

January Newsletter

Volume 7

AZItalianchamber.org

Issue 1

LATEST & GREATEST...

Antonio La Rosa

The artist behind our 2026 Person of the Year Award

“The Italian designer with keen eye for what Americans want” The Business Journal.

We’d like to say thank you to Antonio.

Born and raised in Italy, Antonio studied architecture and design at the Milan Polytechnic University. At the age of 16, he volunteered to help build homes for victims of a terrible earthquake near Naples, Italy. It was this experience that confirmed Antonio’s decision to study architecture. He attended many university classes/lectures with several important architects and designers such as Achille Castiglioni, Aldo Rossi, Marco Zanuso, Ettore Sottsass, Andrea Branzi, Ezio Manzini, the Alfa Romeo and Ferrari design teams, Enzo Mari, Philippe Starck, Alessandro Mendini.



SOLD!

Auction items for our gala

As our gala comes up on 1/31/26, we’d like to list some of the items for our silent auction. The Chamber does not have a “paddle-raise”.

- Steel sculpture - Gondola
- Original painting - Sorrento
- Vase - Italian artist
- Dinner for 8 gift certificate - Italian menu
- Gift Basket - Grand Canyon University
- “Date Night” gift certificate - Riot Hospitality



If you’re attending, we’d love you to consider one of our items. They’re all very nice...more info at the event.

Special only for Chamber members!

Sal Cucco and his team have organized a special promotion for our Chamber members. Please check it out on both our website and right here:

Chapman BMW is proud to be a member of the Arizona Italian American Chamber of Commerce!

We are offering the following exclusive Benefits for All Members of the Arizona Italian American Chamber of Commerce:

- **New Vehicles:**

Chapman BMW will offer invoice pricing on all new cars, plus all applicable factory rebates.

- **Pre-Owned Vehicles:**

Members will receive additional discounts off the advertised selling price on all preowned vehicles.

- **Wide Selection:**

Chapman BMW carries all makes and models, not just BMWs – with prices starting as low as \$1,000 and up, offering options for every buyer.

These exclusive benefits are available to all Chamber of Commerce members, their employees, and owners and their employee's immediate family members

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Referral Bonus

If you refer someone and they purchase a vehicle, you will receive a **\$200** referral fee.

Members must show proof of employment with a Chamber-affiliated company.

If a family member is purchasing a vehicle, they must provide proof that their relative works for the company, such as a business card or a copy of their employee ID Call Sal and send to him the proof.

To Schedule an Appointment, please contact: **Sal Cucco**



Above – Sal Cucco with Chapman BMW



New Member!

Greco and Sons

Wow...to say that Greco & Sons joining the Chamber is an honor is an understatement. This iconic brand is among the most well-known and respected importers/distributors for both Italian American and other foods.

Grecoandsons.com



OSDIA DaVinci Lodge - Carnevale on 2/7/26

Our friends at the DaVinci Lodge are having their flagship annual event at the Arizona Broadway Theater. This is always an evening packed with a lot of laughs, beautiful & friendly Italians & Italian Americans and good food.

This is an event that is easy for all to attend and we will be there in support of **Marie Chiaramonte** and her members.

Leonardo DaVinci Lodge 2992
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
Presents
Carnevale di Venezia

You are cordially invited to an evening of elegance, mystery, dancing, fine Italian dining, and the splendor of Venice. Prizes and surprises await!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

ARIZONA BROADWAY THEATER
7701 W Paradise Lane, Peoria, AZ 85382-4959

Tickets:
\$75.00 - DaVinci Members - \$85.00 - Guests
RSVP by: January 25, 2026 to davinci2992lodge@gmail.com
Zelle payments accepted at davinci2992payments@yahoo.com
(indicate for Carnevale 2026)

Attire: Semi-formal
Cocktail dress • Suits or sport jackets
Costumes optional • Ties optional

Scan the QR code or visit our website
osiaazdavinci.org for updates.
A portion of the funds will help support Soldier's Best Friend

SOLDIER'S BEST FRIEND
Honoring a Code of Honor



Arizona European Young Entrepreneur Award!!!

The European business communities in Arizona have joined forces to launch the inaugural Arizona-European Young Entrepreneur Award, a landmark initiative recognizing young entrepreneurs whose European ties are helping drive Arizona's economic growth.

A First-of-Its-Kind Award open to all young European entrepreneurs in Arizona

Award Ceremony and Recognition - Finalists will be honored at an exclusive ceremony.

Details

- Date: February 12
- Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Place: Irish Cultural Center



FINANCIALS FOR NOVEMBER

Revenue - \$29,056

Expenses - \$25,810

Cash - \$21,197

Debt - **\$0**



* The AZ Italian American Chamber receives no public funding.

