



SENATOR JOHN HEINZ

HISTORY CENTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Media Contacts:

Brady Smith

412-454-6459

bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org

Kim Roberts

412-454-6382

kmroberts@heinzhistorycenter.org

***Benvenuti! History Center to Host Fifth Annual Italian Heritage Day
–Kids 17 and under receive FREE admission to the Italian American-inspired festivities
on Sunday, Oct. 7–***

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 1, 2018 – To help kick off Italian Heritage Month, the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center will host its fifth annual **Italian Heritage Day**, a family-friendly day of Italian-inspired festivities on **Sunday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Italian Heritage Day is presented by the History Center's Italian American Program, which is dedicated to preserving the history and culture of Italian Americans in Western Pennsylvania. Founded in 1990, the Italian American collection is one of the largest in the country and home to artifacts, archival materials, and oral histories that document the pivotal role Italian Americans play in shaping our region.

Throughout the museum, community groups and History Center staff will facilitate educational activities for families to learn about Italian American history and culture.

As part of Italian Heritage Day, visitors can:

- Learn how to play bocce with La Scuola d'Italia Galileo Galilei;
- Test drive an Alfa Romeo and enter to win an exclusive "Italian Style Dine & Drive" experience (*Must be at least 23 years old, hold current auto insurance, driver's license, and submit MV form required for extended test drive with Ron Lewis Alfa Romeo);
- Create arts and crafts inspired the History Center's Italian American Collection;
- Enjoy live cooking demos and sample tasty Italian American recipes in the third-floor Weisbrod Kitchen Classroom; and
- Explore their family tree with Roots in the Boot Italian Genealogy Group, Rich Roots Genealogy, North Hills Genealogists, the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, the Archives and Records Center of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and the History Center's Detre Library & Archives.

Italian Heritage Day will also feature an **Italian American Bazaar** in the History Center's fifth-floor Mueller Center featuring live entertainment, local heritage groups, and Italian food prepared by Common Plea Catering (available for purchase).

As part of this special event, all children ages 17 and under will receive FREE admission to the History Center on Sunday, Oct. 7. Regular admission rates apply for adults ages 18 and older: \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors (age 62+), \$9 for students, and free for History Center members.

Italian American Cooking Demonstration Schedule (Weisbrod Kitchen Classroom):

- 11 a.m. – Chef Julian Vallozzi from Vallozzi's
- 12 p.m. – Chef Daniel Walker of Lidia's Pittsburgh
- 1 p.m. – Ron Casertano of CFP Winemakers
- 2 p.m. – Chris Fennimore of QED Cooks

Live Entertainment Schedule (Mueller Education Center):

- 11 a.m. – Edwardo the Accordionist
- 12:30 p.m. – Marco Fiorante
- 1:30 p.m. – San Rocco Festa Ballabe Band
- 2:30 p.m. – *I Campagnoli*

Italian Heritage Day is made possible through proceeds collected from the History Center's annual Bocce Tournament & Festival. For more information about the Italian American Program, please contact Melissa E. Marinaro at 412-454-6426 or memarinaro@heinzhistorycenter.org.

The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region's remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city's Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center's museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.



Kids ages 17 and under receive free admission to the Heinz History Center on Sunday, Oct. 7, as part of the fifth annual Italian Heritage Day.



Enjoy an Italian American Bazaar at the Heinz History Center during its annual Italian Heritage Day beginning at 10 a.m. on Oct. 7.

#