



**ITALIAN NATIONAL DAY AT CASTELLO ITALIA INVITES TORONTO TO CELEBRATE ‘LA DOLCE VITA’ WITH A VIBRANT SHOW**

(Toronto, ON) – Toronto’s premier heritage attraction, Casa Loma will be transformed into “Castello Italia” on **Sunday, June 4, 2017** to mark **Italian National Day** [Festa della Repubblica] and celebrate **Italian Heritage Month** in Ontario.

**Co-Chairmen:**

Giuseppe Pastorelli  
*Consul General of Italy,  
 Toronto*

Nick Di Donato

*CEO, Liberty Entertainment  
 Group*

**Organizing Committee:**

Pasquale Bova  
 Eddy Burello  
 Ken Cancellara  
 Cristiano De Florentiis  
 Anthony DiCaita  
 Fausto Gaudio  
 Mauro Giacobbe  
 Lenny Lombardi  
 Corrado Paina  
 Mario Paura  
 Diana Panacci  
 Alessandro Ruggera  
 Luigi Tosti  
 John Turco

**Executive Event Producer:**

Fabio Gesufatto

“For the third consecutive year I am honored to commemorate all together the birth of the Italian Republic in such a magnificent venue,” said Giuseppe Pastorelli, Consul General of Italy in Toronto. “The bond with Italy is what unites us as we are all proud of our heritage, culture and language.”

Italian National Day at Castello Italia [INDCI], presented by Pizza Pizza, is Canada’s largest celebration of the Italian National Day with more than 4,000 guests expected to attend. During the marquis event the Consul General of Italy will also knight three prominent members of the Italian-Canadian community: Fausto Gaudio, Leonard (Lenny) Lombardi and Manfredo (Fred) Gentili.

**Highlights for 2017 Italian National Day at Castello Italia include:**

- **Art installations** by Italian-Canadian talents **Francesca Vivenza** and **Bruno Billio** to pay tribute to Canada 150th anniversary
- An artistic **photo exhibit** – **"I Borghi più belli d'Italia"** (The most beautiful villages in Italy)
- A spectacular **car showcase featuring Ferrari, Maserati and Alfa Romeo**
- Italian culinary tour with samples from Toronto’s top restaurants including **Buca, Sotto Sotto, Terroni, and Cibo Wine Bar**
- **Wine tasting experience** of Italy’s Regions
- An **interactive Kids’ Zone** with circus performers, arts & crafts and a scavenger hunt

INDCI is organized by the Consulate General of Italy, Liberty Entertainment Group, the Istituto Italiano di Cultura [IIC], the Italian Trade Commission [ICE], the Italian National Tourist Board [ENIT], the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association [CIBPA], ComItEs, the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Ontario [ICCO], the Italian Contemporary Film Festival [ICFF], IC Savings and Villa Charities Inc..

“I am honored to Co-Chair Italian National Day for the third year at Casa Loma,” said Nick Di Donato, President & CEO, Liberty Entertainment Group. “As an Italian – Canadian, it has been a privilege to collaborate on this signature celebration of Italian culture and to open Casa Loma to the community. We look forward to hosting everyone at ‘Castello Italia’.”

**Co-Organizers:**



# MEDIA RELEASE



Patrons can enjoy a full day of critically acclaimed entertainers and world-class performances:

