



July 1, 2021

Dear member;

It's time again to renew your membership! Please be advised that the ITANJ membership goes from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

In addition to spreading the word about ITANJ and encouraging your colleagues to join we urge you to become involved in our organization by joining a committee and possibly taking on a leadership role in the future. We welcome new perspectives and contributions that are vital if we hope to see the continuation and growth of our Italian language programs in the state and throughout the country!

In an attempt to go paperless we have a membership form that can be filled out online at www.itanj.org (under Become a Member). Once the form is filled out payment can be made via PayPal and membership is automatic. Info regarding check or Purchase Order payment can also be found on our webpage in addition to a printable membership form. It is important that an **application form be filled out in full** so that we may have accurate, current contact information in order to keep you informed of upcoming events and professional opportunities.

We are very proud to say that despite the pandemic ITANJ has continued to offer its annual Primo Incontro which last year included some student scholarships for participating teachers, a series of our sought after pedagogical Webinars that this past year also included travelogues presented by Italian tour guides, and for the first time ever A Virtual Italian Day Competition for student in lieu of our annual live event. A video of the winning entries of " Virtually Italian " went out to the membership and was shared on social media. They can also be seen on our new Instagram site (@ITAofNJ)!

Some noteworthy initiatives planned for 2021-2022 are:

- This year's Virtual Primo Incontro on Tuesday August 24, 8:30am-2: 30 pm. Details and registration forms are forthcoming.
- One of the presentations planned for this year's Primo Incontro is Roberta Pennasilico's: Bridging the linguistic gap between virtual and "normal" learning.
- Look for our highly popular webinars throughout the course of the year that are offered in conjunction with the Long Island Chapter of AATI. Don't forget to check our online page or to see the daily email blast updates to see what is available.
- We will continue to offer teacher scholarships, grants, and student activities and events in addition to awards and prizes. This past year monetary prizes were awarded to students whose teachers participated in the Primo Incontro and to the winners of our Virtual Italian Culture Event that was offered in lieu of the live event.

We look forward to seeing you at the Virtual Primo Incontro this August and working together on providing a quality language experience for our students and meaningful teaching resources. Enjoy your summer vacation, stay safe, and best wishes for the upcoming school year. You are all to be commended and greatly appreciated for the role you have in educating your students and opening their hearts and minds to the Italian language. Have a wonderful summer!
In bocca al lupo e buon lavoro!

Anna Ranieri
ITANJ Corresponding Secretary