* All Chamber personnel are 100% volunteers

Upcoming Italian American Events

Chamber Events in green

JANUARY 16TH @ 8:00 AM - JANUARY 19TH @ 5:00 PM

4th Annual Italian American Future Leader Convention

JANUARY 31ST 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

2026 Arizona Italian American Gala

FEBRUARY 7th 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Leonardo DaVinci Lodge 2992 – CARNEVALE DI VENEZIA
2026

FEBRUARY 12th 6:00 PM - 08:00 PM

Arizona European Young Entrepreneur Award

ARIZONA ITALIAN AMERICAN



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CORPORATE MEMBERS

The Maggiore Group (Restaurant, Food, & Beverage)

BMW Chapman (Professional & Business Services)

Grecco & Sons (Food Distributor)

ICAP Italian Citizenship Assistance Program (Professional & Business Services)

Riot Hospitality Group (Restaurant, Food, & Beverage)

WIPFLI (Professional & Business Services)

SMALL BUSINESS MEMBERS



Professional & Business Services

AEC Electric

Always This Good

Anchor Funding

Arizona Real Estate Investors Association

Arizona Roofing Systems

Comparion Insurance Agency

Crescuta Management Group

D-MAK Productions

Dahir Tax and Accounting Firm

Deaf Protection

Greenlink Human Capital Management

Laundry Wheel

Latest Craze Productions

Paragon Contracting, LLC

Prime Mechanical Solutions – A Caruso Company

Rizzo Financial Group

Ryan Austin & Associates, LLC

Soto Law Firm – Sheala De Martini

The Fiorini Agency

Universal Strategies Limited

Valentino Signature Services – Investigations & Consulting

Vincente (Vince) Guarino, CFP® Financial Advisor

WestPac Wealth Partners



Healthcare & Healthy Lifestyle

Arizona Pain and Posture

Optimum Vision and Eye Care

Our Hearts Enter



Real Estate Sales, Rentals, & Services

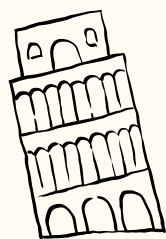
Affronti & Sons

Desert Dimensions

ExtraVirgin Properties

Mario Licciardi


Phoenician Properties Realty LLC



Home & Building Services / Supplies

Marco's Tankless LLC
Aristocrat Architectural Services


Home & Garden

 Canyon State Landscape Co


Restaurant, Food, & Beverage

 The Italian Daughter
Tutti Santi
Virtu Honest Craft / Pizzeria Virtu
Creations in Catering
Pasta Rea


Specialty Food & Beverage

 Casa Dolci
Dolce Vita
Italian Harmony [Bakery, Cucina, & Deli]
Magnum's Cigar, Wine, & Liquor

Community Organizations

 Comfort Bears in a Catastrophe
Italian Association of Arizona


Arts, Culture, & Entertainment

 Total Gavone Clothing


Advertising Specialties

 Remember The Name


Attractions, Recreation, & Sports

 Sanctuary Tactical

Tours & Vacation Services

 Fantastica Italia – Customized Vacations

Individual Member

 Gustavo Dalotto

Non-Profit Members

French American Chamber of Commerce – Rocky Mountain – AZ Chapter (Community Organizations & Non-Profits)

Girls Scouts Arizona Cactus-Pine

Italian American Club of Las Vegas

Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, Leonardo DaVinci Lodge #2992, West Phoenix, subordinate Lodge of OSDIA

The Founders – EMERITUS

Collaborating Organizations

American Society of Italian Legions of Merit
Carefree & Cave Creek Italian American Club
Casa Belvedere – The Italian Cultural Foundation
Columbus Citizens Foundation
Colorado Italian American Business Association of Colorado
Council of Presidents of Major Italian American Orgs.
Fountain Hills Italian Interest Group
Honorary Consulate of Italy in Arizona
Italian American Future Leaders
Italian American Baseball Foundation
Italy America Chamber of Commerce
Italian American Civil Rights League
Italian American Club of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)
Italian American Leadership Forum
Italian American Museum of Los Angeles
Italian Association of Arizona
Italian Chamber of Commerce of Northern California
Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento
Italian Enclaves Historical Society
Italic Institute of America
Italian Cultural Society
Italian Portland
Italian Trade Agency
Little Italy of Los Angeles Association
Little Italy San Jose
National Italian American Foundation
National Organization of Italian American Women
Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America
Phoenix Sister Cities – Catania
San Francisco Italian Athletic Club
The Founders – Arizona Italian Business Group
Unico National

**Let us know if you need any
help with introductions or would like to recommend other groups**

CEO's Message...

As the gala comes at the end of this month, the goal is to generate enough funding for the balance of 2026. We have some great ideas! We aim to put more money into marketing our members. This would include more activity online, in social media and other paid media vehicles. We'd like to be able to provide food & drink at more in-person events. We currently have a "pay as you go" structure, most of the time. We'd like to attend more events where we can attract attention to our members at a higher level. This assists with ensuring our members can develop partnerships with the clients they are targeting. It also allows us to build more regional and national bridges. We would also like to purchase more and better professional marketing materials. This would heighten our sophistication and professionalism. So far, things have grown amazingly. Thanks for your support as we are planning 2026 events. Please feel free to share your own ideas.

Sincerely, Pete



Classic picture of Little Italy in the early 1900s (colorized)