Entertainment Line Up - Pizza Pizza Giardino	Time
<b>DJ Stefano Fisco</b>	10:00 am - 11:30 am
<b>Sandra Carusi &amp; Frank Spadone Comedy</b>	11:30 am - 11:55 am
<b>Orchestra Overture</b>	11:55 pm - 12:00 pm
<b>Emcee Introduction - Lorella Cuccharini &amp; Stefano Fisco</b>	12:00 pm - 12:03 pm
<b>Canadian National Anthem (DIA)</b>	12:03 pm - 12:08 pm
<b>Italian National Anthem (Daniele Stefani)</b>	12:08 pm - 12:13 pm
<b>Welcome Remarks &amp; Greeting</b>	12:13 pm - 12:38 pm
<b>Award Presentation from the Consul General of Italy, Giuseppe Pastorelli</b>	12:38 pm - 12:48 pm
<b>Photo op with INDCI organizing Committee</b>	12:48 pm - 12:55 pm
<b>Live Orchestra: Kerry Stratton &amp; Romina Arena</b>	12:55 pm - 2:10 pm
<b>Presentation - Artists Presentation by Alessandro Ruggera</b>	2:10 pm - 2:25 pm
<b>Daniele Stefani</b>	2:25 pm - 2:40 pm
<b>Alyssa Rubino</b>	2:40 pm - 2:55 pm
<b>Dominic Mancuso</b>	2:55 pm - 3:35 pm
<b>DJ Stefano Fisco</b>	3:35 pm - 3:55 pm
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	3:55 pm - 4:00 pm
<b>CIBC KIDS ZONE - Casa Loma Stables</b>	
Arts & Craft	Throughout the Day
Face Painting	Throughout the Day
Bouncing Castle	Throughout the Day
Circus Performer	Throughout the Day
Balloon Animals	Throughout the Day
Horses from Ajax Riding Academy	Throughout the Day
Secret Scavenger Hunt	Throughout the Day
<b>Other Entertainment - Casa Loma Interior</b>	
Italian Contemporary Film Festival - Assorted Short Films	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Photo Exhibition "I Borghi piu' belli d'Italia" - 3rd floor	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
<b>**Please note this schedule is subject to change without notification**</b>	

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## OTHER SIGNATURE EVENTS DURING ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH:

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Consul General of Italy, Toronto

Nick Di Donato

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With Italian Heritage Month (June) now in its seventh year, there are 30 days of festivities being organized in Toronto and around the province to celebrate all things Italian.

### **Best of Italy**

The INDCI committee is pleased to be associated with a unique, new charitable initiative entitled “The Best of Italy” taking place at Liberty Grand Entertainment Complex on Friday, June 9, 2017. Presented by Gambero Rosso and Liberty Entertainment Group, and under the auspices of the Consulate General of Italy, and the Italian Trade Commissioner, the “Best of Italy” is a walk-around wine tasting experience featuring over 150 Italian wine which have garnered the coveted Tre Bicchieri award [top wine rating in Italy].

This luxurious event will also offer selection of Italian food stations, prepared by Cibo Wine Bar Executive Chef Saverio Macri. Tickets are \$150 per person, with proceeds to benefit the Humber River Hospital Foundation. For tickets and more information, please visit [www.bestofitaly.ca](http://www.bestofitaly.ca).

### **Italian Contemporary Film Festival**

The Italian Contemporary Film Festival [ICFF] is back for an exciting fifth edition, screening the best of Italian international and independent films to audiences in seven cities across Canada. From June 8-16, 2017, you can enjoy feature films celebrating Italian heritage and Canadian multiculturalism. Toronto’s festival takes place at TIFF Bell Lightbox. For tickets and more information please visit [www.icff.ca](http://www.icff.ca).

### **Italy Inspires Canada**

The Consulate General of Italy, the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, The Emilio Goggio Chair in Italian Studies, University of Toronto, in partnership with Azure and with the support of Scavolini Toronto will bring to Canada on June 24 one of the world’s most prominent architect, Massimiliano Fuksas for the series “Italy Inspires Canada”. For more information, please visit [www.iictoronto.esteri.it](http://www.iictoronto.esteri.it)

### **Che Belle Voci – Symphony in the Gardens**

Casa Lomas is once again hosting its annual outdoor summer concert series, Symphony in the Gardens. Every Tuesday from June 6 – August 29, 2017, the castle’s majestic gardens set the backdrop for the critically acclaimed Toronto Concert Orchestra (TCO) to showcase a repertoire of classical music and selections, conducted by renowned Maestro Kerry Stratton. In celebration of Italian Heritage Month, the TCO will feature “Che Belle Voci – Opera Highlights” on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. For tickets and more information please visit [www.casaloma.ca](http://www.casaloma.ca).

Please RSVP for media accreditation by 5pm Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. For further details, kindly contact [console.toronto@esteri.it](mailto:console.toronto@esteri.it) or [stacey@libertygroup.com](mailto:stacey@libertygroup.com).

