

Dear Dante Members:

As the Interim President of the Dante Alighieri Society, I wanted to assure you that the Board of Directors and I are steadfastly committed to ensuring the continued success of the Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts and providing strong oversight of the Dante in every aspect. Despite some internal disruption which has resulted in inconsistent communication with our members for the past few months, we are working diligently to restore the harmony and focus of our organization. The mission of the Dante, the promulgation of Italian culture and language, is of the utmost importance to us and we are focusing our efforts on continuing the Italian Adult Language School and programming for cultural events as well as other collaborations and community outreach. These efforts have included the highlight of this summer's events when we were honored with a visit to the Dante by Armando Varrichio, the Italian ambassador to the United States. He was very impressed with our facility and programming as he toured the building and met with our governing board and members of our Italian and Italian American community. This visit was in conjunction with the visit of the Italian training ship, the Amerigo Vespucci, to Boston; we hope that you had the opportunity to tour it. And, no summer would be complete without a game of soccer; in July, the Juventus and Roma teams came to the area and met head to head!

On that note, I want to mention the exciting events we are planning for the late summer and early fall; the adult classes will resume in early September under the direction of Maria Cristiano and a wine tasting event organized by Board of Director, Anthony Cassano will kick off our autumn offerings. As you know, October is Italian Heritage Month and we and collaborating organizations will be hosting various activities; please check our website in mid-September for more updates. We are also looking forward to relaunching our LaDante newsletter under the direction of Board of Directors member Maria Carbone and her committee. Maria has begun designing a refreshed newsletter, filled with inspiring stories of Italian history, culture and events. She welcomes member contributions; just call the office (617-876-5160) for information about submitting an article or a favorite recollection or recipe!

Again, we look forward to welcoming you and your family back to the Dante and our Board of Directors and I wish you an enjoyable rest of the summer!

Cordially,

Anna Quadri