare il loro livello di italiano, l'Italian Language Centre il mese scorso ha organizzato una serie di classi intensive di arricchimento linguistico di una settimana.

Per coloro che non hanno avuto l'occasione di partecipare alle classi diurne c'è stata la possibilità di partecipare a quelle serali. Dal momento che gli studenti sono entrati nelle loro classi si sono immerse nella lettura e scrittura, ma anche nell'ascoltare e parlare la lingua italiana.





Nell'ultimo giorno del loro corso gli studenti sono stati molto contenti di partecipare a una classe di cucina italiana dove, seguendo le istruzioni di due esperte cuoche, Emanuela e Graziella, hanno imparato a fare gli gnocchi di ricotta, osservando la loro cottura e, alla fine, dopo che sono stati conditi dalle cuoche, di mangiarne una porzione con grande soddisfazione personale.

Molte amicizie sono nate tra gli studenti durante la settimana di immersione nella "bella lingua" e il giorno finale di ciascuna classe sono stati formulati tanti "arrivederci" con la promessa di incontrarsi nuovamente all'ILC per le classi estive.

